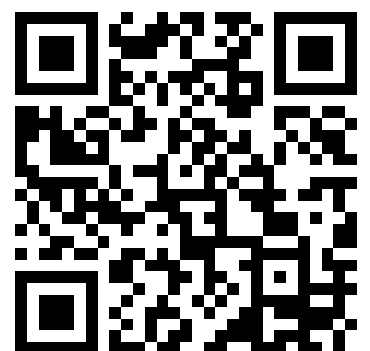

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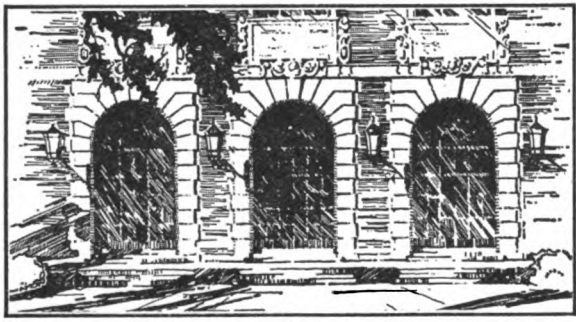


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Parts Missing in the Japan Weekly Mail.

- Index recd* 1884 Vol I Jan to June Index wanting pp. 299 & 300 follow 302
 1886 Vol V Jan to June pp. 247 & 248 follow 264
 pp. 249-256 follow 266
 pp. 396-412 order reversed
 1886 Vol VI July to Dec pp. 157 & 158 follow 160, pp. 169 & 170 follow 172
 1887 Vol VII Jan to June pp. 515 follows 518, index all here- out of order
 1887 Vol VIII July to Dec pp. 101-102 follow 108, & 115 - 116 follow 102.
 1888 Vol X July to Dec Nos 1, 2, 3, 6, July 7, 14, 21, and Aug 11
 wanting. No index
 1889 Vol XII July to Dec Nos 16-17 Oct 19 and 26, wanting and v. 14 #16
 bound in here
 1890 Vol XIV July to Dec No 16 or Oct 18 in v. 12 following p. 340
recd 1893 Vol XIX Jan to June Index wanting
 " 1893 Vol XX July to Dec No 4 July 22 wanting
 1894 Vol XXII July to Dec pp. 119-146 after 132:133-138 after 146
 1895 Vol XXIII Jan to June pp. 249-264 upside down
recd 1896 Vol XXV Jan to June pp. 551-2, 573, 574 and 591-2 wanting
 1897 Vol XXVIII July to Dec pp. 141-148 after 130
 p. 131-132 after 148, p. 133-140 after 150
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all recd 1898 Vol XXIX Jan to June Index wanting, pp. 413-16, 436-40 gone, May 7
 wanting
recd 1898 Vol XXX July to Dec July 2 & 9 wanting
 1899 Vol XXXII July to Dec pp. 231 & 232 between 248 & 249
 no gap misplaced incorrectly pp. 289-292 between 256 & 257
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 1900 Vol XXXIV July to Dec pp. 121 & 119 interchanged also 125 & 123
recd 1901 Vol XXXV Jan to June Apr 6 wanting
 " 1902 Vol XXXVIII July to Dec No 7 Aug 16 wanting
 " 1904 Vol XLII July to Dec pp. 638-6 & 657-661 wanting
 " 1905 Vol XLIII Jan to Dec Mar 25 wanting Jan 7 gone
recd 1905 Vol XLIV July to Dec Index wanting also No 10 Nov 11
no recd 1907 Vol XLVIII July to Dec No 2 July 13 wanting
recd 1908 Vol XLIX Jan to June No 23 June 6 wanting
no recd 1908 Vol L July to Dec Nos 15 & 23 Oct 10 & Dec 3 wanting
 1909 Vol LI Jan to June No 5 Feb 1 and Feb 13 out
 *1908 * XLVI wanting p. 109-10, 131-132 No index

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. I, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 5TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

“FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!”

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the “JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL,” must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

HOSPITABLE Japanese householders, when pressing a friend to partake of refreshments in the face of his assertions that he has already dined, habitually make use of the phrase “*tokoro kawareba, aji kawaru*,” which may be freely translated, “the flavour of the viands changes with the place where they are eaten.” We are forcibly reminded of this saying when we observe the different attitudes of the foreign communities at the various settlements, with regard to municipal Government. At Hiyogo, Osaka, and Nagasaki alike, the Japanese employés of the foreign residents are duly registered by the municipal police, who make monthly domiciliary visits for the purpose. The result, so far as Kobe is concerned, is thus recorded by the *Hiyogo News*:—“Before the system of registration of servants was instituted by the Hiyogo Municipal Council nearly three years ago, scarcely a week passed that some foreign resident had not occasion to complain of a theft on his premises. A servant would be missing, and at the same time some property, but in not one instance out of a hundred could any information be obtained of the probable destination of the thief, where he came from, or where his relations lived. Now—that is since the registration system has been brought into force—thefts by servants are as rare as formerly they were frequent, and seldom does the thief manage to escape capture.” The same journal explains the method of carrying out the registration, and shows that it is attended by no inconvenience whatsoever to foreign householders. But in Yokohama, it has been decided

that such a system would be an intolerable violation of some romantic privilege, which cannot be defined, indeed, but which, nevertheless, every true Briton is bound to defend against the insidious devices of all persons having skins a shade darker than his own. We have not yet been able to discover what might happen, or what is apprehended, if a sergeant of municipal police were permitted to come and write down the names of our servants once a month, but we presume that the proposal must present some objectionable features since it emanates from the Japanese. It would never do were the Foreign Office able to compile a record, showing the brand of our cigars, and the number of pieces each of us sends to the wash every week. As highly civilized Englishmen, with rights which our forefathers wrung from despots upon sundry sanguinary fields, it is our bounden duty to oppose every conceivable obstacle to such a system of espionage, even though the alternative be to see our houses converted into asylums for thieves and jail-birds. If the inhabitants of Kobe, Osaka, and Nagasaki have so far forgotten the traditions of their race as to permit the privacy of their Japanese servant's quarters to be invaded once a month by a Japanese constable with a pencil and a pocket-book, it is all the more incumbent upon the residents of the principal settlement to set a stern and unflinching example to their erring compatriots.

WE learn from a Nagasaki journal that after a twenty-five days' trial, the Criminal Court has pronounced judgment in the case of the constable charged with causing the death of a Chinaman, on the night of September the 15th, while attempting to arrest some opium smokers. The gist of the judgment is said to be that, despite the conflicting and contradictory nature of the evidence, it has been established, beyond a doubt, that the deceased met his death in a struggle between Chinese residents and Japanese constables, “while the latter were attempting to make an illegal arrest,” and that a constable by name Minasu is alone responsible for the man's death. The italics here are our own. We use them to draw attention to a part of the verdict which appears quite incredible. There can be little question that, according to the treaty between China and Japan, the local authorities of the latter country are entitled to arrest Chinese engaged either in opium smuggling, or in the perpetration of the more serious offence of opium smoking, and that no previous reference to a Chinese Consul is necessary. Indeed, it is plain, without considering any treaty, that such must be the case. The use of opium is a violation of the laws of Japan, and its suppression does not conflict with any treaty right. It is not necessary, therefore, that a Japanese constable should apply to any one for a warrant to arrest a Chinaman whom he discovers in the act of smoking opium. He might as well apply for a warrant to arrest a drunken sailor. We do not believe that the verdict contains any such sentence as that quoted above, unless, indeed,

the circumstances of the affair were altogether different from the reports hitherto published both by Chinese and Japanese. It will surprise us to learn that among the privileges conferred by extraterritoriality is included the right of committing an immoral and illegal act under the very eyes of the Japanese police, without the latter having power to interfere until they have obtained written permission. The Japanese appear to admit practically that British subjects, under extraterritorial jurisdiction, are at liberty to convert their houses into gambling exchanges where Japanese subjects may resort, to transgress the laws of the land. We entirely disagree with any such notion. If the Japanese authorities had the courage to enter such establishments and arrest the law-breakers without asking the British Consul any questions, they would soon learn whether Her Majesty's Government is disposed to support the false and unwarrantable interpretation put upon the treaties by giddy officials. All that is wanted to set these matters right is a little pluck, and its exercise would be heartily applauded by ninety-nine Englishmen out of a hundred.

THE *London and China Express*, in its issue of November the 9th, commented in a somewhat listless strain upon the resolutions adopted by a meeting of Japanese at the Langham Hotel, and its comments elicited two lengthy communications one from the Japanese who drew up the resolutions and the other from a Japanese merchant residing in London. These letters have been already published in our columns. The *London and China Express* has made no attempt to answer them, so that we may consider its original expression of opinion to be final, for the present at all events. Our contemporary set out by saying that the gentlemen who met at the Langham Hotel and drew up the resolutions “cannot be taken as representatives of Japanese trade with Great Britain, and can therefore not expect that their voice will be listened to with the same respect as a deliverance by the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce;” and that “the resolutions passed at the meeting held on the 3rd inst. are simply an expression of individual opinion, or of the opinion of a certain number of individuals, which will no doubt be acknowledged with all due courtesy by the Japanese Government, but cannot carry the weight attaching to similar expressions by largely interested and representative bodies.” This airy method of discrediting the results of the meeting at the Langham is of a piece with the tone generally adopted by foreign journals in discussing Japanese treaty revision. We are asked to attach the utmost importance to the utterances of a foreign Chamber of Commerce made up of men who, however intelligent and enterprising from a commercial point of view, have come to Japan solely for the purpose of making and carrying away as much money as they can in the shortest possible time, and who cannot reasonably be expected to care anything for this country so soon as it has served their temporary turn. But if a number of Japanese who, by residing abroad, have enjoyed exceptional opportunities of observing the

deference that free states pay to each other's rights, assemble, and, after careful deliberation, draw up a set of resolutions on the subject of treaty revision, we are assured that their views do not deserve as much respect as "a deliverance of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce," and that their resolutions are "simply an expression of individual opinion, or of the opinion of a certain number of individuals." There is a most charming vagueness about this phrase, "the opinion of a certain number of individuals." It would be interesting to know, as an arithmetical curiosity, at what particular point of collective magnitude the members of an assembly lose their individuality. What particular characteristic, numerical or otherwise, entitles the "deliverances" of the ten or twelve gentlemen who interest themselves actively in the concerns of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, to be placed on a higher pedestal than "the opinion of a certain number of individuals." There is something here that does not immediately render itself comprehensible, though, as an illustration of the impression it is intended to convey, the phrase is well enough in its way.

* * *

It would scarcely be worth while to comment on these phraseological quibbles were they not consistent with the whole tone of the article under review. Our contemporary continues thus:—

The expression of impatience at the extreme length of the negotiations is not unnatural. But is it not the fact that the revision has hitherto failed of result, because the revision itself was premature? The failure is, in one sense, a tribute to the wisdom of the first negotiators. The treaties were so well adapted to the requirements of the situation that they have been allowed to remain in operation for a double term, without any inconvenience having been felt from the delay sufficiently serious to cause real impatience or irritation. Certainly, the Japanese wish important changes, but it is more as a matter of sentiment than because of any real inconvenience that existing circumstances entail. And, again we ask, whether their failure so far to gain assent to the proposed changes is not due to the fact that revision itself is premature? Foreign Governments are not yet prepared to restore to Japan judicial power over their nationals, because Japanese laws and customs have not yet been brought sufficiently into harmony with their own to give confidence in the experiment, or rather we should say the practice of the laws has not reached that point. Japanese statesmen have been engaged for years in preparing a code of law having, it is understood, the Code Napoleon for basis. It is hardly surprising that Foreign Governments should prefer waiting to see the experience of its working before consenting to subject their nationals to it action. The objection to throwing open the whole country, so long as extra-territorial jurisdiction is reserved, is, we suppose reasonable. It is one thing to have foreigners residing at a given spot, under the effective control of their own officials, and quite another to have them roaming or living at large throughout the Empire, subject to no local control, but liable only to be sued before a tribunal a hundred miles, it may be, distant. We took occasion, not long ago, to glance at the question of extra-territoriality in connection with the arguments against the Ibert Bill. We maintained then, and we repeat that, while the grievance is wholly sentimental and intangible, its abolition would at present be fraught with very real inconvenience, and excite a dangerous feeling of race antagonism. Once again, revision is, under this head at least, decidedly premature.

We venture to predict that if any one will be at the pains to read this quotation twice, the resultant impression will be one of unbounded astonishment. The argument amounts simply to this: the fact that efforts to improve a system are not successful may be taken as a proof that the system does not need improvement. The absurdity of such a contention is self-evident. One might as well say that the practice of foot-binding in China is proper because the efforts hitherto made by the reigning dynasty to check its prevalence have failed. The only logical inference to be drawn from the circumstance is that the people of China are still too barbarous to appreciate the reforms preached to them by their rulers. Precisely analogous is the position in which the Japanese nation is virtually placed by the refusal of foreign Powers to revise the treaties. Let it be understood that we make no allusion here to the question of tariff. That is a mere bagatelle, entirely unconnected with the opening

of the country. We allude to those clauses of the treaties which deprive Japan of jurisdiction over foreign residents, and which have further been falsely construed as conferring exemption from any obligation to observe Japanese laws or regulations. These clauses were devised wholly with reference to a state of partial intercourse. The journal from which we quote, itself admits unequivocally that the Japanese Government would not be justified in throwing open the country so long as extra-territorial jurisdiction is observed, since "to have foreigners residing at a given spot, under the effective control of their own officials, is one thing, and to have them roaming or living at large throughout the Empire, subject to no local control, but liable only to be sued before a tribunal a hundred miles, it may be, distant, is quite another thing." Thus then the position amounts to this: the Japanese, declaring that the day is long past when any barrier of prejudice or tradition existed between them and the outer world, earnestly seek for a revision of treaties which were confessedly framed to suit a state of semi-isolation, and which, so long as they continue unrevised, necessarily perpetuate that state; the Foreign Powers reply that the treaties are very well "adapted to the requirements of the situation;" that the delay in revising them has not produced any trouble "sufficiently serious to cause real impatience or irritation," and that the desire of revision is "more a matter of sentiment" than anything else. In other words, Foreign Powers tell Japan that in their judgment she is not yet sufficiently civilized to grant strangers the same privileges within her territories as her own subjects enjoy everywhere abroad; and when she objects to this verdict, and points to what she has done as evidence of her title to be trusted, answer is made that such appeals are mere matters of sentiment. The Japanese may well be puzzled. They may well enquire when this access of practicality overtook their foreign friends. Was it in deference to a mere point of sentiment that Western Powers sent their fleets here a quarter of a century ago to batter down the barriers of Japanese isolation, alleging, in justification of this resort to force, the imperative dictates of progress and civilization, which forbid that any nation shall hold itself aloof from the rest of the world? Was it, and is it, in obedience to a mere point of sentiment that Western statesmen and philosophers did then, and do still, denounce, in the most unequivocal terms, the spirit which imposes restrictions upon international intercourse in the Orient, declaring that such a spirit is inconsistent with civilized codes, and that every nation exhibiting it must consent to be called barbarous? If all this be pure sentiment, unworthy of practical recognition, then the Japanese had better begin to educate themselves again. They had better learn that a nation has no business to be jealous of its reputation; that it will only be ridiculed if it gives effective expression to a desire for free and equal intercourse with the rest of the world. They had better learn, in short, that though Western peoples have a mission to force their society upon Eastern, it is for the former alone to determine the limits of such intercourse. No other interpretation can be truly put upon the attitude of the Foreign Powers in this matter of treaty revision. By refusing to modify agreements confessedly adapted to a state of partial intercourse only, they practically avow their resolution to prevent perfect intercourse. The

tables are completely turned. It is Japan now who is liberal and progressive: the exclusiveness and race prejudice are entirely on the side of her treaty friends, who at the same time offer to supply her with new religions and new systems of moral philosophy!

* * *

We have argued this question from a broad standpoint, because, whatever may be said about sentiment and romance, it is quite certain that Englishmen, at all events, will respect and sympathise with Japan's desire to be freed from the stigma of semi-barbarism. As for the statement that no serious inconvenience is caused by the present condition of affairs, it can only be referred to ignorance. It is a most serious inconvenience that by twelve or thirteen of the Treaty Powers no efficient machinery for preserving law and order has been provided in the place of the jurisdiction taken from the Japanese. It is a most serious inconvenience that, with the one honorable exception of American citizens, every foreigner residing in Japan is at liberty to violate Japanese local and municipal regulations at his pleasure. It is a most serious inconvenience that the development of Japanese resources is fatally impeded by a system which cripples enterprise, keeps capital at a distance, and cages up within the narrow limits of tiny settlements the few hundred foreigners who eke out there such scanty pittance as the generosity of the monopolists that environ them permits. It is a most serious inconvenience that the feeling of mutual umbrage and distrust grows daily deeper and sorer, and that the principles of Western civilization and morality are persistently contradicted by the practice of injustice and illiberality. If the people of Japan evinced no disposition or desire to amend such a miserable state of affairs, we should have but little hope for their future.

* * *

Is Japan powerless in this matter? Must she quietly submit to a verdict which condemns her to seclusion and to a state of confessed unfitness for free international intercourse. Most certainly not. If after years of weary endeavour to effect a suitable revision of treaties which became legally subject to revision in 1871, she finds it impossible to obtain from Western Powers terms which every independent country has a right to demand, there is only one course open to her, and that is to renounce the treaties. Under such circumstances she is neither morally nor legally bound to observe them. The endorsement of one of the most renowned of European jurists consults was not needed to establish the soundness of this opinion. They greatly mistake the temper of the times who imagine that any civilized Power could venture to make war upon an Oriental State because the latter declined to accord to aliens residing within its territories privileges greater than, or different from, those enjoyed by its own subjects. If the Mikado's Government were to declare to-morrow that henceforth all distinctions shall cease to exist between foreigners and Japanese in Japan; that both shall enjoy the same rights of trade, travel, and residence, and that every clause of every treaty designed to impose distinctions or restrictions shall be finally abrogated, there is not a Power in Europe that would permit itself to oppose by force the consummation of such a programme. We do not care to contemplate the necessity of this step, not because its consequences suggest any apprehension, but because recourse to it would imply, on the side of the Treaty Powers,

an obdurate indifference to Japan's claims as well as an inconsistency of principle and practice which no one will be readily disposed to admit. But at the same time we are persuaded that a little more resolution and courage on Japan's part would go far to provide an exit from the deadlock.

As time goes by we are apparently destined to discover that China is in very truth the mother of *all* inventions. Until the other day there was one thing, at any rate, which we were disposed to regard as a specimen of genuine American originality, though possibly not altogether free from the echo of an Indian war-whoop. We allude to that condition of almost supernatural exaltation which, according to Mark Twain, often precedes a combat in the United States, and the effect of which is to make the combatants caper around, appling to themselves various pleasant epithets, such as bald-headed snipes of the prairie, double-jawed hyenas from the upper trail, blazing bloody blitzers, snorter, snoozers and so forth. But it would seem that even this device is quite familiar to the Chinese, if we may judge by the following document which we extract from the columns of the *New York Herald*:—

PATRIOTIC LETTER PURPORTING TO BE WRITTEN BY LIU JUNG-FU, CHIEF OF THE BLACK FLAGS, TO ADMIRAL COURBET, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FRENCH FORCES IN TONKIN.

BY A GRADUATE OF NANKING:

It is a well-known fact that when soldiers were engaged in ancient times, there was no confusion in rendering obedience to orders. Now you Frenchmen have been creating disturbances in Annam for the last nine or ten months. Your General has been killed, which is a shame upon your country; the expenditure of your money in this war has been the means of impoverishing your people; similar disasters will be multiplied as you go on, and yet you do not know how to repent of having produced such calamities. How can you answer for the deeds you perform? You are no better than beasts which devour their own parents, and you will but pollute the swords which may yet kill you; but you are entitled to no compassion. I only pity the inhabitants of Pei-ch'i, whom you have so distressed and trampled upon that the mere sighing of the winds and the shrieking of storms make them fancy their enemies are approaching, so that there is scarcely time left for them to sleep. Whose fault, I ask you, is this? You make our people run to and fro in terror and distress. It is the virtue of Life, which is an attribute of High Heaven, that compels me to speak these words to you, for our King, also, loves his people. For the last few months your soldiers have shown signs of lassitude and enervation, and may be likened to animals at their last gasp in a frying-pan; for you stay cooped up in your barracks without any heart to engage us in battle. I hear that by dint of no small brag, you have attempted to frighten China, saying that you are going to attack Canton. You are like mules in your ideas! You may be said to be in abject poverty, and being everywhere ill spoken of, you have become even more ferocious. China is well known among the inhabitants of the Four Continents; why should she fear you? I know well enough that you dare not declare war against China; nevertheless by your brag you inflict injury on others. Nor do I hesitate to assert my belief that all you say amounts to no more than empty threats to frighten people. Now listen to what I say, and open your eyes. Twenty years ago, when the Chinese Emperor T'ung Chih had just ascended the Throne, I, trying to avoid the trouble of rebellion in China, went over to Annam; and the men I had with me were not all my own followers—they were only friends of mine. On my arrival at that time in Annam the people of the two provinces Hsing Hua and Hsuan Kuang were in rebellion against the Annamese King; wherefore the high officials asked me to appeal for volunteers. I undertook the task, I organised an army, and I was instrumental in annihilating the insurgents. For this service I obtained the rank of Assistant General of San Hsien. At that time, also, you Frenchmen were fighting in Nan-ch'i on account of some matters relating to the Chiu Lung Chiang—Nine-Dragon River. Receiving the commands, therefore, of the King of Annam, I led troops to the South, and in three engagements with your soldiers I repeatedly routed them, captured their General, and put numbers of them to the sword. It is needless for me to point out that you are perfectly well aware of these facts. A year after this, when a Treaty had been made with you, I returned to Pei-ch'i, and resumed my peaceful occupations. Do you still dare to brag of the bravery of your troops, of the magnitude of your country, and of the superiority of your military organisation? Do you say that your country is the largest upon earth—that it is the most powerful—that you are the bravest among all nations—that there is no nation in the world that dares to fight with you? In my opinion you appear to be nothing more than dogs. My own followers submit to me because I love justice and mercy. They are nothing but tillers of the soil and merchants; they have in no wise been trained to arms; hence I have been able to rule them by the exercise of kindness and justice. By mutual assistance we have been able to avert calamities from our Kingdom. I have always been victorious against

the armies of France. Though your enmity against me and mine is consequently intense, still I, Liu Jung-fu, am by no means afraid of you. It is indeed laughable that everything you have done in Annam has been under the pretext of "protecting" the Kingdom. Seeing that Annam is in my opinion tributary to China, if ever she wants protection China is there to give it her. What are Annamese affairs to the French? For instance: in a family of children, all their needs, such as protection against cold, heat, pain, or irritation, are ministered to by their parents, who are their natural guardians. If, therefore, any outsider attempts to fondle the children, even though it should be from love of them, he would lay himself open to the suspicion of being a kidnapper. Your doings in Annam are on all-fours with this.

Besides, I know that you French were conquered by the Prussians, that your fortresses were dismantled, and your Emperor captured. You were not only conquered; you had to pay a war-indemnity as well. Some of your colonies have been lost; would it not be more natural for you to try and protect those that are left to you? Open your eyes, then, before you make any attempts against Annam. You are only making yourselves a laughing-stock to the world. I am afraid you are not aware how much you are despised by other nations!

Now, as regards the word "protection." When the Great Emperor of China ordered his generals into Annam, it was for the express purpose of suppressing the rebel hordes. After this had been accomplished, they all returned home. They did not take by force a single grain of rice, nor did they disturb a single stack of corn; dogs and fowls had no fear of them, and the inhabitants lived at their homes in peace. This is what is called "protection." But you Frenchmen, when you saw rebellion in the provinces, simply sat down and looked on; you never sent a single soldier to assist the King, but, on the contrary, you instigated the rebels to disobedience, and thus became the means of creating trouble. There was not the least "protection" given. I pass over what has been done before to what is being done now. If you have the least idea of affording "protection," what do you mean by capturing Annamese cities, killing Annamese mandarins, ransacking the Annamese Treasury, and forcing the Annamese King to sign a Treaty? Moreover, you bring over Black Devils [Turcos] who ravish our women and rob our goods—indeed, there is not a single thing that they do not do. They are more ferocious than poverty-stricken murderers and the fiercest robbers; in fact they are twice as bad. You pretend to be just and merciful, but by your acts you prove yourselves akin to thieves and murderers. The Great Emperor of China is at present highly wroth, and has commanded his generals and armies to take the field in order to war against and punish you French. I, Liu Jung-fu, have received despatches from Hsü, Fu-t'ai of Kuangsi, stating that he has been honoured with an Imperial Decree directing him to tell me to gather together my forces and recapture Hanoi, and in no case to make a retrograde movement. Such are the commands of Heaven. It would then be possible for the officials and people of Annam to live a few years longer. I, therefore, Liu Jung-fu, brave in spirit, have mustered my forces, which are composed of men who have at one time or another received some kindness from me, and who are therefore willing to die for me and for their country.

Now I opine that every creature under Heaven has participated in the bounty of the Great Emperor; hence people from the most distant lands sing praises of his good deeds, and there is not one soul who does not feel happy to submit to Him. The King of Annam is also a lover of justice, and in everything connected with you, Frenchmen, he has acted up to his high principles. When he warred with you, he only did so through force of circumstances; he never had any idea originally of driving you out. But you Frenchmen have nothing but the spirit of injury within you; evils of which others have no conception are propagated by you. You have already cajoled us out of a hundred myriads of money; you have encroached upon six of our best provinces; and you have obtained possession of three or four of our ports. Even in spite of all this, you have been kindly treated by the King of Annam, and the only return you make for his kindness is to encroach upon him still more. But now good fortune has descended on our country; our King has changed his former mind toward you, and is going to sweep you off the face of Annam. In former times he never had any wish to fight you, but now he is determined to do so, and by this means he will be able to pacify the hearts of the people.

But even a piece of rock may one day become alive, and a ferocious tiger have an occasional fit of good humour. Cannot you Frenchmen, then, pause one moment in your evil course, for reflection? If I have not already trespassed too much upon your patience, let me continue my illustrations. Annam is by no means a rich country; it is, moreover, a great distance from France; and from the commencement of your intercourse with us till now you have gained no laurels. Even if you should annex the country the inhabitants will never submit to you in their heart of hearts, but will always look up to their own mandarins for support. Besides, China has already sent to Annam her generals, who are ferocious as bears and savages, and her soldiers, who are as swift of foot as fire. I, Liu Jung-fu, am therefore determined to put on my armour and assist them in doing battle against you. We have rice to last us ten years in the districts west of the mountains. The regions north of the River contain grain enough to feed a million men. The country without and within the frontier contains troops stationed every five li, and as soon as the Chinese armies arrive all the mountains will tremble beneath their footsteps. How unlike are we, [in taking these measures], to you Frenchmen, whose Minister for Foreign Affairs, having scraped together a few troops one day, must ask the Chamber for a credit of money the next! He gets some from the east, he borrows a little from the west; picks up a bit with his right hand, and tries to filch a little more with his left. When these miserable pickings are lumped together they certainly make an imposing show, but what an empty foundation, for is it not exposed? After the engagements of the 28th of the 7th month and the 19th day of the 8th moon, we ceased fighting with you; not because we were afraid of you, but because we knew that negotiations were going on between that Great Emperor and your country about Annam. It was for this reason that we did not continue hostile operations, lest we might prejudice the good wishes of China. You, on the contrary, attributed this to

fear! But, in the first place, I was waiting to see what your next move was to be, so that I might counteract your plans; and in the next place I was awaiting reinforcements. Eventually you will all be gathered into my net, and, when you have all been put to the sword, Annam will once more be at peace.

You Frenchmen still cherish the idea of taking Bacninh, and also desire to capture Sontay. Is not this a vain dream? Everything I have said to you is for the sole benefit of you Frenchmen. Perhaps then you will be enlightened, and return Hanoi and Namdinh to Annam, and having so done embark your troops at once. When you have done this, even though I hold the commands of the Great Emperor to fight, still, having pity on the inhabitants of the country, I will refrain from further hostilities, and write to the Fu-t'ai Hsü to memorialise the Great Emperor to forgive you the sins of the past. After your retreat, compassionating your abject poverty, I will not lay a heavy hand upon you, but effect a Treaty with you instead. I, Liu Jung-fu, will be responsible for this, and will not eat the words that I have spoken. If you still persist in your evil course and repent not of your idle dreams, I, Liu Jung-fu, having received the Imperial commands, will stake my life in battle with you, and I personally will be the advance guard of the Chinese army.

How can you, Frenchmen, being like dogs and sheep, hope to conquer us, who are like tigers and panthers? You seeing us so ferocious, then, it would be better that you should decamp quickly. If you, like a sick patient, listen to my words as to those of a physician, you will surely have no cause for shame hereafter. But if you do not submit, then you will be destroyed like a crumbling mountain. Even if at present the Great Emperor does not cherish the wish to fight against you, still, if you persist, your very dens and caves in Saigon will be wrested from you, nor will a single soldier or trooper of France be suffered to remain in Annam. And when every nation in the world knows this, will you still have the face to remain as a country in Europe? You will suffer the same fate as you did when, under Napoleon the Third, you fought against Prussia. Now I have heard that all the transportations of troops and such like to Annam were the sole idea of one man—the former Minister of Foreign Affairs; it was not the idea of the President of the Republic, nor were the French people at ease when they saw so much money being expended on the expedition. So it seems to me that the whole affair was the private scheme of a single individual, against the wishes of the whole people of France. This was the reason of the retirement from office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The present Foreign Minister is yet without any settled ideas of his own, and those of his colleagues should, in view of this, influence him to abandon the policy of his predecessor.

An answer to this letter is requested within three days from its receipt by you. If you remain silent, beware lest you share the same fate as Rivière! Think three times over this!

Written by a Chinese Scholar of determined mind.

We observe with pleasure that arrangements have been made for bringing the Tokiyo Lectures on "Christianity and Humanity" within easier reach of the public. A prospectus has been issued announcing that a part of the remaining stock will be sold at a dollar a copy, provided a sufficient number of orders are received to prevent actual loss. The first and second volumes of the Japanese version are also advertized, and as their retail price is only 15 sen a volume, their circulation among the Japanese ought to be very greatly facilitated.

NOTES.

We have never been able to understand why directories published in Japan should be different from those published everywhere else. If one takes up, for example, a London Directory or a New York Directory, the leading impression it conveys is that no trouble has been spared to make it what it professes to be, namely, a dictionary of names. It is only necessary to open such a volume and turn to the letter of the alphabet under which the information sought naturally falls. But compilers of directories in Japan seem deliberately to set themselves the task of confusing their readers. They begin by dividing the foreign residents of Japan into Settlements, instead of alphabetical classes, and they then proceed to give these divisions a more labyrinthine aspect by mixing them up with a variety of subjects which belong rather to an almanack or lexicon than to a directory. This perplexing arrangement and superfluity of detail reached a maximum in the case of the Japan Gazette Directory for 1883. During the first few weeks that we were obliged to use it, every reference to its mixtum-gatherum of contents

was preceded by a shudder of anticipation, until by patient practice one acquired sufficient dexterity to find what one wanted without bestowing a series of back-handed blessings on the compilers. Misguided enthusiasm may become an intolerable nuisance under certain circumstances. Thus if a policeman, being appealed to for information about the route by a man in a hurry, were to interlard his explanation with descriptions of the social habits of the neighbourhood and the average rainfall in inches, his questioner would immediately set him down as a benevolent but badly-balanced blue-coat, and would be careful to make no subsequent demands on his local knowledge. But in Yokohama people were still more unfortunate, for they had no choice but to come back, time after time, to this garrulous and bewildering indicator. While there were two directories, they exercised some check upon one another's diffuseness; but after the first had been driven out of the field through the laziness of its publishers, the second became so puffed up with the honours of monopoly, that its authors branched out into all sorts of unprecedented directions, and the good people of Yokohama were at last obliged to pay five dollars for the privilege of picking out their six hundred names from a volume nearly as large as *Peter Parley's Annual*. Doubtless the public's first sentiment ought to have been gratitude for the labour bestowed on their behalf, but they probably thought that having paid five dollars, they had a right to criticise the quality of the labour, and their criticism was exceedingly out-spoken. For these reasons we were heartily glad when Meiklejohn & Co. rescued us from a deal of unnecessary toil and torment by publishing a handy little map of Yokohama with an alphabetical list of residents. This was a step in the right direction, and we hoped that it was only a preliminary step. But Meiklejohn & Co. have evidently failed to grasp the situation. They have published a directory for 1884, which, with some trifling exceptions, presents the same faults as the Japan Directory. True the new volume only costs two dollars (less than half of the unconscionable price of its rival); its dimensions are much handier, and it is supplemented by a business diary, which, in itself, is an immense attraction. But in other respects it is pitifully conservative. We have, first, pages of advertisements, calendars, tariffs, and other matter, after which we come to the Yokohama directory, arranged in numerical order; then to the Tokiyo, Hiyogo, &c., directories arranged in a sort of half-hearted alphabetical order, and, finally, to eight separate alphabetical lists of residents at the various open ports and in the interior. Just conceive what this means for a man who seeks the address of a foreigner residing in Japan but possesses no farther knowledge of his whereabouts. He may be obliged, first to turn over the pages of the directory until he comes to the alphabetical lists, and then to search through eight of these lists before he finds what he wants. In this respect, indeed, Meiklejohn's Directory is at a disadvantage compared with its rival, for the latter, among its heterogeneous contents, provides its readers with an alphabetical list of all the foreigners in Japan, whereas Meiklejohn has not taken the trouble to summarize his local lists. It is truly disappointing that of those who busy themselves about the publication of directories in Yokohama, no one seems capable of evolving a really practical

arrangement. What we want is a small handy volume, opening, not with advertisements or tariffs, but with a general alphabetical list of all the foreign residents in Japan, the Japanese officials, and the Japanese merchants at the open ports. After this should come separate numerical lists for the various settlements, and then tariffs, exchange tables, postal rates, and so forth. A judicious colouring of the edges would add much to the ease of using the volume, and save one from finding oneself engaged in a struggle with signal codes or catalogues of Tokugawa Shoguns when the object of search is a ship-chandler in Hiyogo or a publican in Yokohama. Meiklejohn's directory is full of valuable information, but it wants re-arrangement. We cannot hope, however, for anything better during 1884, so in the meanwhile we congratulate the public on being enabled to get something like what they want without having to pay a monopoly price for it.

THE recent fire at Akasaka seems to have had its origin in a very sad affair. A postman residing at the scene of the conflagration had an aged mother whose one desire was to spend the last days of her life in her native village, and be buried in the cemetery of the temple where the bones of her ancestors had found a resting-place through many generations. Her husband had been one of those who, in the social changes that succeeded the abolition of feudalism, saw himself reduced from comparative opulence to a pittance which came in the form of a yearly pension that died with him. The son's earnings as a postman were small, but he supplemented them by sundry household industries, so that, in the course of two or three years, he managed to amass a sum of fifty yen. This would have sufficed to accomplish his mother's wish, and it was accordingly arranged that she should leave Tokiyo for her native place in the spring. But on the night of the 28th of December, during her son's absence on his rounds, the old lady, cowering over a brazier, saw that a portion of the quilt with which she was covered had caught fire. She sprang up, and thinking she could conquer the flames without assistance, set herself silently to do battle with them. But the struggle was too unequal, and when the neighbours saw the light of the conflagration making its way through the roof, the old woman was past calling out. Before the son came back his mother was dead, and the savings that were to have carried her home had been reduced to ashes with all rest of the his worldly possessions.

In latest obituary notices we read of the death of Charles William Siemens "scientist, engineer and electrician." The deceased died in London, from the effects of a fall, at the end of last month, at the age of sixty-three.

THE Report of Colonel Henderson says that not only is London the best protected city in the world as regards life and property, but it is safeguarded by a smaller force than capitals not half nor a third its size. The authorised strength of the police of the metropolis at the close of 1882 was 25 superintendents, 611 inspectors, 977 sergeants, and 10,086 constables, being a total of 11,699. The augmentations made during the year were six inspectors, 30 sergeants, and 429 constables. This may seem a considerable number, but the impression is altered by the coincident fact that during the year

23,301 houses were built, forming 508 new streets and one square, covering a distance of over 75 miles. The number of houses built and the area they embrace is somewhat less than the total for the two previous years; but, though a temporary diminution may suggest that the builder has moved in advance of the occupier, there are no signs of any probably decrease in the continuous extension of the metropolis. We have only to consider that the number of new houses added on last year to the bulk of London almost equalled the total in the city of Dublin, exclusive of the suburbs and outlying townships, to understand the rate at which this phenomenal city increases its monstrous growth. "Simple drunkenness" decreased from 8,567 in 1881 to 7,042 in 1882. Colonel Henderson adds to this that there was practically no serious alteration in the cases of drunkenness with disorderly conduct. This is what we should have expected. The disorderly drunkard is nineteen times out of twenty a thoroughly demoralised specimen of the habitual drunkard, who whenever he indulges his master vice displays the violent inspiration with which it fires him. But there seems to us a hard nut for the Teetotal Alliance to crack in the decrease of drunkenness from 8,567 cases in 1881 to 7,042 in 1882. This total decrease of 1,525 represents an enormous percentage, and should form the most crushing answer to the fanatics who want us to believe that the people cannot become sober of their own free will and motion, but must be led and driven to sobriety by platform agitation and penal legislation. Felonies increased during last year, and so did the arrests for these offences. There was on the other hand a decrease of burglaries from 470 to 437, but housebreaking, breaking into shops, and the like, increased from 1,392 in 1881 to 1,764 in 1882. Repeated cautions more and more or less bitter experience appear to have little effect upon the careless householder, who not only persists in leaving his door or his window open as a temptation to the prowling thief, but increased the burglar's opportunity from 25,591 cases in 1881 to 26,097 in the year following. The total value of property stolen was £159,288, an increase of £42,102 over 1881, but the value of property recovered was £63,222, so that the loss was only £76,066 in 1882 as against £103,568 in 1881. The mysteries and perils of London remain last for notice. During last year 12,878 children under ten years of age and 3,961 adults were reported to the police as lost or missing; 7,538 children and 860 adults were found by the police. The remainder returned home or were found by their friends—all but 74 adults who committed suicide, and 124 adults and 12 children who have not been traced. Fifty-nine bodies of persons found dead and unknown were photographed. Fatal accidents in the streets increased from 127 to 147, the number of persons injured in the streets from 3,400 to 3,889. The number of stray dogs in the streets continues to decrease; but, all the same, as many as 16,721 of these animals were seized by the police during the year. Of the 18,659 deposits of lost property handed in by drivers and conductors, 10,031 were restored to the owners. Among the recoveries were three bonds for £1,000 each, a plate of silver weighing 1,034 oz., a diamond valued at £5,000, and bank-notes £850. On the hand, other three bank-notes for £50 each and several other valuable deposits remained unclaimed, and were returned to the finders.—*Morning Advertiser*.

News by the American mail with regard to the destruction of Hicks Pacha's army, is very circumstantial. The accounts of the disaster are still a little vague, but the balance of testimony is that when Hicks reached Namua, near the Obeid hills, he detached a considerable portion of his force and sent it forward to demand the surrender of El Obeid. The false prophet, El Mahdi, who was advancing from the south-east, met these troops and invited them to surrender, but they replied by opening fire. Attracted by the firing, General Hicks pushed up with the rest of the army, and the whole force forming square, received the enemy's charge. The victory that day seems to have remained with Hicks Pacha, but whether the battle was renewed the following morning on the same spot, or whether, as *The Times* and *Standard* say, he was enticed into a defile without water, and there annihilated after three days' continued fighting, does not seem to be yet definitely known. According to the intelligence first received, the only man who escaped, of the 10,500 composing the ill-fated army, was either Power or Edmund O'Donovan, the well known correspondent of the *Daily News*, whose imprisonment at Merv, and the six months of regal power he exercised there, created so much excitement a few years ago. It seems probable, however, that this estimate was exaggerated, and that General Hicks, with perhaps some of the nine European officers who accompanied him, succeeded in saving their lives. The names of these officers were:—Colonel Farquhar, Chief of the Staff; Majors Warner, Seckendorf, Evans, and Massey; Captains Heath and Walker; Surgeon-Major Rosenberg, and Captain Herlth, an Austrian, who formerly commanded an Uhlan regiment and was superintendent of drill in Hicks' army. The force originally consisted of 7,000 Egyptian troops, among whom was the First Regiment of Egyptian Infantry, which was formerly under the command of Arabi Pacha. It is said that this regiment regarded the campaign as a sort of punishment and never had any stomach for hard work. Hicks reached Khartoum about the beginning of July, and there awaited reinforcements, so that when he marched out of the city on the 19th of September, his army consisted of 8,600 regular infantry, 1,400 cavalry (of whom 100 were cuirassiers; the remainder Bashi-Bazouks); one battery of Krupp guns; two batteries of mountain guns, and one battery of Nordenfeldts—about 10,500 men of all arms. Khartoum lies at the junction of the White Nile and the Blue Nile, and the original idea seems to have been to maintain communication with the river by establishing a line of fortified posts. For several reasons, however, this plan had to be abandoned, and the army, cut off from its base of operations, had to depend for sixty days on biscuits and whatever it could find *en route*. The heat appears to have been intense, and water was found, for the most part, on the surface in the ground depressions. El Mahdi's force was believed to number about twelve thousand, and the intention was to force a decisive battle with him as soon as possible. Now, however, it is thought that he had with him a much more numerous army, variously estimated at from 25,000 to 300,000. General Hicks' march was a most daring business. Having on his right the impassable Lybian Desert, while his left was constantly exposed to the attacks of

Abyssinian tribes, he travelled more than eleven hundred miles over a difficult and almost unknown country, taking the bank of the Nile for a guide and depending upon native scouts and spies for information. The scene of the battle was two hundred miles from Khartoum, and defeat meant destruction for Hicks' army. It is believed that El Mahdi's victory will so augment his prestige and elate his followers that his advance upon Cairo may be expected. Khartoum is a place of some importance, and has about forty thousand inhabitants. It is about 900 miles from Cairo. The Khedive, on receipt of the disastrous news, ordered the évacuation of all the posts on the White Nile and the concentration of their garrisons in Khartoum, but it is said that the majority of the inhabitants of that city sympathize with the False Prophet and will certainly receive him with open arms after his recent victory. The London journals are unanimous in condemning the idea of withdrawing the troops from Egypt at this juncture. The *Daily Telegraph* thinks that British military prestige alone can arrest the progress of El Mahdi's arms, and *The Times* says: "We cannot believe that Mr. Gladstone will wilfully and blindly persist in weakening the small British force now in Egypt. The broad highway of the Nile Valley is now open to the victorious fanatics. What is there to prevent the garrisons and the populations at the advanced posts from yielding to the temptations of El Mahdi? Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues must understand that England will hold them answerable if, by further errors of judgment, Egypt is allowed to relapse into anarchy, aggravated by the passions of religious fanaticism and the maddening influence of invasion by the barbarism of the interior of Africa." We observe, however, that two days after the above details were published the following telegram was received:—

Cairo, November 25th.

The Governor of Khartoum telegraphs that two chiefs state the report of the defeat of Hicks Pacha is false; that Hicks Pacha is at El Obeid, and that El Mahdi has been killed.

This, taken in conjunction with Reuter's recent announcement that Hicks Pacha is safe, justifies a hope that the reported disaster may not have occurred after all. On the other hand, it is quite possible that the telegram from the Governor of Khartoum may have been sent in the interest of the False Prophet himself.

A FINE tumulus which occupied a conspicuous site in the old churchyard at Taplow, near Maidenhead, has just been opened by members of the Berkshire Archæological Society, and found to contain relics equal in value and archæological interest to any of the Saxon period yet found in England. The digging was carried to a depth of twenty feet, where a quantity of gold fringe was found, followed by the discovery of a male interment. The body had evidently been placed on its back, with the head lying eastward. A circular shield of wood, cased with bronze, of two feet diameter, rested on the lap. On the shield lay two drinking horns, shaped somewhat like the early feudal horn, lipped with gilt silver, the terminals being of gilded silver, elegantly mitred and figured. Two mitre-shaped armlets of ornamental gilt silver were also found on the shield. Some glass vessels were found near, together with a circular tub stamped with a peculiar Pagan design, the horse shoe. The usual warlike weapons lay alongside the dead.

As the gold fringe was found spread in strips about the grave it is pretty clear that it formed a frilling to the corpse. Some shreds of the gold fibre were ten inches in length. Other ornaments have been found, including a brooch buckle, weighing four ounces, and being four inches in length, made of pure gold chastely wrought and neatly jewelled. Two smaller and elegantly-wrought buckles, and some other objects in bronze were found, but nothing has yet been discovered which sufficiently bears the character of a helmet.—*London and China Express*.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following curious data, for the accuracy of which, however, he refuses to vouch:—According to a numerical calculation based upon the number of the new year, 1884 will not be a year of calamities. The first half of the year will be more unfortunate than the second, but none of the months are destined to be fraught with untoward events. The most unlucky months are February and September, the most unlucky day in the year September 20th, the most unfortunate hour of the day 8 a.m. The most unpropitious day of each month is the eleventh. Combinations of 2, 9, 11, and 20 are to be avoided, and no important undertakings should be commenced on any of these days. 209 is a number of peculiar ill-omen during the coming year, and buyers of lottery-tickets are advised to steer clear of it. Mercury and Neptune are the two planets which most immediately affect human affairs, and have a sinister influence, while Mars and Jupiter are propitious. This portends misfortune to seafaring people and danger from fire, while the propitious conjunction of Mars and Jupiter should signify an immunity from great wars. Planetary influence will be unusually strong, but the fortunate conjunction of Mars and Jupiter will counteract the sinister bearing of Mercury and Neptune.

THE *Colonies and India* tells of a new substitute for coffee and cocoa. It says that the kola nut, which has claimed attention from time to time as a remarkable stimulant, rivalling the celebrated *coca* leaves as a means of sustaining long periods of fast and severe exertion, now comes forward in a new character. Dr. Neish, of Port Royal, Jamaica, reports that the value of these nuts is enhanced by the fact that citrate of caffeine—a medicine now much employed for the relief of sea-sickness, megrim, and other nervous complaints—can be readily obtained from them, for the reason that they actually contain more caffeine than coffee berries. Another advantage is that in the kola nut the caffeine is in the free or uncombined state. These nuts seem therefore likely to take their place in the market as furnishing a nutritive and stimulant beverage. Besides being rich in the active principle of coffee, and containing also a large proportion of the obromine, the active principle of cacao, these nuts, in addition, contain three times the percentage of starch contained in chocolate; and, moreover, they also contain less fat, so that, in addition to stimulant and nutritive properties, there is the probability that a chocolate prepared from them will more readily agree with delicate stomachs. Mr. D. Morris warmly supports Dr. Neish's suggestion as a very appropriate one. Both the cacao and kola belong to the same natural order, *Sterculiaceæ*, and the habits and characteristics of the two trees are very similar. They both effect low warm situations, and, in view of the probable demand for kola nuts, attention might

very well be given to their cultivation. The tree is already cultivated to a considerable extent in Jamaica, where it is known under the name of byssi, and its nuts seem likely to become quite a valuable product.

THE *Nagasaki Express* of the 29th Dec., says :—The British barque *Gitanilla*, Capt. F. Taylor, a local-owned vessel, which left Shanghai in ballast on the 18th November, bound to this port, and of whose safety doubts were beginning to be entertained, has, we are glad to hear, arrived safely at Kobe, having been prevented from making this port by a long succession of strong head winds and current. She is now on her way here *via* the Inland Sea.—The first Corean-owned trading vessel to visit Japan, the *Ko-koku Maru*, a schooner of 87 tons, arrived here on Tuesday last, from Gensan, with a general cargo, consisting of hides, seaweed, linen, gall-nuts, etc. She is commanded by a Japanese captain, with a crew of thirteen Coreans. It is reported that she left Gensan on the 20th September, which seems almost incredible, unless she has since that time been occupied in collecting her cargo along the coast.

THE telegram which we publish this morning with regard to the course advocated by the press of Paris has an ugly look. It seems as though France were steadily drifting into war with China. A few months ago the prospect of such a conjuncture was regarded by the bulk of the people with extreme disfavour, and the general impression conveyed by the tone of the newspapers was that the Government's existence depended on its ability to avoid a rupture with the Middle Kingdom. But ever since M. Ferry's remarkably outspoken vindication of his policy and the vote of confidence he obtained from the Deputies, the complexion of affairs has completely changed. The Cabinet is left to pursue its way undisturbed, and that way leads directly to war. The President of the Council made it quite plain in his speech of October the 30th that the foreign policy of France under her present administrators is to be conducted in a spirit of speculative adventure, and that the bourne of her endeavours is the acquisition of distant territories which she will bequeath to succeeding generations. The sentiment which dictates this programme is doubtless very respectable from a paternal point of view, but its morality is dubious, and its consequences are not unlikely to be inconvenient. When a great nation, with an immense army and a powerful navy, persuades itself that its immediate mission is to make investments for posterity by planting colonies in the territories of other States, there is always a danger that its views may excite selfish opposition. The limits, too, of such a programme are apt to be developed by circumstances to an extent not originally contemplated. Not long ago the French journals were calling upon the Ministry to negotiate with China on the basis of the Bourée Convention; in other words, to restrict their scheme of occupation in Tonquin to the district lying south of the Red River. Now the same journals are recommending the occupation of Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan, as a guarantee for the expenses of a war, in which, if we may accept the avowals of M. Ferry himself, China fights in defence of the first right of every independent country—the right to determine who shall, and who shall not, have permanent

access to her territories. These three islands, Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan, are places of inestimable importance to the Chinese empire, and their occupation by France, whether as a temporary or a permanent measure, would be a step the Court at Peking could not contemplate without the greatest uneasiness. It would be a step, too, so exactly in accordance with the policy of patriotic extension announced by M. Ferry and pursued in Annam, that were the islands once occupied by France, their evacuation might only be looked for on terms which China could not possibly accept. At all events, it is plain that whatever may be the merits of the Tonquin question, its issue is entirely beyond forecast so long as France remains in her present mood. She means to have colonies, and her appetite, which six months ago, would have been satisfied with the delta of the Red River, is now so keen that Hainan, Formosa, and Chusan seem little more than a mouthful. Apart from the rights and wrongs of the business, the seizure of these islands would probably be the very wisest measure she could adopt. It is plain that campaigning in Tonquin presents immense difficulties, and that China is in a position to offer a very stout resistance there. But the occupation of Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan is a different thing. The French troops would meet with no appreciable opposition in the undertaking, and once established there, they might dictate their own terms. Selfishly speaking, no solution of the deadlock could be more agreeable to foreigners in the East. Permanent French colonies in this part of the world would be so many active factors of civilization and commerce; and for our own part we should like to see not only the whole of Tonquin, but also the three islands in question shown henceforth in the map of the world as French territory. But there are many highly unpleasant contingencies to be contemplated before such a result could be finally attained.

WHEN the English and French, uninvited guests, knocked at the gates of Peking twenty-three years since, ten thousand men were sufficient to enforce an entrance. Now-a-days it would take certainly twice that number to approach the walls of the big city. Western learning has been forced upon the Orient, and the East has learned fairly well, if unwillingly. Taciturn China has now a word or two to say. We read, for instance, in a trustworthy English journal, that the Marquis Tsêng regards hostilities with France as unfortunately probable. He confronts the probability with anxiety, but without fear. "Forty thousand Frenchmen," he says, "would not suffice to beat us." If the French won the first battles the Empire might split into several Governments. But these Governments would be united for the purpose of resistance, and would be as formidable in this combination as if the Empire remained unbroken. The Black Flags in Tonquin now number eleven thousand, and have many reserves on the Upper Red River; and in the case of war breaking out, China, Annam, and Tonquin would make common cause. There is a good deal in all this of speculation, and war carries with it uncertainties which are not in the habit of adapting themselves to the best informed and most diplomatic estimate of probabilities. As to the attitude which the other European Powers would assume in the case of hostilities breaking out between France and China, the Marquis Tsêng, who in prudence might give lessons to many European states-

men, declines to say anything. He contents himself with pointing out that war would do those Powers incalculable damage. With respect to the Tricou despatch, the Marquis charitably assumes that the statement that he was disavowed by the authorities at Peking is due to some misunderstanding. Li Hung-chang has no power to treat on foreign matters, and is not the Marquis's superior. It is natural to suppose that some conversational remarks of his were misunderstood. There are many instances in the history of our relations with China of serious mistakes arising out of the difficulties which the want of a common language of diplomacy, and even of community of ideas between East and West, has occasioned. It is impossible to believe that M. Jules Ferry or M. Tricou would be capable of the gross fraud, sure soon to be detected, which any other interpretation of the incident would impute to them.

ACCORDING to the *New Zealand Herald*, the report of the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand, presented at the last general meeting, showed that the income, including the balance brought forward from last half-year, was £232,911 16s. 1d.; the general expenditure was £200,835 4s. 6d.; the balance to credit of profit and loss account at the close of the books was £32,076 11s. 7d., from which the directors recommended the payment of a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum (less interim dividend at 5 per cent. paid April last).

The *Times*, in its weekly telegram from India, says :—There appears to be a possibility, if not a probability, of an outbreak of war between Nepal and Tibet. The quarrel arose thus :—A custom prevails at Lhasa that for the first two months of the year a kind of carnival is held, during which the Ministers retire from the cares of State and make over their duties to the monks of the three great monasteries. In the course of the last carnival the monks of the great Debang Monastery, who number some seven thousand men, and appear to be very disorderly, took advantage of their temporary authority to plunder the Nepalese traders in Lhasa to the extent, it is said, of seventy lakhs. The Nepalese Government demands compensation for its subjects. The two Chinese Ampas or Imperial Residents at Lhasa have attempted to mediate, proposing that one-fourth of the damage occasioned should be made good by the Chinese Government, one-fourth by the Lhasa Government, and one-fourth by the Debang monks, and that the plundered traders should be content to bear the loss of the remaining fourth. Nepal rejected this proposal, and sent an officer to demand full restitution. This officer was seized and detained by the Debang monks. Nepal has now proposed that representatives of both Governments should meet at the frontier and try to come to terms. It is hoped that matters may thus be peacefully arranged. Meanwhile, the Nepalese are strengthening their frontier forts.

WHILE General Hicks was leading his little army into the desert to fight an enemy of whose strength he was quite uncertain, public interest was but little excited about his progress, but now that his name is associated with a disaster second only to the massacre of the Cabul expeditionary force, everybody is asking who he was and by what chain of incidents he came to command

an Egyptian force in the Soudan. His story, however, seems to have been a very simple one. His first experience in the field was gained fighting against the Sepoys, in the service of the East India company, and he afterwards served in Abyssina with distinction. In character he is said to have resembled Chinese Gordon, and when he offered his sword to the Khedive for the subjugation of the Soudan, no one supposed that he was actuated by any sentiment of reckless ambition. But the Egyptian campaign could scarcely be called complete so long as the Moslems fighting for the False Prophet were daily growing stronger and threatening a descent even upon Cairo, and General Hicks is believed to have thought that an enterprise of this sort fell as much in the way of his duty as anything else. The first news of his terrible fate elicited the fact that more than one critic had prophesied disaster for him, and we shall doubtless hear a good deal of his recklessness in separating himself from his base of supplies, and of the hopelessness of leading a half-disciplined force into difficulties that would have taxed the endurance of hardened veterans. But Ismail Pacha's explanation of the catastrophe is probably the true one. "Hicks could never have succeeded," said the ex-Khedive, "with such material as he commanded. Egyptian soldiers, more than any other soldiers, need a flag, military music, and all the *éclat* of war. Without these they cannot—will not fight." General Hicks was not the sort of man to deceive himself about the stuff his troops were made of, but neither was he the man to turn back because success looked difficult. It may turn out that instead of being annihilated himself, he has annihilated El Mahdi, but our latest telegram with regard to the fortification of Suakin looks ominous. Suakin, the only important Egyptian harbour on the Red Sea, is the point from which the Soudan is most easily reached. A camel journey of twenty days takes the traveller to Berber, whence the journey to Khartoum is made by river in small steamers. A railway from Suakin to Berber was formerly projected, but afterwards abandoned as its paying prospects were very doubtful. Had General Hicks' campaign succeeded, there would have been no reason to fortify Suakin at present, but if the victory was with the False Prophet, the rebel tribes would soon have found their way to the neighbourhood of the town. It is said that on receiving the news of the disaster, Sir Evelyn Baring advised the Egyptian Government to abandon the Soudan, and establish a strong frontier line from Khartoum to Suakin, but it seems scarcely likely that England will be content with defensive measures. Any successes which the False Prophet gains in the Soudan will merely be regarded by him as preliminaries to more extensive operations, and Great Britain has very solid reasons for desiring to see the Mussulman authority reasserted before the revolt spreads any farther. Turkey, too, is closely concerned, and we shall not be surprised to learn that the task of restoring order will ultimately be undertaken by her with English assistance. At any rate, it is plain that the fates have conspired against Mr. Gladstone. The removal of the English forces from Egypt must now be postponed *sine die*. The story of El Mahdi, the False Prophet, is thus told by the *New York Herald* :—

Mohammed Ahmed, the False Prophet of the Soudan, was born at Dongala, memorable as the place where Ismail Pacha Saddyke, the Monfettish and late

Finance Minister of the ex-Khedive, was put in a sack along with some stones, and, the sack being sewed up, was thrown into the Nile. The Mahdi's father was named Mohammed, and was a carpenter. Young Ahmed followed his father's calling and became very skilful in the art of boat building. When his father died he went to Senaar—to the south-east of Khartoum—where he continued the carpenter business, but where he was so lucky, or perhaps unlucky, as to cut off the ends of the fingers of his left hand. This mishap, however, proved to be the making of young Ahmed, for he now fulfilled all the conditions of the prophecy alluded to elsewhere.

Ahmed knew how to read and write and possessed a certain eloquence. He gave up carpentering and took to reading the Koran in the public places and haranguing the crowd. He then travelled all about the country, making "stump speeches" on religious subjects. The people used to listen to him at first through curiosity. Soon he made himself respected, and in a few years he acquired an enormous ascendancy over his ignorant followers, who had never before heard such an orator. People used to come on foot hundreds of miles to see him. The Sheikh travelled about like a second Peter the Hermit; but, unlike Peter, he gave himself up to personal ambition. There was a constant rivalry among his hearers as to who could lay before Sheikh Ahmed the richest offering. The prudent Sheikh stored up these presents, and having become wealthy he set himself up as a prophet. The motto which he adopted was, "The whole world shall follow me and obey me." Endowed with no ordinary imagination, he uttered certain predictions to which his credulous but already submissive disciples attached implicit faith. According to one of his prophecies, on November 12, the first day of the new Mussulman century—1,300 after the Hegira—he himself was to be proclaimed, at Khartoum, Prophet and Ruler of the Soudan. Having convinced his followers that he was in direct communication with the Almighty, he used, while addressing them, suddenly to become silent, and, closing his eyes, to remain motionless for several minutes. He carried this trick to such perfection that not the slightest movement was perceptible while he simulated coma, after which he appeared to recover from a state of profound lethargy, cast wondering glances around him, and exclaimed, with an air of conviction:—"I come from Paradise, where I have been with Allah and His Prophet. How I would like to tell you of all I saw and heard! but you would not be able to understand it." His followers became so devoted to him that at a signal from him they were ready to sacrifice their lives.

Five years ago he withdrew himself from his followers and became a hermit, thus seeking to involve his very existence in mystery. This proceeding at once increased his fame. From Zaouia to Zaouia of the Senoussia, and consequently from Mecca to Morocco, the attention of the faithful was assiduously called to the following prophecy :—

"On the 1st of the month of Moharrem, in the year 1300 (November 12, 1882), will appear El Mahdi or Messiah. He will be exactly forty years of age, and of noble bearing. One arm will be longer than the other. His father's name will be Mohammed and his mother's name Fatima, and he will be hidden for a time prior to his manifestation."

Ultimately El Mahdi came forth from his retirement and stationed himself on the Island of Abba in the White Nile. He absolved his followers from all allegiance to earthly potentates and announced himself as the successor of Mohammed. This involved their refusal to pay tribute.

The first active rebellion broke out on the 12th of August, 1881, at the Island of Abba. On this occasion, thanks to the incredible stupidity of the officer in command, the Egyptian troops who were sent to arrest the Mahdi not only failed in their object, but lost 120 men. After this the Mahdi left his home on the Island of Abba and crossed the White Nile into Kordofan. During the next ten months repeated attempts were made to arrest the False Prophet, but, owing to bad management and the employment of insufficient forces, always with the same result—complete failure. During this time the Egyptians lost at one place or another 1,200 men and an equal number of rifles. Finding that the insurrection was spreading rapidly, it was at length judged necessary to make a serious effort. Accordingly, in the beginning of June, 1882, Yusef Pacha left Fashoda at the head of 4,400 men, with four mountain guns and a rocket, for Ghebel Gadir, where Mohammed Achmet was then residing. On the way he met the rebels, and, thanks to his neglect of the most elementary rules of warfare, he was completely defeated, with the loss of 3,600 men and all his guns. Of the 800 men who escaped at the time the greater part were subsequently captured and sold into slavery. City after city capitulated to the False Prophet, the greatest of his successes being the capture of El Obeid.

When El Mahdi, the False Prophet, appeared in the Soudan, announcing his divine mission after the fashion of Mohammed, travellers in that country were a unit in expressing the belief that the Egyptian campaign of Sir Garnet Wolseley would be child's play compared with the religious uprising in the Valley of the White Nile. The reasons for this belief were very simple, and they have been justified by the overwhelming defeat of Hicks Pacha. The disaffection and restlessness among the Arab tribes date back many years, and may be said to have begun

when Khartoum was founded by Mohammed Ali as a military post; and, being at the confluence of the Blue and White Niles, was a strategic point commanding the water courses to Central Africa. This city, the largest in Northern Central Africa, contains a mixed population of 40,000, embracing as godless a set of ruffians of all shades of color, moral and physical, as were ever brought together.

Khartoum became not only the capital of the slave trade, with all its numberless horrors, but was also the penal colony where murderers, highwaymen, and every species of scoundrel—Turkish, Frank, Egyptian, Arab and native—were permitted to roam at will, and often obtain high place in the government employ. Khartoum became the seat of central authority of all that region between Berber and the Equatorial lakes, with indefinite boundaries on the west and south. This whole tract was divided into nine provinces, with a separate governor for each province, these various territorial divisions having the supreme head in the Governor-General at Khartoum, a post second only in authority and emoluments to that of the Khedive himself. It is this official, represented in the various persons holding the place, who is more to blame for the present state of affairs in the Soudan than can be assigned to any source.

THE *New York Herald* says :—The difficulties in China are likely to give rise to many cases involving personal and property rights of American citizens in that country. Jurisdiction of such cases is now vested in the American Minister, consuls and commercial agents there. These officers are clothed with extraordinary judicial powers to determine issues touching not only the property, but also the life and liberty of citizens of the United States. They are appointed to their diplomatic and consular positions without any reference to their qualifications for judicial duties, and, as a rule, they are utterly incompetent and unfit to perform such duties. It is well known that this mongrel system of administering law has been fruitful of flagrant abuses, which are now likely to increase in consequence of the pending war. Efforts were made last winter by the State Department and in Congress to remedy this matter. A Bill was favourably reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations by Senator Pendleton, embodying a reasonably complete code of civil and criminal law for the government of citizens of the United States in Eastern countries. It specified crimes and fixed punishments. It defined civil rights and prescribed remedies. It provided for the establishment of Courts and the appointment of judges. It should have been passed by Congress, but was not. The subject has now assumed a new importance, and will demand the earnest attention of Congress as soon as that body meets.

THE *New York Maritime Register*, referring to a vessel now making a voyage to this country, from that port, says :—The ship *Kennebec* (new, 2,126 tons), Captain Foard, sailed from Bath, Me., October 20th, discharged 550 tons ballast and loaded 78,700 cases oil and 100 tons merchandise and sailed for Japan 7 a.m. November 17th, 23 days from the time she left Bath. The above number of days include a detention of 4 (four) days consumed in moving ship from berth to berth and waiting for lighters.

THE *London Globe* says :—"Taking into consideration the anti-Chinese and anti-English feeling in Paris, Marquis Tseng thinks it better that his family should remain at Folkestone during the coming winter. The same class of French journals that denounced their Royal visitor as a 'Prussian spy,' now describe the Marquis as an 'English agent.' Both appellations are odious, and the result might easily be the same."

A NEW RAILWAY.

THE scheme formulated by the Minister of Finance in his recently issued Notification No. 47 is, in its main features, similar to the methods generally pursued in France with a corresponding object. That object, in the present case, is to connect Tokiyo and Saikiyo (Kiyoto) by a line of railway setting out from Takasaki and connecting, at Ogaki, with the road now in course of construction thither from Sekigahara. It will be remembered that the Tokiyo and Takasaki line is already open to within five miles of the latter place, and if the Finance Minister's plan matures, the last length of that line would probably be completed simultaneously with the commencement of the first section of the Takasaki and Ogaki road. It is scarcely necessary to discuss the prospects of this project as an industrial undertaking. Everyone is agreed that Japan stands in urgent need of facilities for internal transport, and a line of rails connecting the Eastern and Western Capitals constitutes the natural backbone of her railroad system. Such a line may, therefore, be regarded as a necessity. What remains to be considered is the method of obtaining funds for its construction.

The Finance Minister's plan is to sell interest-bearing bonds and apply the proceeds to defray the cost of construction. The rate of interest is to be seven per cent.; the quantities offered for sale, from time to time, are to be regulated by the requirements of the work; the upset price of the bonds is to be determined by the Minister, and there is to be no restriction with regard to the nationality of the purchaser.

At first sight two objections to this scheme forcibly present themselves. One is that, having regard to the rates of interest now ruling in Japan, the people's money cannot profitably be sunk in railways. The Government may not hope to borrow on better terms than those commanded by its scrip at present. Owing to currency contraction and the consequent stagnation of industry during the past two years, capital has been abnormally attracted towards public securities, the result being that loan-bonds which commanded from eleven to twelve per cent. interest in 1881, now produce little more than nine per cent. With the revival of industry—a revival which the construction of railways, amongst other things, cannot fail to stimulate—opportunities to use capital productively will increase, and speculation will be diverted from Government scrip until the interest on that class of investment reaches the higher level which will then rule generally. We may observe here that economical science does not wholly justify the favorable deductions which some Japanese financiers seem disposed to draw from reduced rates of interest. The rate of interest depends on the supply of capital in all forms suited to productive

uses, compared with the opportunity to use capital productively. In a country where industry is depressed owing to such a cause as currency contraction, there may be a low rate of interest with a small supply of capital; while, on the other hand, there may be a high rate of interest with a large supply of capital in a country where natural resources are abundant and the spirit of enterprise is continually incited by success. Simultaneously with the reawakening of industry and commerce in Japan, we look to see the demand for capital increase and the price paid for its use augment correspondingly. Thus, though seven-per-cent. railway bonds could probably be issued now at 75 (since ten-per-cent. pension bonds are quoted at 107), their price in the near future might, and probably would, fall to 70 or even 65. On the whole, it seems reasonable to estimate that the Government will have to pay at least ten per cent. on the proposed railway scrip, whereas money for the same purpose could undoubtedly be obtained in Europe at 8 per cent. What, then, are the reasons which induce the Minister of Finance to enter the dearer market in preference to the cheaper? Apparently they are two. First, the reluctance Japan feels, for political reasons, to incur any new obligations abroad. A foreign loan would undoubtedly be very unpopular at present. The spirit of independence, naturally strong among the Japanese, has been developed to almost romantic proportions by the arbitrary opposition its just aspirations encounter. We need not stop to consider how far this sentiment is morbid or unwarranted. It is enough to note its existence and the influence it necessarily exercises upon the councils of the Government. The second reason probably is that, by borrowing at home, there is a hope of obtaining the money in quantities determined by the needs of the moment. Assuming that the construction of the line is carried on simultaneously from both ends at a total rate of 40 miles a year and a cost of sixty thousand *yen* per mile, a simple calculation will show that by borrowing 2,400,000 *yen* per annum at ten per cent., the aggregate payments on account of interest at the end of 5 years would be 3,600,000 *yen*, and the aggregate sums borrowed twelve millions; whereas, if twelve millions were obtained at once in Europe, at 8 per cent., the aggregate payments on account of interest would amount, at the end of five years, to 4,800,000 *yen*. This difference is sufficiently important to dispose, in some degree, of the question of interest as between the home and foreign markets. It may fairly be hoped, also, that before five years have elapsed, considerable portions of the line will be earning enough to pay the interest on the cost of construction. We have seen that the Tokiyo-Kumagaye road is already netting from ten to twelve per cent., and that its takings are still capable of very large development. In

fact, should the Government be able to devote the earnings of the various lines throughout the country to pay the principal and interest of the money raised for their construction, we have little doubt that before many years Japan might easily be provided with a very tolerable net-work of railways.

The second consideration which suggests itself in connection with the scheme, is that inconvenience may result from the fixing of so much floating capital. This is a question which necessarily takes us into the region of speculation. How much capital may be available for commercial and industrial purposes in Japan we have no means of ascertaining. It is believed by Japanese financiers, whose sources of information are exceptionally good, that gold and silver to the value of fully fifty million dollars are lying idle in godowns or otherwise hoarded throughout the country, and that the owners of this virtually buried wealth will be tempted by the opportunity of investing it in Government scrip at a good rate of interest. If this result be attained—and certainly the Government's greatly improved credit must count for something in the prospect—the country will be a direct gainer by the utilizing of so much unemployed capital. But if, on the other hand, capital already seeking investment is diverted, in any considerable quantities, toward railway scrip, the revival of trade may be deferred by the consequent scarcity of the money supply. This country has many natural advantages, and what it chiefly needs is capital to furnish all the tools and materials which labour can profitably employ. The people have already suffered sorely by the cramping of industry and the fall in the price of produce consequent upon currency restriction. A foreign loan for the construction of railways and other public works would probably impart to enterprise and labour the stimulus of which they stand in urgent need, while a further diminution of the nation's floating capital seems a financial measure of very doubtful wisdom.

THE NEW PUBLIC LOAN-BONDS.

ON December the 28th there was issued, over the signatures of the First Minister of State and the Minister of Finance, a Notification (No. 48) providing for the issue of public loan-bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu*. In order to appreciate the force and intention of this measure, a brief retrospect of the history of Japanese fiat paper is necessary.

When *Kinsatsu* were first issued, in 1868, the credit of the Government, owing to causes which need not be recapitulated here, did not stand very high with the people. Little assurance was felt that official "promises to pay" in thirteen years—for that was the period originally fixed for redemption—would be redeemed at the date of their

maturity, 1881. These promissory notes therefore fell at once to a discount of nearly sixty per cent., and nothing but an exceptional exercise of arbitrary power forced them into circulation at all. Twelve months later, their volume was doubled, and this additional issue was accompanied by an announcement that the date of maturity should be anticipated by eight years. It was proclaimed, in short, that the notes should either be exchanged for specie in 1872, or that interest at the rate of six per cent. should be paid on the whole amount in circulation. Thenceforward the value of the fiat paper steadily appreciated—we again omit, as superfluous to our present purpose, an analysis of the agencies that combined to produce this result—until *Kinsatsu* circulated at par with silver. But when 1872 came, the Government evaded its engagement. Instead of adopting either of the promised alternatives, it invited the people to buy bonds redeemable within fifteen years, and bearing, in the meanwhile, interest at the rate of six per cent. in specie. The holders of *Kinsatsu* would scarcely have accepted this compromise without remonstrance, had they not already become quite reconciled to the fiduciary currency. Five years before, when the volume of *Kinsatsu* in circulation was but twenty-five millions, one hundred *yen* in paper represented only forty *yen* in silver. Now, with a volume of paper four times as large, the superiority of silver was practically unrecognized. But if the people gave themselves little concern about the Government's inability to pursue its promised programme, they were scarcely less indifferent to the new bonds. These found so few purchasers that in nine years scarcely five millions were disposed of. The reason of the unpopularity of these securities was not far to seek. They were in no respect a definite instrument for the resumption of specie payments. Such an instrument must be an actual tool of exchange; a cheque payable to bearer and transferable without difficulty. The bonds were by no means of this nature. The original holder of each was registered, and to him alone were the interest and principal payable. In a word, to purchase these bonds, a man must have been prepared to take the risk of losing the use of his capital for fifteen years, receiving in the interim, interest considerably below the market rate. It is true that, shortly afterwards, the Satsuma Rebellion, by recalling the circumstances under which fiat notes first made their appearance and attained their maximum depreciation, once more established a wide interval between the purchasing powers of *Kinsatsu* and silver. The specie bonds then presented some very attractive features to speculators, but to speculators only. They had no appreciable effect, nor could have any, on the mass of the note-holders. They did not in any degree help to restore *Kinsatsu* to their place as real money, nor did they even amount to a distinct acknow-

ledgement of the Government's liability to redeem its pledges. What followed is too familiar to need much comment. Industry and enterprise were crippled by a medium of exchange so unstable that it defied all calculation, while Japanese financiers confined themselves to speculative attempts to bolster up the credit of their notes—attempts which encouraged gambling and tended ultimately to intensify the mischief. Fortunately for the country this fatal policy was not pursued. The Finance Department, under new management, adopted a new programme, the three principal features of which were—to refrain from all speculative operations of exchange; to reduce the bulk of the *Kinsatsu* in circulation; and to accumulate a reserve in the Treasury for the ultimate resumption of specie payments. These measures, steadily pursued, have produced marked consequences. In two years the fiduciary currency has risen from a discount of 27 until it now circulates at a value only 9 per cent. less than that of silver. True, there are critics who pretend to believe that this is all unreal, referring it to some occult official devices for "bearing" specie. But the vagaries of such writers have no longer, we presume, any interest for rational men. Everything, even to a general readjustment of prices, goes to show that the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* is real, and the Notification referred to at the commencement of this article indicates the first definite step towards the resumption of specie payments.

We venture to refer here to some words of our own published in these columns eighteen months ago. We wrote:—"It seems to us that the course to be pursued is very clear. Return to specie payments must be effected by a series of redemptions. The first step would be the issue of interest-bearing bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* to the amount of, say, thirty million *yen*. These should be redeemable with silver in thirty years (the quantities, periods, &c., here mentioned are, of course, arbitrary) by annual sums of two million *yen*. The bonds might be slightly different in form from the notes at present in use, but they should be manufactured with a careful regard to convenience of circulation. Those to be liquidated at par would be declared by lot once, twice, or even three times per annum, the successful numbers being payable in silver on demand." The principal features of this suggestion are exactly reproduced in the scheme now announced by the Minister of Finance. The "Redemption Bonds" are to bear an annual interest of six per cent. payable in specie; they are not to be registered or to carry the name of their holder, but to be transferable like ordinary bank-notes; they are to be of three denominations, one hundred, five hundred, and a thousand, *yen*; they are to circulate for five years unredeemed, and then to be redeemed by yearly draw-

ings extending over a period of thirty years.

The immediate effects of this measure will probably be almost imperceptible. As an investment, the Redemption Bonds offer no note-worthy attractions. Among foreigners they are not at all likely to find a market at the present rate of exchange, nor is the interest offered sufficient to tempt Japanese capitalists. What may be expected, however, is that they will to some extent take the place of *Kinsatsu* of large denominations, since they will be equally convenient as instruments of exchange and more valuable on account of the interest they bear.

But as a means of steadying the currency they cannot fail to perform a useful function. Should circumstances tend to bring about another depreciation of fiat notes, the Redemption Bonds will immediately be preferred as a circulating medium in all the larger transactions of trade. Further, their issue marks the Government's first practical acknowledgment of its liabilities, and at the same time establishes a tangible relation between *Kinsatsu* and metallic money. These are points of great importance. Disappointment will probably be expressed in some quarters that a more radical measure is not adopted, but nothing is more to be deprecated in this business than precipitancy. The contraction of the currency has already been carried on with dangerous rapidity, and for the present the efforts of the Finance Minister may wisely be limited to improving its stability. What is wanted is, not to withdraw *Kinsatsu* from circulation, but to make them exchangeable for, and therefore of equal value and stability with, specie.

TREATY REVISION.

THE Resolutions passed, on November the 3rd, at a general meeting of the non-official Japanese now residing in England and Scotland are, we believe, a fair expression of the opinions entertained by the educated classes in this country with regard to treaty revision. Years have gone by since this subject passed into a by-word, so much had been written and said about it, and so hopeless did the prospect seem of any settlement being arrived at. Many attempts have been made to show that the delay was not less attributable to Japanese unreadiness and mismanagement, than to foreign obstructiveness, but such arguments are as deficient in honesty as the policy they seek to extenuate is wanting in justice. The plain facts are that a combination of powerful States forcibly compelled Japan, eighteen years ago, to revise her tariff on a basis which should be again subject to revision in 1871, and that the same combination of States has ever since persisted in founding upon that original act of compulsion a claim to withhold from this country the right to manage her own fiscal affairs. We

are very well aware that there are some lovers of euphemisms who object to admit that the SHOGUN'S Government was subjected to any compulsion in these arrangements, and who would have the world believe that the concessions obtained by the Foreign Representatives in 1865 were quite voluntary, so far as the Japanese were concerned. Such scruples are intelligible enough, but they cannot be reconciled with history. European Governments, whether reluctant to submit their dealings with Japan to public scrutiny, or for some other reasons of high policy, have been for many years careful to depart, in her case, from the ordinary rule which prescribes the occasional publication of diplomatic correspondence. This secretive system had not, however, been inaugurated in 1866, and we are thus enabled to quote the words of Sir HARRY PARKES himself, who, speaking on behalf of his colleagues and describing the steps they had taken with a view to submitting their proposals to the Japanese, wrote thus to Earl RUSSELL:—"On considering the manner in which these proposals should be laid before the Government of the TYCOON, we were of opinion that our reference (to him) could be made more effectually by ourselves, provided we could proceed to the Bay of Osaka and be accompanied by an imposing naval force." It may, perhaps, be said that the object of the Foreign Representatives in causing themselves to be escorted by eight ships of war was simply to furnish employment to the English, French, and Dutch Fleets, and that nothing was farther from their thoughts than to intimidate the Japanese. But which of us is there who, if men came with blunderbusses in their hands and asked him to sign an agreement embodying conditions known to be distasteful to him, would agree that he was under no duress because his life was not verbally threatened? When the Doyen of the Foreign Representatives addressed to the Japanese Ministers at Osaka a despatch "demanding a prompt and satisfactory settlement of certain questions of grave importance arising out of the Convention of October 22nd, 1864," and when he concluded his despatch by calling attention to the fact that he was "accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of all the naval forces of Her Britannic Majesty in China and Japan," and that his letter was "dated from that officers's flagship," the Japanese must have been singularly sanguine or curiously naïve if they mistook the alternative implied by his attitude in the event of their refusal to satisfy his demands.

The Convention here alluded to was that concluded after the Shimonoseki expedition. Amongst other things, it stipulated for the payment by the SHOGUN of an indemnity of three million dollars. Her Majesty's Government subsequently decided that "the general interests of trade and of

consulted by an arrangement which should absolve the Government of the TYCOON from two-thirds of the whole indemnity, provided, first that the port of Hiogo and the city of Osaka should be opened for the trade and residence of the subjects of the Treaty Powers on the 1st of January, 1866; secondly, that the sanction of the Mikado be formally given to the treaties already concluded by the TYCOON with the Treaty Powers; and thirdly, that the duties on imports into Japan be generally reduced to 5 per cent., and in no case exceed 10 per cent."¹ These were the three conditions to obtain which the Foreign Representatives visited Osaka, in 1865, with a combined fleet of English, French, and Dutch ships. They obtained two of them, and Sir HARRY PARKES, reporting this result to Earl RUSSELL wrote:—"I beg your Lordship to observe that the sanction to the Treaties and the revision of the Tariff, these being two of the three conditions for which Her Majesty's Government were willing to relinquish two-thirds of the indemnity due under the Convention of October 22nd, 1864, have been obtained." The third condition, the immediate opening of Hiogo and Osaka, was considered impossible in the then condition of affairs, and we now know that it would probably have led to serious trouble. The Foreign Representatives were therefore compelled to be satisfied with obtaining two of the concessions for which two-thirds of the indemnity was to have been remitted. But they did not remit a dollar.

See, then, the sequence of events. In 1864, "the hostile acts of a Japanese Daimiyo assumed such formidable proportions as to make it difficult for the TYCOON faithfully to observe the treaties."² Four of the Treaty Powers accordingly undertook "the duty of chastising this rebellious Daimiyo." As guerdon for their services they then imposed on the TAIKUN a fine of three million dollars. Subsequently, they announced their willingness to remit two-thirds of the fine if the Japanese Government would make them three concessions. The Japanese Government hesitated about the concessions, being, in fact, unable to guarantee them, but went on paying the instalments of the indemnity. The Treaty Powers sent eight men-of-war to Osaka to remind the TAIKUN that there was an alternative to the payment of the indemnity. The TAIKUN then accepted and fulfilled two of the three alternative conditions. Finally—the indemnity was exacted to the uttermost farthing, and one of the concessions obtained by the Foreign Representatives with their combined fleets was thenceforth regarded as conferring on the Treaty Powers a title to withhold from Japan in perpetuity the right of regulating her own tariff.

It is thus that every Japanese reads, and every fair-minded foreigner must also read,

the story of these events. They do not furnish any valid reason to impeach the motives or principles of the persons and powers chiefly concerned in them. That is altogether a different question. Humanity is so constituted that all creeds must adapt themselves to circumstances. But it would surprise us much to be told that the policy of duress and dictation which was considered applicable to Japan's semi-anarchic state in 1865, is to form the basis of her treatment by Western nations in 1883.

Those who have taken any trouble to watch the course of popular feeling in Japan during the past five years will readily endorse the statement embodied in the Langham Hotel Resolutions that the delay in the revision of the treaties is "endangering the continuance of the present good feeling towards foreigners." It has been frequently pointed out in these columns that the position of the present Government with regard to its foreign relations bears a striking resemblance to the some-time position of the SHOGUN'S Government. Twenty years ago, the most powerful weapon placed in the hands of the revolutionary party was the seemingly craven attitude of the Yedo Court towards Western nations; an attitude which, according to the creed of those days, was inconsistent with every patriotic dictate. At present, the Opposition has nothing stronger to urge against the Government than its apparent inability to obtain from Western Powers a practical recognition of Japan's independence. The people have either to believe that their rulers are singularly incompetent; or that rights exercised by every other free country in the universe are arbitrarily denied to Japan by civilized Europe. The vernacular press is gradually teaching its readers to accept the latter version of the dead-lock, and their disposition towards foreigners is not improved by the lesson; while at the same time, the Government's difficulty in pursuing a patient and conciliatory policy is becoming daily more formidable. Even the Japanese residing in Great Britain call for an "exercise of greater energy," implying that they are still disposed to blame their own Government's inability rather than foreign injustice. They do not hesitate, too, to indicate the route they would have pursued should it be found impossible to bring the negotiations to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. "Proper steps must be taken to put an end to those portions of the existing Treaties which are detrimental to our national interests." In other words, Japan must repudiate the treaties, or such parts of them as impair her independent rights. This is an alternative from which the Government may well shrink until it has exhausted every conceivable expedient to arrive at an amicable understanding. The difficulties it has to contend with are great, but not invincible. Foremost among them is that coalition of Treaty Powers by which European Governments set so much store

¹ Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce, July 12th, 1865.

² Convention of October 22nd, 1864.

in former days. Not that there is any acknowledged disposition to overawe Japan by the irresistible strength of the coalition, but that it is almost hopeless for her to obtain an unanimous recognition of her rights from a dozen States each of which is as solicitous to consult the other's wishes as it is indifferent to this country's claims. That indifference, however, is certainly not attributable to a desire, or even a willingness, to be arbitrary or unjust. Even in England, which Japan has learned to regard as the most obdurate of her treaty friends, and which, having incomparably the largest interests at stake, is compelled to be the most chary of concession, there exists a spirit of fairness and liberality ready at any moment to find active expression if only it be properly appealed to. We believe that the chief cause of Japan's inability to obtain a recognition of her just claims is the ignorance which prevails among Europeans about everything that concerns her, and for this reason public expressions of opinion, such as that made at the Langham Hotel, cannot fail to produce a useful effect.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

Not long ago the condition of the French army was journalistically described with the aid of statistics which took the world somewhat by surprise, inasmuch as they showed that the numerical measure of France's military strength was no less than three and a half millions of men. Such a stupendous figure has no parallel since the days of XERXES, and, other things being tolerably equal, it was plain that the supremacy wrested from France twelve years ago must gravitate to her again by sheer force of numbers. More careful analysis, however, goes to show that these statistics must not be received without reserve. Captain NORMAN, writing in the last number of the *Nineteenth Century*, submits them to tests which altogether change the character of the impressions they convey. By the new system of military organization adopted by France in 1872, the country was divided into nineteen military districts, each having a population of about two millions, and each being again subdivided into eight sections, so that the total number of territorial divisions was 144. Throughout these divisions the liability to military service was to be absolutely universal for every male so soon as he arrived at the age of twenty years. Statistics showed that by this arrangement each district would furnish annually 16,000 conscripts, or, in other words, that 296,000 recruits would join the colours yearly from the first eighteen districts (the nineteenth being omitted as permanently occupying Algiers). Each man was to serve for 20 years, namely—five years with the colours; four, with the reserve of the active army; five in the territorial army, and six in the territorial reserve. As, however, the total strength of the army with the colours was fixed at 500,000, it became impossible to utilize the services of all the recruits legally available, and there was accordingly devised a system of exemptions which had the effect of reducing the 296,000 to 141,000—that is to say, 155,000

(more than half) of those liable were exempted. Even when thus reduced the annual contingent was unmanageably large, and a further reduction was effected by passing 47,000 into the reserve of the active army after they had served one year with the colours. Thus 93,000 men remained to be absorbed yearly by the permanent army and to serve five years with the colours. Yet again a reduction was effected by releasing infantry soldiers at the end of three years, keeping only these in the mounted or scientific branches for five. Having regard to these modifications the forces at the disposal of France may be divided into three great classes, thus :—

Trained men, i.e. those who have passed three years or upwards with the colours	837,000
Partly trained men, i.e. those who have served one year only	703,000
Untrained men, i.e. those who have escaped service altogether, though liable to be called up in the event of war	1,715,000

Of this force the number actually with the colours is 273,000, of whom 140,000 are in their first year of service; 140,000, in their second, and 93,000 in their third. It is also pointed out that as the amount and quality of daily training in the French army are far inferior to the standard laid down in Germany, the reserves of the former cannot be compared to the Landwehr.

Small as these figures look side by side with those recently published, it cannot be pretended that they do not represent an immense military organization—an organization which, thirty years ago, would have been regarded as a nine days' wonder. But the really weak point of the system appears to be the impossibility of keeping up the establishment in the superior grades. In England, one officer to thirty soldiers is considered the minimum; in Germany, the proportion is one officer to thirty-four trained men, and in France, it is nominally, one to twenty-eight. At present, however, the total number of regimental officers serving in the permanent army or borne on the rolls of the active reserve, is only 22,409, whereas 36,597 is the number required to place these forces on a war footing. The crippling effect of this deficiency becomes doubly apparent when we remember that there are 469,000 men, partially trained, with the colours and in the ranks of the First Reserve, who, in case of war would require earnest and unceasing attention in order to fit them to replace casualties. Turning again to the Territorial Army, which, consisting, as it does, of men who have completed nine years' service, may be said to form the backbone of military France, we find that the number of officers at present borne on the cadres of the regiments is only 9,835, whereas the number required to place these regiments on a war footing is 22,421. Thus the total deficiency in the establishment of officers is 27,000, irrespective of those who would be needed to train the million and a half men that have hitherto escaped service altogether.

A greater, and if possible, more serious, failure of the system is observable in the case of the non-commissioned officers. These men constitute the real nucleus of an army, and on their activity and intelligence its efficiency mainly depends. In nothing has the evil of short-service been felt more than in the difficulty it places in the way of obtaining a sufficient supply of experts to fill the non-commissioned ranks. In

England the bad consequences of Mr. CARDWELL'S "reforms" have been largely mitigated by rates of pay liberal enough to retain good men with the colours; and by the Great European States similar inducements are offered to prevent the retirement of capable soldiers and the consequent exercise of power by young men. But in France, the sergeant-major of a cavalry regiment receives only 2s. 3½d. a day, and the sergeant of a line battalion, 8½d. The result is that there are at present in the French army 24,000 *sous-officiers* who have not completed five years' service in the ranks, and 18,000 who have less than three years' service. In fact, instead of trying to attract *sous-officiers*, or to retain those she has, France puts a premium on the early retirement of her best men by permitting those that can pass an examination to escape further servitude at the expiration of one year in the ranks. Thus the posts of the non-commissioned officers "are filled by men from the lowest classes of society, men devoid of good education, and of those powers of command generated by habits of scholastic obedience." Captain NORMAN says that upwards of 18,000 vacancies occur annually among the *sous-officiers* of the permanent army, and are invariably filled by corporals of little more than one year's service. Yet to these men are entrusted powers of punishment equal to those possessed by officers commanding companies in the British army. No wonder that the consequences are fatal to discipline. The writer in the *Nineteenth Century* says that "in war, as in peace, the insubordination of the French private is a matter of history," and that under existing circumstances there springs up a laxity not unfrequently culminating in what would be called mutiny by Englishmen. He instances several examples of this, amongst others the statements of the French officers themselves, that during the war of 1870 "they were compelled to shoot men down red-handed in order even temporarily to restore obedience," which summary executions received the sanction of a Government decree. It is to be feared that the course of the campaign in Tonquin has already furnished notable illustrations of this want of discipline. The story told in the *Figaro* of officers arguing with their men in order to restrain them from committing barbarous excesses, and being compelled at last to yield to the soldier's bloodthirsty logic, has a strange sound in English ears.

The spirit that prevails among the commissioned officers, also, is described as one of discontent and distrust. General THIBAUDIN'S elevation to the post of Minister of War will probably prove to have been a most unfortunate event. A junior general of division, his rank did not qualify him for an office which his military antecedents ought, under any circumstances, to have placed beyond his reach. He began by removing the Princes from the army; followed this by depriving General GALIFET of the chief command at the cavalry manœuvres; went on to issue a circular calling for the political opinions of all officers recommended for staff employ; soon let it be practically seen that only men of Republican views might look to fill important military posts; and finally extended this system of political tests even to the junior officers, so that the routine of promotion was entirely upset. The result has been an universal spread of discontent and the retirement of a great number of officers.

Captain NORMAN concludes his analysis with these words:—"The French organization reads well on paper; but we believe that the army, with the exception of the artillery, in which there is a most noticeable improvement, is in a worse condition than it was in 1870. Its permanent force is wanting in those soldierlike qualities which distinguished the regiments that used to march past the Emperor on the Champ de Mars. The reserves, who would be called out to bring the army up to war strength, are composed of half trained men, whose value has been seriously impaired by their severance from military discipline. The old feeling of comradeship amongst officers has been succeeded by mutual distrust, and *esprit de corps* amongst the men is also a thing of the past. Efficiency has been sacrificed to numbers, military capacity to political exigencies, and should war overtake France before she has realized and rectified the defects of her military organization, nothing can avert a disaster more crushing than that which befell her thirteen years ago." It is to be sincerely hoped that the one event which can effectually prove or disprove this analysis may never occur. We have too much faith in the better instincts of humanity and in the progress of civilization to suppose that war is the only teacher which can cure Europe of its military mania, and make the nations believe once more in the old maxim:—"Sæpe intereunt aliis meditantibus necem."

THE DIARY OF HENDRICK HEUSKEN (1856-1858).

(From the German of Dr. G. Wagener, in "Transactions of the German Asiatic Society of Japan" June, 1883).

The diary from which these extracts referring to Japan were taken, was given by Heusken's mother to Mr. Bouvy, of Amsterdam, and later through the kind offices of Mr. Eykman in Tokio, placed at the disposal of the German Asiatic Society in Japan. A careful inspection of these reminiscences, which are written in the French language, soon showed that they referred to the years 1856-8 which preceded the conclusion of the treaties with America, England, France, &c., and though they present no new facts of importance, they give us a more exact apprehension of Japanese circumstances and the *modus operandi* of the Government, than is the case with any other publication. On this account alone it seemed proper to publish these valuable papers for the benefit of a wider circle of readers; moreover, by this means a duty will also be fulfilled towards both Mr. Harris and Mr. Heusken, in bringing to remembrance and putting into clearer light the meritorious services of these two gentlemen in the opening of this country to foreign intercourse.

As to Mr. Heusken's personality and adventures, the work entitled "The Prussian Expedition to East Asia," Berlin, 1864, Vol. II., p. 145, contains the following item:—"Heusken (born Jan. 20, 1832, in Amsterdam), who sprang from a family in good position, and had enjoyed a youth amid wealth and happiness, soon learned all the bitterness of life through the sudden impoverishment and subsequent death of his father. He wrought bravely amid many discouragements to earn his subsistence, when accidentally he fell in with Mr. Harris who was just starting for Japan as Consul. From that time his fortune rose. He won the confidence of his superior, with whom he lived in seclusion for years in Shimoda, and from the fact that his assistance became indispensable in negotiating the treaties, his position grew in influence and importance. He lived in comfort, supported his mother by liberal contributions, and had the most flattering prospects for the future. One felt that he enjoyed life, all his surroundings bore evidences of

comfort. Before his little cottage home there smiled a picturesque garden, his well-lighted rooms were ornamented with well-selected specimens of Japanese art, his servants always appeared with faces indicative of satisfaction and cheerfulness."

This testimony is confirmed by many notices in his diary. His early misfortunes had left no trace of bitterness or narrowness in his fresh and youthful spirit; the account of his experiences give evidence of benevolence towards all men, magnanimity and a love of justice, joyous courage and confidence leave their impress on his diary. Only once he seems to have been overwhelmed with excusable anxiety, as he waited week after week with unwearied faithfulness at the bed-side of his superior, who, far from all help, lay at death's door.

It was natural that, with a character so happily endowed, Heusken should spend his days in satisfied contentment after having reached so great a result, which affected not only the United States but was also of great benefit to other countries as well.¹ He became a favourite with the members of the Prussian expedition on account of his social qualities. With his assistance, in spite of greater hindrances than those experienced by the English, Russians, &c., in negotiating their treaties in 1858, the Prussian Embassy had reached the point on the 14th of January, 1861, where everything was complete, and the Japanese had promised to receive the presents on the following day and also in a very short time to sign the treaty. Heusken had been the whole day at the Prussian Legation and remained for the evening. Everyone was in good spirits and specially grateful towards Heusken. At 9 p.m. he left on horseback; at 10 o'clock word came from Mr. Harris that Heusken lay severely wounded in his house. The physician of the expedition and several other gentlemen hastened to his side, but found him in a hopeless condition. A gaping sword wound, which laid bare the intestines, extended from near the navel across the lower abdomen almost to the hip. In consequence of loss of blood—Heusken had lain half an hour in the street, and medical help could not be obtained inside of an hour and a half—he died without pain. Harris wept bitterly by the body. It was afterwards found that the attack was made by seven or eight men armed with swords. January 18th, 1861, he was buried. The government sent word to the foreign Legations, that they had information of an intended attack on the funeral procession, and although they had taken steps to prevent it, they could guarantee nothing, and therefore earnestly desired the Embassadors and their attendants to remain at home and allow the coffin to be put away quietly. Mr. Harris answered without a moment's hesitation that nothing in the world would prevent him and his colleagues from fulfilling the last offices of friendship towards their murdered friend, they would accompany his body to the grave and take care to defend themselves. For this purpose all who took part in the obsequies armed themselves, the members of the Legations and Consulates, Naval officers, etc., and the procession was strengthened by about 70 marines from the foreign men-of-war then in the harbour. Five *Bunyo* (Japanese officials of highest rank) rode at the head of the procession, and many other officials followed on foot or on horseback. No disturbance was attempted.—Heusken's body was laid away in the graveyard of the *Kōrenji* temple in Azabu; a gravestone with inscription marks the spot. In the same place also lies Dankuchi, the Japanese interpreter for the English Legation who was murdered a year before.

Why Mr. Heusken, who was also exceedingly liked by the Japanese, was selected as a victim has never been explained. His cruel death has indeed been shown to correspond with the suicide of Hori Oribe no Kami, a high official, who is said to have been aggrieved by Mr. Heusken; this version is given in the History of Japan, Vol I.,

p. 129, which was published in the year 1874, by F. O. Adams. At the same time this supposition was combated with such good reasons, in the "Prussian Expedition" 1866, that it can scarcely be maintained. Mr. Harris also repudiates this explanation in an official document² and he gives as the cause of the murder simply Heusken's own carelessness, which led him, Harris, to fear some such result ever since their arrival in Tokio (see also end of this paper).—The Japanese historical work called "*Kinsei Shiraku*," translated by Mr. F. M. Satow, ascribes the deed to the *ronin*, who at that time were gathering in *Hitachi* and *Shimosa* concocting plans for an attack on Yokohama, but by the intervention of the Government were prevented carrying their plan into execution. "Nevertheless" says the above work, "the secretary of the American minister, who lived in Yeddo, a certain Mr. Heusken, was murdered one evening in Mita as he was returning from an excursion."

So far Mr. Heusken's personal experiences and fate. If our readers wish to inform themselves further on the subject we refer them to the full and beautiful account in "The Prussian Expedition," Vol. I., pp. 180, 257, 271, and Vol. II., 145, 160, 171. We return to the diary and its contents.

The diary does not give an account of every particular day, for which the monotonous life in Shimoda, and subsequent retirement in Yedo, would give but little occasion. He describes only what seemed new and interesting, and what related to the negotiations, but he gives this in such simple unadorned style, that no doubt can be raised as to the truthfulness and correctness of these accounts. The following abstract contains all that would be of interest to-day, exactly as Heusken himself gives it and mostly in his own words. Whoever reads the abstract cannot but be struck with the tact and skill of these two foreigners, and will agree with the remarks of the author of "The Prussian Expedition" in Vol. I., p. 180: "Both Mr. Harris and his secretary and interpreter, Mr. Heusken, a Hollander by birth, were able to accommodate themselves to Japanese conditions as very few could and by a skilful combination and use of circumstances to accomplish what no one had dreamed possible." Moreover, the reader will also admit that in the years 1856-58, the Shōgun's régime did not at all deserve the charges that are sometimes made respecting their treatment of foreigners.³ From this diary it would seem to be clear that the Shōgun's government stood almost alone in being sensible of the fact that foreigners could not be simply driven away; that they did not at all disguise the fact of the difficulty of their position on account of the provincial lords, nor the fact that the supreme power lay not with them, but with the Mikado, whose consent they declared to be absolutely necessary, in order to overcome the opposition of the Daimio. All these difficulties were made so plain in the negotiations that Mr. Harris himself was compelled to acknowledge their force. And when the government of the Shōgun claimed the right to negotiate and conclude treaties with alien nations, they acted in perfect accord with their standpoint, that is, precisely as all Shōguns from the time of Yoritomo would have acted under similar circumstances, and in entire accord with the Laws of Iyeyasu.⁴ The wars with China and Korea, the negotiations for peace, the rejection or permission of Portuguese and Dutch intercourse, the mercantile regulations in Nagasaki, etc., etc., were concluded by the Shōgun alone and not by the Emperor. In view of such an actual arrangement of authority in Japan, the reproach that the Shōgun allowed foreigners to address him as "Majesty" amounts to nothing; the Dutch had used the title from the first, and honoured every *Daimio*, every *Tono-sama* with the title of "King." The titles used by Japanese to Heusken, *Shōgun*, *Taikun*, *Kubo-sama*, all belonged to the Shōgun in reality, or had been formerly applied to him.

¹ See Prussian Expedition, Vol. I., p. 182. "This (the English) treaty was negotiated so speedily because Mr. Harris had, the winter before, done the whole work, and had placed at the disposal of the English Ambassador his own secretary Mr. Heusken, who understood all the circumstances and the persons affected, and was able speedily to remove every difficulty."

² See "Prussian Expedition," Vol II., p. 171.

³ See, for instance, Adams' History of Japan, p. 107.

⁴ See Vol. I. of Transactions, pt. I., p. 4 and 8, particularly the 2nd law and the conclusion; also p. 12, the 28th law, according to which the Shōgun had the right under certain circumstances to appoint the Emperor.

This is especially true of the title *Taikun*, which indeed has never been usual among Japanese, but which was introduced by the third Shōgun of the Tokugawa line in diplomatic intercourse with Korea; and then afterward used when dealing with Americans and other foreigners. On the other hand, it must be acknowledged that the whole establishment of the Shōgunate was itself the abnormal outcome of usurped power, which sooner or later could not but lead to a struggle between Kioto and Tokio. This diary shows clearly that from the year 1856-58 the opposition to the Shōgunate had already reached an alarming height.

The point, which constituted the chief grievance and ground for agitation of the opponents of the Shōgunate was evidently the right of residence granted to foreigners. The mercantile arrangements were for the Japanese of less importance, and this diary shows that they were completely ignorant of the real scope of these regulations and in perfect confidence allowed themselves to be guided by the advice and proposals of foreigners.

To assist in making the diary more intelligible, we give here a few historical dates to refresh the memory of the reader. On the 31st of March, 1854, Perry's treaty was concluded in Kanagawa, and on the 21st of February, 1855, ratified in Shimoda. This treaty stipulated only the opening of the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate for American ships requiring wood, coal, water, and provisions: help and friendly treatment of shipwrecked Americans, and the sending of the same to Shimoda or Hakodate; free intercourse within certain limits for Americans temporarily sojourning in these ports; a limited exchange of mercantile commodities under the control of the Japanese authorities, and the right to nominate a consul for Shimoda with jurisdiction over all Americans in Japan, and finally the most favoured nation clause. Shortly afterwards the English and the Russians concluded similar treaties, the former in Nagasaki, the latter in Shimoda. About a year after the ratification of this treaty Mr. Harris appeared in Shimoda as Consul, at the same time he came as Envoy Extraordinary to present a document from the President of the United States to "the ruler of Japan," the Shōgun, and to negotiate a new treaty. According to the *Kinsei Shiraku* the Yedo government was warned by the Dutch in Nagasaki not to quarrel with the foreigners for fear that they would be treated as China had been ten years before. This warning was heeded as described in the same work, and this corresponds exactly with the attitude of the Government of the Shōgun as depicted in Heusken's diary. After a good deal of trouble Mr. Harris brought matters so far that in June, 1858, he returned to Shimoda, after having received from the government the promise to sign the treaty in a few months. So far the diary. According to the *Kinsei Shiraku* it was just at this time that Ii-Kamon-no-Kami, whom Heusken does not mention, was made regent, *Tairō*. He received information from Mr. Harris, who had learned it from American and Russian men-of-war, that the Anglo-French fleet would sail for Yedo on the conclusion of the war with China, whereupon he determined not to wait any longer for the culmination of a decision in Kioto, and signed the treaty with America on the 29th of July, 1858. "Immediately afterwards," says the *Kinsei Shiraku*, "the English, French, and Russians came to Yedo and negotiated treaties similar to the American. It was at this time that the agitation for the expulsion of the foreigners began, and that many people began to talk about internal and external affairs."

The chief difference between these and the former treaties was that they secured for foreigners diplomatic representation, the right of permanent residence in certain places, extraterritorial rights, freedom in the exercise of their religion, and unrestricted commercial intercourse.

The agitation against the foreigners became more formidable, especially after the murder of Ii-Kamon-no-Kami in the year 1860. "From that time," says the *Kinsei Shiraku*, "the number of those who demanded the expulsion of the foreigners increased daily." And this same

agitation, as previously remarked, is accredited in the same book with having brought about the murder of Heusken without even a hint of any particular personal cause.

ABSTRACT OF THE DIARY.

From 21st August, 1856, to 8th June, 1858.

August 21st to September 21st, 1856.

On the 21st of August, 1856, the screw-frigate *San Jacinto*, with Messrs. Harris and Heusken on board, anchored in the harbor of Shimoda at the southern end of the peninsular of Idzu. Immediately one of the secretaries of the governors with two interpreters, who understood Dutch, made his appearance in order to welcome Mr. Harris as Consul-general, and to receive a document from him announcing his arrival to the governors.

On the day on which the Consul-General was to meet the two governors, the Daimios of Shinano and Bingo, he goes ashore with 12 officers, is met by Japanese officers and military escort and is conducted to the government buildings. Both governors, surrounded with officers and secretaries, await him at the entrance of the audience hall. The greeting is exceptionally friendly and the company sit down at once to a Japanese repast. After the usual ceremonial speeches and assurances of friendship, the governors express themselves as not having expected the Consul-General so soon; Shimoda had been visited by floods and earthquakes; they had as much as they could do to repair the mischief done thereby, the whole land was completely demoralized by the great calamity; it would therefore greatly rejoice them if his Excellency the Consul-General would return home, and visit them again in one or two years. As this was negated by the letter of his consular instructions, the governors declared they could not see any necessity whatever for a consul in Shimoda, they would like to know why he was sent at all; it was stated in the treaty, that a consul should be appointed in Japan, if one of the contracting governments considered it necessary. After an explanation of the prerogatives and duties of a consul, viz., protection of his countrymen, assistance of shipwrecked, etc., etc., the Japanese reply that they need have no anxiety on that score, they (the Japanese) would see to those matters to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. After a lengthened debate, in which it became very clear that the arrival of a consul was not very much to the liking of the Japanese government, it was at last decided to put a temple at his disposal and arrange it according to his wishes, as there was no preparations made for any other dwelling.

On one of the following days, the Commodore (for the first time), and the consul accompanied by Heusken and several officers, made a visit to the Governors, on which occasion they repeat the attempt to get rid of the troublesome foreigners, and ask the Commodore naively, whether he would not rather take the Consul along with him when he left the port. After the repast, from which each guest had to take away his packet of sweetmeats, the Commodore, the Consul, and Mr. Heusken each receive some presents of lacquer ware; the officers find on their return to the ship that each is the happy recipient of half of a large fish, whereas on the first visit they had already received two fowls apiece.

When the temple *Fusenji* was to be taken possession of by Mr. Harris there was a long series of discussions, for the Governors wished to reserve two or three rooms for Japanese officers. While the Japanese represented such a guard of honor to be an absolute necessity, as well as a most convenient arrangement, for in this way every wish or command of the Consul could be accomplished without delay, the latter thanked them most politely for their care and goodwill, but assured them positively that there was no necessity for so much trouble; that he would be able to take care of himself, and had no wish for such guests in his house. At last he consented to have a small house in the temple court used for a Japanese watch. After the crew of the *San Jacinto* had erected a flag-mast in the court of the Consulate, the ship

weighed anchor on the 3rd of September, 1856; Townsend Harris and Heusken remained alone behind.

21st September to 24th February, 1857.

In the night of 20th Sept., 1856, a *taifun* destroyed one-third of the town of Shimoda and cast all the junks on shore, the next morning Heusken was surprised at the placidity of the Japanese and the activity with which they began the work of repairing the mischief.

On the 25th of September, the Consul-General sends a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Yedo to acquaint him with the fact that he was not only Consul, but that he had full powers as Ambassador, and moreover that he had a letter from the President of the United States to "His Majesty the Emperor" and intended to go to Yedo to deliver the same.

In the meantime, before an answer is returned, a Dutch steam corvette arrives, stays however, but a few days in the unsafe harbour; later, in October, an American schooner brings a cargo of arms, but the Japanese considered them too old and refused to have them. A very welcome interruption to the monotonous life in Shimoda was occasioned by the more lengthened stay (from Nov. 12 to Dec. 15) of the Russian corvette *Olivuzsa* with Captain Constantin Possiet on board, who brought the ratification of the treaty concluded between Russia and Japan. On the 22nd of February, at the request of the Consul, the Japanese fire off two small cannon in honour of Washington's birthday, the cannon were exact imitations of a model presented by Commodore Perry and were served with great precision.

At last one of the Governors brings an answer from Yedo. The Government there is not inclined to deal directly with the Consul-General; the governors of Shimoda have full powers for that purpose. This answer is corroborated by a written answer of the Great Council to the two letters which Harris had sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Probably in order to alleviate the unpleasantness of this message, the governors invite the Consul to their private dwelling; all their intercourse thus far had been in the government buildings.

On the 24th of February 1857 the consul and his secretary are borne in two *norimon* to the dwelling of the two governors, Inouye, Daimio of Shinano and Oka, of Bingo. All the Japanese officials are in gala dress. With every possible mark of politeness the guests are entertained in Japanese fashion, and on the conclusion of the meal, one of the governors prepares tea with his own hands to present to the Consul, to whom also the whole tea apparatus is given as a memento. The governors and other officials lived in a compound surrounded by a wall, about an English mile from Shimoda; each one had his little house in which he lived with his servants; women were entirely excluded, for the government held that where the officials had an extraordinary mission to fulfill they could by that means better secure State secrets from gossiping tongues.

February 25th to March 1st, 1857.

On the 25th of February the negotiations with the governors were at last to make a beginning. Mr. Harris had wisely occupied the lengthened interval in arranging all sorts of apparently trivial things, partly with the object of learning the *modus operandi* of the Japanese, and also to give them to understand that while he acted with the greatest consideration he intended also to go forward with the greatest firmness. The chief causes of complaint were the following:—The two foreigners could never go outside of the house without having their steps dogged by a police official, who never let them go out of sight, under the pretence of protecting them from the perfectly harmless people. The people of Shimoda were strictly prohibited all intercourse with the foreigners, and all ran away as soon as they appeared. The next point was, that the presence of the so-called guard of honour, consisting of two officers and two soldiers in a little house in the temple court, had become altogether unbearable. Moreover, whenever an official came on a visit he was always accompanied by half a dozen secretaries who wrote down every word that was spoken. The fourth

difficulty was the constant surveillance of three imperial spies, as Heusken calls them, probably the so-called *ometsuke*, who had the right to be present at every audience, on which occasions they occupied a place separate from the rest of the officials and observed everything exactly in order to report the same to Yedo. Finally, the Governors had the habit of answering their letters by messages and never in writing.

As all kindly representations resulted in nothing but evasive replies, Harris took a determined stand; declared all these arrangements to be an insult to the representative of a great nation, and in opposition to all the laws recognized by civilized nations in diplomatic intercourse. He declared further that, if the guard of honour was not removed at once, he would consider himself a prisoner and report accordingly to his government; he would always welcome visits from Japanese officials, but uninvited guests he would show to the door. That took effect; the guard of honour vanished, the secretaries and *ometsuke* were seen no more; the governors answered by letter, and the people soon became more friendly.

March 1 to June 17, 1837.

On the first of March negotiations begin in earnest respecting some additional articles in the treaty concluded by Commodore Perry in Kanagawa. One great difficulty arises out of the question of the dollar exchange, the Japanese at first wish to take the dollar at the rate of one silver *bu*, although worth treble that amount. The Consul refuses to pay what he owed until this question was settled; and on his advice a Russian corvette paid only one-third of the price demanded for purchases, and deposited the balance with the Consul. The Japanese then propose to exchange gold for gold, and silver for silver by weight but with 25 per cent. discount for cost of re-coining; and finally it is decided to fix the discount at 6 per cent.

June 18th to August 18th, 1857.

At length on the 17th of June, after ten months of delay, the Convention was signed. The new regulations are principally the following:—The port of Nagasaki is opened for American vessels as it had already been for Russian ships, to take in provisions, coal, etc., and to arrange averages. Americans have the right after July 4th, 1858, to settle in Shimoda and Hakodate, gold and silver are to be exchanged according to weight, with 6 per cent. in favour of the Japanese for cost of re-coining. The Americans are amenable to their own law-courts, ships which call at Shimoda, Hakodate, or Nagasaki may pay for purchases in kind if they have not a sufficiency of cash. The consuls have the right to come and go freely within a radius of 7 *ri* from their residences, but at the request of the Japanese Government they will not make use of this privilege for a time. Finally, the consuls and the members of their households may buy necessities direct from the dealers without the intervention of an official.

The above additions to the former treaty having been settled, the time has come to begin negotiations for the conclusion of a real treaty of commerce, for which purpose the two governors declare they have full powers to act for the Government. Mr. Harris, however, demands first of all, an answer to two letters, of Oct. 25, 1856, and Jan. 8, 1857, that he had sent to the Great Council in Yedo, containing among other things an intimation that he was the bearer of a document from the President of the United States which he had to present to the "Emperor" of Japan. The governors declare that they have authority to receive the letter, and one of them would bear it to its destination in Yedo. The Consul, however, will not agree to this, and insists on putting the letter himself into the hands of the "Emperor." A refusal on the part of Japan would be a serious insult to his Government and would have a disastrous result. At the same time he makes good use of an event which occurred a short time before, and which just now stood him in good stead. The governors had sent him word that they had received a letter for him from the great Council in Yedo

which they would hand him at their next meeting in the government house. As Harris was sick he desired them to deliver the letter to his secretary, Mr. Heusken, but this they refused to do, on the ground that a letter signed by the great Council could be delivered only to the Consul himself and not to any of his underlings; this was Japanese etiquette. Mr. Harris now turned the tables on them and urged the same arguments upon the governors that they had used, so that it was eventually decided that the lord of Shinano should set out for Yedo and bring instructions thence.

Everything is at a stand-still until he returns, and Heusken relates his experiences in expeditions on horseback with improvised saddles over frightful roads.

August 25, the lord of Shinano returns, and two days later a conference is held, when Harris is informed that after a great deal of difficulty and objection on the part of the great Council, they have decided to receive him in Yedo, and to accept the letter of the President to the ruler of Japan (the Shōgun). Harris refuses, and the two governors endeavour to persuade him that it would not do for him to present the letter himself to the Shōgun, for he never attended personally to any political business, the eighteen great princes were against such a presentation, and to consent to what the Consul demanded would cause discontent and disturbance. If he, nevertheless, should insist in his demands, the Japanese Government would prepare a full document for the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Washington and ask him, the Consul, to have it sent to his address. Harris declares that he is ready and willing to forward any letters whatever to his Government, can assure them, however, that such a document would be of no avail in this case, and as to their anxiety with regard to disturbances he had thought that the Government stood on firmer ground and had more power than really now seemed to be the case; moreover, there was a precedent for what he demanded; Pater Valignani was received by the Shōgun as Ambassador of the Viceroy of Goa. The governors declare that they have found no trace of any such act either in old books or in the archives of the nation.

August 28th, 1857.

In the next conference the Consul presents a long list of persons who had been received by the Shōgun as ambassadors. That was very true, they allow, but no letter was ever handed the Shōgun; Mr. Harris had better desist from this question of the letter, and at once communicate to them the important matters of which he had spoken in his letter to the great Council. The Prince of Shinano said he had assured the Council as well as His Majesty that Mr. Harris would begin negotiations for a new treaty in Shimoda as soon as he had received permission to go to Yedo. Mr. Harris protests against any such acceptance of his promise, and declares that he had promised to make the communications in question when he had received a written consent, not only to his going to Yedo but also to present the letter to the Shōgun. The governors declare they never heard of such a stipulation, but the interpreter and Mr. Heusken drive them into a corner by declaring emphatically that they had repeatedly insisted on that very condition; and they asked them also how it came that on the day before they had said that the great Council was ready to take the letter for the Shōgun, if there had been no previous question as to its direct presentation. Thereupon they have no reply to make, turn rather to entreaty, adding that if the Consul should refuse to accede to their request they might not be in a position to continue their intercourse so pleasantly with him. Mr. Harris takes this as a threat and replies sharply, is however informed that such was far from their intention, but the expression simply meant that unless a satisfactory solution be soon reached they, the two governors, may be invited to disembowel themselves.

August 31st, 1837.

In the next conference the request is repeated, and Mr. Harris makes two propositions: Either (1) to communicate the "important

matters" at once in Shimoda, and then to go immediately to Yedo to hand the Shōgun the letter, or (2) to go at once to Yedo and hand the letter to the Prime Minister in the presence of the Shōgun, and then return at once to Shimoda to make the communications there. In either case he insists on making an address to which the Shōgun must reply. The governors ask him to come again next day. Next day they acknowledge thankfully the concession of the Consul to hand the letter to the Prime Minister and not to the Shōgun, but now repeat their request to have the "important communications" made at once, which request is, however, flatly refused. Mr. Harris offers to make his propositions of the preceding day in writing so as to have the Government in Yedo informed regarding them, but the governors refuse the offer declaring that such a document would be as inadmissible before the Council as the handing of the letter to the Shōgun himself.

September 2nd, 1857.

On this day the interpreter Moriyama reappears, to induce the Consul to yield, and indeed at the very moment that he has withdrawn his two propositions, seeing that they had not been accepted. The interpreter takes this letter with him, returns, however, at 4 o'clock, and declares that the governors have not refused to accept the propositions, but have only desired Mr. Harris to consider the matter a few days longer: they were quite satisfied with a part of the propositions, but cannot see why Mr. Harris should lay so much stress upon not making his communications before the letter had been presented. (The governors appear to have considered the first proposition, to hand the letter directly to the Shōgun, as entirely out of the question.) Harris replies that as to the communications from his government he is quite vexed with himself that he should ever have allowed the possibility to occur of giving them before he had presented his letter, he was certain to be blamed for it by his government, for it was the custom at every court in Europe never to open important negotiations before the presentation of credentials to the Sovereign, the governors had done him good service by not accepting his propositions, for he had now the right to take them back, particularly as they were only made in order to make some sort of a beginning after the long delay of nearly a whole year. His propositions must therefore be considered annulled, he will make no more, it is now for the governors to renew the negotiations.

On the third of September *Bon Matsuri*. It is for the foreigners also a festival day, for the first time since their arrival in Shimoda, now a whole year, they receive letters from home and from China, which are brought to them by a Japanese official.

September 4th to September 7th, 1857.

Conference with the governors. They say they had no intention of rejecting the propositions and throw the blame of the misunderstanding on their interpreter Moriyama, who this time is absent. In his place there are two other interpreters who together do not understand as much Dutch as he alone. On the 7th September, it is finally settled that a messenger should be sent to Yedo with the second proposition:—viz. audience in Yedo, presentation of the letter to the Prime Minister in presence of the Shōgun, return to Shimoda and opening of negotiations. In the meantime before the messenger returns, an American frigate calls at Shimoda bringing letters and papers, and makes a very pleasant and refreshing break in the monotonous life of the two diplomats.

September 23rd to November 23rd, 1857.

At length on the 23rd September, Mr. Harris is informed that his proposition has been accepted in Yedo. Heusken writes, "We are to be received in Yedo with great honour, we are to have an audience with the Taikun. The Minister Plenipotentiary is to make an address, whereupon I am to hand him the President's letter, which he is then to place in the hands of Hotta Bichiu no Kami, the President of the Great Council." After the arrangement of some minor affairs and the refusal of Harris to

salute the Shōgun Japanese fashion it is decided that the prince of Shinano and the interpreter shall repair to Yedo to make definite arrangements.

The interpreter Moriyama returns from Yedo with the information that the journey from Shimoda shall begin on the 23rd of November. Everything is now regulated to the minutest particular, two plans of the palace are laid before them to explain the way into the interior apartments. The two foreigners shall start from the ambassador's hotel in Yedo in *Norimon*, Heusken and the vice-governor of Shimoda shall alight outside the inner wall, the ambassador and the governor ride to a farther station and alight where all the mightiest potentates of the realm do, only the "three brothers of the King," i.e., the *Gosanke*, the heads of the Tokugawa branch lines, the princes of Owari, Kiushiu, and Mito only are allowed to come nearer the palace without alighting. At the steps Harris and Heusken are to be met by two masters of ceremony properly *ometsuke* (privy commissioners of high rank) and conducted to a room where they are to change their shoes. The speeches are to be prepared beforehand so that Harris will address the Shōgun in English and the latter shall reply in Japanese, dispensing with the aid of an interpreter.

November 23rd to December 7th.

The start is made at 7 o'clock in the morning; the four Chinese servants remain behind. In Nakamura the vice-governor is waiting with the force that is to accompany them, and the train makes a formal start; at the head a Japanese officer, then the Ambassador, and Heusken on horseback, Japanese officers and men, finally the vice-governor of Shimoda in *norimon* Heusken has the opportunity during this journey over the Amagi-toge and Yugashima to Mishima, the pleasing scenery of which places he describes, to convince himself that for all internal intercourse, Shimoda is very unfavourably situated. As to their Japanese attendants, they leave nothing to desire as far as politeness and attention are concerned, there is indeed almost too much of the good thing in their efforts to drive away the curious people who modestly watch the passing travellers. But before they reach the watch on Hakone Pass some little difficulties arise. The Ambassador is told that the officials of the watch will open his *norimon*, give one glance inside and then shut it up at once; moreover he could go through on foot, or on horseback if he chose to do so: but that form of inspection had to be submitted to by the greatest Princes of the empire, even the Lord of Satsuma was no exception. Harris declares, however, that these are all mere vassals, he however, figures here as the representative of the President of the United States, and he will go through the gate without inspection or not at all. After a two hour consultation between the vice-governor and the commander of the guard the latter consents to have Heusken's *norimon* only opened and to let Mr. Harris pass without inspection. As they approach the barrier, however, Mr. Harris's servant jerks the door of his *norimon* open and shuts it again immediately, whereupon Mr. Harris is not a little angry for he looks upon the action as a premeditated manoeuvre. It appears, however, afterwards that it was in all probability a mere misunderstanding on the part of the servant. On account of this delay the train accompanied by lanterns and torches reaches Odawara at 9 o'clock in the evening, in which place the police-force with lanterns on long staves lead the way to the hotel. On the following day Nov. 27, they reach Fujisawa. The road is in good condition and could be used by wheeled vehicles. In all the villages the train is met and accompanied by the authorities, the people humbly squatting before the houses silently look at the passing train; the upper-stories of the houses are also filled with people. This is explained by the fact that the Government had ordered that no one was to appear on the high road; and so it happened that while the houses were filled with people Heusken declares that all the way from Mishima to Shina-

gawa, for about 28 *ri*, he saw but two or three *norimon* and not more than five or six people on the otherwise so busy Tokaido. In all the places through which they passed, even where no soul was to be seen, the people at the head of the train kept crying out *Shita-nero*, so that Heusken had all the way the none too refreshing sight of a kneeling crowd, which to his great joy came to an end as soon as they reached Yedo. November 30th, they start from Kawasaki: in Shinagawa arrangements are made for the entrance into Yedo. At the head of this train goes the vice-governor of Shimoda in *norimon*, then Harris also in *norimon*, the interpreter, a number of officers and a band of 130 soldiers and coolies. A vast multitude is gathered together in the streets, Heusken thinks a million, every quarter of the city has a separate gate which is opened for the train and forthwith closed again, the police force of each section accompanies the train. The people, who maintain absolute silence, show only a kindly curiosity and no trace of dislike or hatred. Moreover, Heusken remarks expressly that even the officers and nobles from the highest to the lowest, whose acquaintance he has made have always met him with the most friendly frankness and the most painful politeness. The shake of a fan on the part of an officer is sufficient to drive back the surging crowd when approaching to near. In the better part of the city where the nobles reside, all the windows are protected by screens, behind which numbers of forms are visible. The dwelling of the ambassador is situated within the third wall, and at the steps the two foreigners are met by the governor of Shimoda, the Prince of Shinano. He asks at once for the letter announcing the arrival of Mr. Harris to the Prime Minister. He also adds that the Taikun has appointed an Ambassador Extraordinary, the Prince of Tamba, to welcome Harris and to present him with certain gifts. On the 1st of December this dignitary makes his appearance, and is received by Harris (who has had lessons in Japanese etiquette from the Prince of Shinano) at the door, while the Prince of Shinano on the upper step, the vice-governor of Shimoda and certain officials further down the steps, and a host of officers in the court greet him kneeling. The reception finished, the present turns out to be a great box of bon-bons. Besides the Prince of Tamba seven other Princes are appointed as commissariat to look after Harris's wants and to give him every assistance he might need. On the 2nd of December the prince of Bichiu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, brings information in person that the audience is to take place on the 7th. On the fourth Harris returns the visit, on which occasion the addresses to be read at Court are exchanged. On the 7th of December the audience is held in the following manner:—At the steps of the Palace, where they change their foot-gear, Harris and Heusken are met by the Prince of Tamba and another commissary and conducted into a hall whose ceiling, 30 feet in height, is supported by wooden pillars. After the audience room has been shown them, they remain in the former apartment until the Shōgun is seated upon his throne, then they enter, first the two commissaries, the Prince of Shinano, and then Harris, finally Heusken bearing the document from the President. In the great hall adjoining, 600 or 700 of the élite of the Japanese lie prostrate, decked in Court costume, an upper garment of yellow linen confined by a silk sash in which a sword is sticking, and long trowsers. At the threshold of the room in which the Shōgun sits the two Commissaries and the Prince of Shinano fall upon their knees. The latter remaining in this posture, leads Mr. Harris to the right so that he stands opposite the Taikun.

The Taikun is seated on a stool at the back part of the room on a platform 3 feet high; but the darkness scarcely allows of his being seen and his face is completely hidden by a hanging curtain from those who are standing.

With three bows Mr. Harris advances and remains standing on a place which is a step higher; at his right are the five members of the great Council, at his left fifty dignitaries; all on their knees. Perfect silence is preserved.

The Ambassador then makes the following ad-

dress, "May it please Your Majesty: In presenting my letters of credence from the President of the United States of America I am directed to express to Your Majesty the sincere wishes of the President for your health and happiness, and for the prosperity of your dominions. I consider it as a great honour that I have been selected to fill the high and important place of Plenipotentiary of the United States at the Court of Your Majesty, and as my earnest wish is to unite the two countries more closely in the ties of enduring friendship, my constant exertions shall be directed to the attainment of that happy end." The answer of the Taikun may be rendered: "Rejoiced at the reception of a letter sent by the hand of an Ambassador from a far country and also at his address, fellowship shall continue forever." Hereupon Heusken steps forward, gives the President's letter into Harris's hand, who opens it, shows the signature to the President of the Council and then delivers it to him. He lays it upon a table opposite the throne, then Harris retires with three bows.—The ceremony made quite an impression on Mr. Heusken, and according to his opinion the Court of the Taikun with its solemn simplicity and the absence of all barbarian splendour, contrasted very favourably with Court of the King of Siam, decked with gold and precious stones, which they had visited on their way out to Japan.

(To be continued.)

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The programme for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Week of Prayer to be held from the 6th to the 13th inst., has been published and circulated as usual by the Japan Branch of the Evangelical Alliance. The Arrangements for Meetings to be held in Tokio and Yokohama are as follows:—

TOKIO,
UNION CHURCH, TSUKIJI.
Sunday—11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. D. S. Spencer
Monday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. C. D. Fisher
Tuesday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. J. P. Moore
Wednesday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. C. S. Eby
Thursday—2.30 p.m. The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan. Addresses by the President Rev. Hugh Waddell, "Review of Christian Work during the year 1883;" Dr. C. G. Knott, "Dreams of the Past, and Facts of the Present;" Rev. A. A. Bennett, "Allegiance the Strength of Alliance."
Friday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. Mr. Cole
Saturday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. D. S. Spencer
Sunday—11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. D. Thompson
YOKOHAMA.
Sunday—Union Church, 11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. J. T. Smith
No. 212, Bluff, 8 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by J. A. Thompson, Esq.
Monday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. H. Loomis
Tuesday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. E. S. Booth
Wednesday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by A. J. Wilkin, Esq.
Thursday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Dr. T. W. Gulick
Friday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. W. C. Davisson
Saturday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. T. P. Poate
Sunday—Union Church, 11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. F. C. Klein
No. 212, Bluff, 8 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. C. E. Garst

Programmes giving a list of the subjects suggested for Prayer each day may be had at the Seamen's Mission Rooms, No. 86 Settlement, or at the Union Church, Tsukiji. They included the usual topics of Sermons, Praise, and Thanksgiving; Confession and Prayer for Cleansing and Renewal; Prayer for the Families and Instructors of Youth; Prayer for the Church of Christ; Intercession for the Nations; Prayer for Missions at Home and Abroad; and a closing Sermon on Christian love. Text Thess. 3: 12, 13. Union Meetings of all the Native Churches in Yokohama will be held throughout the entire week following the same programme, in which they will be joined by the Native Christians in Tokio, Kobe, Osaka, Saikio, and all parts of Japan. Twenty-five hundred Japanese programmes have been supplied them for the purpose. A second week of prayer has been determined upon by the Native and foreign Christians in Yokohama and at some other points. It may be made general throughout Japan. Very interesting meetings have already been held at the Seamen's Mission Rooms since the beginning of the New Year.

NOTIFICATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

NOTIFICATION No. 47.

It is hereby notified that the Public Loan Bonds Regulations for the construction of the Nakasendo Railway, has been fixed as follows:—

Art. 1.—These Public Loan Bonds are to be issued for the purpose of raising a fund to construct a railway on the Nakasendo Road from Takasaki, Kotsuke, in the prefecture of Gumba, to Ogaki, Mino, in the prefecture of Gifu.

Art. 2.—These Public Loan Bonds shall be limited to the amount of *yen* 20,000,000 and they shall be issued gradually by the Minister for Finance as the progress of the work demands. As to the details of each issue, the Minister for Finance will fix them at the time of making the issues.

Art. 3.—These Public Loan Bonds shall not bear the name of the owners and shall be of three denominations—*yen* 100, *yen* 500, and *yen* 1,000.

Art. 4.—The interest shall be seven per cent. per annum.

Art. 5.—Should the applications for the bonds exceed the amount required by the Minister for Finance, the number of the bonds to be transferred to the applicants shall be reduced in proportion to the excess. When, however, an application is made for the bonds at a higher price than their fixed value, the amount applied for shall not be reduced. The Minister for Finance will fix the price of issue.

Art. 6.—The Minister for Finance shall exhibit a sample of the bonds.

Art. 7.—The principal of these loan bonds shall not be redeemed for the first five years; but after that they shall be redeemed within twenty-five years by means of yearly drawings. The amount to be repaid shall be notified, at least, sixty days beforehand. The interest shall be paid in June and December, but upon the bonds which have to be redeemed the interest shall be paid up to the date on which the scrip is drawn. The interest shall be paid in paper currency.

Art. 8.—The interest is payable from the date on which the bonds are purchased. If they are paid for before the 15th of the month, the interest is payable for that month, and if paid after the 15th, it dates from the following month.

Art. 9.—The principal and interest shall be paid by the Nippon Bank. Notice of payment will be given thirty days beforehand.

Art. 10.—The interest shall also be paid at the branches of and agencies of the Nippon Bank.

Art. 11.—Anyone is allowed to buy and sell these bonds.

Art. 12.—When the principal is to be paid, the bond holders living in Tokiyo and Yokohama who having a large number of the bonds—there must be above ten of them—and five officers from the National Debt Bureau and Bureau for Record, must assemble at the Nippon Bank, and the drawing will take place in their presence.

Art. 13.—If the bonds are lost or stolen, the owners must report the particulars (denomination, amount, number, and manner in which the bonds were obtained) to the Minister for Finance through their local authorities. The Minister for Finance must prohibit the purchase or sale of such lost or stolen bonds. Should the bonds be recovered, the fact must be reported to the Minister for Finance. But if such bonds are not found by the end of the period for their redemption, and if they are thought to have been destroyed, the principal shall be repaid to the owners.

Art. 14.—Should the bonds be lost at the time the drawings are notified, they shall be excluded from the drawing.

Art. 15.—When the bonds are spoiled or torn, new ones can be procured on making application

at the Treasury Department through the Nippon Bank and on payment of the necessary fees.

Art. 16.—Should the bonds be spoiled in such a manner that the denomination, stamp of the Minister for Finance, etc., are unrecognizable, they shall be regarded in the same manner as lost or stolen bonds.

Art. 17.—Should the application for the payment of the interest not be made for fifteen years after the interest fell due, the owners shall not be entitled to either the principal or interest.

Art. 18.—These rules are subject to modification, excepting as to the amount of interest and the period of redemption, at the convenience of the Government.

(By Imperial Order)

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI,

First Minister of State.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister of Finance.

December, 28th 1883.

NOTIFICATION No. 48.

The following Regulations for the issue of Loan Bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* and not bearing the name of the holder, are hereby enacted, and Article III. of Notification No. 47 of 1880 is cancelled.

Regulations for the issue of Loan Bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* and not bearing the name of the holder:—

Art. 1.—With the object of resuming specie payments, Loan Bonds will be exchanged for the paper money issued by the Government. The Bonds will not bear the name of the holder; their principal and interest will both be payable in specie, and the paper money against which they are exchanged will be destroyed by fire at the Finance Department.

Art. 2.—The Bonds will be issued by the Minister of Finance according to the desire of applicants, but it shall be competent for the Minister to reject applications according to the convenience of the national finances.

Art. 3.—The Bonds will be interest bearing, without the name of the holder, and of three dimensions, viz., 1,000 *yen*, 500 *yen*, and 100 *yen*.

Art. 4.—The interest on the Bonds will be six per cent. per annum.

Art. 5.—The Bonds will be issued at par, and applications for them may be made at the Bank of Japan or at any of its branches or agencies.

Art. 6.—The form of the Bonds will be determined by the Finance Minister.

Art. 7.—The redemption of the Bonds will commence five years after the year in which they are issued and will extend over a period of 30 years. The amount to be redeemed on each occasion will be made known by the Finance Minister sixty days at least before the date of drawing, and the interest will be paid twice every year, in May and November, so long as the principal remains unredeemed. When a Bond is drawn for redemption its interest will be calculated for the number of months that shall have elapsed since the date of the last payment, and the same rule will be observed in the case of Bonds which mature.

Art. 8.—The Bonds will be divided into those which have been purchased during the first fifteen days of the month and those purchased within the second fifteen days. On the former, half the month's interest will be paid: on the latter, the interest will be reckoned from the first of the following month.

Art. 9.—All business connected with the redemption of the Bonds and the payment of interest will be managed by the Bank of Japan. Dates and places will be determined by the Finance Minister, thirty days at least before the day of drawing.

Art. 10.—The interest on the Bonds will be paid at the Bank of Japan, its branches or agencies, in exchange for the coupons annexed to the Bonds.

Art. 11.—The Bonds may be purchased or dealt in by any one without distinction.

Art. 12.—The amount of Bonds to be redeemed on any occasion will be published by the Bank of Japan, their number, order, denominations, and amount having been fixed by the Minister of Finance. At the time of drawing there shall be present ten of the largest Bondholders, resident in Tokiyo and Yokohama, and five officials of the National Debt Bureau.

Art. 13.—In the event of a Bond being lost, its owner will report, in writing, to the Local Officials for transmission to the Finance Department, the number and denomination of the Bond, the name of its owner, and the circumstances under which it was lost. Thereupon the Finance Minister will prohibit the sale or exchange of the Bond. The same cause will be pursued in the event of the Bond being found. Should a Bond thus lost be not found before the expiration of the period fixed for redemption, it shall be considered cancelled, and the principal and interest will be paid to the person who originally reported the loss.

Art. 14.—Should the loss of a Bond be discovered only at the time of its being drawn for redemption, the drawing shall count for nothing.

Art. 15.—Should a Bond be stained or torn, it may be exchanged on application and payment of a reasonable commission at the Bank of Japan or any of its branches or agencies. Such exchanges must be preceded by a careful examination of the Bond's number, denomination, stamps, and other particulars.

Art. 16.—If at the time of exchanging or redeeming a Bond, it be found so much soiled or torn that the number, denomination, stamps, or other particulars are illegible, the payment of the principal and interest shall be subject to the rules which apply to the case of lost Bonds.

Art. 17.—Bonds of which the principal or interest shall not have been claimed for fifteen years after they fall due, shall cease to be redeemable.

Art. 18.—With the exception of the rate of interest and the period of redemption, these Regulations may be amended or added to in accordance with Government necessity.

(Signed)

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI,

First Minister of State.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister of Finance.

28th of December, 1883.

THE ISSUE OF THE BANK OF FRANCE.

Mr. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu writes to the following effect on the dangers of suppression of the limit of the issue of the Bank of France. The state of French finances beginning to be well known, remedies are sought for on all sides. The simplest is one that seems to have escaped all observation; and that is to reduce the unparalleled squandering that has been going on for the last five or six years. But it appears that, far from adopting such a plan, the Government desires to adopt one quite the reverse. Thus, in the course of the last few days, it has forced the Senate to vote a supplementary credit of *fr.* 100,000 to increase the salaries of Prefects, whereas the emoluments of these functionaries are out of all proportion to the democratic condition of French habits, and the appropriation ought to be reduced by half a million at least, if not by a full million.

However, there are not two kinds of wisdom—one for private individuals and one for Governments. Take the case of any good citizen who, with a revenue of *fr.* 20,000 spends during three or four years *fr.* 24,000 or 25,000. Immediately that he realizes the condition of his affairs he will say to himself that there is only one way of disentangling himself, namely by reducing his expenses to *fr.* 20,000 or rather to *fr.* 19,000 as he has already made a hole in his capital. If the State had any perspicacity and any force of will, it would at the present moment adopt a similar line of

¹ Japanese papers interpret this article as embodying the foreign subscribers.

policy; but it does not listen to any such counsel, as this study of economy appears a too hard and vulgar a virtue: it seeks for other succour. And thus the strangest projects are invoked. One might think oneself back again either at the end of the last century or in the middle of the middle ages, to such an extent are absurd fancies attributed to the Government. One man propounds the reminting of all the gold currency of France: another says that the authorities desire to raise by two hundred million francs the three milliards which is the limit of issue of the Bank of France. (In point of fact, says Mr. Beaulieu, the suppression of the limit of issue of the Bank of France figures in the revised budget prepared by Tirard. The moment was ill-chosen.)

When we first read in some papers this absurd information, we gave no credence to it. But the rumor has been confirmed; and it is time to discuss these strange proposals. What is meant by reminting all our gold, and extending the limit of the Bank of France's note-issue? In what mad brain could such ideas have terminated. Would the Government emit false coin, as was done in the reign of Philippe le Bel? Or should we gradually reestablish our assignats by borrowing from the Bank its reserve of Treasury-notes, its railway bonds, or other paper to the extent of either one milliard or five millions. Nought but astonishment can follow the learning of such designs. Look for a single reasonable explanation of any idea of this nature. I defy you to find any.

Mr. Beaulieu goes on, in a strain of sarcasm that always renders his writing, even on dry subjects, pleasant: "To remint all the gold coin is not, I hope, for the pleasure of destroying all the effigies of Napoleon I., Louis VIII., Charles X., Louis Philippe, and Napoleon III. This would be simply costly child's play—as stupid as that pursued in the redesignation of the streets." And here we find an aphorism worth remembrance, which we may take the liberty of condensing from Mr. Beaulieu's sensible verbiage:—"Remintage is a cause of profit or loss. Honestly conducted it is a source of loss to the State, for small coins are always more or less worn away by friction and have lost part of their weight. The new coinage must be of standard weight. Hence the State may be in a deficit which may easily sum up to some hundred of millions."

But the reverse of the medal is next shown. Dishonestly performed, a recoinage may be a source of gain for the State, but of such a gain as will cause to the whole of the nation a loss much more considerable. It is suggested even that some unscrupulous broker may have whispered into the ear of the Minister of Finance to make a partial, not a total, remintage: that is to say to re-coin all the pieces which are above the recognized standard. The writer shows what profits might result; and concludes:—"In one word the vast development of the Bank of France's circulation during the past five years does not arise at all from commercial needs but from the requirements of the Treasury. And it is not for trade, but for the exchequer that the Bank's limit of issue is to be extended." And, again, "the Bank's liberty is wide enough: nothing hinders it to restore some coin to circulation." . . . "Yet an increase in circulation ought to be reserved for days of great peril as, for instance, a foreign war. Recourse on the part of the Exchequer or the big-privileged institutions such as the Railway Companies or the Credit Foncier, to the Bank is very dangerous." . . . "The notion of raising the limit of issue is such as to be likely to injure the public credit and to give another shock to our already badly shaken financial situation. If we hope to have a solid credit, and a clear and well-established monetary system, we must take example from the English, who for the past forty years have made no change in the limit of issue of the Bank of England. That example is decisive."

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE ANGLO-KOREAN TREATY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The public is now pretty well acquainted with the tenor of the treaty concluded by Sir Harry Parkes at Sōul, its principal clauses having been already published in these columns. Although the treaty stipulations between the two countries include the most favoured nation clause, our country occupies the position of the most favoured nation, as we are entitled to the same privileges as other nationals and their Governments, as provided for in our treaty with Korea, which says:—"Any right, privilege, or favour which the Korean Government has actually granted or may hereafter grant to the Government or subjects of any other State shall be extended to the Government or subjects of Japan without delay." According to this provision, we can claim whatever privileges are contained in the treaties of nations with Korea and which are in any way more beneficial than our own, without discrimination as to whether it is France or England. Thus, we can claim the privileges, rights, and favours that are embodied in the English Treaty on an equal footing with the Government and subjects of that country; so that whenever other nations enter into treaty stipulations with Korea, we can secure the additional benefits that may accrue without any effort on our part, and there can be no question that this is a matter for congratulation. But in considering the interests of Korea, we cannot help regretting that every new treaty may tend to conflict with the true interests of that country.

Article 1 of the English treaty provides for peace and amity, and for the exercise of good offices in case of these being required by one or other of the contracting powers. Article 2 provides for diplomatic and consular representation. Article 3 secures to the British authorities exclusive jurisdiction in all cases, civil or criminal, brought against English in Korea, either by the Korean Government or Korean subjects; and complaints involving a penalty or confiscation for breach of the treaty or of other regulations will also be decided by the English authorities. Article 4 provides for the opening of the port of Inchhōn, Wōnsan, and Pusan, and the town of Yanghwachin. According to this article, choice may be made of another port in the neighbourhood of Yanghwachin if those two places should be found unsuitable; but the right to open commercial establishments in the capital is subject to surrender if the Chinese Government should relinquish that right. At each of the places named, British subjects may rent or purchase land or houses, and may erect dwellings, warehouses, and factories. The sites for the foreign Settlements are to be selected and laid out by the Korean Government, in conjunction with the competent Foreign Authorities, and will be managed by a Council, the constitution of which will be determined in the same way. British subjects will have full liberty to travel and trade in the interior of the country, and will be amenable, in the settlements or elsewhere, to such Municipal, Police, and other Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd articles afford no particular feature for comment. The 4th article, however, has an important bearing. The ports of Inchhōn, Wōnsan, and Pusan were opened to Japanese trade in the 8th year of Meiji, and the town of Yanghwachin was opened last year. These places were opened for our benefit, yet as we are by no means disposed to monopolise them, it pleases us that they were opened for other treaty powers. Thus, if any other place is newly opened for European nations, we are entitled to live and trade thereat. Supposing Pusan is not suitable for trade and another place is substituted for it, we can trade

in the new place as well as in Pusan. The Capital was not opened for Japanese commerce, although Chinese are trading there.

Article 4 of the Trade Regulations between China and Korea says that Chinese subjects shall be allowed to trade in Sōul, while Koreans are at liberty to trade in Peking. China contrived to prevent other nations from obtaining the same privilege by saying in the preface: "the conditions now stipulated are a special favour for commerce by land and sea which China grants to her dependency. This favour is not to be extended to other nations." The assertion by China that Korea is her dependency, is no longer recognised by any nation. First of all, Japan treated the Peninsular Kingdom as an independent power, and our example was followed by America, England, France, and Germany. In these circumstances, the treaty between Korea and China is untenable. It is not reasonable that, as England—one of the favoured nations—should have claimed to be placed on the same footing with China, Japan should do the same. Korea may have refused to open Sōul but for the threats of the Chinese Government, and the latter may now be contemplating the abolition of the treaty. On this account, the British Minister has, it appears, consented to the insertion of a clause in the English treaty to the effect that the right to trade in Sōul is subject to surrender, if China should give it up. But it may be rather for Korea's benefit than otherwise if she should open the Capital to foreign trade. We suppose the Council mentioned in the treaty to be similar to the Municipal Council at Shanghai; but in carrying out such a system in Korea, the government must take great care, or otherwise she may find that this Council may cause a miscarriage in the management of her national affairs. For what reason Korea granted the right as laid down in the English Treaty for people to travel and trade in the interior, we are unable to say. But she appears to have over-estimated her own circumstances, for certainly the Korean people are not yet in a condition to justify any such proceeding. However, as Korea has extended this privilege to England, she cannot refuse the same to Japan.

Article 5 gives English subjects the right to import into Korean open ports from any foreign port or any Korean open port all kinds of merchandise (excepting prohibited goods); and to export the same to any Korean open port, or to any foreign port. It provides for drawbacks on foreign goods, and for the refund of duty on Korean produce when proved to have been conveyed to a Korean open port. All goods that have once paid the duty of the tariff may be transported to any Korean open port free of duty, or may be conveyed into the interior free of any additional tax, excise, or transit duty whatsoever. Tonnage duties are to be paid at the rate of 30 cents per ton, a single payment being good for four months; and the whole of the dues so collected are to be appropriated to the construction of lighthouses, beacons, etc., and to the improvement of the anchorages at, and the approaches to, the open ports. These conditions afford no particular contrast with ours, except that while English bottoms pay tonnage dues of 30 cents in silver, we pay 125 *mon*. If these 125 *mon* are not to contribute toward replenishing the Korean exchequer, we have yet the right to prefer the lower rate. Tonnage dues are to be appropriated to the construction of lighthouses, beacons, the improvement of harbours, &c., but the English treaty stipulates that "the whole of those dues" shall be used for the purpose named, and the Korean Government is therefore restricted in the way of spending the tonnage dues.

Article 6 relates to smuggling at non-opened ports, the penalty being confiscation of the smuggled goods, as well as the forfeiture of twice their value. Our treaty, however, says that if a Japanese vessel shall smuggle or attempt to smuggle any goods at any of the non-opened

harbours of Korea, all such goods, together with all other commodities on board such vessel, shall be forfeited to the Korean Government, and the master of such ship shall pay a fine of 50,000 *mon*. Here we observe a great difference. British smugglers are liable to have confiscated only such portion of cargo as was attempted to be smuggled, and the other portion of cargo is not to be forfeited. On the other hand, we are liable to have the whole cargo confiscated and to pay a penalty of 50,000 *mon*. However desirable it may be to prevent smuggling, the lighter penalty seems preferable. Article 7 details the course to be followed in case of shipwreck, or when a British vessel is stranded on the Korean coast. All salvaged cargo or property is to be carefully protected, and the wants of the shipwrecked persons are to be fully provided for. Article 8 relates to ships of war. Article 9 sanctions the employment of Koreans by British subjects. Article 10 fixes the position of England as regards the most favoured nation, and Article 11 provides for revision of the treaty in ten years hence.

In the English treaty, the export of ginseng is prohibited, but nothing is mentioned as to the duties on ships. It promises the conversion of the present *ad valorem* duty into specific rates. This is a very important question, which demands the most serious consideration on the part of the Korean Government.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1883.

(Translated from the *Tokyo-Yokohama Mainichi Shimbun*.)

The Chinese philosopher So, said that mankind, in learning letters, learned the word "affliction" first of all. Since we first entered upon the journalistic field, our troubles have far surpassed our happiness every year. Whether this is due to our being acquainted with letters, or otherwise, we know not. In summing up the principal events of the year 1882 at the end of the year just gone, we expressed a hope that the year 1883 might witness a healthy improvement in trade, politics, and agriculture; but it has turned out, on the contrary, to be one of still greater depression in trade and not at all satisfactory in the political improvement of the country. We shall now proceed to review these subjects, each one separately. In the beginning of the year 1883, members of all the Metropolitan and Prefectural Assemblies met in Tokyo to discuss the advantage or otherwise of the present system of Assemblies. On the 1st of February, they were to meet at the Honganji Temple; but owing to a breach of agreement on the part of the monastery, they were obliged to find some other suitable place, as the priests, having refused to lend their hall after having previously agreed to its being used, the committee were thrown into confusion, but they ultimately succeeded in obtaining rooms at Nakamura's. As the meeting was of a purely social nature, we called upon all persons interested to attend it in spite of living at a great distance, even those from Satsuma and Osumi. Unfortunately, the day was ushered in by a great snowfall, which made the weather almost unbearable, and on the second day the meeting was dispersed by order of the Home Minister. The cause of this order, however, could not be ascertained. The Press Laws were revised and were made more stringent than before. Formerly, the editor alone was responsible for the violation of the Press Regulations, but according to the new rules, the proprietor, editor, and printer are alike liable to punishment. The most remarkable feature in the new provisions is the exacting of security amounting to *yen* 1,000, according to the nature of the journal. In consequence, many papers stopped publication. At one time, we feared that journalistic enterprise would be entirely put an end to. The principal parties, worthy of the name, were the Liberals, the Liberal-Conservatives, and

the Imperialists. The first two parties professed nearly the same creed, their mutual relations being similar to those of Nobunaga and Iyeyasu, and we might have naturally expected that harmony would have existed between them. On the contrary, however, the Liberals assumed an attitude decidedly hostile towards the Liberal-Conservatives, when their leader Mr. Itagaki left for Europe on a tour of political inspection. They applied all sorts of scurrilous epithets to their opponents, whilst our friendly advice was never accepted; and especially did the lower grades of the Liberals bring discredit upon themselves by their calumnies and abuse. On the return of Mr. Itagaki, however, they abandoned their method of procedure, and this course has been attributed to their having been admonished by Mr. Itagaki; nevertheless, they are to be congratulated upon having mended their ways. The Imperial Party has distinguished itself by its inactivity throughout the period of its existence, and it has exercised no influence whatever upon political affairs, notwithstanding that it was numerically stronger than some other parties, especially in the provinces; and although its creed is utterly at variance with that which we profess, it was often demonstrated in the field of practical politics that the party was occasionally useful, and with this in view we always desired that it should continue to exist. On the 24th of September, however, the members dissolved their organization, which we think, for the reason given above, is to be regretted. During the year, the Koto Ho-in was twice opened for the prosecution of political offenders, in one case those who were connected with the Fukushima affair, and the other those who got into trouble at Takata. In the former case, the suspects were sentenced, on the 29th of September, to six years imprisonment, except the ringleader, who was committed to gaol for the term of seven years. In the latter case, the ringleader was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment. Considering that our beloved Sovereign possesses the brilliant virtue of mercy, which is equally acknowledged by the Japanese people as by foreigners, and that his Ministers are all men of ability, it seems almost past belief that such events have taken place in two instances in the year just gone. The departure to Europe of H.E. Ito was an event which afforded food for surmise and conjecture, and when he returned, it was reported that great Ministerial changes would take place; another report was that the provincial officers would be superseded. No such changes, however, as those referred to have taken place, or even any material alteration, if we may except the transfer of the three Privy Councillors, Fukuoka, Yamada, and Yamagata, from one post to another.

With regard to commerce, depression at length has reached the last stage, and Yokohama has witnessed a series of commercial disasters such as have never been experienced since it was first opened for foreign trade. Silk merchants have been ruined owing to the depreciation in the value of that article and consequent upon the fall in the rate of exchange in the interior. The import dealers have equally suffered. If they once put their goods into godowns, they knew not when an opportunity to take them out would occur, since there was no demand for them. Every article they contracted for proved a loss on arrival here, and the consequence was no end of trouble attended by constant litigation between them and foreign merchants. The Bourse has also been ruined owing to the enactment of new rules which came into operation on the 1st of April. Formerly, the tax paid by exchange brokers amounted to more than *yen* 60,000; but for the last half year from July to December, it only amounted to *sen* 70, and the Stock and Rice Exchanges in Tokyo have shared a nearly similar fate; while additional disaster has attended the enormous fall in the price of rice, and it may be said of the saké brewers that they have simply collapsed, the number of these who have become bankrupt being upwards of 500, or about 6 in every 10. The expenditure of

the Post Office is reported to exceed the income owing to a considerable falling off in the quantity of correspondence. This not only represents a stagnation in business, but also the contraction of knowledge and the prevention of its diffusion among the people.

Of course, the mainstay of this country is its agriculture. For the last five or six years we have been blessed with abundant harvests, although there may have been some localities where the crops were slightly damaged, but on the whole, we have had an outturn of both grain and cereals far above the average; nevertheless, distress has prevailed to a very great degree amongst farmers instead of prosperity, and to such an extent in many instances that they cannot pay the taxes. The Government has postponed the period for their payment, yet the result, we fear, will not be so good as is anticipated.

So much for the principal events that occurred during the year 1883. Our readers will find no difficulty in deciding whether we were well off or not. Notifications Nos. 46, 47, and 48 next demand serious consideration at our hands, and we shall discuss them in a future issue.

THE POSITION OF FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN WAR.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

Our readers already know that Europeans maintain, in view of war arising from the Franco-Chinese difficulty, that the settlements, being under the protection of extraterritoriality, are neutral, and that the French cannot blockade any treaty ports. According to international law, the belligerents cannot encroach upon neutral countries and must respect the right of such nations. In case of a blockade, such waterways as are open to neutral parties shall not be obstructed. Thus, A. is a neutral country, situated say, at the source of a river, and B. is a country engaged in hostility with C., who, being B.'s enemy, cannot blockade the river in question, as it must not obstruct A.'s passage. Such is the right of neutrals, which belligerents must respect. We shall now proceed to consider whether or no foreign settlements are made neutral by virtue of extra-territoriality. What is the meaning of extraterritoriality? It is nothing more than that foreigners observe their laws under the pretence that the laws of the country in which they reside are not sufficient to protect their lives and property; or, in other words, extraterritoriality stipulates that the control of foreigners shall be left to their own Governments; but it does not stipulate for any grant of land. That the Government officers cannot pay domiciliary visits to foreigners is not because the residence of foreigners is on foreign soil, but because the authorities have no power over them, a fact which is clearly established by the treaties between nations. This being the case, foreign settlements are still an integral portion of the country in which they are located. This is exactly the case in Japan and China. Foreign settlements in China cannot, therefore, be considered neutral. Should the French blockade them in case of war with the Middle Kingdom, bystanders would have no right to object to the proceeding. This is recognized by the most learned authorities. Supposing that extraterritoriality affords protection to foreign settlements against blockade, it being based upon an agreement between the contracting parties, is binding upon the contracting parties only and not upon outsiders. This is not mere presumption, but a maxim laid down in the law of contract which Occidentals obey. Therefore whatever contracts may exist between China and any other power, are binding upon the two and need not be recognised by France. Whatever nationals may reside at the ports of China, the ports being Chinese territory, no foreign power can restrain the exercise of the full rights of belligerents. No matter whether the result be

favorable or unfavorable to China, we are sure that, should the pretensions of foreigners prevail, the French cannot blockade the ports of Canton, Amoy, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and other important places; and this would be a bad thing for China in so far as her temporary convenience is concerned. But an inevitable consequence is that the foreign concessions in her dominions will establish themselves as independent possessions, entirely beyond her control. If the foreign settlements were once declared neutral and exempt from a French bombardment, China would equally with other powers be unable to execute military operations there. The settlements might come within the line of defence, or it might be found expedient to burn them down or evacuate them or build fortifications round them; but if they are declared neutral and are not to be attacked by French, what can China do? France cannot take offensive, or China defensive, measures. This notion cannot be reconciled with the rights of independent nations. Article 15 of the treaty between China and Japan says:—"If either power shall be at war with another country, it may close its ports and temporarily stop trade by giving due notice. Vessels going and coming must not suffer. Chinese residing in Japan or Japanese residing in China, shall not, in such a case, take sides with either one of the hostile parties." This is very proper. But we do not know whether China has a similar treaty with other powers. Supposing China yields to foreign pretensions, what will she do? We are apprehensive for our good neighbour. If the foreign settlements are not to be attacked by the French, the advantage in this respect will be more than counterbalanced by China's inability to take defensive measures in the settlements. Not only this, but the foreign settlements will fall entirely out of China's hands as she will no longer be able to control them. Should such a precedent as is here implied be once admitted in international law, all future affairs in the East will be meddled with by neutrals. The question at issue bears not only on the future of China, but on that of the whole of the Orient. We earnestly call the attention of Chinese and Japanese functionaries to this point.

CHRISTIANITY AND BUDDHISM.

Mr. Mozoondar, a distinguished Indian Brahmin Priest, and a leading representative of the Bramo Somaj, now on a visit to Japan, delivered a lecture before the faculty and students of the Imperial Japanese University on Friday last. He spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have lately visited the great countries of the West. As our vessel neared the coasts of Japan, my heart was full of joy, for I felt that I was once more creeping back into the bosom of Asia, my mother and your mother. President Hattori has requested me to address you to-day on Buddha, his life and teaching. I rejoice that Japan and India are near to each other because they are both a part of Asia; but my country and your country are bound together in a higher union by the strong arm of Shakamuni. I have often sat under the famous tree where he prayed and obtained illumination, and besought for myself the wisdom of heaven. The names applied to Buddha are extremely interesting as they indicate his personal virtues. Shaka means lion of the Shaka race. Buddha signifies intelligence, wisdom. Seddhahar—one who has accomplished his purpose. In childhood Buddha was trained in all the manly sports, as well as in literature and other accomplishments. You are all familiar with the words of an English poet:—"The child is father to the man." This is true of him, for young Shakamuni was father to the future Buddha. The philosophy of India is a boundless ocean. There are heights and depths of wisdom which

are almost unfathomable. Buddha was a perfect master of this vast philosophical system.

Mr. Mozoondar then gave a very poetic description of the life of the young Prince in the royal palace, surrounded by lovely parks, and from whose outlook sickness, death, and all unpleasant sights were carefully removed. He participated in the enjoyments which surrounded him, but these did not suffice for him. He longed and sighed for something which the world could not give. True, every man sighs for something beyond the pleasures of the world, but Shakamuni's longing was deeper and more earnest. The life of a Hindoo Prince is very different from that of an European Prince. In Europe a Prince keeps his pack of hounds, opens their mouths and counts their teeth, compares the size of bullets, looks into the mouth of cannon, takes a part in manly sports, and becomes well acquainted with the outside world. In India their condition is the opposite of all this. They are confined within the walls of a palace, and when they go forth for pleasure there is a body-guard in front and rear. They are ignorant of the world. A few years ago the Prince of Wales visited India. Vast preparations were made beforehand for his visit. Immense sums of money were expended in putting everything in good condition. The people were commanded to whitewash their houses, and remove all offensive sights. The beggars were all spirited away and put out of sight. When the Prince came and saw how clean and well governed India was, he was satisfied that the great empire over which he was to rule some day was in a most happy condition. How much less, then, could Buddha, confined to his palace, know of the real world? Shakamuni once issued from his palace and for the first time saw a sick beggar. He knew not who or what the creature might be, for he had never heard of such an object. But when he found out what it all meant, his pure sympathetic soul was thrilled with pain. At another time he saw a funeral procession, and inquired of the attendant what it was? He never knew there was such a thing as death in the world. These were awful revelations to him, and the first thought with him was:—"Is there no remedy for these ills of life?" Again, at another time, he met a man clad in tattered garments. His exterior was that of a beggar, but his countenance showed composure and peace, and beamed as though a full moon were rising out from it. He asked the attendant who the man was! And he replied that is a "Holy man! He loves God: he loves man: he conquers himself." The sight of this holy man made a deep and lasting impression upon his mind; and he felt that in religion was to be found the remedy for all the sorrows of the world. He said:—"In religion I find the secret of ease."

The speaker next dwelt on Buddha's character. Three great features distinguish his character and teaching. (1) Humanity—He taught kindness, gentleness, love. By his example and powerful preaching he did much to humanize India. In the days of Shakamuni the Brahmins as a class were cruel and warlike, and fond of animal food. But their habits of life were greatly improved under the humane influence of this great teacher, and the effects of his teaching are very manifest in India to-day, for there is still a mighty people in that country who abstain from animal food. (2) Wisdom and intelligence, as the name Buddha itself signifies. Shakamuni, was the wisest, the greatest of all the sons of India. He revelled in the profundities of Hindu ideas and philosophy—a Prince among wise men. (3) Self-discipline and subjugation of the passions. "Self is the law of self." For, in long years, he fasted, and prayed, and wept, searching for the eternal verities. He tore the lusts from his heart and trod them under his feet. He conquered selfishness in all its branches. Nirvanah comprises the above three cardinal virtues. Nirvanah must not be confounded with annihilation. The doctrine of annihilation was not

taught by Buddha, but is an invention of later theologians. It signifies—according to the founder of Buddhism—peace, wisdom, holiness, reconciliation of soul to soul, and conquest of self. He has taught, further, that there are three things when constitute moral government. (1) Buddha—The Master himself. (2) Sauga—Priesthood. (3) Damma—Law. In Christianity we find corresponding to these. (1) Buddha, meaning Messiah. (2) Sauga, meaning Priesthood. (3) Damma, meaning the Bible.

Here the lecturer laid great stress upon the remarkable similarity between the "Light of Asia" and the "Star of Bethlehem." He eulogized Christianity as the chief of the great religions, and characterized Christ as the chief of all the great prophets of all times, the God-man, and the central light of the whole world. He continued:—"I am not a Christian, I am a Brahmin; and I believe in the ancient faith of my own country. Religion is a necessity to all men. A nation cannot take one stride forward without religion. I have visited Europe and America; and there I beheld the power of Christianity. It is the secret of all true prosperity. Christianity gives birth to and fosters all that is noble, great, and good in those lands. Where was Europe before Christianity? What would America be without Christ? I am sorry to learn that Japan is indifferent to the supreme importance of religion. You cannot prosper without it. Make your religion as rational, as national as you please, but a religion you must have."

The above is a very imperfect report of his lecture which was of rare interest from beginning to end. The speaker was heartily cheered at the close of his remarks by the students who were evidently moved by his eloquence. After the lecture he met the Professors in the reception-room, where refreshments were served, and a very exciting, but agreeable, hour was spent in conversation together. Questions on science, philosophy, religion, and the new religious movement of India, the Bramo Somaj, were poured upon him from all sides, but he remained cool, and self-possessed, replying to all with remarkable ease and tact.

THE CONFEDERATE CRUISERS.

The Secret Service of the Confederate States in Europe; or, How the Confederate Cruisers were Equipped. By JAMES D. BULLOCH, Naval Representative of the Confederate States in Europe during the Civil War. G. P. Putnam Sons. 2 vols., pp. 460-438.

As indicated by the above title, Captain Bulloch was the officer selected by the Confederate authorities to organise and equip their naval demonstrations from abroad, and his operations are related in the two large, somewhat loosely jointed, but interesting volumes under consideration. At the outbreak of the civil war the South found itself singularly barren of materials or resources for the creation of a navy. Beyond a few merchant steamers of indifferent character in its ports, there were no vessels within reach to meet the naval ships of the North, which, for their period represented a more efficient and complete naval force than we now possess. There was but one shop in the whole Confederacy capable of turning out a first-class marine engine, and no available yards for ship-building. The Pensacola and Norfolk yards, it is true, were for a time in possession of the Confederates, but the former was a place of repair, not of construction; and the latter, when it fell into their hands after its unnecessary evacuation by the Federal forces under Commodore McCauley, in April, 1861, was already rendered useless for the despatch of cruisers by the enemy's occupation of its outlet at Hampton Roads. This latter yard, it is worth remark, in passing, supplied the Confederates not only with the hull and engines out of which the *Merrimac* was created, but also with what Captain Bulloch fails to notice particularly, a store of heavy artillery (at least twelve hundred guns, according to Soley, Parker, and other authorities) sufficient to provide for their immediate need. It was with these guns that the Confederates equipped their otherwise comparatively inoffensive coast-fortifications and gunboats, and found material for the effective thirty-two-pounder rifled and banded pieces which they so cleverly improvised.

Under these circumstances, the attention of the Confederate naval authorities was early turned to foreign sources for the development of the insignificant germ of a navy then in hand. Accordingly we find, as probably one of the last letters coming through the mails which has yet reached the North

from the seceded States, a communication, dated April 23, 1861, from Judah P. Benjamin, then Secretary of State under the Montgomery Government, requesting Captain Bulloch, at New York, to come forthwith to Montgomery. Arriving there a few days later, he was despatched to England on the following day, under brief instructions, the execution of which led to the events which form the subject of his book. It is interesting to observe that, in the brief colloquy which Captain Bulloch had on this occasion with Mr. Mallory, then the Secretary of the Navy of the Provisional Government, and afterward holding the same post under the Confederate Government, it appeared that, although the Montgomery authorities ultimately expected a formal recognition of their Government by foreign nations, nothing but the comity of the latter to a belligerent was sought, or expected to be invoked, at that period.

Arriving in England in June, 1861, Captain Bulloch found himself without funds or a status sufficient to render his task encouraging, and with the formidable Foreign Enlistment Act staring his enterprise in the face. This statute, since amended, and afterward largely considered in the *Alabama* case at Geneva, forbade any person to "equip, furnish, fit out, or arm" any vessel within the realm for the purpose of making war on any foreign state or persons, and provided, in the event of its violation, not only for a forfeiture of the property, but, certain penal features applicable to the parties concerned. Sufficient as the provisions of the Act would seem, at first blush, to prevent his purpose, Captain Bulloch, as the event proved, found a way, if not to "drive a coach and four" through it, at least to slip through a few cruisers. Taking advice of eminent counsel, he found he could (as in fact he did) build his ships within Her Majesty's dominions, leaving the work of supplying their equipment—i.e., the necessary appliances for warfare—to be performed elsewhere, whether in obscure foreign ports, by the aid of tenders which took the materials out as ordinary merchandise, or otherwise. With this construction of the existing law to stand upon, in spite of many obstacles thrown in his way, the zeal of Mr. Dudley, the United States Consul at Liverpool, and Mr. Adams, the American Minister, and even of difficulties arising from the indiscreet babble of friends, he managed to build and despatch the *Florida*, *Alabama*, and other vessels, with results with which the world is familiar. Their work began the decadence of American commerce, and the heavy bill of damages they caused against England at Geneva represents but a small portion of the loss, one way or another, attributable to them.

With that promptitude which characterized all of Captain Bulloch's work, and which was largely the secret of its success, he caused the keel of the *Orto* (afterward the *Florida*) to be laid in the same month in which he arrived in England, and even before his first remittances had arrived from home. The same energy led to the building of the *Alabama* a few months later, and was evidenced again in the prompt despatch of this latter ship on a pretended further trial-trip, when the author had received information, "from a private but most reliable source, that it would not be safe to leave the ship in Liverpool another forty-eight hours." And as an example of Captain Bulloch's restless activity, we find that while awaiting the completion of the *Florida* and *Alabama*, he bought and took home to the South, through the Savannah blockade, with a cargo of army supplies, the steamer *Fingal*, which was afterward altered into the ironclad ram *Atalanta*, and suffered capture a year or two later, in a brief engagement under the guns of the monitors *Passaic* and *Nahant*. One object of this incidental trip was to obtain opportunity for conference with the naval authorities at Richmond. On her way out, the *Fingal* met the Confederate steamer *Nashville* at Bermuda, the latter being then bound for England, where she created so much talk and stir, and whence she departed home unexpectedly, before her officers and crew could be transferred to the *Florida*, as was intended.

The successful career of the *Alabama* and *Florida* illustrates the skill and foresight with which they were designed. It was apparent that, to keep the sea effectively, they must be capable of speed under sail alone, and dependent on their auxiliary steam power only in emergency. The various foreign nations had early proclaimed rules of neutrality intended to restrict the use of their ports by vessels of either belligerent, particularly in the matter of supplies of coal, and the home ports of the Southern vessels were in effect sealed against them by the blockade. Hence the two ships in question were built with fine lines for speed, and carried exceptional spread of canvas, especially in their fore and aft sails. Their chief cruising was done under sail alone, and they made a port only at long intervals, while their operations against the merchant-ships were

carried on at times almost under the guns of the enemy. On this point Captain Bulloch remarks that he has always thought

that the United States Navy Department showed either great apathy or was singularly blind to the real danger to the commerce of the United States, and strangely negligent in using the means to protect it. The points of attack were so apparent that it seems hardly credible that they were never occupied.

After describing in detail the course of American vessels between their home ports and those of the east and west coasts of South America, the Cape of Good Hope, and the East Indies, and showing that to catch the north-east and south-east trade-winds effectively they must pass near Fernando de Noronha, when about crossing the Atlantic equator, Captain Bulloch continues:—

If the United States had stationed a few ships to cruise in couplets in the neighborhood of the above named 'forks of the road,' as they have been called by Maury, and a few more, say, in the Straits of Malacca, and on the principal and well-known cruising-ground of their whaling fleet, two or three Confederate cruisers could not have remained for weeks in the track of passing ships, capturing and destroying them without hindrance. Neither the *Alabama*, *Florida*, nor *Sumter* was driven from her work in any particular latitude; they shifted their cruising-grounds only when it seemed advisable to seek fresh victims elsewhere; and the *Shenandoah* went round the world, sought out the great American whaling-fleet in the North Pacific, and destroyed thirty-eight vessels without so much as seeing a man-of-war."

The Navy Department did send out the steamer *Vanderbilt* and other vessels with instructions to cruise over nearly the same route that Captain Bulloch indicates, and it would appear to have been in some degree a matter of luck that the commerce-destroyers so long escaped an encounter. Professor Soley, in commenting upon the judicious instructions given to the commander of the *Vanderbilt* on this occasion, says that they were defeated by Captain Wilkes, who annexed that vessel to his flying squadron, and refused to give her up until peremptory orders had been issued from the Department, thus delaying her until the birds had flown and her plans proved abortive.

Of the midnight surprise and capture of the *Florida* by the *Wachusett*, under Captain Collins, in the neutral port of Bahia, Captain Bulloch speaks in strong terms, characterizing it as an act of "assassination." The *Kearsarge's* duel with and victory over the *Alabama* off Cherbourg was a different matter, and recalls the chivalric challenges and combats of the older school of naval warriors. The story of the famous fight of June 11, 1864, is retold freshly and with great fairness by Captain Bulloch. He finds, in brief, that "the result of the action was determined by the superior accuracy of the firing of the *Kearsarge*," and, in common with other reasonable people, holds that Captain Winslow's protection of his ship by hanging her chain-cables outboard over the more vulnerable parts was a sensible performance, notwithstanding the strictures this circumstance provoked—chiefly among Southerners—at the time. The well-known fact of the *unexploded* shell from the *Alabama*, which lodged in the *Kearsarge's* most vital parts—the sternpost, near the screw, rudder, and wood-ends—early in the action, is worth recalling, as a curious example of what minute chances success sometimes turns upon in warfare. Concerning the much-discussed attitude of the English yacht *Deerhound*, in carrying off and landing in England some of the *Alabama's* crew and officers from the sinking ship, Captain Bulloch fails to note the important fact pointed out by Professor Soley, that before the *Deerhound* intervened, she was hailed from the *Kearsarge* and asked to assist in taking off the *Alabama's* people. This latter authority, in a review of the case concludes that the *Kearsarge* had no right, under these circumstances, to expect that the *Deerhound* would deliver up the rescued men into imprisonment, and fails to see how any blame can be imputed to her owner in the premises.

We have thus far chiefly confined our attention (with many omissions) to Captain Bulloch's operations in England, but his chapters concerning the attempts to build and despatch vessels in France possess equal interest, particularly for their nearly positive evidence that no less a person than the Emperor himself, at one time, smiled upon and fostered these efforts. But that exalted personage was not unpractised in the methods of shifty diplomacy, and could, on occasion, with equal facility, blow either hot or cold. It appears that, early in 1863, the Confederate authorities had received intimation from high officials in France that facilities would be offered for the construction and equipment of ironclad ships-of-war in that country, and that this intimation was of a sufficiently formal character to induce the passage of a secret act, by the Confederate Congress, appropriating £2,000,000 for this purpose. These facts were communicated to Captain Bulloch, in a cipher despatch, by the hand of a special messenger, under date of May 6 of that

year; from which, by the way, it appears that Secretary Mallory not only felt sure of his ground in constructing these ships, but even supposed it possible that "one or more of the ironclads of the French navy might be so transferred" as to come into Confederate possession.

Before the receipt of these advices, however, Captain Bulloch, having himself received intimations from France of somewhat similar character, was already in treaty with a French shipbuilder for the construction of suitable vessels. This was a M. Arman, who, then engaged in building large armored vessels for the imperial navy at his Bordeaux yard, where he had been recently personally decorated by the Emperor, was a deputy in the Corps Législatif, and, as it appears, possessed of facilities for obtaining personal interviews, on occasion, not only with M. Rouher, the Minister of State, but with his Imperial Majesty himself. On M. Arman's assurance that he was "confidentially informed by the Minister of State that the Emperor was willing for him to undertake the construction of ships for the Confederate Government," and to let them go to sea under the French flag, for delivery at any desired point, Captain Bulloch ordered a formidable fleet of four clipper corvettes of twelve or fourteen six-inch rifle-guns each, and two ironclads of large power. What these effective vessels might have accomplished on the Northern coast, in the hands of the daring Confederate officers who were awaiting their completion, and how much they might have delayed the march of events in the then waning fortunes of the South, it is idle now to discuss. Whether it was bad news from Bazaine in Mexico, or Lee's shattered recoil from Gettysburg, that suggested a more cautious consideration of the protest from the United States, by that time lodged against these vessels, we shall perhaps never know; but this much is clear, that when Mr. Dayton, the American Minister presented his complaint, the shipbuilders concerned were sent for and informed, with fine official indignation, that their plans must forthwith be abandoned.

M. Arman, indeed, was treated to a personal interview with the Emperor, who "soundly rated" him, and, threatening imprisonment in the event of further dealings with the Confederates, dismissed him to such loss as his suddenly aborted transactions might involve. That the purpose of these vessels was fully known to the Emperor and his ministers, and their building connived at, admits of little doubt. Formal official authority to arm the ships had been duly furnished to the builders by the Minister of Marine, this functionary (M. Chasseloup-Laubat) writing under his official signature to M. Arman, under date of June 6, 1863, in reference to the corvettes, as follows:—

Je m'empresse de vous faire connaître . . . que je vous autorise volontiers à pourvoir d'un armement de douze à quatorze canons de trente les quatre bâtiments à vapeur, en bois et en fer, qui se construisent en ce moment à Bordeaux et à Nantes. Je vous prie de vouloir bien m'informer en temps utile de l'époque à laquelle ces navires seront prêts à prendre la mer, afin que je donne les instructions nécessaires à MM. les chefs du service de la Marine dans ces deux ports.

To this evidence may be added, as a bit of interesting history not generally known (or, indeed, known to Captain Bulloch, perhaps), the fact that the official records of the Richmond Government on this subject, including such papers as Mr. Slidell, their representative in France, had obtained from the imperial officials, were solemnly destroyed in the furnace of the Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, on the retreat from Richmond of Mr. Davis and his Cabinet. And it was observed by such of those Confederate officials as were soon after captured and imprisoned, that one of the chief matters of inquiry directed to them by Mr. Seward was the French encouragement in the naval operations here referred to. It is said by Southerners in the confidence of these officials, that the reason for the detention of Mr. Mallory at Fort Lafayette (the last Confederate prisoner except Mr. Davis himself) was Mr. Seward's confident belief that he could produce these papers, which were then very much desired at the State Department in Washington, for use against the Emperor of the French in the matter of dislodging Maximilian from Mexico.

In construction Captain Bulloch's book is defective. The practice of following out each subject to its conclusion, without considering it in its relation to others, leads to much repetition, and, in consequence, to unnecessary length. But in discussing the events of the war, the work is conspicuously fair—there being, indeed, a somewhat over-punctiliousness at times in the effort to do justice—and it is uniformly interesting. The absence of an index seriously detracts from the usefulness of a book of this character for purposes of reference, but as a whole it constitutes a decidedly valuable contribution not only to naval history generally, but to the full history of the civil war.—*Nation*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 30th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Paris journals urge the occupation of Hainan, Formosa, and Chusan, as a guarantee for war expenses.

London, January 2nd.

THE CONDITION OF IRELAND.

Disturbances created by Orangemen and Parnellites continue in Ireland.

Earl Spencer has arrived in London, and is everywhere guarded by police.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 12th December.

Mr. Parnell, when receiving in Dublin a testimonial of £38,000 sterling, counselled patience and said he had every confidence that the independence of Ireland is obtainable.

London, 14th December.

The hillmen are threatening Suakim. Baker Pasha will take the command of an expedition fitting out consisting of 8,000 Egyptian troops.

London, 17th December.

3,000 reinforcements start for Tonquin next week and 3,000 in the middle January. No attack is expected to be made on Bac-ninh until they arrive.

London, 19th December.

The French Chamber of Deputies has approved vote of credit for Tonquin.

The British Government will not intervene in Soudan.

London, 24th December.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA.

His Excellency the Marquis Tseng, who has had several interviews with M. Ferry lately respecting the Tonquin question, returns to London to-day.

The diplomatic relations between the French and Chinese Governments still remain undisturbed, and there is no talk of a rupture so far.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsunumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.65; First-class, yen 1.58; Third-class, sen 79.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

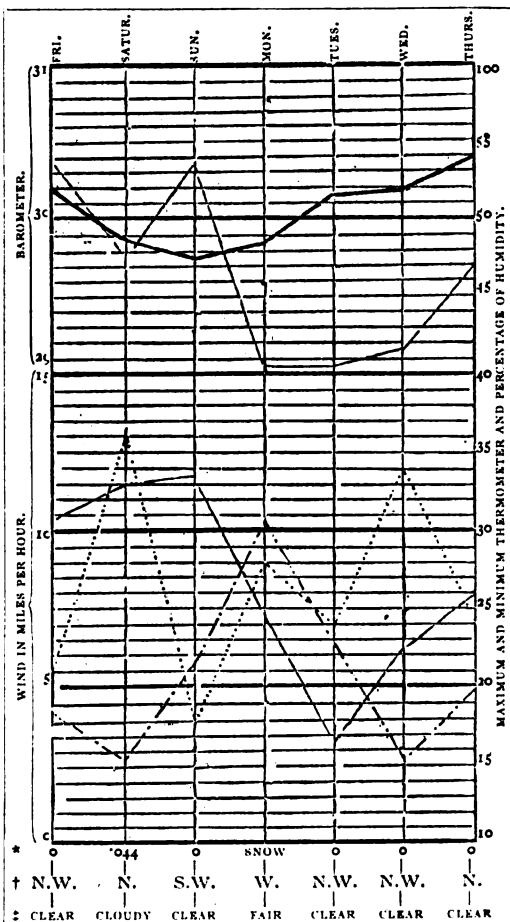
TIME-GUN.

A time-gun is fired every Saturday from one of the Messageries Maritimes steamers at Noon.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
..... represents velocity of wind.
..... percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 30.0 miles per hour on Monday at 2 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.493 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.583 inches on Saturday at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 53.3 on Friday, and the lowest was 16.2 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 62.2 and 25.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .044 inches, against .577 inches (rain and snow) for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe per M. B. Co. Monday, Jan. 7th.
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Monday, Jan. 7th.*
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 10th.†
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 11th.‡

* City of Peking left Hongkong on December 31st. † Menzaleh (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 3rd. ‡ Oceanic left San Francisco on December 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Jan. 8th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 9th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 9th.
For America per P. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 10th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Jan. 12th.
For America per O. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 18th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Jan. 19th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

Owing to the extension of the Army, the number of officers will be increased. The term at the Military College will be shortened one month, so that the diplomas will be conferred upon the graduating cadets in June next instead of July. They will then all receive direct commissions.

Yesterday, the celebration of the fire-brigade in honour of the New Year took place in presence of the Superintendent of the Police Bureau and others. At the pre-arranged signal, which was given by fire bells, the firemen assembled at the Police Stations in their respective districts, and, headed by the Chief Inspectors proceeded to the Parade-ground opposite the Police Bureau. After going through manœuvres with the ladders, the firemen retired with pecuniary presents from the Police Bureau.

Mr. Techow, a Prussian officer, will confine himself to remodelling the common education. He will have no concern in the Universities where the scientific technicalities are taught. But as the Preparatory School (*Yobimon*) of the Tokiyo Daigaku belongs to the section of common education, he is paying serious attention to the system. He has often visited it and remarked to its officers that the Universities are not greatly different from those of European countries; but that the system, being entirely mechanical, its spirit is not what it ought to be. Concerning the report of the examinations, he is said to have expressed an opinion that it has had the effect of making students study hard merely for the sake of the examination.

The Press Laws will shortly be revised.

A preparatory Military College is to be erected for the training of young *Kwasoku* in the compound of the Military College at the expense of yen 30,000.

On the 30th of last month, a thief broke into the Tensho-in Temple, at Uyeno Park. He was armed with a long sword. Two police detected him and a fight ensued, in which one of the officers cut off both the arms of the thief and the other officer stabbed him so that he expired on the spot.

On the 30th of last month, three fires took place in succession in Tokiyo and destroyed ninety dwellings.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

A letter from Pusan, Korea, stated the 17th December, says:—On the 4th of November, the day after the Customs Regulations were issued, the steamship *Chinsei Maru* arrived from Inchhôn. Her captain proposed to pay the dues in Korean cash, but the Custom House refused it, demanding that all dues should be paid in silver. This was in contravention of the Trade Regulations. However, the captain paid duties in silver lest he might miss the business opportunity while disputing. Two days afterward, the *Tamaura Maru* arrived and paid the dues in silver. The latter ship then proceeded to Inchhôn and placed the matter in the hands of the Japanese Minister in Sôul in order to obtain redress for the irregularity. The Minister gave assurance that the dues should be paid in Korean cash. Accordingly, the Japanese merchants combined not to pay the dues in silver and to oppose the orders of the Custom House. They have held several meetings in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms. Finally, the Custom House was compelled to receive duties in Korean copper. The Korean rice crop threatens to be short this year.

The total amounts of the Export and Import duties at all the open ports during the 16th year of Meiji (1883) were yen 1,016,541.365, and yen 898,337.331 respectively. These, added to the income from other sources, amounted in the aggregate to yen 1,935,970.423.

A serious affray took place between the police and soldiers at Kiyobashi the day before yesterday. The police-box was demolished, and two officers were dangerously wounded.

Last year, 85,405 gold fish were exported, realising yen 70,200.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The general holiday of the past week amongst Japanese has perhaps had less effect on the freight business than in any other direction, but there is still stagnation and nothing worth noting. Similar reports are received from Shanghai and Hongkong, the only enquiry at the latter place being for small sailing bottoms, some of the disengaged tonnage there having been taken up to load sugar at Formosa for this and other ports.

ARRIVALS.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 29th December,—Kobe 27th December, General.—Seiriusha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 29th December,—Glasgow 25th October and Hongkong 22nd December, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 30th December,—Fukuda 28th December, General.—Handasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 30th December,—Kobe 27th December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 31st December,—Hakodate 28th and Oginohama 30th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 1st January,—Kobe 31st December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman 2nd January,—Kobe 1st January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Amada, 2nd January,—Shimidzu 30th December, General.—Seiriusha.

Kowyski Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 2nd January,—Yokkaichi 30th December, General.—Kowyekisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 2nd January,—Yokkaichi 27th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidaioka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 2nd January,—Shimidzu 30th December, General.—Seiriusha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 2nd January,—Nemuro 26th and Hakodate 29th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 972, Spiegelthal, 4th January,—Nagasaki 20th December, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 4th January,—Handa 2nd January, General.—Handasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 4th January,—Shimidzu, 4th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 4th January,—Yokkaichi 2nd January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 5th January,—Hongkong 27th December via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, Kawaoka Hikoza, 5th January,—Kobe 3rd January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 29th December,—Kamasaki, General.—Seiriusha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 30th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 30th December,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Pembrokehire, British steamer, 1,760, Davis, 30th December,—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 30th December,—Toba, General.—Seiriusha.

Skobelev, Russian corvette, Captain Blanodareff, 30th December,—Nagasaki.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 2nd January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 3rd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 4th January,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 4th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 597, Thomas, 4th January,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, MacFarlane, 4th January,—Hakodate via Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 5th January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,858, Benois, 5th January,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Kobe: 80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Miss Andrews, Rev. Andrews, Messrs. Batchelor, Mansbridge, Mihara, Watanabe, and Idzumi in cabin; and 121 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Sir James Duke, Bishop C. M. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Matsudaira, Captain B. Carrick, Lieutenant F. H. James, Mrs. Graham and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Mori, Messrs. E. Moriss, Nishimura, Takano, F. Dubois, C. W. Hoffmann, L. D. Abraham, A. Anatoly, Asada, Seki, Toda, and Makino in cabin; and Mrs. Graham's servant, and 149 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Nemuro via Hakodate:—50 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—20 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Lo Wai Tong, Rev. J. C. Davidson and servant, Messrs. Lase, J. Mahlmann, Luc Tai Sung, and Chun Ching in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 14 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss E. Hartwell, Miss M. N. Roberts, Master Hachisuka, Messrs. W. Sagel, C. Taylor, J. F. Twombly, Juai, Miyaki, Fujikawa, Nakazato, Zeisho, Katsube, and Takagi in cabin.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. Mantelin, Mrs. H. Fon, Messrs. Alan Owston, Thomas Napier, Telfer, and Hector Ponsigliam in cabin; and 29 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$57,500.00.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Twist, 697 bales; Cotton, 249 bales; Sugar, 2,425 bags; Sundries, 1,147 packages.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 84 bales; for England, 15 bales; Total, 99 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 28th December, at 6.45 a.m. with hard N.W. gale and heavy snow squalls to Oginohama where arrived on the 29th December, at 7 a.m.; and left Oginohama on the 30th December, at 6.30 a.m. with fresh westerly gale to Inuboye; thence to Sagami blowing a very heavy W.S.W. gale with mountainous head sea and clear sky. Arrived at Yokohama on the 31st December, at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 31st December, at 4.40 p.m. with strong N.W. winds to Omiasaki; thence to port light N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the whole voyage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 1st January, at 11.20 p.m. Passage, 30 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Captain Thomas, reports leaving Hakodate on the 29th December, at 3 p.m. with moderate S.S.E. winds

and thick rainy weather accompanied by snow squalls, to Siria Saki increasing to a heavy gale and during to the S.W. on the midnight of the 30th December, gale increasing with terrific force and mountainous sea making a clean breach over the vessel fore and aft, at 6 a.m. increasing wind W. S.W. barometer 29.23. At 9 a.m. moderated some and thence to port fresh West and S.W. gales with a high sea. Arrived in Yokohama on the 1st January, 1884, at 8 a.m.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 27th December, at 1.30 p.m. with fresh to moderate monsoon along the China coast; thick, rainy weather off Turnabout; between the coasts of China and Japan strong N.W. gale and a high beam sea, ship labouring and straining considerably. Arrived at Nagasaki on the 1st January, at 5.30 a.m., and left on the same day, at 3.45 p.m. In the Inland Sea and between Kobe and Yokohama light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Kobe on the 3rd January, at 7.15 a.m. and left for Yokohama on the same day, at 2.51 p.m. On the 2nd January, at 7 a.m., off Isaki Lighthouse, passed the steamship *Zambesi* bound west.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October,—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 5th January,—Hongkong 27th December via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mark Lane, British steamer, 1,384, R. Porter, 24th December,—Shanghai via Nagasaki 21st December, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, C. H. Porrett, 24th December,—Hull via Singapore and Nagasaki 20th December, Coals and General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 45, Brassey, 10th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September,—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

Cross Hill, British bark, 1,019, J. Smith, 23rd November,—Cardiff 4th June, Patent Fuel.—H. MacArthur.

Diana, American schooner, 77, Peterson, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Captain.

Dorothy, British bark, 320, A. Croal, 26th December,—Nagasaki 13th December, Coals.—A. Center.

E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November,—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August,—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Helena, British schooner, 60, Busk, 9th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Iceberg, American ship, 1,135, A. L. Carver, 27th December,—New York 5th July, 40,000 cases Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Fennie Harkness, American bark, 1,373, E. Amesbury, 20th December,—New York 13th July, 47,000 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Lisa, American schooner, 70, Weston, 6th November,—Kurile Islands, General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Loretta Fish, American ship, 1,847, H. A. Hyler, 4th December,—New York 8th June, Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Mary C. Bohm, German schooner, 48, Baade, 23rd November,—Kurile Islands 13th November, Furs.—P. Bohm.

Nemo, Russian schooner, Ridderbjelke, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Ginsburg.

Otsego, British schooner, 46, Evalt, 12th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Rose, Russian schooner, 53, Wilson, 14th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—R. Clarke.

Saghalien, Russian schooner, 52, Johnson, 17th November,—Hakodate 10th November, Whale oil and General.—R. Clarke.

Stella, Russian schooner, 40, Isacs, 19th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—F. Retz.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The enquiry and improvement noted last week in Yarns and Shirtings, although on a small scale only, have ceased on account of the holidays of the past week, but hopes are entertained of a revival shortly, especially in Piece-goods and Velvets, these being held for an advance which will probably have to be paid. Metals of all kinds are in no better request.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$24.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.25
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.00 to 33.25
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches...	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches...	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	6.50 to 7.25
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.60 to 0.70
	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Since the holidays business has been opened by the sale of 7,000 cases Devoe at \$1.72, and 3,000 cases Stella at \$1.58 per case. Deliveries were not resumed until yesterday, when 10,000 cases were taken out of godown. Stocks of sold and unsold Oil amount to about 680,000 cases in first hands. We quote:—

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.72
Comet	1.69
Stella	1.58

SUGAR.

The Market is still inactive, but a slight concession on the part of holders has induced a few transactions in Brown Formosa. In other sorts no alteration in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 28th December, 1883, and since then the usual holidays at the turn of the year have tended to restrict business. Buyers and sellers have, apparently with one consent, given themselves to civility and festivity; still there has been some business passing, and Settlements for the week are returned as 300 piculs. Telegrams reporting better Markets on the other side have been received; buying has recommenced;

and the New Year opens with more demand for most classes and a stronger Market all round. Prices have an upward tendency for some kinds, and sellers anticipate a still better time in the near future.

The *Zambesi*, which left with the English mail on the 29th ultimo, took 275 bales only, of which 75 were for England and 200 for the Continent of Europe. This brings the total Export for the six months up to 23,704 bales (the largest ever known) against 18,295 bales to same date last year.

Arrivals have come in rather more freely, and the total Stock of all descriptions is now about 4,500 piculs. No doubt supplies will presently fall off, especially from some provinces; but the crop has been exceptionally large and there should be a good reserve of silk in the country still to come forward.

Hanks.—Better news have brought in a few buyers and some fairly large parcels have been taken at full rates. Among the sales we notice good Shinshu at \$490 and Hachoji at \$450. We leave quotations unchanged, with the turn against buyers.

Filatures.—There has been some demand for these, and but for the reticence of holders (some of whom have returned to the interior for "Shogatsu") more business would have been done. In fine-sized silks we observe transactions in Mino sorts at about \$620: in coarser kinds, fair to good 1½ have found purchasers at \$585 to \$590. Buying for the outgoing American mail does not seem to have yet commenced in earnest, but the scarcity of good silks suitable for that Market will doubtless tend to harden prices.

Re-reels.—But very little has been done in these. Quotations are unchanged at \$575 for "Five Girl," and \$555 for "Stag."

Kakedas.—These have been in some request: the market is for the moment rather bare of sorts grading from 2 to 3, present Stock consisting largely of 1½ to 2, with a sprinkling of No. 1, and some ultra-common.

Oshu.—The style of business noted in our last continues, and Hamatsuki good to best are worth \$475. In other kinds little or nothing doing.

Taysam Kinds.—No purchases reported, prices nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	\$500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	490 to 500
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	475 to 485
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3	450 to 460
Hanks—No. 3½	430 to 440
Filatures—Extra	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	540 to 550
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra	605 nom'l
Kakedas—No. 1	585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	535 to 545
Kakedas—No. 3	510 to 520
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	465 to 475
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 4th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	14,462	9,472	4,171
America	6,856	5,896	2,674
England	2,386	2,927	1,953
Total	23,704	18,295	8,798

WASTE SILK.

The holiday season does not seem to have greatly interfered with business in this department, the daily purchases giving a total of 400 piculs for the week under review. With the single exception of *Pierced Cocoons*, all kinds have shared in the demand, and Stocks are still further reduced. We leave all quotations unchanged, but some Wastes are getting scarce and hard to find at any price.

Pierced Cocoons.—No transactions, and very little Stock. Judging from the quantity exported

last season, there should be some further supplies to come from the interior but there are no signs of fresh arrivals at present.

Noshi-ito.—Again the principal demand has been for *Joshu*, "good medium to good" being freely taken at from \$85 to \$87½. Desirable kinds are scarce and prices tend in sellers' favour. There has been something done in *Oshu* at \$142½ for "good to best," and a little fine *Hachoji* has brought \$107.

Kibiso.—The enquiries for "fair to common" have subsided, but "good to best" Filatures are still wanted. Business has been done in "Best selected" at from \$120 to \$115, according to district, and for the moment the demand exceeds the supply. Some sales of *Oshu* reported, at \$107 for best quality, with seconds and thirds respectively at \$95 and \$85.

Mawata.—Some few small arrivals have been readily taken up, and there is practically no Stock remaining. Prices paid have ranged from \$170 for "good" to \$195 for "extra."

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	\$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	87½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	110 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95 to 90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 60
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	20 to 12½
Mawata—Good to Best	170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 4th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	14,756	11,876	8,987
Pierced Cocoons	1,933	3,065	2,560
	16,689	14,941	11,547

Exchange.—Banks have again been closed part of the week and business has hardly been resumed. Rates may be quoted:—London 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s., 91½; 60 d/s., 92; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.80. *Kinsatsu*. after a momentary dip to 107, have recovered to about 109 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 4th Jan., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	2,000	Pierced Cocoons	75
Filature & Re-reels	1,400	Noshi-ito	125
Kakeda	550	Kibiso	600
Sendai & Hamatsuki	400	Mawata	50
Taysam Kinds	150		
Total piculs	4,500	Total piculs	850

TEA.

Owing to the New Year Holidays, business for the week now under review has been almost suspended, transactions aggregating but 375 piculs, comprising the following grades:—Common 20, Good Common 150, Good Medium 140, and Finest 65 piculs. Settlements for the season show a falling off of 7,214 piculs as compared with this date last year. Prices are firm at the undernoted quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	12 to 14
Medium	16 to 18
Good Medium	20 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

The holidays having taken place, business has been almost nominal. Rates have again declined.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.70
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.80
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	90½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91½

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in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

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May 1st, 1883.



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No. 2, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 12TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

“FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!”

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the “JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL,” must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Government increasing the penalties, prescribed by the Criminal Code, for gambling.

On the night of the 9th instant, a fire broke out in Shinagawa, and destroyed nearly five hundred houses.

THE usual review of the troops in garrison in Tokiyo was held on the Hibiya Parade-ground on the morning of the 8th instant. His Majesty the Emperor, being indisposed, was unable to attend.

THE first snow-fall of the season is reported from the Prefecture of Yamagata. The snow began to fall on New Year's day, and continued without intermission till the 3rd instant.

H.E. ADMIRAL YENOMOTO, Japanese Minister in China, returned to Tokiyo on the 10th instant.

THE vernacular press still continues to circulate absurd rumours about the probable return of H.E. Mori, Japanese Minister in London.

BISHOP POOLE sailed, on the 9th, for Kobe, where he will reside for the present.

A TERRIBLE fire occurred at Osaka on the night of the 10th instant. About fifteen hundred houses are said to have been destroyed.

A SOMEWHAT serious quarrel took place between the Osaka police and a body of soldiers on the 6th instant. Several of the combatants were seriously injured.

Work was nominally resumed, after the New Year's recess, at the various Departments and

offices in Tokiyo on the morning of the 7th instant, but as the following day was a holiday, business did not really commence till the 9th instant.

It is reported from Sôul that one thousand of the Chinese mentioned there have been with-

drawn. It is also reported that the Government has issued instituting a system of allowances and gratuities for the civil service.

A JAPANESE merchant has instituted a suit against the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for the recovery of a quantity of Japanese paper money said to have been lodged in the Bank as security for a loan of specie.

On Thursday night four houses, in the Japanese quarter of Yokohama, at Yoshida-machi Ni-chôme, were destroyed by fire.

A SHOCK of earthquake was felt on Thursday evening at 8.40 p.m.

THE Korean Government Journal, the *Kankiyo Gumpo*, as the Japanese call it, is so successful that arrangements are said to be in progress for starting another newspaper, as a private speculation, in Sôul.

THE residence of Mr. Brooks, a foreigner instructor in the Agricultural School at Sapporo, is reported to have been destroyed by fire on the 8th instant.

ANOTHER fire is said to have broken out in the Takashima Coal-mine.

CAREFULLY prepared statistics are said to show that the depreciation of *Kinsatsu* during the past five years has borne a remarkably constant ratio to excess of the total issue above one hundred million *yen*.

At the recent examination of law students in Tokiyo, only 17 out of 1,017 candidates satisfied the prescribed tests.

On the 5th instant eight houses were destroyed by fire at Gensuke-cho, Tokiyo.

It is stated that a revision of the Press Laws may soon be looked for.

ACCORDING to the latest census report the population of Japan is 37,017,302.

THE total amounts of the duties collected on exports and imports, during 1883, are stated to have been 1,016,541,365 *yen* and 898,337,331 *yen* respectively, and these, with the income from other sources, brought the total customs revenue up to 1,935,970,423 *yen*.

It was recently stated by the vernacular press that, in discussing the provisions of the English treaty with Korea, Sir Harry Parkes endeavoured to procure the insertion of a clause permitting the import of opium. A letter from the London

Foreign Office to the Secretary of the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade says that, in the instructions given to Sir Harry Parkes, opium was to be included in the treaty among the prohibited articles. The rumour circulated by the Japanese newspaper is, therefore, entirely baseless.

THE case of Morf & Co. v. Hirayama Mankichi has been decided by the Yokohama Saishin Saibansho in favour of the plaintiffs with full damages. The claim was for \$263.91, loss of profits caused by an act of fraud on the part of the defendant or his agent, in delivering to the plaintiffs 270 cases purporting to contain fish oil but really containing only a layer of fish oil over a quantity of useless sediment. The fraud had already been proved, but the defendant refused to pay damages on the ground that he was not a principal but an agent. The Court ruled, however, that the wording of the contract invalidated this plea, and full damages was awarded.

On Saturday morning His Imperial German Majesty's Court delivered judgment in the case of P. Bohm and the Chartered Mercantile Bank. Bohm applied to recover possession of a steamer, the *Mary C. Bohm*, which had been seized by the German Consul at the instance of the Bank. The evidence seemed to show that though Bohm had mortgaged the steamer and her cargo to the Bank, he subsequently caused a portion of the cargo to be trans-shipped at Mayako, and tried to prevent the ship coming to Yokohama. The Court rejected the application, and pronounced the seizure by the Consul valid, so far as the ship was concerned.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE news of the capture of Sontai has naturally been received with much pleasure in Saigon. The *Independent de Saigon*, writing on Christmas Day, says:—“The public will recall the *fan-faronades* of the Black Flags, before, and above all after, the death of Commandant Rivière. It was before Sontai, and especially at the passage of the Dai, that they were waiting for, and meant to destroy, the French. They had built advanced works and fortifications at this post which formed their base of operations in the part of Tonquin between Sonkai and the Annamite frontier. In the face, however, of visits more and more frequent from our artillery, who were easily able to send shells from the river to Sontai—a distance of about two kilometres as the crow flies—the Chinese had come to understand that they could not hold out long at Sontai. Recently, therefore, they adopted the plan of changing their centre of resistance to Bac-ninh, which is situated so far inland as to be beyond the range of cannon, and is accessible only by routes strongly fortified, or by a little path where mountain guns alone can pass. Moreover, the Chinese, in view of their possible expulsion from Sontai, had already prepared a new line of defence at Hung-hoa, behind the confluence of the Black and Red Rivers. There also they are sheltered

from heavy artillery, as the ships of the squadron cannot pass the rapids at Sontai. The capture of Sontai is not, therefore, an event, which must result in the disappearance of the Chinese, and in securing to the French peaceful possession of Tonquin. It is, nevertheless, an important achievement from many points of view. To begin with, it is the first act of resumed hostilities after China's insolent menaces. It is France's answer to the insolent defiance flung at her by the Marquis Tsêng. It is a formal citing of the Government of Peking either to retract its menaces or to declare war against France. Everybody will recognise that for this reason the taking of Sontai is an event of the greatest importance." The writer then goes on to point out that hitherto the French troops have been confronted chiefly by irregulars, but that at Sontai they met the Chinese army, and beat it, though it was entrenched behind fortifications and out-numbered its assailants in the proportion of three to one. "Sontai has proved," says the *Independent*, "that despite all China's efforts, it is only a question of time and prudence to overwhelm, one after another, all the positions occupied by the Chinese." We scarcely think that this fact was ever in doubt for a moment. When French and Chinese soldiers come within striking distance of each other, the result is a foregone conclusion. Some day, perhaps, the Celestial braves will be able to give a respectable account of their foes, but at present they are scarcely fitted to carry arms more scientific than lances and bows—as witness the Krupp guns which they loaded with spherical shot at Sontai, and which consequently became unserviceable after one round. But if the events of December the 17th showed that an army of Chinese irregulars can not endure the onset of French troops, the events that preceded that day showed equally that any effective exercise of French strength in Tonquin is beset with difficulties. The fall of Sontai does not materially alter the position, whatever moral influence it may have on China. The real struggle is yet to come, in the district to the north to the Red River, and especially at Bac-ninh. Not that France will meet with any serious check there either, but that her campaign must be preceded by preparations on a much more extended scale than anything heretofore required, and that, as she will then be unquestionably fighting China, many inconvenient side-issues will have to be contemplated. There is not, perhaps, in the universe, another Government which would have carried the pretence of Peace and the reality of War so far as the Peking Government has carried them. Frenchmen seem to be actually growing angry with China's hesitation. The journal from which we have quoted above, writes:—"The Marquis Tsêng said that if we advanced, China would declare war. Well, we have advanced, to Sontai, and China will be obliged either to make war or to show that her menaces were only bluster." But China will shuffle along in the old route for the present. It rather suits her dignity to have an European Power struggling with the skirmishers of her army. Formerly her generals were careful to convert all their defeats in the field into victories on paper. Now they can fall back on the more truthful subterfuge that China's strength, has never been engaged at all. As a specimen of the dual device we take the following from the columns of the *North China Herald*:—

"The following particulars have been telegraphed to Hongkong, and placed at our disposal. It appears that the victory of the French troops at Sontai was not so satisfactory

as might have been expected. The place was garrisoned principally by Annamese troops, the remainder being composed of contingents of Black and Yellow Flag bands. It is denied that any Chinese regulars were there, as has been reported. Some time before the French troops had started from Hanoi for Sontai, the redoubtable Liu Jung-fu, Chief of the Black Flags, visited that place, and according to his instructions Sontai was honeycombed with subterranean mines connected with each other by means of electric wires. When it was found to be impossible to withstand the impetuous assaults of the Turcos and foreign legionary troops, as well as the artillery fire of the French troops on the heights commanding Sontai, the Annamese, Black and Yellow Flags, who, by the way, seem to have been under the command of one of Liu Jung-fu's lieutenants, retreated, the main body at double quick; but a few hundred devoted men under Liu Jung-fu's lieutenant slowly fought on inch by inch, until most of the French troops had entered the breach into the town, when, by a preconcerted signal, the rear-guard of the retreating army suddenly gave way pell-mell. As soon as they were fairly out of the town, the last man touched the battery,—an explosion was heard, and up went a volume of smoke, succeeded by the noise of crashing buildings and the shrieking of the unfortunate troops involved in the ruins. Sontai herself is in ruins, a skeleton of what she was twenty days ago. The men who were left to explode the mines it is feared have lost their lives in their devoted work, as they have not since been heard of. But they never will be forgotten by their countrymen."

A GENTLEMAN writing over the signature of "Themistes," in the correspondence columns of the *North China Daily News*, undertakes to defend M. Tricou against the charge of trickery formulated by the London Press in connection with the celebrated despatch read in the French Chambers on October the 30th. "Themistes" sets out by admitting that "M. Tricou's despatch covered more ground than was intended to be taken in by the message itself," and then goes on to explain that when the French Envoy was taking leave of H.E. Li Hung-chang, the former "remarked that the Marquis Tsêng was threatening France with war unless she gave up her action in Tonquin," whereupon Li Hung-chang "not only expressed himself in thoroughly opposite sentiments to those which were brought to his notice as having been manifested at Paris by Marquis Tsêng, but he even told the French Envoy that he hoped France would not declare war against China." On the strength of this, M. Tricou telegraphed that Li Hung-chang, who disavowed the policy of the Marquis Tsêng, and "Themistes" declares that the telegram was "perfectly correct." We sincerely hope, for the sake of M. Tricou's reputation as the representative of the French Government that some explanation may be forthcoming of a very different nature from this. It is worse than casuistry to pretend that Li Hung-chang's dissent from the declarations attributed to the Marquis Tsêng by M. Tricou could honestly have been construed into a disavowal of the Marquis' policy. China's contention was that France should confine her occupation to the districts South of the Red River, and though the Marquis Tsêng went beyond this in one of his notes to the Foreign Office at Paris, he never said anything which could be properly described as a declaration that unless France gave up her action in Tonquin, China would declare war. When such a threat as this was attributed to the Marquis, Li Hung-chang may well have expressed dissent, and we find it equally possible to believe that he "even told the French Envoy that he hoped France would not declare war against China." But M. Tricou's diplomatic conscience must be singularly elastic if he could construe these statements into a disavowal of the Marquis' policy and an expression of desire that he, Tricou, should remain in China. Our Shanghai contemporary's correspondent professes himself a good deal astonished at "the thorough ignorance of the English Press as to how these things are managed in China," and takes some pains to explain that, Li Hung-chang not being the T'sung-li Yamên, but simply a Chinese states-

man of specially peaceful proclivities, the fact that his reputed disavowal of the Marquis Tsêng did not receive the endorsement of his Government, does not by any means prove that the disavowal was not made. But to us it appears that the ignorance of the French Deputies, and the advantage taken of that ignorance by M. Ferry, were just as remarkable. If it be true, as "Themistes" tells us, that "Li Hung-chang is not the Chinese Government," and that "anything he says may, or may not, be considered as the opinion of that Government, according as the Peking *coterie* choose to adopt or disavow" his assertions, surely the President of the French Council went a little out of his way when he read to Parliament a despatch referring Li Hung-chang's opinion, and surely the French Parliament and the Paris Press were somewhat hasty in the inferences they drew from the despatch.

THE recently reported rising of the anti-French party in Hué, and the poisoning of the King, Hiep-Hoa, who signed the treaty with France, do not seem to have been followed by any serious consequences. It is reported, however, that anarchy ruled in the city, and that the situation of the little band of fifty men who formed the guard of the French Legation might have been critical but for the energetic action of the Minister, M. de Champeaux. The latter, so soon as he heard of the King's death, immediately claimed that as the deceased monarch had left no heir, France had the right, by virtue of her treaty of Protectorate, to be consulted as to the choice of his successor. The Mandarins, acting, presumably, under Chinese instigation, refused, at first to recognise the right, but ultimately entered into negotiations in that sense. The news on December the 20th was that the *Bayard* and the *Alouette* were under orders to proceed to Hué for the purpose of making a "demonstration."

It is a curious coincidence that while France, the one country in Europe where the growth of the population seems dangerously slow, has been visited by an extraordinary epidemic of colonization, Germany has not yet begun to experience any serious access of the same malady, though she thinks that her children will soon find the Fatherland inconveniently small for their numbers. M. Frühauf, who has recently written an interesting essay on the subject of population, shows that during the past ten years the people of Germany have added four millions to the census returns, and wants to know what is to become of them if they go on at that rate. Each of these four million new guests at the national banquet requires, according to the calculations of Viebahn, 180 kilogrammes of wheat, 25½ kilogrammes of meat, and certain other measures of milk, eggs, wool, flax etc. Where they are to find these kilogrammes is the puzzle, unless they go beyond the limits of Germany to seek them. Among Oriental tales with a moral there is one that describes a short-sighted philosopher, who, though a keen observer of nature, was unfortunately prevented, by his infirmity, from examining anything above the level of his own head. The consequence was that, having watched the wonderful rapidity of a young bamboo's growth, he was thrown into a fever of excitement by a calculation of the height it might ultimately attain. Perhaps the Malthusian savants may, like this philosopher, conclude, one day or another, that as with the bamboo, so also with population, natural causes

interfere in due time to restrain excessive growth. But for the moment wise men are perplexed by the problem of mouths that multiply and markets that diminish under the contracting influence of protection. Looking at England, they ask what would have been her fate without her colonies, and looking at Germany, they begin to wonder what will be her fate unless she follows England's example. It does not occur to them, apparently, that colonies are not more accessible, on the whole, than kilogrammes of wheat and beef. Not everywhere are there to be found Tonquinese, Annamites, and Malagasy ready to be exterminated in order that European artisans and farmers may obey the old Testament command, "increase and multiply," forgetting that the earth has long ceased to need the replenishment which prompted the precept.

VIC-ADMIRAL PEYRON, at his examination before the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry into the Tonquin Affair, said:—"The Chinese Government has thought fit to station at Bac-ninh two or three thousand of its soldiers. It is a matter of imperious necessity that we should obtain possession of the place. Our reconnaissances have enabled us to ascertain that the town, situated, as it is, in the depths of a valley, is more vulnerable than Son-tai, which is surrounded by marshes and bamboo forests. Contrary to what has been reported, Bac-ninh is defended by Chinese troops only. But as M. Jules Ferry has told the Chamber that our safety in Tonquin makes the occupation of Bac-ninh a necessity, the Chinese Government cannot consider that occupation as a declaration of war. Operations against the town will therefore be commenced in two or three days"—this was said on November the 20th—"The epaulments constructed by the Chinese garrison will be destroyed by means of mountain guns placed on the hills which command the place." The Admiral's method of disposing of the Chinese Government's possible objections is very large-minded. Bac-ninh, to be sure, is garrisoned by Chinese troops, and China says that if France attacks it, the act will be considered a declaration of War. But then France has replied that she really cannot do without the place, and under those circumstances, the Chinese Government will not be so foolish as to misconstrue her intentions if she seizes the town and destroys its Chinese garrison. Of course if she assaulted it wantonly, and without any real desire to get possession of it, the business would bear quite a different complexion. But when she wants it so badly, how unreasonable China would be to object.

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Replying to a question from a member of the Commission with regard to the eventual blockade of Canton, Admiral Peyron declared that that matter remained subordinate to China's attitude, and to the decision which sudden necessity might dictate to the Admirals Courbet and Meyer. M. Jules Ferry was evidently anxious to abbreviate this part of the discussion, but enough transpired to show that the blockade is contemplated as a very possible eventuality. Indeed, it seems to us that if China continues to pour troops into Tonquin, as the latest accounts show that she is doing, France has only one of two wise courses to pursue—to blockade Canton, and thus stop the supplies of the Chinese forces, or to carry out the *coup* suggested the other day by the Parisian press, namely, the seizure of Formosa and Hainan. The latter step

would be the easier, and far the more effectual, of the two. It would force China to lower her hands at once. As to its justifiability or ultimate consequences, however, there is a great deal to be said.

THE International Conference of Workmen at Paris was compelled, by the nature of its constitution, to treat the question of foreign labour with uncongenial liberality. Men who had come from all parts of Europe to devise measures for their common benefit, could scarcely begin by resolving that each nation should get its work done by its own people and its own people only. What the delegates could do, however, they did, to protect each other as much as possible from the effects of international competition. Thus they passed a resolution advising workmen who go abroad in search of employment, to submit to the conditions determined by the Trade Unions of the locality, and not to compete injuriously with the artisans of the country by accepting terms lower than those already ruling—advice which will doubtless be followed, seeing that strangers roaming about in search of employment may reasonably claim as much consideration as resident artisans of established character; and seeing, also, that their circumstances are always too affluent to expose them to the necessity of taking whatever they are offered. Perhaps the Conference felt the emptiness of this vapouring, for after having loudly repudiated the "vulgar and superannuated idea" that the works of each country are for the workmen of that country only, and proclaimed the "fraternal union of the workmen of all lands," it passed the following resolution:—"But, seeing that the immigration of foreign workmen into France is a means resorted to by employers to bring about a reduction of the national salaries, the Conference votes: first, for every measure designed to develop the opportunities of the French artisan, as industrial museums &c., secondly, for legislative measures forbidding employers, under penalty of fine or imprisonment, to make either Frenchman or foreigner work on conditions other than those stipulated by the Corporate Societies of Workmen." The delegates who framed this resolution were not perplexed by altruistic scruples. They felt that workmen could not be trusted to look after themselves, or to carry out the recommendation mentioned above, namely to refuse every offer of terms lower than those ruling in the locality. On the other hand, they were much too polite to think of proposing that fines or imprisonments should be the outlook for workmen who violate the Societies' laws. So they wisely decided, that while the privilege of making the laws, and of breaking them with impunity, belongs to the workman, the master's obedience must be secured by criminal enactments. And yet we read that the English deputies went home from the Conference seriously exercised about their French comrades' want of practicality. Englishmen, however, have always been slow of appreciation.

NOTES.

A LETTER to the *Mainichi Shimbun* from Pusan, Korea, dated the 31st of December last, says:—"The local Chamber of Commerce, which was opened on the 10th of October last, has been closed under the following circumstances. The body desired to put a stop to false weights, and to exercise control over the

quality of goods. Some time ago, a merchant from Sōul came to this port and tried to abolish the Chamber of Commerce and thereby to monopolise a certain trade; but in vain. Consequently, he collected a number of infamous characters who were ready to rise in arms at any sign from him, and he thus so terrified the Governor that he closed the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Möllendorff and the Chinese Minister paid a visit to this place on the 22nd of December last. Mr. Yamada, President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, gave a farewell dinner to the Inspector of Customs and others on the 24th December prior to his return to Japan."

IN H.I.G.M.'s COURT, on the 10th instant, Mr. P. Bohm applied that the seizure of the schooner *Mary C. Bohm* and 355 sea-otter skins be declared void and illegal. The vessel, when she had arrived in Uraga Bay from her northern cruise, was seized by the German Consul at the request of the manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, to whom, it was stated in the pleadings, the vessel had been pledged on consideration that both she and the "catch" should, on her return from the North, be committed to the Bank on mortgage. Mr. Kirkwood, instructed by Mr. Masfen, the Manager, appeared for the Chartered Mercantile Bank. His contention was that there were ample grounds for the seizure of the *Mary C. Bohm* and her cargo: that the Bank was, by virtue of a mortgage, owner of both vessel and cargo: that Mr. Bohm had been guilty of bad faith, in causing the trans-shipment of the skins, the result of the season's catch, to another vessel, the *Ada*, at Miyako, without consigning it to the Bank instead of to himself, he did; and that the seizure should be held valid, and Mr. Bohm's application be dismissed with costs. The evidence of Mr. Masfen and the captain of the vessel was to the effect that the *Mary C. Bohm* had been ordered by Bohm to transfer the otter-skins to a Japanese vessel: that, the captain failing to find such a vessel, the property had been transhipped to the *Ada* at Miyako; and, finally, that the captain of the *Mary C. Bohm* had been ordered by the reputed owner to provision in Uraga Bay for a trip to the South instead of bringing his ship to Yokohama, as implied in the agreement between Bohm and the Bank. The Court stated that judgment would be delivered on Saturday, the 12th instant, at 10 a.m.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* of the 28th ult. says:—"The Rev. S. A. D. Hunter, M.D., and Rev. G. Reid, both members of the American Presbyterian Mission in North China, have offered to go to Korea to commence Mission work. But we are informed by a friend recently over from Japan that the United States Minister to Korea, although a friend of mission enterprise, thinks it unwise to take the initiatory steps for opening Mission stations at the present juncture.

It has been stated that Dr. Charles Cunningham, of Eastbourne, has arranged to run his schooner-yacht *Vestal* against the clipper-ship *Northern Monarch* from Plymouth to Queensland, Australia, a distance of 14,000 miles. Should this race come off, it will be the longest on record. The *Vestal* was built many years ago by Inman, of Lympington, and was said to be a sister-ship to Count Bathyan's *Flying Cloud*. The start is to take place on the 24th Nov., but no particulars have been divulged.—*World*.

WE referred, in a recent issue, to a communication addressed by the Shanghai Municipal Council to the Chinese Local Authorities on the subject of a disturbance which took place in the foreign settlement during the passage of His Excellency T'so Tsung-t'ang. General T'so's braves had hustled people out of their way and generally adopted methods of making room for themselves which indicated a most reprehensible want of veneration for their environment. The Municipal Council protested against this Bombastes-Furioso fashion of marching, and requested that in future due notice should be given when Chinese officials of note proposed to pass through the Settlement. If we remember rightly the request was supplemented by a suggestion that escorts might be fittingly dispensed with on such occasions. The Council's communication, forwarded, of course, through the usual Consular channel, has elicited from Taotai Shao a reply which is likely to form the basis of some stoutly worded dispatches. The "Intendent of the Soo Sang Tai Circuit," finds it reasonable enough that notice should be given of great men's progresses, but he accompanies this condescension with one or two pointed observations. "With reference to this matter," he observes, "according to established custom in China, when merchants and others (native) meet an officer of high rank passing through the streets, they must stand aside as a mark of respect. On the occasion of Viceroy T'so's recent visit to Shanghai, the writer deputed a Wei-yuan to notify the Municipal Police, so that they could properly over-see and direct the traffic in the streets. It was right that the carriages and people on foot should get out of the way for the procession to pass and that the advance guard of soldiers should shout at any in the way so as to avoid an obstruction and to keep the line clear. Such a course was entirely proper. It was not that the soldiers were presuming on their position and behaved in a disorderly manner." The charge against the soldiers having been thus disposed of, the Taotai then proceeds to point out that on similar occasions in future the plan will be to "prevent carriages and people on foot from crossing streets at their pleasure," and that "they will all have to stand aside when a high official is passing, to the end that trouble may be avoided." We shall be curious to see what answer the Municipal Council return to this epistle. The *North China Herald* calls it "an extraordinary letter," and expresses surprise that it should have been received at all. But our contemporary gives no reason for this astonishment, contenting himself with a hope that "the mistake will be to some extent repaired by a dignified and proper attitude" on the part of the Municipal Council. For our own part we confess that the "extraordinary" nature of the despatch is not quite plain to us. The foreign settlement at Shanghai is quite as much Chinese territory as any other part of China, and it would be extravagant to suppose that the Municipal regulations which foreigners residing there are authorized to make for their own good government, under Chinese sanction, can be considered to over-ride the Imperial laws of the Chinese Empire. If the place were what the land-holders once tried to make it, a free city under imperial charter and altogether abstracted from Chinese jurisdiction, the Municipal Council would certainly be competent to forbid the passage of armed escorts or to prescribe the formation they should adopt. But as the case

stands the braves escorting General T'so, or any other dignitary, seem to have the right of taking up as much of the road as they please, and if vehicles or pedestrians decline to get out of their way, all that can be said is, so much the worse for the pedestrians and vehicles.

THE special correspondent of *The Times* in China says that he fears Sir Harry Parkes "will find the atmosphere of Peking much less favourable to progress than that of Tokiyo," and that "if he can but convince the Chinese Ministers from his Japanese experiences that safety and prosperity are more to be found in development than in stagnation, and that the introduction of railways is by no means destructive to the territorial sovereignty even if they be made with borrowed capital, he will do more to strengthen their hands than all the founders of arsenals and builders of war vessels have done put together." This sounds reasonable enough, yet we have little difficulty in imagining that sundry obstacles might present themselves in the course of such an argument. Sir Harry Parkes, being an exceedingly practical politician, would doubtless desire to set material prosperity in the forefront of the benefits conferred by enlightened progress. To show, however, that Japan has derived this particular species of benefit from her unreserved adoption of liberal ideas, Her Majesty's Representative would be obliged to contradict his own previous utterances and despatches, the gist of which was that the growth of Japan's material prosperity is fatally checked by a policy which still keeps her resources undeveloped, and inaccessible by the only agents that can successfully develop them, namely, foreign capital and foreign enterprise. All that could be justly urged, therefore, is that Japan has certainly lost nothing by her radicalism, and that a great gain is within her reach whenever she takes final measures to grasp it. To this would naturally succeed the pertinent query, why does she not take those measures? "Having gone so far," the Chinese statesmen might say, "and become so intimately acquainted with the nature of the progress you advocate, does not her hesitation to take the last step which will bring the benefits of that progress fairly within her reach, suggest an inference very unfavourable to your argument? Does it not suggest that, so far as Japan's story is concerned, the substitution of Occidental for Oriental civilization is a measure of doubtful advantage, and that experience of its results has a deterrent, rather than an encouraging, effect?" The reply which this query would be most likely to receive from a foreigner—namely, that Japan's hesitation to complete what she has so well begun must be counted of a piece with China's reluctance to begin at all—has the disadvantage of being untrue. There is no hesitation whatsoever on Japan's side. It is well-known that her proposals for treaty revision were framed entirely with a view to the complete opening of the country, and that, in pursuit of this object, her most earnest desire is to obtain same modification of the system set up by the present treaties and devised wholly to suit a state of partial intercourse. The hesitation, therefore, is not on her side, but on that of the Treaty Powers. She is willing and anxious to remove the last barriers which, according to foreign economists and politicians—notably Sir Harry Parkes—impede the development of her resources and constitute a stigma upon her civilization. But, unfortunately, her treaty friends do not consider her fit to

associate with them on equal terms. Conceive the effect such an admission as this would exercise on the mind of a crafty old conservative like His Excellency T'so Tsung-t'ang, for example. Might he not say at once, "Ah! You Europeans think that Japan, after all her efforts to acquire your systems and sciences, and all her apostacy from the venerable philosophy of our sages, is not yet worthy to be granted the privileges of equal intercourse. And you imagine, do you, that China is going to sit at the feet of your Gamaliels in order to receive a similar rebuff? At present we are conservative from choice, and you tell us, with truly wearisome iteration, that we are blind to our material interests and that our attitude has rendered us a byword among nations. But if this immobility of ours be really at the root of the stern treatment we receive at your hands, has Japan's liberalism won her more consideration? Have you, moved by her solicitations and by the sight of the wonderful progress you say she has made, consented to place her on a different footing from China and Korea, or to revise your treaties with her in a sense even remotely indicative of a willingness to recognise her efforts? You have not; and yet you bid us believe that safety and prosperity are to be found in development. To what point, pray, must this development be carried before you agree to abandon your exclusive action, and to show practically that differences of race do not constitute, in your eyes, an insuperable barrier to free international intercourse? You force Eastern nations, at the cannon's mouth, to open commercial relations with you; you tell them that isolation is not only barbarous but suicidal; you utterly refuse to heed their early remonstrances, mistaken, perhaps, but still honest, that long seclusion has made their people distrustful of foreigners; and then, when they desire to emerge completely from that seclusion; when, by reforming their old usages and rejecting their ancient traditions, they show that they have accepted your principles and your civilization, you quietly announce that the distrust is now on your side, and that until you see reason to change your mood, it is your intention to perpetuate the seclusion against which you formerly inveighed so bitterly. Observing these things, we, Chinese, assure you that our own conservatism appears much more dignified than the Japanese liberalism which you treat with such practical contempt, and so far from accepting the inference you bid us deduce from Japan's recent history, the lesson she teaches us is that progress and development, as you define them, by no means advance a nation's practical title to the common rights of independence and equality." This, or something similar, is the answer Sir Harry Parkes would receive if he attempted to use Japan's example as a spur to China. The illiberal, unsympathetic policy pursued by the European Powers towards Japan—the miserable reward she obtains for having welcomed their civilization with open arms—is a fatal barrier to progress throughout the whole Orient, and any politician who quotes her case to Chinese statesmen exposes himself to a most embarrassing retort.

At the present time no military man in all Europe is so much talked about as General Lopez Dominguez, whose military reforms, backed up as they are by his royal master, are tending to place the Spanish army on a widely different footing to that which it has hitherto

occupied. Lopez Dominguez is a nephew of that Marshal Serrano who owed much of his progress, from a mere subaltern to a dukedom and grandeeship of Spain, to the favours of Queen Isabella. Dominguez was brought up at the Court of Madrid, and first came into notice as a soldier at the time of the war with Morocco, when he was on the staff of Serrano. The revolution of 1868, which found him a young brigadier, gained him his major-general's lace as the reward of his share in overthrowing the dynasty of the Bourbons. He has since shared in all the leading military events of Spanish history, played a prominent part in the last Carlist war, when he was pitted against the ablest leaders of the Pretender, and also became known by his successful recapture of Carthagena from the insurgents. As the latest addition to the series of remarkable military men who have played so prominent a part in modern Spanish politics, his progress will be viewed with interest, especially by those who recognise in him a man who will find it difficult to resist the temptation of becoming a political leader in his country.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE letters addressed to scientific journals on the subject of the curious atmospheric phenomena that have been observed during the past few months, contain some very interesting particulars. A gentleman writing from Christian College, Madras, to *Nature*, says that all through September the air was in a state of very unusual electrification, and that from the 8th to the 14th of that month the colour of the sun at sunrise and sunset was a bright green, the orb "appearing as a rayless globe, at which you could easily look, and yet so sharply defined that sun-spots could be seen with the naked eye." Another observer, writing from Haslemere, Surrey, under date November 10th, says:—

Yesterday evening a most extraordinary sunset effect was seen here, which made a deep impression on all who observed it. The sky was nearly clear when the sun set at 4.18, and the air transparent. A few cirrocumulus fleeces became lighted up with a pink and then with a deep red colour immediately after sunset. A very peculiar greenish and white opalescent haze now appeared about the point of the sun's departure, and shone as if with a light of its own, near the horizon. The upper part of this pearly mist soon assumed a pink colour, while the lower part was white, green, and greenish-yellow. About 4.35 the sky from near the horizon towards the zenith had begun to turn to a brilliant but delicate pink, and some pink cirrus-like streaks stretched apparently horizontally towards the south-east. The coloured portion of the sky spread out like a sheaf from the horizon, and apparently consisted of a very high, thin filmy cirrus disposed in transverse bands or ripples, close together, and very delicate in form, outline, and tint. Below the pink, and between it and the point where the sun had set, remained, the very curious, opalescent, shining, green and white vapour, hanging, as it were, vertically, and changing very little during many minutes. The borders of the pink sheaf were definite, and finely contrasted with the deep blue sky. As darkness came on, the pink glow seemed to increase in brightness, and at five o'clock cast a fine weird light over the hills. The moon was now bright in the south-east, and began to cast dark shadows. About five the colour slowly receded from the part nearest the zenith towards the horizon, and as it retired left a clearly visible filmy ripple of cirrus of a faint gray tint. At 5.25 the greater part of the colour was gone, and the cloud remained bright only near the horizon. At 5.32, however, it began to grow again, and in a short time (5.40) the whole extent of the film was again glowing bright pink, producing a most striking effect in contrast with the silvery moon, dark sky, and bright stars in the north and east. The pink light then slowly withdrew towards the horizon, remaining bright and deep-coloured low down till 5.50. At 5.58 the last pink disappeared. The whole phenomenon from first to last was in the highest degree peculiar and striking. It was remarkable, first, for the interval which elapsed between the time of sunset and the time at which the cloud became bright, next for the light, filmy character of the cloud, thirdly for the bright green glow near the place of sunset, fourthly for the small transverse ripple form of the cloud, fifthly for the permanence of shape and immobility of the cloud,

sixthly for the very long endurance of the coloured reflected sunlight after sunset, one hour and forty minutes, and seventhly for the second illumination, which began more than an hour after sunset. It was certainly due to cirrus or a higher kind of cloud, because (1) parts of the illuminated sky stretched in long streaks southwards, and the glow remained long in these streaks, resembling very high cirrus; (2) when the light left the sky the first time, the part which had been illuminated remained visible as silvery gray cloud ripples, before the second after-glow rekindled it, and (3) because the colour became very gradually darker as time went on, and because the recessions of light both times were towards the place of sunset. A similar very high cirrus had also been specially marked long after sunset on November 8, and about the time of sunrise on November 9. The night following this rare display was exceedingly clear and fine. This evening (November 10) the light, high cirrus, all but invisible in full daylight, with its delicate ripples, assumed the pink tint about fifteen minutes after sunset, showing the upper air to be in the same abnormal condition as yesterday, and the phenomenon was feebly repeated. It would be interesting to ascertain the approximate height of cirrus on which sunshine remains one hour and forty minutes after sunset at this time of year.

From Kurrachi, also, a correspondent writes to the same journal, on October the 16th, that from the 28th of September "there has been an exceptional red glow after sundown, and a strange green tint in the sky, while till the last few days the moon has had a distinctly green tint." This observer encloses a communication from the commander of the P. & O. steamship *Sam*, to the effect that when the vessel was on her voyage from King George's Sound to Colombo, on August the 1st, going at a speed of eleven knots, "she passed, for upwards of four hours, through large quantities of lava which extended as far as could be seen. The lava was floating in a succession of lanes from five to ten yards wide, and trending in a direction north-west to south-east. The nearest land was the coast of Sumatra (distant 700 miles), but as there was a current of fifteen to thirty miles a day, setting to the eastward, the lava could not have come from there," and the writer concludes that it must have been an upheaval from somewhere near the spot. He mentions that there was a submarine volcano in the vicinity four years ago, and says that the soundings on the chart show over 2,000 fathoms. We place the facts of the atmospheric phenomena and the discharge of lava together, because it has been suggested, as our readers will doubtless remember, that the former may be due to the passage of our planet through a quantity of cosmic dust, and because, according to the idea of a French philosopher, of whose theory we recently gave a short account, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are also produced by the presence of cosmic dust or other similar matter in the paths of the planets. We cannot venture to express an opinion as to the soundness of these views, but the coincidences noted above, and others recorded during 1883, are very interesting.

THE Director of the Washington Mint in his annual report, reiterates his estimate that the amount of gold and gold bullion available for immediate coinage in the United States is about \$606,000,000—a statement which, an American journal says, has been greatly criticised by experts—and makes additional estimates as to the world's money, which, possibly, may not meet with less severe criticism. The Mint bureau certainly, adds our contemporary, should have the best means for accurate information on the subject. "Nearly all the gold and silver obtained from our mines is in some form deposited in the Mints and Assay offices, or exported through the Custom Houses. Records are kept of the character of every deposit, and of the locality of the production of domestic

bullion. The gold product for the calendar year 1882 declined \$2,200,000, while the silver product increased \$3,800,000. The deposits of gold bullion for the first eight months of 1883 show also a decrease as compared with the corresponding period of last year, while the silver deposits show an increase. The estimate for the present calendar year is that the production of gold will be at least \$500,000 less, and that of silver at least \$2,000,000 greater, than that of the previous year. We read further:—"Director Burchard's estimate of the coin in circulation in the United States is \$846,595,749, of which \$606,196,515 is gold, and \$240,399,234 silver. The Director bases this estimate on the statistics of the Mints and Assay offices as to the amount taken from the mines; on the reports of the Treasurer of the United States as to the amount in the Treasury, and on the Custom House returns of the amounts exported. To all adverse criticisms upon these statements he simply answers, 'the amount is there.' The Director's returns, so far as they are based on actual figures of the Government, and not upon estimates, can probably not be successfully combated. His statement as to the total United States circulation is subject, unquestionably, to greater exception, for it is based, to some extent, upon estimates. His conclusion is, that, on October 1, 1883, the total United States money in circulation was \$1,070,364,021, as against \$1,051,248,386 on October 1, 1882, or a net increase during that calendar year of \$19,115,635. Mr. Burchard takes no account in this estimate of the unredeemed legal tender, demand and interest-bearing notes, which he considers as out of circulation. He does include the gold and silver bullion in the Treasury, and he states that it may properly be counted as a part of the metallic reserve, for the reason that it is capable of conversion into coin. The statement as to the paper currency is based upon the returns of the National Banks of June 22. Since that date several calls of 3 per cent. bonds have been made, with the result, as the Comptroller of the Currency estimates, of an aggregate retirement of National Bank circulation of some \$12,000,000. This sum should properly be deducted from the estimate of Director Burchard as to the amount of money in active circulation, which would reduce his net gain of the calendar year to \$7,000,000.

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The returns as to the coinage of foreign countries contain some interesting facts. In Great Britain no gold was coined in 1882. The best estimate of the gold coin in circulation in the United Kingdom is 110,000,000 pounds sterling, and of paper money 42,721,000 pounds sterling. The gold coinage of France in 1882 amounted to 3,742,000 francs, and the silver coinage to 7,159,859 francs. Mr. Burchard put the total paper circulation of the thirty-eight principal countries at \$3,832,920,903; the gold circulation at \$3,333,433,000, and the silver coin at \$2,712,226,000.

THE London *Times* has invented a new and ingenious method of saying unpleasant things and, at the same time, evading the responsibility of saying them. If a man were to assure his neighbour that he did not call him a rascal at some particular time, but that had he done so, subsequent events would have justified the term, that would be a fair illustration of the leading

English journal's new device. "When Lord Ripon was appointed," writes our London contemporary, "we had numerous protests addressed to us from all parts of the country, on the ground that a man who changes his religion in middle life is not fit to govern an empire. Though sympathising with these protests, which came not from fanatics but from their antipodes," (how necessary is this disclaimer!) "we were unwilling to take up an attitude that might have seemed invidious. But had we done so, no one would now be bold enough to say that we had been unjust." It is fair to observe that *The Times* had reason to be considerably exasperated when it descended to such an assault as this. From the first an uncompromising opponent of the Ilbert Bill, it had just seen its staple arguments torn to shreds by Lord Northbrook, who, speaking at the Colston Festival at Bristol in the name of the Liberal Party, and replying to Sir Fitzjames Stephen's attempt to reduce to a question of legal technicalities the assurances contained in Her Majesty's proclamation when the direct Government of India was undertaken by the Crown, said:—"I can say for myself, and I am sure I can speak with equal confidence for those who preceded and followed me in the office of Viceroy, that we have all of us regarded this proclamation as the guide of our conduct, and I can assure the natives that they may appeal with confidence to the noble sentiments expressed in it as declaring the deliberate opinion of the people of England as to the principles upon which the government of India is to be conducted." But the incident which must have caused *The Times* most chagrin was the discovery and exposure of the truth with regard to the celebrated telegram which formed the basis of such strange accusations against Lord Ripon and his government. The telegram, it will be remembered, gave a *précis* of the opinions sent in by the various local officials who were consulted with regard to the Bill, and the *précis* was subsequently found to be gravely misleading. Thereupon some of the Conservative party allowed themselves to be betrayed into preferring a charge of deliberate duplicity against the Ripon Government, *The Times* itself writing as though such an accusation might be credible. The sequel of this miserable episode was that the sender of the telegram, Mr. Rattray, Reuter's agent at Simla, immediately addressed the following letter to the *Friend of India*:—"I beg to state that the facts of the case are these:—A copy of the official papers on the Jurisdiction Bill was supplied to me, as the representative of an important news agency, in anticipation of the appearance of the *Saturday Gazette*. No table of figures giving the number of opinions for or against the Bill was included among the papers, and I myself compiled the letter—the telegram—which appeared in a manipulated form in the English papers on the morning of Saturday, the 8th of September." To complete the discomfiture of the politicians who professed to think that English officials could descend to such wild subterfuges, it turned out that Mr. Rattray represents, at Simla, the *Calcutta Englishman*, a journal prominent among the opponents of the Ilbert Bill. Thus the telegram which was supposed to have been officially garbled for the purpose of leading the public to think that the Bill was approved by a majority of the local authorities in India, was in reality composed and sent, without any reference to the officials, by a man who is

himself a strong opponent of the measure. We are not surprised to find that Lord Northbrook, referring to this matter, said:—"Although I have had more than 30 years' experience of political life, I can call to mind no instance of a more reckless and unfounded attack than this which Mr. Stanhope has made on the Viceroy of India." The some-time Secretary of State for India will not find his reputation much enhanced by this story, nor will people readily forget that the leading English journal, in the year of grace, 1883, could apply to Lord Ripon the following language:—"A man who, at the mature age of fifty, or thereabouts, apostatizes from the religion of his fathers, on the ground of 'grave doubts' as to the validity of English orders or the views of the Anglican Church about the nature of the Eucharist, certainly does not possess the strength and solidity of intellect required in a ruler. A man who, at that age, passes a crushing vote of censure upon his own private judgment by handing it over to a priest, deserves no more confidence from others. Men of sense make up their minds on these subjects at an early age, and it is only rather poor and narrow brained persons who are troubled at thirty with any question about the form of religion they have lived under. To have gone over to Rome is not Lord Ripon's offence, but rather that he is of the type of man who thinks of going over at all to any new Church in middle life. The Romans had a contempt for those who deserted the faith of their fathers, and it was well founded. A man who at forty or fifty has not found some way of reconciling his religion and his life is a weak creature, no matter in what trappings he may be decked or on what pedestal partiality may place him."

A CORRESPONDENT in a recent issue of *St. James's Budget* describes "an extraordinary after-glow" which was observed at Southampton. "On Friday, the 9th of November," he says, "the sun set about 4.20; and just afterward, some ten degrees over where it had gone down, a light space rather pale in colour appeared, which steadily increased in brightness and size until nearly five o'clock, when it had spread over a large portion of the western sky, rising into it quite 30 deg., rather like the sky just before a bright sunrise more than anything else. In fact, some fishermen remarked that 'it looked as if the sun was coming up again.' There were long irregular-shaped clouds, telling dark upon the pale-orange light at this time. Otherwise the sky was nearly clear of cloud, and to the southward, where the moon was shining brightly, it looked very dark by contrast; while directly opposite the eastern sky, particularly near the horizon, glowed a rosy red almost like a large fire or a display of aurora. Buildings, especially the town steeples, and vessels' masts, were all lighted up and glowed against the low-toned sky as though lighted by red stage-fire; while the water looked brighter and lighter, with dark ripples upon it, than before sunset. This lasted nearly an hour, being at its brightest about 5 P.M., or quite forty minutes after sundown. There had been strong mirage or refraction over the water here all the forenoon."

THE special correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press* in Tonquin, writes:—"After Son-tai was taken, on the evening of the 16th, the place was given over to the troops for some hours.

Over what happened then, let a veil be drawn." The French in Cochinchina are gradually furnishing materials for a record that will not redound much to their credit. If we may judge from the stories published by the newspapers, they appear to have commenced the campaign in Annam with the idea that everyone venturing to oppose them was a rebel or a bandit, and therefore unworthy to be treated according to the recognized usages of warfare. The reward they set upon the head of the leader of the Black Flags; the summary execution of prisoners, and the punishment meted out to officials who made any show of disputing their authority, all combined to betray a spirit as unjustifiable as it was disgraceful. Then followed the news of the heartless massacre at Hué, an act for which no excuse whatsoever could be offered; then came vague rumours of excesses committed by the Turcos, excesses so terrible that the female population of the district where the men were quartered chose to spend the night hiding in the fields rather than, by remaining at home, to run the risk of receiving a visit from these brutal ravishers; and now we have the above brief sentence, descriptive of an event that recalls the horrors of 1813. It is, of course, possible that all these accounts may be grossly exaggerated. We sincerely trust that such is the case. But the gradual accumulation of evidence has an ugly appearance, and one cannot help fearing that whatever may be the issue of the war in Tonquin, its effects will not conduce to the popularity of Western civilization in the East.

On the 4th instant, Notification No. 1 was issued over the signatures of Their Excellencies Sanjo (Prime Minister), Yamagata (Home Minister), and Yamada (Minister of Justice). The first clause sets forth rules for the punishment of gamblers with imprisonment for terms of from one month to four years and fines of from *yen* 5 to *yen* 200. Those who lend their premises for gambling purposes, and gamblers' watchmen and other persons who give assistance to gamblers, are subject to the same penalties. Those who band themselves together for gambling purposes, and arm themselves with murderous weapons for the purpose of carrying on this depraved pastime, are punishable with imprisonment for from one to ten years and fines of from *yen* 50 to *yen* 500. Persons who are known to be members of the band, but who are not taken while participating in gambling, are also subject to punishment. The Police can enter any house where gambling is carried on, provided they possess the knowledge that the offence has been or is being committed. It may be presumed that the issue of this Notification was dictated by the exceptional prevalence of gambling, but we are not in possession of any certain information on the subject. Turning to the Sixth Chapter of the Penal Code, which treats of delicts against public morality, we find that the keeping of a gambling-hell is punishable with imprisonment for from three months to one year, together with a fine of from 10 to 100 *yen*, and that persons caught in the act of gambling incur a penalty of from one to six months' imprisonment with a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*. The comparatively heavy penalties prescribed by the new Notification seem to indicate that the enactments of the Code were found, in practice, insufficiently prohibitive. But the point which will doubtless attract most attention in connect with the Notification is the power

it confers on the police of "entering any houses where gambling is carried on, provided they possess the knowledge that the offence has been or is being committed." It will be at once apparent that this power is essential to the efficiency of any system devised with the view of checking a crime at once so easy of perpetration and so difficult to detect as gambling. Of course in the event of anything resembling an abuse of their powers, it would rest with the police to prove that they had possessed sufficient information to warrant their action, and this is, perhaps, as much as would be exacted in practice. The difficulties that attend any vigorous attempt to prevent gambling have no where been more fully illustrated than in Hongkong. As an example we transcribe the following account of a raid made by the police on a house in that Colony on the 20th of last month:—

Yesterday afternoon, some considerable amount of excitement and horror was created among the Chinese community in Queen's Road West by three of their countrymen being killed during a raid by the Police on a suspected house. The circumstances of the affair, as disclosed at the Police Court and at an inquest held on the bodies of the persons killed to-day are as follows:—For some time past, Sergeant Butlin, whose instructions, generally, are to disturb all associations of bad characters or of those formed for the purpose of gambling, which congregate in untenanted houses, has had his eye on the top floor of house No. 72, Queen's Road West, and for the past fortnight he had kept particular watch on it. He knew it was not occupied by any fixed tenant, and he had also received information from several sources that gambling was carried on in it, that it had two strong trap doors, with spring locks, and that there was a system of watchmen kept to give warning of the approach of the Police. About ten minutes to four yesterday afternoon, he determined to try and gain entrance to the floor, and, perhaps, surprise a gambling party. Being aware that it was impossible for any European, even although in plain clothes, which he was, to get admittance by the legitimate entrance, the trap door being slammed down the moment one was observed, he sent a lukong, who was in plain clothes, to enter the floor, while he himself, accompanied by Mr. Clerihew, Inspector of Nuisances, entered house No. 70, the one adjoining that suspected, by a stair at the back which led from the Chinese Recreation Ground, which was on a level with the second floor. Having got thus far, Butlin made his way to the verandah of the house. Those inside the house suspected had by this time been warned of the vicinity of the Police, and Sergeant Butlin heard them rushing about, but he was unable to get at them, his way being barred by a wooden partition, which divided the two verandahs. With the assistance of Mr. Clerihew, he proceeded to pull this partition down, and as he was engaged doing so, he saw some thirty or forty men make their escape into the verandah of house No. 74, the partition of which had been partly pulled down. Having succeeded in tearing down a sufficient portion of the wood to enable him to enter the gambler's den, he did so and drove some men who were trying to escape as the others had done inside the house, and there secured eleven men, while the lukong caught one man whom he found hanging by the leg out of a window at the back of the house. Leaving Mr. Clerihew and the lukong to look after the prisoners, Sergeant Butlin went to the verandah to see if he could secure any more prisoners. His attention was then attracted by hearing a loud noise in the street, and, on looking over the verandah, he saw two Chinamen lying in the street, apparently dead. He at once rushed downstairs, and there saw a third man, lying in the side channel with blood oozing from his nose and ears. Two men were dead, but the third was still living, and Sergeant Butlin first had him removed to the Government Civil Hospital, and the two dead bodies afterwards. The third man died in Hospital about twenty minutes after admission. Sergeant Butlin then went back to the house, picked up all the paraphernalia usually found in gambling houses, and took the twelve prisoners to the Police Station. No one can be found who saw the deceased men fall, or leap from the verandah; even the lukong who was in the house when the first alarm was given cannot do so, as after getting admission he stood at the top of the staircase, and waited the arrival of Sergeant Butlin. A partition in the room prevented him from seeing what was going on in the front part of it. There were four ladders on the verandah leading to the roof, and it was suggested that they might have fallen from them, but, unless the ladders were thrown back, the men would have dropped on to the verandah, and not on to the street. It is impossible to believe that the men deliberately leaped from the verandah to the ground, a distance of 61 feet, and the most reasonable supposition is that they were accidentally pushed or fell off the parapet in the bustle and excitement of the moment in trying to escape from one verandah to the other. Sergeant Butlin believes there were somewhere about 100 men on the floor when he surprised the party, and it may there-

fore easily be perceived that considerable confusion and excitement would ensue when the alarm was given. No gambler if, surprised, ever thinks of making his escape by the stairs, so that the rush would all be for the other means of escape, which were, in this case, very limited.

The body of one of the deceased, a man of about 40 years of age, was frightfully mangled about the head, the skull being almost completely smashed. All three bodies were greatly bruised. This afternoon they were all identified. One was said to have been a coolie, who had been employed in a shop here for 10 years, another a cargo boatman, and the third a rice-pounder.

After hearing all the evidence this afternoon, the Coroner adjourned the inquest until Thursday next, to get evidence from Captain Dempster as to what the Police instructions are with regard to entering empty houses. Sergeant Butlin entered the house without a warrant, and he was not acting under sworn information. He was armed with a truncheon when he entered it. The jurors were Messrs G. Fenwick, F. Rickards, and A. G. B. Soares.

The twelve men arrested in the house were charged with public gambling at the Police Court to-day, but the case was adjourned.

From this account it is plain that the instructions issued to the police in Hongkong confer on them a great deal of discretionary power. In the particular case under consideration, the house was entered not only without a warrant, but by force, as a partition in the verandah had to be pulled down to obtain ingress. Moreover it appears that the sergeant of police who directed the proceedings had been watching the place for some time, and we may therefore infer that application for a warrant would not have proved an inconvenient preliminary. On the other hand, it is easy to conceive that, in a majority of instances, such a step, if compulsory, might seriously impair the efficiency of the police, and we are disposed to expect that no abuse of power will be proved against either Sergeant Butlin or Inspector Clerihew. What we would principally draw attention to, however, is the similarity between this affair and a recent occurrence in Japan. Here we have English policemen in an English Colony forcibly effecting an entry into a Chinese house where gambling is supposed to be going on in an upper room, though no evidence of the fact is outwardly observable, and in the confusion and alarm caused by the raid, three Chinese fall, or leap, from the verandah, and are killed. In the recent affray at Nagasaki, about which so much indignation was expressed by certain English journalists, the police entered a house where they saw opium smoking going on, and the resistance they experienced, there or elsewhere, in their attempts to arrest the offenders, led to the stabbing of a man. It has been loudly contended that the action of the Japanese constables in entering a Chinese house at all without a warrant was illegal. But apparently English constables do exactly the same. Are we to conclude, then, that the extraterritorial clauses of the Chinese and Japanese Treaty surround the preservation of order in Japan with obstacles which are not suffered to impede English constables in English colonies? More than once practical demonstrations have been furnished that Englishmen residing in the foreign settlements in Japan may with impunity convert their houses into asylums for Japanese law-breakers, but we should have thought that all respectable foreigners would regard such proceedings as a shameful abuse of privilege. If the police at Nagasaki behaved illegally in entering, without a warrant, a Chinese house where they saw Chinamen openly violating the laws of the land, whereas the police in Hongkong did not behave illegally, when, equally without a warrant, they broke into a house where they had reason to believe that Chinamen were engaged in gambling, it follows either that what

is generally lawful for English police is not lawful for Japanese police, or that law-breakers enjoy a special immunity in Japan under the provisions of extraterritoriality. With reference to the fatal results of the two affairs—which results must, of course, be considered entirely apart from the propriety or otherwise of the act of entry—we may remark that this is by no means the first occasion on which raids made by the Hongkong police on the houses of Chinese ended in the violent deaths of one or more of the inmates. We can recall two similar cases which occurred in former years. The first happened in a house which some constables had entered on suspicion that secret prostitution was carried on there. Two girls made their way to the roof, and in attempting to effect an escape, one of them fell down the smoke-hole, and was crushed to death. The second was a gambling case. The gamblers were surprised under circumstances resembling those described in the above extract, and one of them actually essayed to leap across a narrow alley from roof to roof. He missed his footing and, describing a series of summersaults, fell to the pavement below, a height of nearly 70 feet. With these records before them, the police in Hongkong ought to be careful how they break into houses to seize gamblers or other immoral characters, yet that they do break in without the troublesome preliminary of a warrant, is plain. It is true that if the gamblers quietly submitted to be apprehended, no lives would be lost, but it is equally true that if the Nagasaki opium-smokers had not resisted arrest, nobody would have been stabbed.

* * *

"One of the Seven Wise men was wont to say" (according to Bacon's *Apothegms*), that "laws were like cobwebs, where the small flies are caught and the great break through." If this had been written with direct reference to the practice of justice in Hongkong and elsewhere, it could not have been more apposite. Suppose that instead of the coolies and petty tradesmen who assembled in the third storey of a Chinese house on the night of December the 20th for the purpose of backing their ability to guess the number of units in a heap of counters, the party had consisted of British and American gentlemen, whose pastime was to guess correctly, and to deceive one another into guessing incorrectly, the composition of combinations of five cards—would the police have ventured to interrupt the proceedings? It may, perhaps, be supposed that the Chinese gamblers carried on their game in such a riotous, disorderly fashion as to disturb the neighbourhood, or that the nature of the sport was particularly demoralizing. On the contrary, it appears from the details of the story that their methods were so quiet and orderly as to furnish no external evidence of their presence or of the manner in which they were engaged, and so far as the game they played is concerned, it is a straightforward affair, not demanding any exercise of those peculiar moral qualities which when exhibited by poker players, for example, constitute polite accomplishments, but which, if permitted to have scope in the business of everyday life, would soon end in prison or social ostracism. One fails to see quite clearly where the distinction comes in, or why the police should smash down partitions and terrify men into breaking their necks in the one case, while in the other, they pass by with bated breath, or even lend their assistance to preserve the players from

interruption. This is one of those problems which may well recall the old saying "laws grind the poor, and rich men rule the laws."

A NEW and interesting "monster of the deep" (says a home paper) has been discovered, which, to judge by the description given of its appearance, is likely to put the sea-serpent's "nose out of joint." The monster was seen on the 2nd of October by Captain D. Seymour, of the American whaling-barque *Hope On*, off St. Elmo, one of the Pearl Islands group, situated between forty and fifty miles from Panama. The boats were out waiting signals from the vessel as to the direction in which the whales were heading, when suddenly, to the surprise of Captain Seymour, who was steering, and the men in one boat, an animal somewhat like a horse slowly rose out of the water, and then dived, apparently alarmed at the sight of the boat. The animal, which was seen by another boat's crew on the following day, is, according to Captain Seymour's account, "about 20 ft. in length, with a handsome horse-like head, with two unicorn-shaped horns protruding from it, with four legs, or double-joined fins, a brownish hide profusely speckled with large black spots, and a tail which seemed to be divided into two parts." An effort would have been made to catch the animal had it not been that whales were about at the time. Captain Seymour and his officers believe the monster is peculiar to the locality, and that it could be easily killed with lances and bomb-guns. Officers of the Pacific Mail Company state they have seen the animal on several occasions, although they never had the opportunity for close observation which was obtained by the crew of the *Hope On*.

WHEN, in the middle of August, the House of Commons was called on to debate the new code of procedure, now in operation, one of the objections raised was that the proposed Rules left it discretionary with the judges to decide what cases they should try themselves and what cases they should remit to a jury. To this objection it was replied that the only effect of the Rules on the jury system would be to substitute in certain cases the order of a judge for a mere notice by the parties, the judge, however, having no more option than before to refuse the order if applied for. The objection, however, was an interesting illustration of the unreasoning reverence still entertained for that institution which was once called the palladium of English liberty, but is now coming to be rightly regarded as a relic of barbarism. Mr. Montague Cookson, Q.C., discussing the New Rules in an able essay published by the *Nineteenth Century*, not only thoroughly and clearly explains their effect upon trial by jury, but also makes some pointed and instructive remarks upon the jury system itself. "As the law previously stood," he tells us, "there were numerous actions in which a jury trial could not be had, but even in that class of actions which admitted a jury, it was imperative on the party seeking one to 'signify' his desire for it." The only difference now is that the method of signifying that desire is prescribed. In six specified cases¹ it must be signified by giving notice to the opposite party; in all other cases, by applying for a judge's order. The change is very trifling, but Mr. Cookson thinks that "with a large majority of litigants the wish for a jury is so faint that anything which

breaks the force of habit will extinguish it altogether." In proof of this he points out that "in the County Courts, where a jury is optional, *but an active step has to be taken to obtain one*, the proportion of jury to non-jury cases is about that of 1 to 600." All this will be very shocking to those good folks whose hair is stirred with horror at the bare notion of disparaging, or attempting to abolish, the grand old palladium. But if the drift of intelligent opinion has any signification, the days of the grand old palladium are numbered. Little by little, experience has crystallized into a belief that were choice between trial by jury and trial by judges optional, the guilty man would invariably elect the former. We are not surprised, therefore, to find an expert like Mr. Cookson writing as follows:—

The jury system in civil cases is, in truth, a relic of an age when judges were supposed to be capable of being bribed or corruptly influenced in some other way; and, indeed, it is not a hundred years since scientific writers on law made this imputation part of their argument in favour of its continuance. Thus Paley writes in 1785:—

As the judge is known beforehand, he is accessible to the parties, and there exists a possibility of secret management and undue practices. The judge imparts to the jury the benefit of his erudition and experience; the jury by their disinterestedness check any corrupt partialities which previous application may have produced in the judge. If the determination were left to the judge, the party might suffer under the superior interest of his adversary; if it were left to an uninitiated jury, his rights would be still in danger from the ignorance of those who were to decide upon them. The present wise admixture of chance and choice in the constitution of the court in which his cause is tried guards him equally against the fear of injury from either of these causes.²

Is there a single sane man or woman in England with whom this argument would have the slightest weight at the present day? 'Influence' is no doubt still exerted, and that of a very powerful kind, but it is no longer brought to bear upon the judge, but on the jury. It is well known that to have the last word in a jury trial—technically called the reply—is of the greatest advantage. So great is it felt to be in practice that with the view of securing it the counsel for the defendant frequently avoids calling witnesses, even though they would improve his case. The exercise of a wise discretion on this point is one of the most delicate and difficult parts of the duties of an advocate at Nisi Prius.

Let us try the question in another way. A fair test of the value of an institution is this. Supposing it did not exist, should we set about to establish it? Would any one who had any belief in his case, if he had never heard of a jury before, think of entrusting the decision of it to twelve men who, for all he can tell, have not been in the habit of exercising their intelligence—who certainly have not been in the habit of exercising it in concert—shut up in a close court, rather than to a man of known integrity, trained experience, and general knowledge of the world, accustomed to deal with such questions all his life long? The experiment was tried in Scotland in 1815 when juries were introduced there by Act of Parliament. What has been the result? It has turned out a distinct failure. Merchants in Glasgow have been heard to say they would rather surrender their rights and interests than submit their case to a jury of their countrymen.

But, at all events, a jury is free from prejudices? On this head I must again quote Lord Bramwell, because his testimony will hardly be gainsaid. This is what he told the Law Courts Commission after thirteen years' experience of juries as a judge, and a long brilliant career as an advocate before them:—

In an action against a railway company juries generally go wrong; in actions for discharging a servant they generally go wrong; in actions by a tradesman against a gentleman, where the question is whether articles supplied were necessary for his wife, they are sure to go wrong; in actions of malicious prosecution³ they are always wrong. You may say to them—"The question is not whether the man is innocent, but whether there is absence of reasonable cause and malice"—but in vain. They find for the innocent man. In cases of running down⁴ they generally find for the plaintiff; so much so that a man who has run down another, if he is wise, will bring the action first. I have been in causes

¹ Actions for slander, libel, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, seduction, and breach of promise of marriage.

² *Moral and Political Philosophy*, Book VI., chap. viii. "On the Administration of Justice."

³ This, it will be remembered, is one of the 'six excepted actions' in the New Rules.

⁴ In a running down case tried before Mr. Justice Day in the summer of last year a verdict had been given for the plaintiff for £100. The plaintiff was the widow of a man who had been run over by a van, and the testimony, as is usual in such cases, was conflicting. Although the learned judge was strongly of opinion that the deceased was in fault, the jury took the view that a man with a wife and family was less likely to have been careless, when carelessness would lose him his life, than the driver of a van, who at the most would lose his situation. On an application for a new trial the Divisional Court considered the case for the plaintiff so hopeless, that, instead of ordering a new trial, which would probably have resulted in a like verdict, it directed judgment to be forthwith entered in favour of the defendant.

myself where each party has brought an action, and each has recovered.

Probably if asked to explain this paradox, the jury would answer that, while the judge looked only to the strict letter of the law, they took a more liberal and enlarged view according to the 'morality' of the case. A verdict so gained is only a temporary triumph, and inevitably results in an order for a new trial.

It will be retorted that, although this liability to error may hold good in the case of a common jury, a special jury is exempt from such failings. But what are the qualifications of a special jury, and how is it composed? The qualifications, as fixed by the Act of 1870, depend either (1) on the occupation of lands or houses of a certain rateable value, or (2) on rank and social position. Every male person who is legally entitled to be called an esquire, or is a person of higher degree, or is a banker or merchant, and is between twenty-one and sixty, and resident in the country or city where assizes are held, is eligible as a special juror. Bankers and merchants we know, but esquires have no outward marks of distinction, and any one may enter the special jury box in that character who has been designated such by the churchwardens or overseers whose duty it is to prepare the jury list. These lists are often very carelessly prepared, and, even if the Act were strictly complied with, is it certain that esquires proper, or even bankers or merchants—to say nothing of those who are only qualified by rateability—are proof against the bewilderment caused by the use of strange law terms or the disputes of contending advocates? Assume that there is a great advantage in having a commercial case tried before a special jury of merchants in London or Liverpool, or a case relating to a watercourse tried by a special jury of country gentlemen, the existing system of classifying jurors furnishes no security that such a panel will be struck. It has actually happened in practice that, the question being whether corn delivered was equal to sample, not a single corn-chandler or even farmer was on the special jury, and this is only one instance out of a thousand. Why, again, should a banker or merchant, as such, be more likely to form a correct opinion on a point of real property than a squire who rides to hounds on the effect of a bill of lading? *Ne sutor ultra crepidam* applies to all specialists alike. Or, if we turn the corner of the adage by empanelling none but those who are experts on the particular question to be tried, surely it would be well to reduce their number below twelve and turn them into assessors, or else to leave out the part of the judge altogether, and to establish tribunals of commerce as in France, Belgium, and Germany.

Trial by jury is not only more expensive than any other mode of trial, but, for reasons known to every practitioner, it occupies about one-third more time, and every restriction which is put upon it is, therefore, a direct proportionate saving of our judicial strength. Incidentally, however, it is much more than this, for when the jury are misdirected by the judge, or they bring in a verdict against evidence, this cannot be set right by the Court of Appeal. A new trial must be had, and the whole of the work must be done over again. Where, on the other hand, the appeal is from a judge without a jury, it is simply a rehearing, which is a very different thing. The recent abolition of the absurd practice of applying *ex parte* for new trials, and of granting rules to show cause, cannot be too warmly applauded, but new trials with fresh juries still remain with their attendant cost, threatening to secure ultimate victory, as in the now famous case of *Belt v. Lawes*, to the litigant with the longest purse. It may be that in actions where the honour of a man or woman is the main issue to be tried, the popular element of a jury will find a place in our judicial system for some little time to come, but it is to be hoped that it will shortly disappear from all other actions for the enforcement of contracts or the redress of private wrongs. The assimilation of the modes of trial in the two divisions of the High Court will then, and not till then, be fairly complete.⁵

NEWSPAPERS, like everything else, are occasionally the creatures of accident. Under the manipulation of malicious compositors their columns sometimes become liable to prosecution for offences against public morals, and by the contrivance of ill-disposed contributors they are sometimes betrayed into unwarrantable expressions of opinion. There have been journals distinguished for the unwavering consistency of their views, and there have been journals still more distinguished for their weathercock propensities, as was notably the case with the Ohio editor who "took a darned sharp turn" by telegraph. But we do not believe that the history of ephemeral literature contains any incident so curious as that connected with the recent experiences of a Kentucky paper, the *Calloway*

⁵ Not quite; for cases of personal fraud, as much involving questions of character as any of the 'six excepted actions,' are constantly tried by a judge sitting in the Chancery Division where a jury cannot be had.

News. What happened to the paper, and how it happened, will be understood from the following paragraph, extracted from its own columns:—"Since our last issue made us Radicals and advocates for Grant for President, and Butler for Vice-President, and also made us declare for an additional tax for school purposes and the co-education of the races, it now becomes us to explain these matters. The editors, moved by a simultaneous desire to visit the Exposition, concluded to go together, whereupon we called upon Judge Oury and W. L. Weathers to edit our paper in our absence. They graciously consented to do so, and the last issue is the work of those two gentlemen. Of course it was all a joke, and nearly every one will at once so recognize it, but lest there be some who failed to note our local in the preceding issue, in which we stated that the next issue before this would be edited by those gentlemen, and therefore may be laboring under some misapprehension as to the facts in the case, we have concluded to say that the articles in last week's issue were intended as jokes, and never had existence save in the mental world of the pranky gentlemen. We understand that by most of our subscribers the joke was highly appreciated. We hope that none will find fault with us in any event, as the matter *in toto* was a complete surprise to us."

THE protectionist bubble blown in Canada seems likely to burst. We read that there is something of an excitement in that great province, growing out of a depression in business and a fear, on the part of traders, that they are going to be ruined by cheap American manufactures. A few years ago Canada enacted a protective tariff, and for a time all went swimmingly. But a reverse has overtaken a fictitious prosperity, and many of the factories have stopped, while others are being closely pressed by competition with American goods. Hence there has arisen a cry for more protection against cheap American manufactures. "But on this side," says the *Alla*, "of the imaginary line, we are just as much afraid of cheap Canadian products, not so much manufactured goods as raw material and agricultural products, such as lumber, coal, furs, barley, oats, etc. Congress says that because those things can be produced cheaply in Canada we must be protected against them, even though in retaliation Canada imposes a heavy duty on manufactured goods which we can produce cheaper than she can. If, instead of being a question between two nations, it affected merely two States of the Union, it would not be denied by anybody that both parties would be benefited by making such exchanges as their natural resources rendered possible. If Ohio can produce cheap iron and New York has the waterpower or skilled labor enabling her to turn that iron into finished products at the minimum of cost, it is clearly for the benefit of both that Ohio should sell her cheap iron to New York, and take cheap manufactures in return. To erect an artificial barrier between the two and say that New York must use high-priced iron extracted from her own mines, and that Ohio must manufacture for herself at a heavy cost, would be obviously a detriment and a loss to both States, because it prevents each from devoting herself to whatever she can do to most advantage. But the case is the same between Canada and the United States, and for either country to stand in fear of the cheap products of the other and try to exclude them by protective tariffs is the height of ab-

surdity. It is equivalent to saying that commerce is something odious and malignant, instead of being one of the beneficent industries by which the comforts and pleasures of life are increased."

A FRENCHMAN, who has patented a machine for the use of concentrated solar rays as a general motive-power, has set up three of his machines in Algeria, for the French Government. He is now carrying on experiments on the island of Porquerolles near Hyeres, where he is threshing Indian corn, and raising water by the action of the sun's rays. The *World* adds that Sir Charles Dilke has also lent him part of his land at Cap Brun, near Toulon, for his experiments; and he purposes to utilise the sun is boring the holes for blasting, for tree-planting in the hard rocks, as well as in pumping water from the winter wells into the summer cistern.

AMERICAN newspapers are beginning to use very strong language about "giant monopolies of the age," "blighting shadows that hang over the country," "oppressive and flagitious black-mailers" and other commercial monstrosities. One of these, the Standard Oil Trust, is thus described by a Brooklyn journal:—

It was started in 1872 upon the ruins of the notorious South Improvement Company, of Pennsylvania, which collapsed upon the discovery of a secret contract with the railroads, by which it received a rebate of \$1 a barrel on crude oil and more on the refined article. The Standard company started with a capital of \$1,000,000. By a system of rebates from railroads, which constituted a series of special rates, the profits on which were secretly divided between the company and the railroad officials—the stockholders, of course, knowing nothing of the matter—this capital has since swollen to a figure variously stated at from \$50,000,000 to \$70,000,000. The exact figure in such a case is not significant. It is a close corporation, owns but a fraction of the oil producing power of the country, but controls four trunk lines of railroad, all the railroad tanks for transportation and two pipe lines to the seaboard, beside controlling in various ways railroad transportation on the roads running North and South. It compels railroad companies to advance rates for rival companies; it deals in grades of oil forbidden by law; it manipulates legislatures in such a way as to kill water transportation of oil and so to make submission to it compulsory in many States; it has stifled investigation by bribery, and has a reserve fund for buying off witnesses and, where that is possible, prosecuting officers also.

These charges are of a somewhat vague character, especially that which refers to dealing in grades of oil forbidden by law. It is explained, however, that the company represents what is known as the naphtha gas interest. By a process known as the water-naphtha method, it is possible to manufacture gas which, though of very inferior quality and dangerous to life, can be sold at a profit for about 25 cents per thousand feet. In this gas the company is said to have dealt largely, thus cutting down rates until all but three of the Brooklyn gas companies were compelled to abandon coal gas. By threats of ruin, the directors forced their way into the established companies, and at last having obtained virtual control of nearly the whole gas interest, a combination was effected, prices were restored, and the good people of Brooklyn have to "pay the piper." The most hopeless part of the affair seems to be the difficulty which the public feels about trusting anyone after such disclosures. The professed reformers of these abuses may be themselves black-mailers in an altered form.

The manipulation of stock is another phase of the methods by which unparalleled wealth is fast gravitating into the hands of a few, and creating a moneyed oligarchy, whose members are described as "conspirators that bind together and interlace the various sections of the country with bands and wires of iron and steel,"

subject the majority to slavery of a new type, and contrive a "destruction of equal rights that would not be tamely submitted to under a monarchy." Some interesting facts with regard to this abuse are contained in the following extracts:—

The successful accomplishment of the great Vanderbilt-juggle in this State was but the example and incentive to similar operations throughout the country. About 100 per cent. or \$45,000,000 of fictitious stock was thereby divided, in 1869 among the shareholders (Vanderbilt & Co.) and added to the capital of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. Fully 100 per cent. (8 per cent. per annum) has since been paid on same in cash dividends. The previous capital contained so much "water" that 8 per cent. dividends thereon were alone equivalent to 10 per cent. on the money actually expended. The sum of over \$45,000,000 in cash has, therefore, already been filched from the people to pay dividends of this one huge block of \$45,000,000 "water" alone, without calculating interest thereon, or the market value of the watered stock itself, over \$50,000,000 additional.

But this is only one instance of many. Its fruits enabled the acquirement of other great connecting roads to the West, now recognized as "Vanderbilt" lines, and which have been manipulated in like manner for the same nefarious purpose.

The evil example has been followed to the same extent, 100 per cent., by many dividend paying roads under other control and in other States. Wrecking and reorganization have proved profitable mines by similar methods, securities, without limit, being fed to confiding investors and Wall-street speculators. New railroads are built far out on the Western plains and prairies, not because they are required by population along the line, but because Government, by unwise financial laws, has so inflated the currency and cheapened money, and enabled the legal reserves of over 2,200 national banks to be largely accumulated in New York, and used in Wall-street, that so-called "securities" are readily marketed for twice the cost of construction or more; so that every 1,000 miles of such new roads produce a profit to the constructors of not less than \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 by that means alone. *Poor's Railroad Manual* for 1883 states that during the years 1880, '81, and '82, 28,019 miles of road were built, at an increase of capital shares and debt of \$2,024,646,842—over \$70,000 per mile. half being "water." \$1,000,000,000 "water" in three years! No wonder again that Gould can, on occasion, exhibit his investments by the bushel, or that he and other Wall street railroad kings can rival royalty in the magnificence of their exclusive steamships or so called yachts. Scores of others, in various ways, sometimes even by grand munificence, demonstrate their sudden attainment, as by magician's wand, of princely opulence. And this wonderful "development of the country" yet proceeds.

The Western Union Telegraph has over \$50,000,000 "water" included within its present capital, the New York Elevated roads \$18,000,000, and among public corporations there are few throughout the country which have not been prostituted to this base use. It is no exaggeration to assert that the various issues of stocks and bonds now extant are \$2,000,000,000 in excess of the money actually expended—on a large part of which interest or dividends are regularly paid already, and the remainder is to be made income producing also, when the condition of the country and people along the lines, will enable it to be done.

By freight discriminations, rebates, and "special rates," favorites have been permitted to acquire great fortunes on the ruins of many others. Chief among such offspring of violated rights is the Standard Oil Company, to whom as proven by sworn testimony, over \$10,000,000 was paid by railroads as rebates, within eighteen months. The members of this company have amassed not far from \$100,000,000, by such dastardly advantages, competitors having been compelled to relinquish business or surrender to their dication and control. This vast monopoly and outgrowth of railroad abuse has thus become the supreme regulator of oil production and traffic throughout the world, and is now endeavoring to subordinate gas companies and obtain a like control of that method of illumination. In like manner the handing of grain, provisions, and other commodities has been largely concentrated in the hands of a special few—the difference of freight being sufficient to stifle competition and insure immense gains. Railroads have thus become the controllers of industry, trade, and commerce, and wreckers and builders of fortunes.

For the speedy building and completion of the Pacific railroads during war time Government aid was, perhaps, required; but the history of these roads, and of others since projected, is one dark line of Credits Mobilier, reckless squandering of the public lands and utter disregard of public honesty and the people's rights.

Published statements of the United States Treasurer show that, notwithstanding the mines of wealth, these roads have proved unprofitable to their builders, and though they regularly pay liberal interest and dividends on their grossly excessive issues of bonds and stock, but about \$17,500,000 has been repaid on account of the Government loan to them, now amounting, with interest to over \$123,000,000, and that \$40,000,000 of interest has already been paid by the Government—that is, the people—which the roads should have provided for. By the system of pooling, the entire traffic over paral-

lel lines is apportioned, rates fixed and harmonized, and all the roads made practically one. Competition is thus banished and dividends on watered capital are assured. Products of farm, factory, and workshop, including the labor and industry of all classes, are forced to contribute to that end, either by reduced proceeds or enhanced cost of everything. One of the saddest effects of the iniquitous system is shown by the telegraphers' strike. The Western Union Telegraph Company pays regular dividends, amounting to about twenty-five per cent. per annum upon the capital actually expended, and grinds its employes—skilled and common labor alike—into the dust, to aid in making dividends on the huge volume of "water."

Railroad and telegraph lines have, therefore, been wrested from the beneficent and impartial ends they only should have served, viz., a great and universal public benefit, and a liberal return not exceeding 10 per cent. yearly upon the capital actually invested, and have become instruments of oppression, and of public robbery so vast and all pervading as, but for the hard facts, to stagger belief. The greed for dollars without limit is strong enough among many of those who build, control, and manipulate them to stifle all sense of public duty and appreciation of private rights, to ignore the reserved rights of the people, and boldly to claim a full and exclusive ownership. The evils of their mismanagement and manipulations have crystallized, as intended by their captors, in building up within fifteen years overtowering fortunes, which are growing and spreading like a blight throughout the land, constantly absorbing and increased proportions of the industry, sweat, and blood of the people.

These immense fortunes, so wrongfully acquired, are inconsistent with free institutions, and are a constant and growing menace to public rights and liberties. They stand forth monumental evidences that the greatest financial successes are attainable by ignoring honesty and just business methods and over-riding public rights, and are, therefore, a constant source of demoralization and enticement to seek success by other than industrious and legitimate means. This effect, especially upon the growing generation of young men, is one of the greatest resultant evils.

Halls of legislation and of justice have been invaded by them and influenced by their corrupting power; and the unscrupulous effrontery of ill-gotten concentrated wealth warrants the belief that the Court of Appeals and United States Supreme Court are by no means safe against its assaults. A striking instance of the subserviency of State governments is afforded by a recent enactment in Pennsylvania (under Democratic reform control) limiting, i.e., permitting, railroad issues to \$150,000 per mile of bonds and same amount of stock; total, \$300,000. Every well informed man knows that this is many times the honest cost of any road, even when built through difficult country and including large equipment. What is it but a legal cover for gigantic swindling?

The distribution of wealth among a people who value their liberties and intend to remain free should be comparatively even, and should be jealously watched. The accumulation of enormous fortunes by methods opposed to the general welfare should be prevented in the interest of all the people. Such vast accumulations are impossible of attainment by any fair industrial or commercial pursuit within the compass of any lifetime—certainly not, as in these instances, within one generation.

THE rector of a Roman Catholic Church in New York recently met with an experience which has attracted much attention among his medical friends. His parish largely consists of tenement houses of the poorest class. While visiting a person dying of small-pox, he felt himself bitten by a flea. He took little notice of this at the time, but toward evening the bite became extremely annoying, and the limb was much swollen. Next day the place assumed all the appearance of a boil, and it continued suppuration for ten days. The physicians are of the opinion that the flea had just left the body of the small-pox patient, and had inoculated the priest with the poison.

REFERRING to the telegram announcing the adoption of the Tonquin telegraph cable project by the Senate, the *Saigon Independant* of the 22nd ultimo says:—The inconvenience resulting from the absence of telegraphic communication between Saigon and Haiphong will shortly disappear, the cable project having been voted in France. Unfortunately, if the agreement is adopted by which the English Company undertakes to lay the Saigon, Thuan-an, and Haiphong cable in sixteen days and to open it immediately, offers great advantages, we nevertheless regret

certain of its provisions. Notably we regret the provision by which France authorises the laying of a cable to be under English management between Haiphong and Hongkong. The Colonial Council while out of session has accepted this annulment of the vote it passed in two extraordinary sessions. The fact is truly regrettable.

THE Egyptian national party is said to be recovering from the shock of Tel-el-Kebir. They have started a newspaper called the *Egyptian Patriot*, which is to appear in Paris, in support of their views. In a proclamation recently issued by one of their unknown leaders, it is said that the sword must be now exchanged for appeals to public opinion and legitimate agitation. In the first number of the paper, the people were invited to elect the seven exiles in Ceylon to the new Egyptian Chamber, but every copy was seized on arriving in Egypt. Arabi's influence amongst Mahomedans all over the world has greatly increased since his arrival in Ceylon. Thousands of his Indian co-religionists have visited him at Colombo, which is now regarded as a sort of halfway house to Mecca. —*Indian Mirror*.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Shanghai Mercury*, writing from Korea, says:—Both the steamer and sailing ship tonnage at the new port of Jenchuan are speedily increasing every month, and the place is improving rapidly. Building material and skilled labour in the house building line are at a premium. Japanese carpenters now charge \$1.50 per day! Where are the Celestials? Washermen, shoemakers, tailors, masons, blacksmiths are wanted too; in fact artisans of all descriptions could find any amount of employment. Native papers please copy.

AN entertainment is announced in our advertising columns of this issue, the French Amateurs having consented to give a performance at the Gaiety Theatre on the evening of Saturday, the 19th inst. The programme consists of two of the comedies of Labiche, sufficient, with the anticipated completeness with which the pieces will be placed upon the stage, to draw a good house, but as the amateurs appear on this occasion for the benefit of the funds of the Yokohama General Hospital, it is safe to say that there will not be a seat vacant when the curtain is rung up.

FROM telegraphic enquiries made at Shanghai we are able to state that nothing is known there of the reported recapture of Sontai by the Black Flags. The Shanghai newspapers are quite silent on the subject. It may, therefore, be concluded that the recent wonderfully circumstantial account of the great havoc sustained by the French troops had its origin in the fertile brain of some patriotic Chinaman, in whose mind, probably, the "wish was father of the thought."

PÈRE HYACINTHE, in a recent address in New York said:—"There is yet to come a new people from the vast continents of Australia and New Zealand, from Japan and China, who shall inaugurate a new era. These shall bring about the glorious prophecy of the apostle, that the earth's scattered and divided races shall be drawn together by the Divine Redeemer and bound together as the children of one universal father."

HERE is an item taken from the first number of the Korean Government *Gazette* of which 3,000

copies have already been printed:—"Some years ago Chinese literature was commenced to be taught in Oxford College, England, and we now learn from foreign journals that other colleges near the chief city of Great Britain intend following the example of Oxford. Thus Chinese is obtaining recognition in the West. Is Heaven endeavouring to establish Chinese as the universal language?"—*Shanghai Mercury*.

DURING the strong N.E. blow on the night of the 5th inst. the British bark *E. von Beaulieu*, which has recently been converted into a hulk, dragged her anchors and got on the bank opposite the English Hatoba. Attempts were made yesterday to tow her off, but the tug used was not equal to the occasion, and the vessel still lies on her bilge, her position and appearance indicating that she is rapidly making water.

AT half-past eleven yesterday morning, opposite the Machigaisho a very successful trial took place of the new steam-fire engine imported for the Police Department. It is much lighter in build than either of those belonging to the Yokohama Fire Brigade, but nevertheless throws a good stream of water and will be a great safe guard to the native town, as from its lightness it can be taken cross the bridges without danger. The makers of this engine are Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co.

OWING to the peculiarity of Chinese characters, each of which represents a word, not a letter, as in our Western tongues, the Danish Telegraph Company (the Great Northern) working the new Chinese lines, have (*Engineering* says), adopted the following device:—There are from five to six thousand characters or words in ordinary use in the Chinese language, and the company have provided a wooden block for each of these. On one end of this block the character is cut or stamped out, and on the other end is a number representing the character. The clerk receives a message in numbers and takes the block of each number transmitted and stamps with the opposite end the proper Chinese character on the message form. Thus a Chinese message sent in figures is translated into Chinese characters again and sent to its destination. The sending clerk, of course, requires to know the numerical equivalent of the characters, or have them found for him.—*St. James's Gazette*.

A NOTIFICATION has been published by the Council of State, providing for the grant of pensions to Government officers who have served for upwards of fifteen years. To carry out the provisions of this notification a Pension Bureau has been established.

THE British ship *Haddon Hall*, Captain Leighton, which left here on the 4th ultimo for Kobe, arrived at that port on Saturday last, having been 33 days on the passage.

IF the Chinese Restriction Act is not a total failure, it is in a fair way to be made such. It will be the first duty of the Pacific coast Congressional representatives to decide what shall be done to remedy the manifold defects of the law.—*Alta*.

MR. E. WHITTALL filed a petition of appeal yesterday against the decision of Judge Hannen in the case of Yukioka Shobei v. E. Whittall. The petition was granted.

"KINDLY SYMPATHY WITH NATIVE ASPIRATIONS AND PROGRESS."

THE letters of the London *Times*' special correspondent in China are always pleasant reading, and the source from which they emanate is a sufficient guarantee of the accuracy of their information. Just now, too, the duties of special correspondent are performed by a gentleman who attaches such an obviously paramount importance to the commercial aspects of a British Representative's functions, that his views are, doubtless, particularly acceptable to his nationals at the open ports. In his last letter dated at Shanghai, September the 20th, he alludes, in the following terms, to the appointment of Sir HARRY PARKES as Her Majesty's Representative in China:—

The arrival of Sir Harry Parkes, the new British Minister to China, has been greeted with enthusiasm on the part of all our countrymen resident in the East. The valuable services which he rendered during the last China campaign, his intimate acquaintance with all questions affecting our commercial relations with this country, and his long, successful tenure of the post of Plenipotentiary in Japan, have all combined to point him out as the most fitting successor to Sir Thomas Wade. It used to be thought, and indeed has recently been asserted, that the Chinese had objected or would object to his appointment on the ground, presumably, that the recollection of his former rough treatment while a prisoner in their hands could not but operate as a barrier to the harmonious relations which ought to exist between the two Powers. There is no reason whatever to suppose that such views are entertained by the Chinese Government. The circumstances referred to occurred nearly a quarter of a century ago, and whatever objections might possibly have been urged at an earlier period have long disappeared by lapse of time. There is no doubt the new Minister will receive a cordial welcome at Peking as the representative of a great and friendly Power with which it is now more than ever the interest of the Chinese to stand well. Not less gratifying must it be to Sir Harry to reflect on the leave-taking he had with his friends in Japan. From the Mikado downwards, all classes and all nationalities appear to have joined in a general expression of esteem and goodwill. In a country where there is still a good deal of the irreconcilable between the East and the West, it is no small praise to say his departure seems equally regretted on both sides. It shows that a kindly sympathy with native aspirations and progress, and on occasions even with native tradition and prejudice, may and ought to go hand in hand with the first duty of a Minister—the protection and development of British trade. We fear, however, that the new Minister will find the atmosphere of Peking much less favourable to progress than that of Tokio. If he can but convince the Chinese Ministers from his Japan experiences that safety and prosperity are more to be found in development than in stagnation, and that the introduction of railways is by no means destructive to the territorial sovereignty, even if they be made with borrowed capital, he will do more to strengthen their hands than all that the founders of arsenals and builders of war vessels have done put together.

Of the opinions expressed here the greater part will be endorsed by all the English residents in China, and Japan, who have justly learned to associate Sir HARRY PARKES' name not less with the most stirring events of China's foreign relations than with the story of Japan's recent progress. But if Sir HARRY PARKES himself were asked whether the "expressions of esteem and goodwill" he received on leaving Japan might be regarded as an honest sequel to the latter years of his official career there, we have little doubt that his answer would not be in the affirmative. The

first duty, we apprehend, of a British Representative at the Court of a friendly Power should be to promote cordial relations, and to show that the policy of his government is neither wholly selfish nor entirely indifferent to the national sentiment of the people among whom he lives. Judged by this standard, it is a mere mockery to say that the impression conveyed by Sir HARRY PARKES' policy was, in any sense, one of "kindly sympathy with native aspirations and progress." It was as nearly as possible the opposite. We are dealing here with facts, not fancies, and we unhesitatingly affirm that whether the treatment this country received at the hands of Sir HARRY PARKES was well or ill judged, its unmistakeable outcome has been to stifle much of the trustfulness and admiration which the Japanese people had begun to feel for Western civilization. If any one fancies that he finds here an exaggeration of the truth, let him consider dispassionately in which direction the feelings of the Japanese public tend at present. Do they tend towards friendship for England and faith in the justice of her international policy? Or do they tend towards a conviction that England is indifferent to Japan's claims and wholly careless of the consideration her conduct entitles her to receive? He must be entirely blind to the indications that surround him who does not see that among all her treaty friends there is not one whose illiberal attitude Japan has less hope of moving than Great Britain. If to convey this impression of his country's sentiment can be regarded as the proper object of a British Minister's policy, then indeed it may truly be said that the latter years of Sir HARRY PARKES' career in Japan were eminently successful.

It is proper that this criticism should be separated from the general verdict of applause which Sir HARRY PARKES' character and achievements have won. To that verdict we subscribe with the utmost heartiness. It would be difficult to find an official who combined in a more marked degree the highest qualities of fearless integrity and unflinching industry. But, paradoxical as the statement may appear, what chiefly contributed to the ill success of Sir HARRY PARKES' policy in Japan was the very strength of a characteristic which Englishmen are accustomed to admire. He could not bear to swerve from a course that he had once persuaded himself to consider the right course, and this inflexibility was above all things unsuited to the conditions he had to deal with here. It needs but little reflection to see that a policy which was necessary and wise when pursued towards the Japan of a quarter of a century ago, must have ceased to deserve those epithets when applied to the Japan of recent years. If the treaties made with this country at a time when all her instincts were believed to be anti-foreign and anti-progressive, can be considered to have been,

in any sense, suited to her condition, it follows inevitably that she is entitled, by every principle of justice, to ask for some modification of those treaties now, after she has proved her firm attachment to the principles which constitute the basis of Western civilization. This plain fact never received the least practical recognition at Sir HARRY PARKES' hands. From first to last he treated the Japanese as children to be coerced into the right path, not as men who had learned to discern that path for themselves and to follow it of their own election. The representatives of other nationalities were changed by degrees. The men who had been here under the old *régime* were replaced by others who were not obliged to divest themselves of any prejudices in construing Japan's sentiments, and who were as free, as they were willing, to adapt their policy to circumstances which in general exceeded their most sanguine expectations. The British Representative alone remained unchanged and unchanging at his post. Had it been possible for him to follow the bent of his kindlier inspirations without the shock of disturbing contrasts, his attitude might soon have photographed the generosity which was always a marked trait of his private life. But the very staunchness and honesty of his disposition probably invested with some semblance of intrigue or hypocrisy the successive alterations of his colleagues' policy. The pleasantest path seldom leads to the best goal, and it is easy to see how pride of conservative loyalty may impart a false appearance of duty to the maintenance of a position, merely because others seem disposed to abandon it. When Sir HARRY PARKES returned to Japan in 1882, his opportunity was unique. His Government, in answer to hostile criticisms, had conferred on him a mark of favour so high that he could well afford to shake himself free from tradition; while Japan, on her side, was ready to welcome him back as an old friend and trusted adviser, and even to show him practically that she had nothing in common with the attacks which had been made upon him. But Sir HARRY PARKES entirely failed to appreciate the position. He found a Government and a people united in their desire of one thing and one only, namely, to have their country restored to her place among independent nations. What the Japanese wanted was to put an end to the partial intercourse which they felt to be a stigma on their civilization; to see foreigners enjoy the same privileges under the same conditions in Japan as Japanese enjoy in Europe and America. To this aspiration, which ought to be the end and object of every foreign representative's policy, Sir HARRY PARKES replied by bidding the Japanese be practical. "You want your tariff revised," he said. "Get that done first, and consider the other question afterwards." No advice could have been less sympathetic. The

Japanese really cared very little about tariff revision. They would doubtless have welcomed an acknowledgment of their right to regulate their own tariff, like every other free country, but as for the permission to impose an extra tax of two or three per cent. on yarns and shirtings—a tax which might augment their revenue by a million dollars annually, but which would come almost entirely out of their own pockets—they thought it a mockery to mention such a paltry matter in the same breath with the incomparably greater question of throwing open the whole country to foreign enterprise and foreign capital. Therefore it was that they desired to give the latter question precedence. They did not ask for the immediate abolition of extritoriality. That is a demand which has been put into their mouths by persons who apparently desire to misrepresent them. The position they assumed was that a majority of the Treaty Powers had taken no steps to provide a proper substitute for the territorial jurisdiction from which their nationals were exempted; and further, had so construed the treaties that in many cases the power to preserve law and order could not be exercised at all in Japan. This state of affairs the MIKADO'S Government declared itself resolved not to extend beyond the bounds of the treaty ports, and called upon the Foreign Powers to remedy by restoring to Japan a very limited amount of criminal jurisdiction; Japan, on her side undertaking that until such time as her Judicature should have won confidence abroad, a majority of the Judges empanelled to try any case in which a foreigner was concerned should be foreigners: then, after a fixed term of probation, this system might be developed simultaneously with the complete opening of the country. The very nature of these proposals ought to have demonstrated the earnestness of Japan's purpose. But HER MAJESTY'S Representative had lost his touch of the times. He seems to have set the infinitesimally petty claims of a crippled and circumscribed trade above the broad interests which, for his country's sake not less than for Japan's, he should have laboured above all things to promote. He offered Japan, after twenty-five years of pleasant intercourse and sixteen of the most remarkable progress on record, the same tariff as Korea has obtained from the outset, and in return for this concession (?) he asked her to grant—trading passports. Could there be conceived a more absurd fiasco? All this talk of treaty revision, all the trouble it had cost and the expectations it had excited, to end in trading passports! If foreigners are to trade in the interior of Japan, they do not want passports. Passports would be no guarantee for their lawful behaviour, while for the conduct of the Japanese with whom they would come in contact the Government of Japan is ready to hold itself responsible. But the Government of Japan declares that it will not consent to anything which would

tend to perpetuate the present condition of partial intercourse. Every year that passes renders this state of affairs more irksome, and brings into greater prominence the exclusiveness and race prejudice of foreigners who claim the right to hold themselves apart from the people of the country where they come to earn their bread, and to enjoy in Japan, at Japanese expense, privileges which Japanese subjects themselves do not possess. At present England is regarded as the head and front of this exclusive and narrow-minded policy, and since the real sentiments of the English people and of the English Government towards Japan are wholly inconsistent with such a character, we cannot pretend to think that "kindly sympathy with native aspirations and progress" is the impression this country learned to associate with the name of the official who recently represented HER MAJESTY at the MIKADO'S Court.

ECONOMICAL RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

THE United States *Railroad Manual* for 1883, gives the number of miles of new lines built throughout the States during 1880, 1881, and 1882 as 27,019, and says that the nominal cost was \$2,023,646,842. This latter figure is obtained by calculating the increase of capital shares and of debt. It does not, however, represent the actual cost of the lines. Before determining this, the compilers of the *Manual* say that half the aggregate increase of shares and debt must be deducted on account of "watered" stock. If this subtraction be made, it results that the average cost of constructing this enormous length of roads was thirty-five thousand dollars per mile. We commend this figure to the consideration of Japanese financiers. If report speaks truly, the Tokiyo-Kumagaye line has cost nearly seventy thousand *yen* a mile, though it runs through a country presenting a minimum of difficulties, and is apparently built on the most economical principles. Speaking, early in 1881, of the prospects of this line, we said that at the then value of paper money, forty-five thousand *yen* per mile ought to be amply sufficient for its construction. This estimate was made by a competent English railway engineer, who had examined the surveys throughout and was familiar with the features of the country. At the time of writing, *Kinsatsu* were at a discount of 45 per cent. The discount to-day is less than ten per cent., so that, making due allowance for the fact that the price of labour has not yet fully adapted itself to the appreciation of paper money, we shall be safe in reckoning that the cost of construction ought not, under existing circumstances, to exceed thirty thousand *yen* per mile. Assuming, however, that *Kinsatsu* remained, throughout the past two years, at the heavy discount quoted in the spring of

1881, the expenditure on the line ought not to have been within thirty per cent. of seventy thousand *yen* a mile. How has the money been wasted? Now that Japan is disposed to busy herself seriously about railway construction, it is most important that the question of expense should be honestly considered. In every part of the world, work done under official auspices is proverbially uneconomical, but there are circumstances which render this specially true of Japan. Chief among them is the want of an efficient body of contractors. This, perhaps, is not much to be wondered at, when we remember that Japanese experts are little familiar with the character of the works which the country needs most. Railroads, docks, buildings in masonry, and similar undertakings, are still comparatively new to them. But what strikes us as specially hopeless is that the means of remedying this want of knowledge are inaccessible under existing conditions. Were it possible for foreign contractors to compete in the Japanese market, the economical and rapid methods which long years of dearly-bought experience have taught the West, would very soon become this country's property also. But unfortunately this is not possible, and will not be possible until the present treaties are revised in such a sense as to permit Japan to extend to foreigners unrestricted rights of residence and property throughout the Empire. Still the fact stares us in the face that while good permanent lines can be built in the United States at an average outlay, taking rough and smooth alike, of thirty-five thousand dollars a mile, they cost in Japan from fifty to sixty thousand in an exceptionally easy district. There is a popular fallacy that American engineers are principally skilled in the building of "backwood" tracks, and that their so-called economy of construction signifies nothing more than scamped work. We need scarcely say that there could be no greater mistake. It is true that American engineers have acquired an exceptional experience of the insolvency which invariably results from too cheap work, but they acquired that experience, not because they originally believed in excessive economy, but because circumstances occasionally compelled them to practise it. The scientific principles upon which they proceed are precisely the same as those that guide English engineers. The United States are so near Japan, and railway construction is in process there on such a large scale, that it might be worth the while of those who have charge of similar undertakings here to find out, by actual inspection, how thirty or forty per cent. is saved in a country where labour is proverbially dear and rails cost more than anywhere else. When Japan is thrown open to foreign professional enterprise, these things will be speedily remedied, but we fear that a considerable interval still separates us from that day, and in the meanwhile this unnecessary drain upon the country's purse seems likely to continue without interruption.

THE ANGLO-KOREAN TREATY.

THE writer in the *Choya Shimbun*, whose article we translate elsewhere, is a politician of very decided views. He has evidently formed an exceedingly poor estimate of European justice, and is disposed to think that the interests of Oriental states receive no more consideration at Western hands than the pocket of a pedestrian at the fingers of a pilferer. His writing has some appearance of being the expression of thoughts slightly disarranged by anger or other cerebral excitement, but, so far as we can discern, his objections to the Anglo-Korean Treaty are two—first that its provisions with regard to the opening of ports are framed so as to confer a vague right of selection upon the British authorities; and secondly, that while securing to British subjects the privileges of trade and travel in the interior of the country, it makes no provision for their government outside the limits of the Settlements. It is a little difficult to apprehend the precise nature of the wrong-doing in the former case, or to foresee the evils Korea is likely to suffer should she be required hereafter to open two new ports as substitutes for Pusan and Yangwhachin. The writer in the *Choya Shimbun* apparently desires to suggest that the British Envoy craftily induced the Korean Government to pledge itself to open two extra ports, under pretence that they should be substitutes, but really with the intention of making them additional. Surely the assumption of Korean incompetence implied in this accusation is as exaggerated as the deceit charged against the QUEEN'S Representative is objectless. Every Japanese who has taken any trouble to inform himself about the resources of Korea and the prospects of her trade, must know that the attractions she offers to foreign merchants are exceedingly few. It is, indeed, a moot question whether every one of the proposed settlements will not ultimately be found to have cost the foreigners who settle there a great deal more than Korea can ever repay. Certainly the commerce of the country must for a long time be of such a nature that its vitality will depend upon the places selected for carrying it on. If it is to succeed at all—and its success is presumably Korea's object no less than Great Britain's—the wisest course that can be pursued is precisely that outlined in the Treaty, namely, to arrange that the positions most suitable for trading purposes shall be determined by actual experience. This much, at all events, Korea must be competent to understand. Questions of tariff or jurisdiction may be, as yet, beyond her conception, but she must be singularly simple if she cannot foresee that by pledging herself to substitute two new ports for Pusan and Yangwhachin, should these be found unsuitable, she confers a certain discretionary power on the British Government. That the power will be abused,

there is not the smallest reason to fear. Nothing but absolute necessity will persuade foreigners to abandon settlements where they have sunk capital in offices and workshops; while as for the notion that the real object of the Treaty is to provide for the establishment of additional settlements, it may be disposed of by observing that every new port opened is so much benefit conferred on the country. If the *Choya Shimbun* doubts this, we recommend it to compare the Yokohama of to-day with the Yokohama of twenty-five years ago.

Of a different character is the contention that the privileges of trade and travel in the interior ought not to have been sought or granted unless they were accompanied by some provision for the efficient control of foreigners outside the settlements. If the Treaty confers any such privileges under a system of extraterritorial jurisdiction similar to that now existing in Japan, it will be impossible to deny that Korea has been induced to make a concession, the danger and inconvenience of which her inexperience alone hides from her. But we do not believe that the Treaty is framed absolutely in this sense. So far as can be judged from the skeleton of its provisions that has been published, the intention is that the municipal and police regulations, framed by mutual consent of the Korean and British Governments, shall apply to foreigners outside, as well as inside, the limits of the settlements. Unless this stipulation was intended as a mere farce, it must have been supplemented by some arrangement with regard to the machinery by which the regulations are to be enforced in the interior. What that arrangement is, we confess ourselves unable to divine. But, on the other hand, it is equally difficult to suppose that the British Representative, thoroughly conversant as he is with the inconvenience and wrong Koreans in the interior might suffer were justice against foreigners accessible in the settlements only, can have failed to make provision against these contingencies. The *Choya Shimbun*, however, does not wait to learn the facts. It is apparently in such haste to convict European Powers of selfishness and injustice, that it cannot pause to find out whether its accusations have any foundation.

THE DIARY OF HENDRICK HEUSKEN
(1856-1858).

(From the German of Dr. G. Wagener, in "Transactions of the German Asiatic Society of Japan" June, 1883).

(CONCLUDED).

After the audience the two strangers receive presents of silk garments and pieces of silk, and a little banquet is prepared in their residence. The 12th of December is settled upon for a conference with the president of the great Council. In the meantime Harris is visited by the commissary, and expressed a wish to obtain two plans of the city of Yedo. The Prince of Shinano informs him that the great Council has taken the subject into consideration, but has not yet come to a decision. Moreover, he informs

him that Herr von Siebold had managed to get two maps of Japan 20 years before: but the official who had been the means of his getting them had been crucified as the reward of his pains, and von Siebold was forbidden to remain in Japan.

As to the dwelling of the Ambassador, it was occupied by not only officers and soldiers from Shimoda, but also by officers from Yedo; and the spies, whom Harris had driven out of his residence in Shimoda, have settled down in his immediate vicinity. The officers often treat Mr. Heusken coolly or with indifference, but in private they beg his pardon, for they are compelled to act thus and avoid all familiarity, or these spies would immediately give information of any sign of friendship. Harris, who for a time had been indisposed, did not wish to upset things too soon, now complains bitterly to the Prince of Shinano about these unbidden guests, and demands the right of being master in his own house: the present state of affairs was an insult to the President of the United States, and if a change be not immediately made, he would consider himself a prisoner, he would not leave the house, and would not appear on the morrow (12th) at the conference with the President of the Council. The poor prince is in a sad predicament, and implores Harris almost abjectly, at all events to go to the conference, and these household affairs would be arranged to his satisfaction. With this understanding Harris yields, and on the 12th of December the Conference as held at the residence of the Prince of Bichiu, President of the Council, which Mr. Heusken looks upon as of greater importance than the audience with the Taikun. The American Plenipotentiary makes a somewhat lengthy address, in which he enlarged on the improvement of national intercourse by means of steamships and other products of modern progress, the advantage and the necessity for Japan to enter the comity of nations; at the same time he seeks to remove any possible religious suspicion which might be entertained by the Japanese. He emphasizes the fact that the times are gone by in which Spaniards and Portuguese united the thirst for gold and the desire for conquest with a forceful propaganda of the Christian faith, and that now freedom of conscience and tolerance were the fundamental principles of all nations. The Japanese Minister listens attentively without the slightest indication of displeasure, and after having asked if Mr. Harris had done, he thanks him for the information, but makes no further reply, simply asks Mr. Heusken if he didn't smoke. Tea and fruit are served, and in the course of the conversation the Japanese feel greatly flattered as Mr. Harris dwells on the prospect of the Japanese flag showing itself in American harbours as American whalers had shown their country's flag on the coast of Japan, for the Japanese were bold and excellent sailors.

So long as the date of a new conference and the commencement of negotiations for a new treaty are not fixed, the two strangers have rather a lonesome time of it, for Mr. Harris does not wish to see much of the city while the treaty is making so little progress. Fortunately they succeed in having pointed out to them an open elevated common from which they have a good view, and to which they can ride daily and enjoy some hours of exercise and change. A question as to whether they could see the Mint and the University, i.e., the Chinese School in Seido, brings the reply that a visit to the Mint was impossible, for the greatest princes of the realm had no admission there; he might visit the University, but there was there a statue of Confucius, which received from all Japanese, high and low, honours similar to those accorded the Taikun, for he was revered in the whole empire as divine, if not as god himself. Mr. Harris is therefore requested to observe towards this statue the same ceremonial as before the Taikun. This Mr. Harris declines to do, and gives up the visit.

January 16th, 1858.

On the 16th of January, 1858, a conference is held with the President of the Council, who informs Mr. Harris that the principle of the ap-

pointment of a resident minister is accepted, that greater freedom of commerce will be allowed, that in place of Shimoda another port will be opened, but no new ones. On the 18th of January the two plenipotentiaries, the princes Shinano and Higo presented themselves and received the outline of a treaty, whereupon on the 25th, the actual negotiations begin. The Japanese allow that a diplomatic agent may come to Japan, but he must reside between Kanagawa and Kawasaki and may come to Yedo whenever he has diplomatic business there. This is at once negated by Harris as an unworthy proposition.

New ports cannot be opened because the people still entertain prejudice against foreigners and public feeling must be respected. When the people are better acquainted with the strangers and become accustomed to their presence, the whole land will be gradually opened to them. Instead of Shimoda, Kanagawa shall be the open port. Diplomatic and consular agents may journey into the interior on official business, but not merchants; for in regard to the first the Government can undertake to protect them, but this would not do for everybody who wished to go into the interior. Such protection was necessary. Only a short time before three *ronin* had been arrested charged with evil designs against the American Plenipotentiary. Moreover, the Government was in great anxiety about the ambassador, and had to watch his house day and night. Harris expressed himself as having no fear, and that he looked upon the Japanese as a decent people; of course there were rascals everywhere; however, he was thankful to the Government for their care for him. Religious freedom is granted to foreigners. For dwellings and other buildings, certain places in the open ports shall be set apart for the Americans. As to commerce, they were to receive the same privileges as the Dutch and Russians, and for the purchase of Japanese wares they should be supplied with paper money for their coins, as had been stipulated with the above-mentioned countries in the Nagasaki treaties. When the Government should have had more experience with these treaty affairs they would remove disadvantages and make improvements. In the following conference, January 26th, the Japanese begin with the demand that the treaties should not come into force within three years. This question Mr. Harris at once dismisses with a reference to the fact that a treaty must first be settled before the time could be stipulated during which it would be in force. Finally they agree that a resident minister may be appointed to reside in Japan from July 4, 1859, but that the Government of the U.S. be informed that the Japanese Government do not wish to see him arrive inside of three years. As to travelling into the interior, it was agreed that the Ambassador and the Consul-General could travel at pleasure, but the consuls only on official business. Harris says he will think about that proposition, whereupon the Japanese tell him that he must not misunderstand the term "official business;" an official always travels on official business even when he seeks the fresh summer breezes for the preservation of his precious health. Mr. Harris now tries to convince the Japanese of the advantages of opening more ports, but does not succeed this time, nor at the next conference on the 28th of January. The Government wish first of all to gain more experience by means of these three ports already opened; moreover, they have to consider not only the interests of merchants whose only aim is to make money, but also the princes and warriors of the land, amongst whom very strong prejudice against foreigners still existed. The President of the Council had personally taken great pains to obtain the consent of the princes, but the half of them were absent from Yedo, and could be communicated with only by letter. As soon as the princes were convinced of the advantages of foreign intercourse they would themselves wish to open more ports. Harris eventually agrees to be satisfied with the opening of Nagasaki, in the island of Kiushiu, and instead of two ports on the west coast, only one, which provisionally was to be Niigata;

they decided that this port should be opened on the 1st of January, 1860, and Kanagawa on the 4th of July, 1859, Shimoda being closed six months later. As to the Capital, Kioto, the Japanese declare it is only a square *ri* in size, the books, Kaempfer even, have all been telling fables, there were only 20 silk factories there and the city was exceedingly poor. Harris remarks that as the Emperor and his Court were there, the city must be very rich, whereupon the Japanese begin to laugh and evince very little reverence for the spiritual head of the realm. Moreover, they declare that Kioto belonged entirely to the priests, and even the princes could do nothing there. As to Ozaka, that lay too near Kioto to be opened. Harris proposes that Yedo be opened in five years, Ozaka in three, reckoning from January, 1858, and after that they should talk of Kioto. In the next conference Mr. Harris asks that the three *ronin*, mentioned some time before, be set at liberty, and that the Government should make it known that it was done at his request, he expecting that it would have a good influence. This, however, is refused on the ground that the *ronin* have sinned against the Government more than against Harris, and, moreover, the whole thing had to be searched into. Then the treaty discussion goes on; the Japanese maintain that the concessions granted to the Dutch and the Russians are sufficient, but Harris protests. On the 30th of January they tell him that the Government have done their best to settle the question of open ports and have decided that Yedo shall be opened from January, 1863, for Americans to carry on commerce but they must live in Kanagawa. Harris remarks that the distance was too great for the merchants to come to Yedo and return in one day, and that direct trade with Yedo would be of the greatest importance on account of so many *daimio* living there, but they reply that the principal trade would not be in Yedo, but in Kanagawa, for large ocean vessels could not reach Yedo at all. He sees, however, that they are willing to go farther than in the Dutch and Russian treaties for they are willing that Americans shall buy and sell in Yedo as much as they like. The Prince of Higo adds that he hopes some day to make the voyage to America himself.

In the next two Conferences the Japanese are willing to allow Americans to have offices in certain parts of Yedo, and also to live there with their servants, etc., as long as their business required them. But their families must remain in Kanagawa, for Yedo should be opened only for trade and not for permanent residence. As the discussion on this subject threatens to give rise to all sorts of side issues, Harris passes over to the article which stipulated that Americans, under certain conditions, could travel into the interior. This is, however, declared point blank to be an utter impossibility; for there were still provinces in Japan in which Japanese themselves were not allowed to travel. That would of course right itself in time, but at present it was entirely out of the question to open the country even to Osaka or Kioto, for in these places there were many holy temples and the coming of strangers within those sacred precincts would certainly give rise to excitement and uproar. And besides, Osaka was not a good harbour at all. On the other hand, they were willing to open Sakai, where Spaniards had formerly lived and where a church had been built, or Hiogo, one of the best harbours in Japan. The Japanese now insist upon the statement that the President of the U.S. had charged Harris to make propositions in the interests of the Japanese only, the President, sought only the welfare of Japan, and now why should he, Mr. Harris, insist so strongly on points which could not but bring trouble upon the country. Political commotions were certainly not advantageous to a country. The land was opening itself, it had already made much progress in that direction, little by little all hindrances would vanish, but it could not be done in a moment. The President speaks of certain dangers which threaten Japan on the part of European nations if certain things are not done which are proposed in this treaty; but misfortune is mis-

fortune, and if it has to come it makes no difference from what quarter it comes whether from within or without. Travel in the interior could have no other object with merchants than to make money; and how could any one compare the importance of that aim with the certainty of throwing the whole land into a commotion.

Heusken cannot avoid declaring these utterances to be the most to the point of any yet brought forward and to acknowledge their justness. Even Harris admits that these speeches contain much that is true, "and that in many points he is of the same opinion," but tries to make it clear to the commissaries that he has been sent here not to help a certain number of people to earn so much money, but to draw Japan into the peaceful paths of national intercourse, that "Commerce is a source of power," as England and Holland plainly show, while Spain and Portugal had lost their former power because they had neglected trade; and that Japan with her favourable situation might well become the England of Asia. He winds up with the request that they should once more consider the question of travel into the interior, and indicates that the question of opening Yedo and Ozaka will give rise to no great difficulty. The commissaries promise to consider the subjects to which he referred: as to the question of travel in the interior it was quite useless to spend more time on it, for there could be no object in discussing the impossible. Upon Harris's remarking that he thought the Government of Japan was all powerful and could do what it liked, it was replied that that was certainly so, but only so long as old laws and customs were observed.

February 4th, 1858.

On the following morning the Prince of Shinano makes Harris a private visit, and begs him in the name of their mutual friendship, not to insist on the article referring to travel in the interior; for it was not a mere apprehension but a settled conviction on the part of the Government that it would cause a seditious uprising. Hereupon Harris yields the point, but insists on another concession in its place—the opening of Ozaka for the residence of Americans, who otherwise, according to the Japanese proposition, were to reside in Sakai and visit Ozaka only on business. But the Prince of Shinano thinks that will be a difficult point to grant.

The following conferences arrange several details regarding land concessions for foreign residence, as well as certain regulations for the export of copper, while the export of rice and other grain is prohibited. As to Ozaka, the Japanese offer to build a hotel between Ozaka and Sakai so that if an American should be taken sick in Ozaka—a case supposed by Mr. Harris—he would not need to return all the way to Sakai, and yet not remain in Ozaka. Mr. Harris expresses himself very sharply as to the absurdity of such treatment, and eventually they come to an arrangement by which the regulations for Yedo should also be applicable to Ozaka, that Yedo should be opened in 1862, and Ozaka and Sakai in 1863. The Japanese themselves now put into the article the words, "these places shall be open for settlement and for commerce," and Heusken thinks that without knowing what they did, they opened these places for everybody, although it had been previously stipulated that no one should remain in Yedo for any purpose other than for commerce. The ratification of the treaty is to take place in Washington, and for that purpose a Japanese Ambassador shall go to San Francisco in a steamer of his own nation, and betake himself thence to the Capital. As to the commercial regulations the commissioners declare that, as Mr. Harris assures them that they are proposed for the sole purpose of securing a revenue for Japan, and that they are prepared on the basis of the treaty between England and the United States, they accept them blindly.¹ Harris advises them to levy a tonnage and export tax,

¹ In the Diary the words are: "Aujourd'hui (Feb. 9, 1858) les commissaires disent que comme Mr. Harris leur assure que les régulations du commerce ont été proposées dans le seul but d'assurer le revenu du Japon, et qu'ils (elles) sont sur les bases de celui d'Amérique et d'Angleterre, ils acceptent aveuglément."

and proposes an import tariff, but that matter had to be regulated by other authorities than the two commissioners, viz., the Treasury department. Some discussion arises on the subject of the limits of foreign residence which the Japanese now wish to put at 2½ *ri* radius, while in the first treaty at Kanagawa they had allowed 7 *ri* for Shimoda and 5 *ri* for Hakodate.

The negotiations are now at a standstill for a few days on account of the Japanese New Year's festivities, and intercourse is limited to a number of private visits. On the morning of the 12th of February the interpreter Moriyama brings word that the commercial regulations will probably give no further trouble. So far as money matters go, said he, the *daimio* care nothing about money, and taxes and customs; we Japanese know nothing about commerce, and if you assure us upon your honour that these regulations are only for the benefit of Japan, we must only believe you; but as to the other important concessions of the treaty, that is where the danger lies with the *daimio*.*

During the afternoon the Prince of Shinano makes a visit, and begs Mr. Harris, as a friend, and particularly Mr. Heusken, who had ventured a walk in the streets on the second day of the festival, not to go out during the festival days. There was at that time a great crowd in the streets. The *daimio* went out with three and four times as large a body guard as usual, quarrels often occurred, if not between *samurai* at least between persons of lower rank in the retinue of the princes; and, moreover, at such times numbers of *ronins* were running riot. Everything was to be feared from these desperadoes; he himself had passed judgment on one of them who had committed eighteen murders; he tells of another who, while hanging on a cross with two spear thrusts in his body asked that they should wait a moment, thereupon he composed a poem, and only after the thirteenth spear-thrust yielded up his life. Generally speaking, he adds, whenever anyone becomes so bad a subject, it is the result of his having a bad wife.

February 14th is new year's day and Heusken describes the sights. The Prince of Higo brings some cabinets as presents.

February 17th, 1858.

On the 17th of February another conference is held, and now the Commissioners begin a speech which seems never to come to an end. They say that as soon as the opinions of the *daimio* have been received, the President of the Council will permit the opening of three ports, but no more; that in these negotiations much more has been assented to than the Prime Minister has told them; that the *daimio* have been called together in the castle to have the treaty laid before them and that there would be tremendous excitement. A great part of the princes will assent to nothing beyond the three ports, and the Government would have to expect a rebellion if they concluded the treaty. They do not intend on that account to withdraw their assent, and there were but a few unimportant points still to settle. But as the President of the United States had sent Harris here for the benefit of Japan, of course he could not wish to insist on anything that would cause a rebellion in the land. The Government would certainly fulfil every promise and at the stipulated times; but they would like to delay the signing of the treaty, in order to gain time to quiet the minds of the people. Just at the present moment the *daimio* would listen to nothing and declare, "Our life is nothing to us, but we will remain true to the ancient laws of our forefathers." In order to pacify them the Government would send a member of the Cabinet to Kioto to obtain the endorsement of the "Spiritual head of the realm," for which purpose 13 days of preparation, and 28 days for the journey there and back would be necessary besides the delay in Kioto. "And," asks Harris, "sup-

posing the Mikado refuses,—what if he makes objections?" The commissioners reply, "that the Government have no fear of objections on the part of the Mikado; but to make the treaty acceptable we wish to observe all possible formalities. In the meantime the Government will be able to open one hand of the *daimio* and the decree of the Mikado will open the other."

Harris explains to the commissioners that it was an unheard of thing in the history of diplomacy, to formulate a treaty and then not wish to sign it; if the Government wished to maintain what had once been decided upon, they might, so far as he was concerned, make the signing of the treaty a secret; but he could consent to no further delay; for the time being the question of signature might rest, but he demands the continuation of the negotiations. The Japanese now make all kinds of objections against entirely unimportant things in the treaty, evidently with the sole purpose of delaying the matter.

February 18th, 1858.

On the 18th of February Mr. Harris asks the Prince of Shinano to come to him, and declares that he can remain no longer in Yedo, that he will soon suffer a collapse; he has been living here all this time like a prisoner, has remained in seclusion for the purpose of avoiding any possible disturbance that might hinder the negotiations. But now he proposes to make the treaty ready for signature; the President of the Cabinet should then give him a written declaration that the treaty was arranged, but that for weighty reasons it could not be signed before the return of the messenger from Kioto, but this should be done at the latest inside of two months. He, Mr. Harris, would in the meantime, return to Shimoda, to be again brought to Yedo on the occasion of the signing of the treaty. The Prince of Shinano, after he had received these propositions, informed him that 30 of the 100 *daimio*, and 6 of the 18 greater princes were favourably inclined; the rest were at home and their opinion had not yet been received.

February 19th, 1858.

Harris's proposition is accepted, and everything is about to be finally settled. First of all the question of the right of consuls to travel in the interior. The Japanese object that, where 7 or 8 of the 18 great Lords live, whenever even a Japanese, of another province shows himself, he is at once executed. Amongst these were for instance the possessions of the Prince of Kaga the mightiest of all, and those of the Lord of Satsuma whose family had ruled there for 700 years. The Government itself never sent an official there excepting solely an *o'metsuke* on the occasion of the death of one prince and the accession of another to the hereditary throne. Just on this point, that the consuls should have the right to travel in the interior, the *daimio* were particularly enraged, and Japan was almost on the point of a rebellion. For the diplomatic agent and the Consul-General the thing was more easily done, because of their higher rank. Besides, as Mr. Harris urges, these could claim the right to travel as a matter of course, without any particular stipulation. The thing was eventually settled according to the views of the Japanese.

February 20th, 1858.

On this day M. (probably Moriyama the interpreter) relates to Mr. Heusken a variety of interesting things about Japan, amongst others the following:—When the Prince of Kaga first saw the outline of the treaty he was almost insane with wrath, and declared he would "rather strike at once than give his consent to such things." As long as the Taikun governed with sense the great princes obeyed; but under the present circumstances they say, "We are not your subjects, we are your friends." The proud Prince of Kaga alone has 10,000 officers besides his other subjects. The 300 smaller *daimio* are not so much to be feared in themselves, but in case of conflict they would join one or another of the great princes. Now there was a superstition in Japan that if there existed a serious doubt about any important question they should write two characters on two slips of

paper and "hand them up to the god (the Mikado)" to ask which to choose. The Mikado would open the papers and his decision would be final. Wherefore the Government has determined to send a member of the Cabinet to Kioto to obtain the consent of the Mikado. "But," asks Heusken, "what if the Mikado decides averse to the wishes of the government?"—Oh, the interpreter replied, we have various means: we give the Mikado's officers money. The present affair is costing the Taikun a great deal of money; he has decided that the treaty is for the benefit of Japan, and it is his wish that it should be signed. The Government have the greatest trouble to make the princes submit to their will. The Prince of Bichiu, President of the Cabinet is strenuously making every effort; if he or his colleagues undertake anything that is not proper or that does not succeed they have to disembowel themselves; and now should the treaty be signed, and a rebellion arise which would prevent their carrying it out, what then?

On the same day another conference is held, the worst of all. The Japanese begin again at the very first article of the treaty, and bring things in question to which they had long ago agreed or which they themselves had proposed, raising at times most comical objections. For instance, in the article which runs:—"The place in which Americans may build houses shall be designated by Japanese officials and the consular agents," etc., they object to be expression "The place." In Dutch that would mean "a place or any number of places;" for you say "(The) man is mortal" and that means that "all men are mortal." As Harris remarked to the commissioners that their interpreter did not understand Dutch, but Mr. Heusken was a born Hollander and would make no such blunder, the Prince of Shinano replies that he had as much right to have confidence in his interpreter Moriyama as Harris had to trust Mr. Heusken. There were other difficulties of a similar nature, so that the meeting was a rather unpleasant one.

On the 27th of February Mr. Harris took sick and on account of his illness, could not meet the Prince of Shinano on the 1st of March, so that Heusken was left to negotiate with him alone.

March 2nd, 1858.

On the 2nd of March, as the commissioners had promised, they agree to the treaty after a few unimportant changes had been made; two copies of it are prepared. The President of the Cabinet himself is to go to Kioto along with the Prince of Higo on the 6th of March. The draft of a letter is left for Mr. Harris, in which he is asked to desire his Government to communicate to the English and Russian Governments the fact of the conclusion of the treaty.

Harris is so sick that he desires the Government to have him sent at once to Shimoda in a steamer; he would sign the two copies prepared, Heusken should remain in Yedo until the remaining copies were finished and then follow him. The Prince of Shinano however declares that he cannot travel alone, and Heusken must go along with him, the two copies were sufficient for the time being and they had no objection to his signing them. The Japanese signature could, however, be added only when the consent of the Mikado had been obtained. In the evening Harris signs both copies, one of which he retains, the other he gives to the Prince of Shinano and in return is handed a letter of the great council in which the promise is made to sign the treaty within two months.

March 6th, 1858.

On the 6th of March the journey back to Shimoda begins. Harris is already very weak, and has scarcely arrived in Shimoda when he falls dangerously ill. The Japanese declare it to be brain fever of the most serious kind, and look upon the case as hopeless. Poor Heusken, whose diary during this time is scarcely legible, nurses him with loving fidelity, despair meanwhile rending his heart, but he gives ample testimony to the kindness of the Japanese, that from the governor, the Prince of Dewa, down to the lowest, they all evinced the

* "Moriyama ne pense pas qu'il y aura plus de difficultés sur les réglementations." "Pour l'argent dit-il, il n'y a pas de difficultés. Les *daimio* ne regardent pas l'argent, les taxes, et les douanes; ils ne disent rien de tout. Nous ne comprenons rien au commerce, et vous qui nous assurez sur votre honneur que les réglementations sont pour le bien du Japon, nous devons vous croire. Mais pour les grandes concessions du traité, voilà des choses où le danger est avec les *daimio*."

greatest sympathy and gave every assistance, and that his smallest wish was for them a command. The great council in Yedo sends a letter, and the Taikun a present to show their sympathy. Whenever such a present is brought from the Taikun, the bearers call out "*Shita nero*" the whole way, and all the people have to kneel as it passes. Eventually on the 13th of March the crisis comes, and thenceforward Harris convalesces so rapidly that on the 2nd of April he wishes to return to Yedo.

April 7th, 1858.

On the 7th of April, the Governor informs him that he had a letter from the great council in which his attention is called to the fact that they have done all that they could, had sent him three physicians to cure him, and these had declared that he ought not to travel before the 13th of May. Harris will not agree to this at all, as he aims at as early a signing of the treaty as possible, and so goes on board the steamer on the 15th of April. After various efforts to go forwards, a return to Shimoda, running into Uraga, etc., by which it becomes evident that the captain knows very little of his business, they land at Shinagawa, on the 18th April. Several days later Messrs. Donker Curtius, and Polsbreck arrive in Yedo, and while awaiting the return of the messenger from Kioto they pass the time in visits and trips to such places as Asakusa, Oji, etc.

May 18th, 1858.

On the 18th of May a conference is held, as the Prince of Higo has returned from Kioto with a message from Hotta, the Prince of Bichiu President of the Great Council, in which he gives the information that matters do not shape themselves very favourably. The princes were still averse, and in nine places they had found public placards threatening "We will slay Hotta." The Mikado had given no answer, as he was afraid to give his consent "on account of the gods" ("a cause des dieux" the last word is almost illegible). They were about to call all the princes together, and if they agree everything will be rapidly accomplished. Hotta was still in Kioto trying to bring the matter about. If he should not succeed he would return to Yedo to consult further with the Taikun and the Government. The Government was determined to sign the treaty; but under present circumstances it could not be done. As Harris tells them that this would have bad results for Japan, they reply that the Government are well aware of that, but if they should sign the treaty now, a rebellion was a certainty, and it made no difference whether the danger came from within or without. Two days later Harris sends a letter to Shimoda, for the commander of the first man-of-war that should arrive with the request that he should come at once with his ship to Kanagawa. This letter is communicated to the Japanese, they make no objection.

On the 1st of June, Hotta returns, and on the 5th communicates the fact that it has been impossible for him to arrange matters as they had hoped, so as to sign the treaty. The Government of the Taikun were, however, unmoved in their determination to sign the treaty, and it would not take much longer. On the 7th of June there is another conference with the commissioners, at which time they repeat what had already been said, that for fear of a revolution they are not yet able to sign the treaty, but they promise to do so within three months. Harris reproaches them for this continual delay, and asks what is to be done if the Mikado and the *daimio* persist in their opposition. Why then, he was told, they would use force, and carry out the treaty against their wishes. Thereupon Harris proposes that they should await the arrival of an American gunboat, or sign at once on the morrow but date the treaty three months later. As far as the princes were concerned, their solemn promise to sign was equivalent to their signature. The commissioners wished to lay these propositions before the Government.

At this point there is a lamentable break in the diary; it does not begin again until January 1861. It would also seem that during all this

time Heusken kept no diary, for the entries which furnish the above facts for 1858 end in the middle of one page and those for 1861 begin on the next. It is known that the treaty was signed before the end of the proposed three months,—on the 29th of July, 1858.

The subsequent entries relate nothing that is not already well known. It will be interesting, however, to note the entry regarding Hori-Oribe-no-Kami, whose suicide in many works on Japan is brought into juxtaposition with Heusken's behaviour towards him: the entry in Heusken's diary on the subject will be given literally.*

Outline of Diary from 1st to 8th of January, 1861.

On New Year's Day, 1861, Mr. Harris was in Kanagawa at the American Consul's; while there the great council informed him by special messenger that the Government had heard that 500 or 600 *ronin*, probably from Mito, had some designs against the foreigners on account of the rise in the price of provisions, and were about to set fire to Yokohama. The Government feared they would also attack the Legations in Yedo and the Consulate in Kanagawa; two Japanese steamers were ordered to lie at anchor close to Yokohama, and two princes had already sent off 500 or 600 troops to protect the foreigners in Yokohama. The Government, therefore, desired the Consuls in Kanagawa to betake themselves to Yokohama and the Ministers in Yedo to retire into a house within the castle walls. Mr. Harris was the first to receive these communications, and they were anxious to have his opinion. He thought the matter was not at all so serious, but sent Mr. Heusken to Yedo to inform the other Ministers. In the evening the Prussian Embassy, where Heusken was stopping received the same official communication.

On the 3rd of January, a conference is held in which the treaty with Prussia is concluded. Then the diary contains the words:—"Hori-Oribe-no-Kami died on the 31st of December. Report says that he committed *harakiri*, but this the Government denies."†

On the 7th of January the Daimio of Bungo comes and announces that matters are much better: the Government had discovered a conspiracy of 600 people, and had arrested several; to arrest all would create too great an excitement. He wishes for safety to put a few more officials into Mr. Harris's house, but the latter will not consent. On this occasion Mr. Harris demands also that all the *Takunin* in his house should treat him with ordinary politeness. As to political affairs, the Prince remarks that the report that the Lord of Satsuma would not come any more to Yedo was false; he had been already on the way, but was taken sick and had to return; next year it was not his turn, but he would come the following year. And the other report that various *daimio* had refused to send any more rice of Yedo was also false; any way the rice was not sent direct, but through the hands of Ozaka merchants. A rich merchant who had bought and held a quantity of rice in order to raise the price, had been arrested and banished, and his property confiscated. "Whenever the Government is in need of money they make a kind of forced loan; the merchants are not forced directly to produce their money, but they are in constant dread that the officials will come sooner or later. Each one gives according to his means; this is called *gohio-kin*. Six years ago the above merchant had paid 6,000 *ko-ban* as *gohio-kin*."

On the 8th of January an unimportant change is made in the Prussian treaty, and Heusken translates a letter in which Count Eulenberg asks, for the last time, to be received in audience by the Taikun.

Here ends the diary. On the 14th of January Heusken was wounded in the evening, and expired the same night.

* See also Adams, History of Japan Vol. I., p. 129, and the perhaps more correct version in "The Prussian Expedition to East Asia," Vol. II., pp. 139 and 159.

† "Hori-Oribe-no-Kami est mort le 31 Decembre, Le bruit cours qu'il s'est coupé le ventre, quoique le Gouvernement le nie." That is all that Heusken has to say on the subject.

STRONG VERSUS WEAK NATIONS.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

The most cunning of men would, at the first impulse, hesitate about cheating a simple-hearted rustic and thereby getting him into trouble. A ruffian, however wicked, would be ashamed to intimidate a helpless child, and for some selfish object avail himself of its weakness. If he plundered it, he would be punished. Human society, however, is a strange paradox. He who steals a cash is punished; while he who usurps a country is proclaimed King. We wonder when we shall see the last of the barbarism of the nineteenth century and have a world of reason. A man who steals another's purse in an unguarded moment we call a pickpocket. What then is the trained diplomatist who, availing himself of the weakness of a nation, destroys its happiness and usurps its rights? He is called a smart statesman who beguiles a people and imperceptibly robs them of their property in the form of taxes. On the other hand, the world hates the man who robs another's purse and calls him swindler and so forth. The treatment the strong nations of Europe serve out to the weak nations of the Orient, betrays sentiments precisely parallel to the above. Is it not strange that such powers not only exult over their success, but loudly proclaim their achievements?

The treaty so speedily concluded between England and Korea at Söul by Sir Harry Parkes, the British Minister to China, confers—though it may produce unfortunate results for Korea—every benefit upon English residents. Article 4 of the treaty provides for the opening of Inhhön, Wönsan, Yanghwachin, and Pusan to British trade. If the latter two places are found unsuitable, other places are to be substituted for them. The Article further says that at each of the places named, British subjects many rent or purchase land or houses, and may erect dwellings, warehouses, and factories. The sites for the foreign Settlements are to be selected and laid out by the Korean Government, in conjunction with the competent Foreign Authorities, and will be managed by a Council, the constitution of which will be determined in the same way. British subjects will have full liberty to travel and trade in the interior of the country, and will be amenable, in the Settlements or elsewhere, to such Municipal, Police, and other Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries.

This is a parallel to the case of the sharper and rustic, or the ruffian and the child. The above provision may be classified into two parts, viz., (1) the opening of ports; and (2) trading and travelling in the interior. Provision is made for the substitution of suitable places in case Pusan and Yang-whachin are found inconvenient. But what does this "substitution" mean in the face of Article 10 in the English treaty which says that whatever right, privilege, or favour the Korean Government has actually granted or may hereafter grant to the Government or subjects of any other State shall be equally extended to the Government or subjects of England? Pusan and Yangwhachin are the ports opened to the Treaty Powers, and the English have an equal right to trade there, no matter whether the ports are suitable or otherwise for British trade. They will, however, secure two other ports on the strength of the word "substitution." That being the case, although nominally five ports were opened for British trade, in fact seven ports are to be opened. Is this to be accounted for by the fact that the Korean officers, being ignorant, were entrapped by the experienced English diplomatist? There is another point still more glaring than this. Article 3 of the Treaty in question says that all cases, civil or criminal, brought against British subjects in Korea, either by the Korean Government or its subjects, or by other foreign subjects, shall be under the exclusive jurisdiction of the British Authorities, and any complaints involving a penalty or confiscation, for breach of the Treaty or the

Regulations annexed thereto shall be decided by the same Authorities. While thus exterritoriality is fully guaranteed, English subjects have the right to travel and trade in the interior—a condition which can be properly stipulated for only between nations on an equal footing. The only means by which a weak nation can ultimately claim the abolition of extra-territoriality, is to adjust her domestic administration so as to prevent the mixed residence of foreigners and natives. But the Korean Government has granted tradal and travelling rights in the interior, while the extraterritorial system still exists. How could the Koreans be so devoid of forethought? Some may say that English merchants can travel in the interior for commercial purposes, but cannot reside there: otherwise there would be no necessity for establishing settlements, the sites of which are to be laid out by the Korean authorities in conjunction with the British. Indeed, it is inconsistent that, while settlements are selected, British subjects should reside and trade in the interior. But the Korean officials will be unable to advance anything in the form of an argument, and the English will freely invent any plea to counteract the opinion of the Korean authorities. Since the Treaty grants full travelling and tradal privileges in the interior, the result will be the same as if mixed residence was allowed, and as the affairs of the foreign concessions are to be conducted by a Council composed of British and Korean officers, everything will be decided according to the will of the stronger party. Moreover, as the cases between Koreans and British subjects are to be decided by the latter's authorities, the people living in the interior will doubtless experience frequent and serious inconvenience. Englishmen, shielded by extra-territoriality, will be guilty of all sorts of arbitrary proceedings, and Koreans will have no power to protect their country from being overrun by them. This being the case, there is no telling what troubles may befall Korea in the future. The harrassing by foreign powers of all the countries of the Far East having near relations with Japan must prejudicially affect this country, yet there are writers who claim that as Japan comes under the most favored nation clause, she can obtain whatever privileges are extended to other powers. They therefore praise Sir Harry Parkes, saying that we shall benefit by his gift. Supposing England conquers Korea, we should occupy half of it, according to these writers, without sacrificing a single soldier. Do the logicians take delight at the prospect of such an occurrence? Korea's calamity does not end with her people: it strongly bears upon the whole Orient.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The Twenty-fifth observance of the Week of Prayer at Yokohama commenced very auspiciously Monday at 5 p.m. at the Seamen's Mission Rooms, No. 86, Settlement. There was an attendance of seventy persons, composed of ladies, several of our oldest residents, and many new faces not accustomed to be seen at these annual gatherings. The subject for the day was Praise and Thanksgiving the importance of which was illustrated from scripture and by happy remarks of the leader Rev. H. Loomis. Hymns and prayers and remarks followed each other in rapid succession, and all felt it was a most intensely interesting and profitable hour. An invitation was extended to recent converts and inquirers to meet later in the evening at the same place for special services for their instruction and up-building in their faith. The meeting for to-day is to be led by A. J. Wilkin, Esq., the subject being "Confession and prayer for cleansing and renewal."

Of national sins,—intemperance; desecration of the Lord's day; increase of love of pleasure; widespread impurity; misuse of property; imperfect acknowledgment of God's hand under any recent chastisement; indifference to God's Word; open antagonism to things holy. Of personal sins,—

unfaithfulness to God's calls; defects in patience, in mutual love, Christian activity and zeal in God's service, in consideration for the needy, the ignorant, the lost. Prayer that God the Holy Ghost may convince men everywhere of sin; entreaties for pardon, renewal, full surrender to God, whole-hearted obedience and devotion to God's service.

The native meeting, with the same subject as the foreign meeting, was held at the American Methodist Church on the Bluff, 150 to 200 persons being present. The subjects for thanksgiving were many and were responded to with the warmth of devotion. The meeting for this evening is at *Sumi Yoshi Cho Kaido* 7 p.m.

Several items of interest to the general public were brought to light in both the native and foreign meetings as regards the circulation and reading of the scriptures. The entire circulation of portions of the New Testament was estimated at 50,000 copies of Gospels, Epistles, or entire New Testaments; while the amount received for sales in the first half of 1883 exceeded the entire amount received in 1882. The Daily Bible Reading Union, in Japanese, but recently started by a young lady in Tokio, not associated with Missionary labors had 800 to 1,000 readers. A fervent address was made by a Native Pastor showing the need of the 5,000 Protestant Christians being not only Bible students, but practically exhibiting its truths in their lives, if they were to expound the truths of the scriptures to the 50,000 persons who had become possessed of the scriptures. Very hearty prayers were offered for the Rulers and leaders of thought in Japan that they might become enlightened by the teachings of the Word of God.

SECOND DAY.

The meeting of last evening at the Seamen's Mission Rooms, No. 86, like the former one, was well attended. The meeting was most acceptably led by A. J. Wilkin, Esq., who selected and read most impressively the 59th chapter of Isaiah. His address on introducing the topic of the evening viz., Confession and prayer for cleansing and renewal, was as follows:—

We have suggested to us, in our subject for this evening, the outlines of a dark picture. What a fearful catalogue of sin or shortcoming is placed before us. And where shall we look for the reality of this picture,—where for the practice and exhibition of this great evil? Is it something past, in the far distance of time,—or is it so recent that it is not yet well known? Is it down in the depths of hell, or is it, at least, only in the dark places of the earth? Alas, it is from the beginning, and still is; it is around us on every hand, it is within us. What is evil, how came it among men, why came it? These are questions over which earnest hearts, appalled with the facts and verities around them, have pondered, and pondered in vain, only to seek refuge from the dark problem in unbelief. And there is no refuge from such distracting considerations, except at Calvary. To those who bow in humility before the cross alone can come a sense of rest from them. We are invited this evening for a short space to turn our thoughts to this subject, and lament for ourselves and for others the sinfulness which meets us. What is Sin? It is rebellion against the Most High, Jehovah,—the most merciful Father. It says to Him, we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What are its effects? It has brought discord into the harmonies of Paradise, it is the parent of misery, it issues in eternal death. It has made man prefer evil to good, it has placed him under the tyrannical dominion of the flesh, it has brought him into bondage to hateful passions. It has alienated him from all that is pure, holy, and peaceful;—it is the destroyer of happiness, it fosters all that is vile. It blinds the eyes and perverts the senses, and the degradation and misery it produces now are but an earnest of the eternal rain which follows. Recall to yourself the loathsomeness of disease which makes havoc with

the freshness and openness of a youthful face, or the havoc and ruin of a conquered country, once smiling and peaceful, now given up to pillage. Such is but a poor picture of the defilement wrought by sin in the soul. And where do we find this terrible power? Let us go to some barbarous land, to the centre of dark Africa, and there amid the habitations of cruelty, amid the groanings of the oppressed, the shrieks of the slave, we see its bitter fruits in hate, murder, uncleanness, and falsehood. Pass we on to a less benighted country. Shall we look around here, amidst smiling valleys and an apparently contended and peaceful people? But it is a land of false gods, under whose shadow corruption flourishes and bears down what is good. Still on, then, to a nominally Christian country, or, higher still, to our own home lands. A fairer sight meets us here: the precepts of the Gospel are acknowledged, the banner of the cross floats over our cities, the day of God is honored. But yet, if we draw aside the veil, still what corruption. How many still openly scorn the Most High, and what formality under the profession of God's service, what worldliness and half heartedness among the seeming Christians, what selfishness and pride among the rich, and restlessness amongst the poor, and Oh what streams of licentiousness, drunkenness, impurity, everywhere beneath the surface—Sodom disputing the ground with Zion. Sin and the Devil holding reign in the very outskirts of the Temple Court. And yet there is more to be known. Shall we look into our own hearts with the prayer, "Search me, O God," and with the light of his Holy Spirit on its hidden chambers? Who will not say with one of old—behold I am vile. Yet, God forbid that we should not know ourselves, that we should be blind, for they that are who have no need of that Physician without whom we die. And what a retrospect it would be could all our unfaithfulness of the past year be shown to us: if all our sins of indulgence, of ease, of temper, of pride, of selfishness, of half-hearted worship, of self-righteousness, of grieving of the Holy Spirit, of worldliness, of impurity in our holy things—what a revelation this would be, if it were all brought before us. Is it too much to say that none of us could bear a full and complete and sudden revelation of the plague of his own heart? "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" To night we stand for a moment looking up to the beetling cliff of Sinai. Around us is the hoarse roar of the seething ocean of Sin—wars, murder, slavery, adultery, uncleanness, drunkenness, sensuality, strife, discord, envy, hate, wrath, falsehood, hypocrisy, worldiness, the pleasure-loving, the God forgetting, the sabbathless, idolatry, heresy, false-worship, polluted worship, half-hearted worship—this ocean of Sin is surging out its defiance to the thunders of the mount. But a still small voice sounds from Bethlehem,—it is heard above the roar from this hell of evil—"Thou shalt call his name *Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins.*" The reign of righteousness and peace moves onward, and a light from Calvary is streaming athwart the darkness of the world. The stone is rolled away from the sepulchre, and the jubiliant anthem "Christ is risen! Sin shall no more have dominion over you," revives our fainting souls, and the terrors of Sinai pass away. Oh, come Lord Jesus, take to thyself thy great power and reign, take us individually and consecrate us to thee: take thy church and baptize it with a new outpouring of thy spirit; take the heathen for thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

This very earnest address, and graphic description of the terrific evils and exceeding sinfulness of sin, coming from one of the oldest and most esteemed of our Yokohama merchants, made a deep impression on the minds of all present, if we may judge from the spirit of the prayers, remarks, and hymns that followed.

The subject for this 5 p.m. meeting was an-

nounced to be prayer for the families and instructors of youth—meeting to be led by Rev. S. S. Booth, principal of the Ferris Seminary for Japanese Young Ladies at this place. The native meeting was crowded at the Sumiyoshi-cho Church and very interesting remarks were made regarding the low state of morals in Japan, and the universally felt need of a true religion of purity to ennoble the hearts and lives of all classes of the people. The spread of infidelity was lamented, and the only adequate remedy for all these evils was asserted to be the power of Divine truth in the hearts and lives of Christians filled by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Meeting for to-night was announced to be held at 7 p.m. at the Union Church. The lack of attendance of Europeans, notwithstanding the enthusiasm of the native congregations, is very noticeable at all these meetings, but two persons being present last evening.

THIRD DAY.

The meetings, foreign and native, were in no wise less interesting than those of the preceding days, but owing to its being mail-day, and a cold wind blowing at night, the attendance was somewhat less at each meeting. The subject was one that must have come home to every man's heart, namely, prayer for families and instructors of youth. And those present, not parents or youths, could not but feel the deepest interest in what brought tears to many an anxious parent's eyes, while the plea for orphans and uncared for children brought all nearer to the great loving heart of God—the Father of all. The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan was announced to take place 2.30 p.m. to-day at the Union Church, Tsukiji, at which time addresses would be made by the Rev. Hugh Waddell, by Dr. Knott, and by Rev. A. A. Bennett. The subject for to-day's Meeting is Prayer for the Church of Christ,—the meeting to be led by Dr. W. Gulick. The Native Meeting is to be held at the *Ten-Au-do* Church of the Methodist Mission, 223, Bluff.

FOURTH DAY.

The Meeting at the Seamen's Mission Rooms was well attended, and the services were of a very spiritual character, the subject being Prayer for the Church of Christ. The services were participated in by several ladies, a large number of whom were present. The Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance took place as announced yesterday 2.30 p.m. in the Union Church, Tokio. The services were of an interesting and highly edifying character, a full report of which will be given to-morrow. The Native Meeting at *Ten-au-do*, on the Bluff, was well attended, and very earnest and solemn were the prayers offered for the outpouring of the spirit of God on all hearts in Japan, particularly upon all the preachers and Christian brothers, and upon all assembled at that hour in that place. While the whole congregation was bowed in prayer a very severe shock of earthquake was felt, but not a sound or sign of fear escaped from a single child or person, while the leader of prayer passed on in his entreaties for spiritual blessings. This circumstance suggesting that recorded instance of the whole house being shaken where the disciples were assembled praying and encouraged some to express their thanks to God, and to believe that their prayers were heard, and that they might look to being filled with the Holy Ghost as were the first disciples. The subject for to-day's meeting is "Intercession for the Nations." For National Rulers and all in authority; for the enactment of just laws and the removal of such as are favourable to vice, cruelty and ungodliness; for the prevention of war, and for deliverance from the plots of wicked men; for the cultivation of mutual respect, forbearance, and goodwill; that the spirit of infidelity and lawlessness may be subdued; for the spread of wholesome

literature and the counteraction of immoral propaganda; that the opium traffic may be abolished; for a continued blessing on the efforts made to promote temperance and social purity, and for the devout observance of the Lord's Day. The meeting is to be led by the Rev. W. G. Davisson, the pastor of the Union Church. The Japanese meeting was announced to be held at Sumiyoshi-Cho at 7 p.m.

FIFTH DAY.

The meetings for prayer and intercession for the nations held yesterday p.m. and evening, were among the most interesting of the meetings held at this place during this Week of Prayer. Many encouraging facts were mentioned of the benefits received from prayers for Rulers, and very special petitions were offered for the enlightenment by Divine truth of H.M. the Emperor of Japan and all associated with him in Government. Much interest was expressed and shown both by remarks and in prayers for the prevention of war, and for the removal of the twin evils of the opium and liquor traffic. At the native meeting, nearly all present pledged themselves to total abstinence, and to seek to discourage the sale and use of intoxicating drinks. This was itself an unlooked for answer to the petition "to promote temperance" offered that day throughout the whole world. The remarks of native speakers on this subject were very earnest; one man, a saké dealer, made confession of his intemperate habits, and pledged himself against continuance of its use or further dealings in the article.

The subject for the sixth and last day of the week are as follows:—Prayer for Missions at home and abroad. That the Lord of the Harvest may send forth more labourers into his harvest field endued with power from on high; that those who are sent may be preserved from danger, may be given boldness to proclaim Christ's gospel among Nominal Christians, Mohammedans, and the Heathen; that many souls may be won to Christ from among God's ancient people Israel; that the various missionary agencies may be under the manifest guidance of the Holy Spirit; that Christians in general may have a deeper sense of the obligations to make known the gospel to all people; that young converts may be established and built up in the faith of Christ, and that an earnest and intelligent native ministry may be raised up throughout the mission field. That the blessing of God may abundantly rest upon the Conference of Christians of various nations (postponed from last year) to be held, D.V., in September next in Stockholm.

The foreign meeting will be led by Rev. T. P. Poate. The native meeting will be held at the Union Church, 7 p.m. The Sermon on Sunday, 11 a.m., at Union Church, will be preached by the Rev. F. C. Klein, of the Protestant Methodist Mission of America. The Meeting for Prayer, at 212, Bluff, Mission Home, Sunday, 8 p.m., will be led by Rev. C. E. Garst.

MEETING OF THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

Among the addresses delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, Union Church, Tokio, on the 10th instant, was the following, by Dr. C. G. Knott, of the Tokio Imperial University. Reports of proceedings, and abstract of addresses are reserved for future publication:—

Since the day that Cæsar divided all Gaul into three parts, three-fold sharing of things to be said or done has been much in vogue. Mr. Gladstone, a statesman of whom his country, of whom the world, is not worthy, is constantly displaying his "three courses open." The daily newspaper chronicles the on-go of humanity under the headings of Births, Marriages, and Deaths. Comte and his self-proud followers are prating eternally

of their three stages—mythological, theological, and scientific. How often are pulpit orations unified by Firstly, Secondly, Thirdly! In many concerns of life from the loftiest to the humblest, there is a three-corneredness that to some superstitious minds is a sacred emblem of the lucky. "The three-fold cord is not easily broken," says an old old-world philosopher. The triple mitre is full five hundred years old; and the power it symbolises has outlived many dynasties. We have the Christian graces—Faith, Hope, Love. We have the great temptations the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. And long ago ecclesiastical man, with a sense of the incompleteness of the two-fold conditions of futurity, invented Purgatory. Now, whence this love for the Three? For remember man is himself bi-lateral—his various organs for the most part are in pairs. The true social unit is a dual—man and wife. In these days when popular fancies and traditions are traced back to solar or cosmical myths—we might find the three-fold origin in the Sun, Moon, and Stars. Or we might imagine ourselves carried back to the dim shadowy times of prehistoric man, and there regard our human savage discovering the number *three* as distinct from *many*. One and Two he had early recognised—one in his own individuality, two in the contrast between himself and the rest of existence, between the Ego and the Non-ego, as the philosopher of these days calls them, and thinks he has thereby solved a great problem. How this intellectual giant must have rejoiced in his Three and scorned his less brilliant associates who could not attain unto it. In this naming of the Three—for after all an idea must be named before it can be used—lies the germ from which has sprung all progress. Which ever explanation be adopted, we cannot gainsay the fact that man is a Three-worshipper. The past, the present, and the future form a similar triplet; and yet in strictness the present is infinitely small compared to the two infinities between which it is squeezed. It reminds one of the so-called meat sandwiches which one occasionally picks up at wayside railway stations. The present is like the shadow border that separates the daylight of the Past from the darkness of the Future. It is the wave on the ocean of time, on whose crest we are borne, whether we will or no. Hence it is difficult to judge of the facts of the present. As we gaze at them they dwindle away rapidly in the perspective of the past. We may fix some of them by a kind of instantaneous mental photography; but even then we fail to see them on all sides. And a one-sided view frequently leads to bitter strife and wrangling, as the old fable of the knights and the golden-silver shield well shows. And then again we must distinguish between the facts of the present, and what we deem to be the facts of the present. We are all partial judges. Our past is a huge factor in our view of the present. In the pride of our hope when we lived in the past then we pictured the now. But when the now comes it does not quite square with our former dreamings. So, not wishing to seem to ourselves so foolish as we are, we form a picture of the present which is a half fact, half fancy. When we are young our imaginings are bright; fact is nigh lost 'neath the glitter of fancy; we misjudge. When we are old, the big past furnishes more straws to form withal our fancy burnishes; we build us a castle of dreams; we misjudge, too. So it ever has been; so probably it ever shall be. I come from a country famed for the power of its Puritanism. Beneath grey skies, beside rugged mountains, it grew in stern rigour—a Calvinistic plant, scarce warmed by the fiful sunshine. But now it is dying—or rather perhaps it is growing to grander life. The iron and brass bound stump is shooting forth broad spreading boughs to catch the heaven's dew. Its rootlets are drawing nourishment from new and strange soils. Over the spirit of Scotland's theological dreaming a change is creeping, whether for weal or

woe who dare say? The old sigh, as they witness the thawing of the icy foundation on which they built some of their most cherished beliefs. They sigh, and tell of the golden days of their youth. The young rejoice in the shiftings and siftings, and eagerly look for the more definite future. Where the old see but earthquakes of destruction, the young think they see vaster and firmer continents forming. The dreams of the past and the facts of the present are at variance. Adjustment and compromise are alike impossible between them; and where compromise is not, there must be war. And in this struggle as in all struggles the fitter must survive. Might is right, after all; and the baseless fabric of the vision of the past must dissolve. Ceaseless change is the order of things. We hear it in the wind-wail, in the ocean-moan, in the thunder-roll; we read it in the short-lived writ of the lightning flash and the meteor flare. Change, change, change—'tis the cry of nature; and evil be to him who evil thinks of it. What sings the sweet-voiced poet of our Victorian era:—

Are God and Nature then at strife
That Nature lends such evil dreams?
So careful of the type she seems,
So careless of the single life;
"So careful of the type?" but no,
From scarified cliff and quarried stone
She cries, "A thousand types are gone;
I care for nothing, all shall go."

And yet amidst all this change, amidst all this ceaseless see-saw of things that are, amidst all this complex of shivering lights and shades, there are eternal verities which shall live—like to the steady, starlight that outlasts the crimson quiverings of the northern lights! There are truths that cannot die. But who can name them? Within half a century many of the old-seeming verities have vanished with the old world politeness. New seeming verities and new world veneering have taken their place. The youth does not now, if ever he did, sit calmly at the feet of the older in years and learn of him. He is imbued with the proud spirit which Job discovered in his comforters: "No doubt but we are the people, and wisdom shall die with us." Probably the same spirit was abroad in the young days of our fathers, though perhaps not so rampant. But in these days there is another spirit moulding life, and thought, and manners; a spirit which is not new, but was in olden times the possession of the few. It is essentially the spirit of progress, the spirit that believes in infinite improvements that knows no Best, the spirit that will have no guide but fact, the spirit that forms theories to explain facts and does not evolve facts to suit theories. It not only sounds the well of truth, but dredges it to find the hidden treasures. It is the spirit of true curiosity; it is the Scientific Spirit of the Age. Methinks the positivists had done better to have taken this real existence as their God instead of their ideal Humanity. No doubt they lay claim to it, as they lay claim to every obvious practical good. It is a pity they were not more possessed by it, and correspondingly less possessed by the demon of self-opinionativeness. This insatiable spirit of enquiry which so characterises our nineteenth century and tinges its whole thought, is the real foe which the conservative, the dreamer, has to fear. In politics, in commerce, in literature, in theology, in science, in philosophy, in everything that goes to make our modern civilization, this spirit of criticism and reform is working. Within a generation the aspect of things has been completely changed. The thoughts and problems that stirred the youthful blood of our grandfathers are silently shelved, and the thoughts and problems of to-day are all in all. We read Chalmers' Astronomical Discourses and the Bridgewater Treatises, and wonder what they would have said in these days when evolution has taken everything by storm. Evolution! The wrath of the righteous against this word has always seemed strange to me, especially as there is no more striking instance of it than is given in the growth of Judaism up to the advent of Christianity. The idea of evolution is no new one. We have it in Buddhism in a certain form. The special glory of our era lies in the fact

that it formed a name for itself and so made it common property. We now see its influences every where. It has given a new meaning to History, it has unified science. It has struck a death blow at system, at the dreams of the past. Perhaps, after all, it is little wonder that the dreamers have been roused to antagonism. As the stage coach to the locomotive, so their advance to the world's progress. Their stiff mental armour hinders; they lag behind and cannot see the new beauties. They understand not the language of those who do; for their mental vision is filled with the images of their dreams. And it has been always so. In the darker days of human history the dreamers of the past had at times very much their own way. They stayed the words and deeds of any who dared to picture things that concurred not with their dreamings. So Elijah had to flee for his life; so Galileo, had to swear away his faith; so the noble army of martyrs suffered at the hands of the conservative ecclesiastics. In these days, fortunately, an enlightened humanity has abolished atrocity. But the spirit of antagonism to everything new, because it is new, still lingers. There are still social friction-brakes in the world; and they are our dreamers of the past. But we also dream—dream concerning the future. And twenty years hence we may be in our turn acting the part of friction-brakes. Not necessarily so, however. If we are imbued with this great scientific spirit, which by searching all things holds fast that which is true, we shall be able ever to help on the truth. In these days not one lone potentate asks, what is Truth? The whole of thinking humanity echoes the cry, and what is more to the purpose desires an answer—aye, demands an answer. In whatever walk of life he is, the earnest man is ever urging to the greater light. And shall he not strive to smooth the way for those who follow, or aid his near companions in their gropings. So doing in singleness of heart, he will make things evolve more easily and more quickly. Yet while recognising the greatness of man's intellect and his power in making for progress we should consider his limitations. To give an idea a name does not explain the idea. Evolution is the name of an idea, of a fact; but we know not the Why and Wherefore. If by enquiry we can learn a little of the How, we must rest content. A good old professor in one of our Scottish theological schools is fond of saying "Conserve the mystery." No, it is incompatible quite with the scientific spirit to conserve any mystery. Its object is to explain the mysterious, to reduce one by one the mysteries of existence to the one great mystery—the existence itself to probe down to the heart of things, even though it should kill them. The scientific spirit is no respecter of whims, as it is no respecter of persons. At the same time to scorn the mystery is no true function of the scientific spirit. Many self-styled scientists do so jeer at the mysterious; but thus do they show a vainglorious spirit, a spirit of dogmatism and self-centered narrowness. We may know the whole course of evolution from the far spreading nebulae, to the systems of fiery stars and peopled planets; we may know how the mountains arose, and whence the meteors come in their airy flash; we may know the mechanism by which the daisy lifts its opening face to the kindly sun-light warmth; we may be able to tell why this minute seedling develops into an oak and that into a butter-cup; we may be able to account for the first variation that gave development its start; we may know exactly the chemical process that accompanies a thought or a word; still we shall be unable to pierce below it all to the mystery of Being. Evolution requires a start, and it can never explain the beginnings of things. Whatever we do know, or whatever we may know, let us take heed that we read not the facts of the present in the light of the dreams of the past, or imagine our dreams of the present to form of necessity the facts of the future. If we do so dream away our day, we shall have a rude awakening some day; and, like Samson, shorn

of his locks, find our power vanished. Do we wish to influence the time, in which we live? Then must we be filled with the spirit of the times; and in moulding events we must to a certain extent humour them. In making history we should use no dynamite. No doubt but we do dream; will dream; but let not our life be all dream. To work while it is day with a strong faith in the evolution of the Divine purpose in this our little world is what is required of us.

Oh yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill,
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt and taints of blood;
That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroyed
Or cast as rubbish to the void
When God hath made the pile complete;
That not a worm is cloven in vain;
That not a moth with vain desire
Is shrivelled in the guileless fire,
Or but subserves another's gain.
Behold we know not anything;
I can but trust that good shall fall
At last—far off—at last to all,
And every winter change to spring.
So runs my dream; but what am I?
An infant crying in the night,
An infant crying for the light;
And with no language, but a cry.

UME.

AN INCIDENT OF THE GREAT FIRE AT TŌKIYŌ.

CHAPTER I.

"My son! he who would aspire to be a guide, the spiritual teacher of men, one able to demonstrate the true from the false, and to point out that path which leads to eternal felicity, must himself resist, while fully appreciating the value of, the pleasures around him. He knows the worth of woman, for instance, as a helpmate to man, but many a moral he may wish to convey will be more effectual with his hearers if he himself is denied such a companion in life. Though too wise to attempt to deprecate the varied delights of an earthly existence, he knows, too, that the tendency of the carnal appetite in man is not to be governed by reason but by the limits of its own strength, and he will do well to render himself a living example of the doctrine he teaches, for in this way alone can he expect to influence his fellow-men. Is not the pure and gentle life of Bhudda the perfect pattern set for all to follow? Note this well, Kohei!"

So spake the old priest to his adopted son; the simple homily conveying a potent meaning, but bringing little comfort to the listener. Youth cannot be retrospective. Belonging to a sect that never married, Shimidzu, the priest, had adopted young Kohei, for the purpose of rearing him in his own faith, so that when advancing years should compel him to relinquish his task, the doctrines he had ever faithfully expounded would, through his disciple, be carried down to the children of another generation. There must have been signs of remissness in Kohei to have prompted such a serious discourse on the part of the old priest. If the truth must be told, there were. Kohei had dutifully followed the dictates of his preceptor during his younger days, but he was a rebel both in thought and action now; and this, too, in the form most objectionable to Shimidzu, because one of the vital tenets of his faith was imperilled by his son's conduct. The reason may be conceived. Kohei was in love! Nothing heinous in itself, but, under the circumstances, a very awkward fact for the priest to face. It was useless, however, for Shimidzu to preach; plainer language became necessary. So one day—a day, too late, perhaps—he called Kohei to him and said in tones such as the son had never before heard proceed from his adopted father's lips:—

"Yesterday, you went with Umé to *Dangozaka without my knowledge or consent, and this betrayal of the trust I have always reposed in you is unworthy of a son of mine. But you have gone beyond even that, and I ask whether you consider

* In the suburbs of Tōkiyō, famed for its brilliant displays of Chrysanthemums.

such conduct as the return I have a right to expect at your hands?"

Kohei made no response, but sat with his head bent forward. Shimidzu continued:—

"In taking charge of my dead brother's child to tend our simple household wants, you ought to have known how I wished her position to be regarded, and how any attempt on your part to imitate the laxity of some of our brethren in these changeable times would be looked upon by me. A priest should have other cares than those which are always attached to woman. You have asked Umé to be your wife. Is it possible that my labour of years can have led your thoughts to no other purpose than this?"

Kohei remained immovable, his head still respectfully bowed. There was no note of wrath in the priest's tones as he uttered his ultimatum:—

"Kohei! you will renounce any intention of this kind now and for ever if you wish to remain under my roof. To-morrow morning I shall expect and hope to see you at your orisons with this determination in your heart. Should you decide otherwise, let mine eyes no longer rest upon you."

The son bowed his head to the ground and remained for some time in that position, apparently absorbed in silent meditation. Shimidzu arose, and as if to find distraction from the thoughts that disturbed the even tenor of his daily life, proceeded to water the flowers and dwarfed trees ranged on a raised dais within the temple court-yard.

The lofty pines were casting weird and lengthened shadows before Kohei arose, prepared to take his departure from his well-beloved home; no token of trouble until this supreme one of Love, having yet crossed his path. He was going forth into the great city as he stood, and though he yearned for one last look at little Umé, he felt it would be a breach of the duty he still owed to his adopted father to take any undue advantage of that kind. It was undoubtedly under the plea of apostasy on the part of members of his own sect in the particular respect alluded to, that Kohei had followed the natural instincts of his youth and hoped to overcome the scruples of his preceptor. And when you come to think of it, Umé with her seventeen summers, her eyes of brightest lustre, her amiable disposition, and her household management, as demure and methodical as that of a matron of twice her years, even a saint—of the male persuasion, of course—might well have been turned from the study of revered rubrics and the contemplation of holy beads, into admiration, to say the least of it, of such a dainty womanhood. That is, however, only my opinion. But Shimidzu's decision was irrevocable, as Kohei was too well aware; and though Umé had pledged her troth to the excommunicated one, it was with a leaden heart that he passed under the massive, arched gateway, into the rush and turmoil of the vast city, without lifting his head or casting one lingering look behind.

CHAPTER II.

I believe the city of Tōkiyō—the fabulous Yeddo of our school-days—deserves a two-fold reputation, the one however, having no connection with the other. Tōkiyō is, I think, the safest city in the world; by which I mean, that any man, day or night, may traverse its immense length and breadth with almost absolute immunity from the hundred and one dangers that beset unwary wayfarers in great European or American centres. And when one recalls to mind the fact that the city contains over one million inhabitants, he will admit that this security of life and limb is remarkable and much to the credit of its peace-loving population. My only surprise is that I have not seen the fact sufficiently insisted on before. Tōkiyō also deserves the reputation of being, in a different sense, one of the most dangerous places under the sun, for its permanent residents. The fires which devastate it are of so periodical a character and of such extent that the average life of the city, say as it stands to-day, has been computed at the short period of

three years. It need scarcely be said that the primary cause of this excessive waste of wealth is the combustible nature of the buildings of which the city is composed; and yet it is marvellous to witness how Tōkiyō, phoenix-like, arises from its ashes after a calamity of this description.

At about eleven o'clock on the 29th of November, 1876, a bleak, cold and blustery night, the fire-bells in high every part of Tōkiyō gave forth their discordant notes of alarm. Few respectable citizens were then abroad, and those resident within districts distant from the outbreak, around Inari Bashi, Kiyō Bashi, and Tsukiji, for instance, who unwillingly turned out, to find the fire raging near Nihon Bashi, mostly turned in again with a feeling of relief that it was far from their own doors, and a sigh for the sufferers exposed to the inclemency of such a pitiless night. But their repose was of short duration. The wind increased in intensity and there was no cessation of the frenzied clanging of the bells. The sky became one lurid mass, and huge volumes of glowing sparks were driven along by the wind for miles—myriads dying out above the waters of the Bay of Yeddo. Folks who had gone to rest again had barely time to arise once more and remove their goods and chattels, every moment rendering this more difficult, owing to the rush of thousands of feet before the fury of the fiery fiend. The crash of falling timbers was terrific, followed by sheets of flame, which hissed and coiled like serpents of gigantic growth around all within their reach. Innumerable voices, harsh with excitement, joined in the uproar, families hurrying from the scene of the disaster and the fire-brigades hastening to it. And could there be a more moving and picturesque panorama—the lanterns carried by every one swaying aloft, their lights flickering and dancing in the murky, midnight air. See! just above the burning masses how the glare illuminates the figures of the men who play the hose upon the very buildings beneath them; how, for a moment, they are visible like spectres, the next, and for ought the multitude know, they may be engulfed within the glowing furnace below. All honour, then, to these brave intrepid soldiers of the fire-brigade!

So midnight passed—one o'clock, two o'clock struck, while the bitter, northerly gale continued, and the fire spread in every quarter but that from which the wind came. The main thoroughfare, leading through the central portion of the city, with its varied and valuable storehouses was entirely demolished, the work of destruction being only arrested on one side by the wide moat which surrounds the old Castle of the Shoguns; on another, by the Occidental character of the buildings; and on the other, the force of the storm was such that the fire swept over several of the canals that here intersect the city—until, at about six o'clock on the morning of the 30th of November, the conflagration exhausted itself in the Foreign Concession, close by the shores of the Bay of Yeddo. And in the dull light of that winter morning, only a few scorched and blackened *godowns*, scattered at irregular intervals, stood to indicate the labyrinth of streets where, a few hours before, much of the wealth of the Capital reposed, and where thousands of our fellow-men were absorbed in the happy oblivion of peaceful slumber.†

That it fared hardly with old Shimidzu, whose sacred abode was overtaken by the great fire, may have been surmised. But the temple was saved by heroic exertions. Its situation to the westward of Nihon Bashi was out of the direct line over which the fire passed with the greatest rapidity. Immediately, however, the danger to the structure became imminent a number of volunteers stood ready to protect it, but in spite of truly herculean labors, its fate was, ever and anon, a matter of the greatest uncertainty. The wood work, of which these temples are entirely composed, repeatedly caught fire, and the flames were only kept from enveloping the whole structure by the unremitting efforts of the brave fellows who were devoting themselves to the task.

Unnoticed amongst these was one who toiled as if possessed of exhaustless strength—foremost at every point of danger, never for a moment deserting his post even when the fire raged at its fiercest around him; he fought with Titans and was not vanquished. It was impossible, too, to recognise amid the infernal uproar to whose single-hearted courage and example, perhaps, the ultimate safety of the temple was due.

But there is a sudden, short cry of alarm from the crowd. A portion of the building falls. Upon it, a few seconds before stood, he of whom I speak.

† In this great fire an area of something like two and a half square miles was cleared by the flames, and on this ground had stood upwards of seventy streets, composed of over 8,000 houses. The number of persons of all ages rendered homeless was estimated at 50,000.

He has fallen with it. There is a rush towards the *débris*. Soon, from beneath a heavy beam an insensible form is removed and carried to that part of the temple now out of danger. Shimidzu hastens towards the scene and pushes his way through the dense throng of people. One glance at the rigid features of the victim, and a cry of pain escapes from the lips of the old priest. "Kohei! Kohei! my son, Kohei!"

CHAPTER III.

It is needless, as not being essential to our story, to relate the life led by Kohei after his expulsion from his adopted home. Suffice it to say that he found means elsewhere of continuing his studies, and if not happy, he was still contented with the knowledge that little Umé would remain faithful to him. Indeed, she was not likely to look for a lover of her own free will at any time, as we ought to know. Kohei, himself, honorably kept on his way, and the city was wide enough to hide all traces of his whereabouts had any one felt disposed to search for him. Thus time passed away until we come to the night of the 29th November. What more natural than that on the outbreak of the fire, Kohei should hasten to assist in protecting, if necessary, his old home. Certainly, a strong arm and stout heart were never more needed, and had it not been for the accident which befell him, when the temple was virtually out of danger, we may rest assured the inmates would not, at that time at all events, have known to whom they were so much indebted.

The recognition of Kohei, however, under such circumstances, gave much concern as well as a certain amount of gratification to the old priest; gratification, that is, when Kohei somewhat recovered and the doctors declared that no serious injury had been sustained. But a relapse set in, fever supervened as a result of the exposure and the external injuries inflicted by his fall. For many days the young life flickered; and even while it thus tottered on the brink of the Great Unknown, Shimidzu was obdurate enough to resist all entreaties on the part of Umé to be allowed to tend the poor sufferer. No—there should be no renewal of the cause of the first estrangement between himself and Kohei by any exhibition of weakness on his part. The conviction of a life-time is not to be ruthlessly imperilled in such a manner. If Kohei again took up his abode under that roof, he must do so as a son who adheres to the entire code of filial obedience.

Only in the meantime there was no sign of improvement in Kohei's condition; while in his delirium he called upon "Umé, Umé," with such persistency that the doctors decided to throw in the force of their own weighty opinion and appeal to Shimidzu to accede to the request of the young maid. It is scarcely necessary to add that it was finally though reluctantly given. And now an extraordinary change took place. I am here to state facts and not to explain them, but will it be believed, that from that very day the patient rapidly recovered? In point of fact, Love would appear to have succeeded where all the nostrums of the pharmacopœia signally failed.

EPILOGUE.

Some short time ago, on my return to the capital after a lengthened absence, I called upon Shimidzu at his old home. There were few if any indications then of the ravages made by the great fire of 1876. The trees in the Temple Court-yard wore their mantle of green as if they lived in perpetual spring; the rooks cawed merrily—if such is possible—among their branches, and that general atmosphere of calm and placid rest characteristic of the precincts of many religious edifices took possession of the senses. As I stood before the priest's domicile, a tiny maid of some five summers approached me, her bright, liquid eyes looking up to mine with only a shadow of wonder in them. Was this Umé transformed into a little fay, for a more perfect reproduction of our heroine it would be hard to imagine? But there was another Umé just behind to welcome me, and Kohei himself soon appeared. And then, of course, nothing could be more apparent. I heartily congratulated them—Shimidzu was within, teaching the art of ideographic writing, in which he had achieved some fame, to his pupils. The active prosecution of the priestly duties had long before this devolved on Kohei, with whom Shimidzu, later on, confided to me the fact that he was now thoroughly satisfied.

"But," I enquired hesitating, "how about his marriage with Umé san?"

"Well," he replied, with a naïve evasion of the point at issue, "I think Kohei serves his Master just as well and faithfully as if he had never taken unto himself a wife."

From which we once more see that one is never too old to learn, and that our strongest convictions are very apt, like our own lives, to be modified by circumstances.

W. B. M.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 5th.

MADAGASCAR.

The Malagasy Government, in reply to the French ultimatum, have expressed their willingness to meet the demands of France by the cession to that country of North Madagascar.

London, January 9th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

The Egyptian Ministry has resigned. Nubar Pasha is forming a Cabinet.

London, January 10th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

A New Ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Nubar Pasha. Clifford Lloyd will be the Under Secretary for the Interior.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Paris, 28th December.

INDEMNITY FOR THE TONQUIN WAR.

The Paris newspapers, in discussing the position of affairs in Tonquin, publish a statement that the French Government intend to hold China responsible for the expenses incurred by the war.

RUMOURED CONTEMPLATED SEIZURE OF HAINAN.

A rumour is current that the French will seize the island of Hainan as a guarantee for the payment of the indemnity by China.

THE WAR IN TONQUIN.

(M. Blancsube to the Governor of Saigon.)

Paris, 11th December.

The Tonquin credit voted by a large majority, Vote of confidence passed indicating that the Chamber will accept war with China if necessary.

17th December.

The Ministry asks for further credits for Tonquin, twenty millions, which will no doubt be voted. It is intended to send reinforcements of 6,000 African troops with General Millot, Négrier, and Brère. General Bonnet returns to Saigon.

19th December.

Credit and cables voted.

(The Minister of Marine and Colonies to the Governor of Saigon.)

21st December.

The Tonquin sub-marine cable project adopted by the Senate. The Company announces the steamers *Kangaroo* and *St. Calabria* have passed Suez and will arrive at Thuan-an on the 23rd January. Will telegraph detailed instructions.

Tonquin credit of twenty millions voted yesterday in the Senate, by 215 votes against 6.

London, 31st December.

NIHILISM IN RUSSIA.

Advices from Saint Petersburg state that the chief of the secret police and another officer have been murdered there by Nihilists.

FIGHTING IN EGYPT.

Latest advices from Egypt state that the garrison near Berber has been attacked by insurgent bands, but that after severe fighting the attack was repulsed with heavy loss to the insurgents.

London, 1st January.

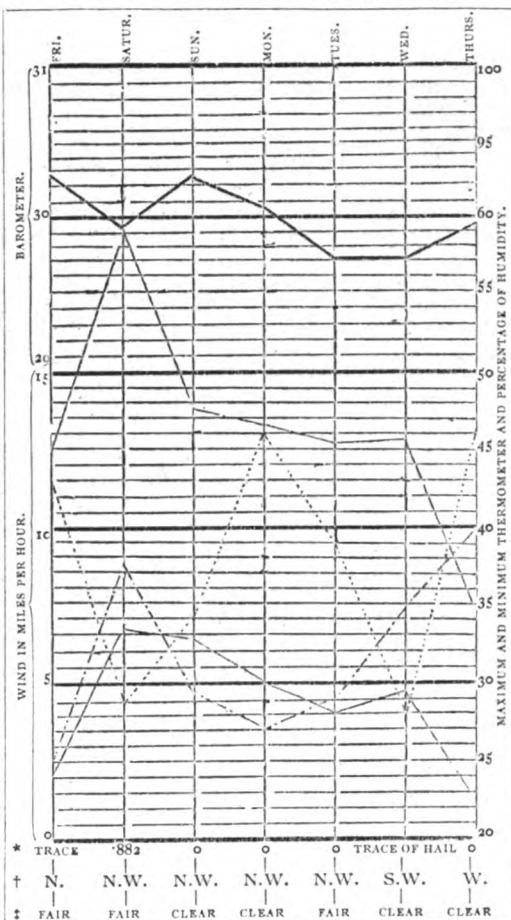
ADVANCE OF THE MAHDI ON UPPER EGYPT.

Latest advices from the seat war in the Soudan state that Baker Pasha has intercepted letters written by the Mahdi, the contents of which prove that it is his intention to march with his followers on Egypt Proper in consequence of his late successes. Should the Mahdi carry out his intention, the British troops now in Egypt will be ordered to assist the Egyptian regulars in the protection of the frontier.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 50.0 miles per hour on Saturday at 10 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.448 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.554 inches on Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 58.8 on Saturday, and the lowest was 22.3 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 54.3 and 27.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .884 inches, against .005 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per O. & O. Co. To-day.*
From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Jan. 17th.
Kobe ... }
From Europe, }
via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Thursday, Jan. 17th.†
From Europe, }
via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 24th.

* Oceanic left San Francisco on December 22nd. † *Kashgar* (with English mail) left Hongkong on January 9th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Monday, Jan. 14th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Jan. 15th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 16th.
Nagasaki ... }
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Jan. 20th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Jan. 19th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Jan. 26th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

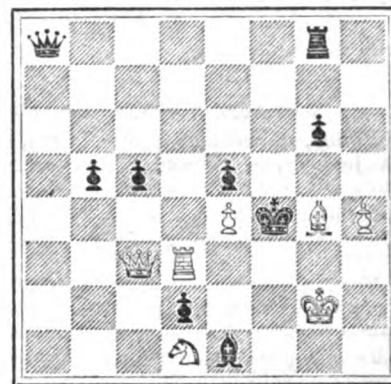
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By M. Hans Seeberger de Gras.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 29th December, 1883, from J. B. Bridport's Collection of Chess Problems.

White.

Black.

- 1.—Kt. to Q. B. 3.
- 2.—Kt. to Q. Kt. 4.
- 3.—Kt. mates.

- 1.—R. takes Kt.
- 2.—Anything.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

The new Copyright Regulations will shortly be issued.

Information has reached us from Korea to the effect that owing to the breaking out of actual hostilities between China and France, about one thousand of the Chinese troops stationed in Sôul have left for China. According to some authorities, the number is estimated at 800. The news of the outbreak of hostilities emanated from the Chinese commander.

It is reported that H.E. Mori, Minister to England, will shortly return to Japan in consequence of the cropping up of an important matter that affects the rights of this country and that demands his personal communication with the Ministers of State.

The Japanese Garrison in Okinawa Ken (Riukiu Islands) is about to be doubled.

The ironclad ordered in England will be built on lines giving extraordinary strength, consequently, its completion cannot be looked for before the end of this year.

It is contemplated to take recruits for the Navy from among those for the Army. The selection will depend upon the decision of the War and Naval Departments. The examination of conscripts will take place in the presence of officers from both Departments.

One hundred and fifty officers of all ranks were discharged from the Post Office in December last.

According to investigations made by the Government into the fluctuations in *Kinsatsu* since the 12th or 13th year of Meiji (1879-80) up to the present, it has been found that if the amount of paper money is one hundred million *yen*, an equal value can be maintained between silver and paper currency. If it exceeds one hundred million *yen*, then silver will rise at the rate of *sen* 1 per every one million *yen* of paper money. This fact has been proved by the latest fluctuations in the money market consequent upon the decrease of *Kinsatsu*. In 1881-82, silver was 160 to 170. This was when Mr. Okuma issued paper money so recklessly, and when there was a floating *yen* currency of 175,000,000 of *Kinsatsu*, including the reserve notes. Under the present Ministry, paper money and reserves have been largely redeemed, being reduced to *yen* 115,000,000. In addition to this, the silver reserve has been increased from *yen* 3,000,000 to between *yen* 22 and 23 million. It is, therefore, expected that silver will not rise to more than 115 or 116 in future.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Freights inactive and nothing to report in charters. The berth for all destinations is well filled with steam tonnage.

ARRIVALS.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 6th January, — Hongkong 31st December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ingo, German steamer, 671, J. Jesselsen, 7th January, — Nagasaki 3rd January, Coals. — A. Center.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 7th January, — Handa 4th January, General.—Handasha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 7th January, — Yokkaichi 4th January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 7th January, — Handa 5th January, General.—Handasha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 7th January, — Hakodate 3rd and Oginohama 5th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 8th January, — Kobe 6th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 8th January, — Oginohama 6th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 8th January, — Kamasaki 6th January, General.—Seiriussha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 8th January, — Yokkaichi 6th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 9th January, — Yokkaichi 8th January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 9th January, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 9th January, — Hongkong 3rd January, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Isoda, 9th January, — Kobe 7th January, General.—Seiriussha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 9th January, — Yokkaichi 7th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 10th January, — Kobe 8th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 10th January, — Shimidzu 7th January, General.—Seiriussha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 10th January, — Hakodate 7th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 10th January, — Kobe 8th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 11th January, — Hakodate 8th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hesperia, German steamer, 1,136, J. Wagner, 11th January, — Nagasaki, 7th January, Coals and General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Lord of the Isles, British steamer, 1,586, John E. Felgate, 11th January, — London via Hongkong 4th January, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, Hussey, 11th January, — Fushiki 8th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 12th January, — Hakodate 9th and Oginohama 10th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 12th January, — Handa 9th January, General.—Handasha.

DEPARTURES.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 5th December, — Handa, General.—Handasha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imada, 6th January, — Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 6th January, — Handa, General.—Handasha.

Mark Lane, British steamer, 1,384, R. Porter, 7th January, — London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 7th January, — Toba, General.—Seiriussha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 8th January, — Handa, General.—Handasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 8th January, — Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 8th January, — Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 9th January, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 9th January, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, Kawaoka Hikoza, 9th January, — Nagasaki via Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 597, Thomas, 9th January, — Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 10th January, — San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 9th January, — Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ingo, German steamer, 671, J. Jesselsen, 10th January, — Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 10th January, — Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Matsumoto, 10th January, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, B. E. Gall, 10th January, — Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 11th January, — Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 925, Spiegelthal, 11th January, — Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 11th January, — Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Tsusai Maru, Japanese steamer, 432, Toyama, 11th January, — Miyako, General.—Unsosha.

Dorothy, British bark, 320, A. Croal, 12th January, — Shanghai, Coals.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 12th January, — Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 12th January, — Kawasaki, General.—Seiriussha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Hurst, and Mr. N. C. Strome in cabin; and 15 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Handa:—4 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. P. Hanson and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 56 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Rear Admiral Nirei Kagenori, H.I.M.N., Staff-Commander Honshuku Iyemori, H.I.M.N., Messrs. Sakurai Tsunejiro, Kawadzu Sukeyuki, Takamine Jikichi, and Kagosima Sakaye in cabin; and 7 Europeans and 167 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Kamasaki:—3 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—92 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—23 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Kildoyle, Professor J. Milne, Mr. Malchauloff and servant, Messrs. B. H. Chamberlain, Peyton Jaudon, Victor Roehr, W. Yooman, J. J. Purdon, Spishitoff, W. L. Bigelow, E. F. Fenelossa, Roger Hamilton, H. V.

Love, Yamada, and Takeshita in cabin; and 3 Europeans and 70 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong:—Monsignor Noailles, French Missionary, Messrs. Haenni and Ah Cheong in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—87 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Hakodate:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Fushiki:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Kubo, Akiha, and Hikita in cabin; and 50 Japanese in steerage. From Oginohama:—Mr. Ito in cabin; and 33 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Bishop and Mrs. Poole, 2 children and European nurse, Mrs. Rush and child, Messrs. C. Wiggins, J. Douglas, H. Luther, Suyesada, Numa, Awoki, Matsui, and Ishizaki in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Hearst, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Smith and 3 children, Miss Carpenter, Messrs. C. D. Hoffman and L. P. Moore in cabin; and 6 Europeans and 160 Chinese in steerage. For New York:—Mr. F. Ohtsuka in cabin. For Liverpool:—Mr. N. C. Stevens in cabin. For London:—Sir James Duke, Dr. Griffiths, and Captain H. Bruce-Carick in cabin.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Law Tock Suen and infant, Mrs. Bull, Messrs. Lobo, F. Mansel, A. Smith, I. J. Purdon, Roche, E. Topp, C. Illies, Lai Bing Woor, Pem Wo and child, Dueng Nun, Sik He, and Wong Kam Cheong in cabin; and 6 Chinese and 10 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	66	169	—	235
Shanghai	—	82	200	282
Hiogo	910	33	1,636	2,579
Yokohama	1,610	221	78	1,909
Total	2,586	505	1,914	5,005

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	113	—	113
Shanghai	—	249	—	249
Yokohama	—	258	—	258
Total	—	620	—	620

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 482 bales; for London, 81 bales; Total, 563 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 9th January, at 6.30 a.m. with moderate to strong N.W. winds and clear weather to Oginohama where arrived on the 10th, and left for Yokohama on the 11th, at 6 a.m. with moderate N.W. to west winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 12th January, at 8 a.m. On the 11th January, at noon, passed the steamship *Niigata Maru* 68 miles from Oginohama.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October, — Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hesperia, German steamer, 1,136, J. Wagner, 11th January, — Nagasaki 7th January, Coals and General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Lord of the Isles, British steamer, 1,586, John E. Felgate, 11th January, — London via Hongkong 4th January, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December, — Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 9th January, — Hongkong 3rd January, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 9th January, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Will o'the Wisp, British steamer, 166, C. H. Porrett, 24th December, — Hull via Singapore and Nagasaki 20th December, Coals and General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Actual business is still confined to small transactions generally, although enquiries are being made for Yarns and Shirtings with a view to future business. The little that has been done in Velvets and Piece-goods is at a slight advance. Metals are quiet.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$24.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.25
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.00 to 33.25
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.50 to 7.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

No business has been done in Oil during the past week, but the Market remains firm at quotations. Deliveries have been 23,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 660,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.72
Comet	1.69
Stella	1.58

SUGAR.

There is very little to report in the Sugar Market, business being still restricted to retail transactions. The only change to note in prices is a decline in Brown Formosa sorts, evidently the effect of the approach to hand of the new season's Sugar.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last report of the 4th instant, there has been much more doing in this Market, and Settlements for the interval are nearly 700 piculs. Arrivals have not been on a par with the business done, and Stocks are reduced a little, being now estimated as 4,150 piculs of all kinds. Prices generally are higher; in some descriptions the advance is freely paid, while others are more or less nominal. Telegraphic news from European Markets is more encouraging than that from New York, and kinds suitable for either destination are influenced accordingly.

The *Volga*, which left this with the French mail on the morning of the 5th, took the small quantity of 99 bales; of these, 15 were for England and 84 for France. The P.M. steamship *City of Peking*, which sailed this morning for San Francisco, carried 258 bales for the New York Market, about half the quantity being on Japanese account. These shipments bring the total Export up to 24,061 bales, against 18,624 at same date last year.

Exchange has weakened about two per cent., and this partly compensates for the higher range of dollar prices.

Hanks.—The movement reported last week has continued, and Settlements reach fully 300 piculs. Prices are again higher, and "best" are held off the market for a fancy price. Among the purchases recorded, we observe *Shinshu*, \$490; *Omama*, \$485; *Annaka*, \$480; *Chichibu*, \$480; *Maibash*, \$475; *Hachoji*, \$455. Holders are conservative in their ideas, hoping for a still further rise.

Filatures.—Fine sizes have been in demand, and the advance asked has been freely paid; in coarse kinds, buyers have hesitated to enter the Market at the range of prices now quoted, and the American mail of this date took but a small quantity on foreign account. In the settlement-list we notice "*Yamanashi Ken*," \$630; *Mino*, \$620; and a parcel of "*Hokosha*" which a short time back was offered at \$590, has also realised \$620; the foregoing are all fine-size. In coarser kinds there has been very little passing. *Nihonmatsu*, \$635; *Rokosha*, \$625; *Tokosha*, \$620; *Shinshosha*, \$610; *Tenrushi*, \$600; are among the lots now offering. Some little has been done in *Koshu* filatures at \$590, and a mixed parcel of "*Hikone*" brought \$555.

Re-reels.—These have been more or less neglected for some little time past, the quality of some brands of *Maibash* not having been up to standard. Dealers ask an advance which is not responded to at present. For a really good parcel *Shinshu* re-reels, "*Fan*," \$610 is asked: probably something less would be accepted. A parcel *Bushu* "*Nakashima*" has been done at \$590; while in *Maibash* descriptions, "*Five Girl*" is quoted \$585, and "*Stag*" \$557½.

Kakeda.—These have been in fair request, and prices for some grades are higher, the Market being almost bare of "*Good*" and "*Good Medium*" kinds. In No. 1 and 1½ nothing doing. Among the transactions recorded are a parcel of *Sano-musume* at \$605, \$570, and \$530 for firsts, seconds, and thirds respectively. Other sorts at \$545 and \$520, with *Niwatori* at \$540, complete the list.

Oshu.—A fair business has been done in *Hamatuki* at about previous quotations: in *Sendai* nothing done, but prices are nominally strong, and best No. 1 are held for \$510.

Taysam Kinds.—Some few small purchases reported on basis of *Nagahama* \$405, and *Nambu* \$410: these are apparently no *Sodai* left.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	\$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	495 to 505
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	485 to 495
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3	455 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½	440 to 450
Filatures—Extra	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nom. 610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra	605
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3	520 to 530
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	470 to 480
Hamatuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatuki—No. 3, 4	420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 10th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
France and Italy	14,546	9,778	4,710
America	7,114	5,896	2,674
England	2,401	2,950	1,961
Total	24,061	18,624	9,345

WASTE SILK.

Since last writing, a fair business has been done, the daily list showing settlements of 300 piculs. The transactions have all been in *Noshi* and *Kibiso*, other kinds not appearing. Quotations for some descriptions must be advanced; and although the total Stock is larger than it was a week ago, in some special lines the demand exceeds the supply.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing done, and the position remains exactly as last advised.

Noshi-ito.—The demand has again run upon *Foshu* at hardening rates for good assortments. The Market is very bare of Stock, and the quality begins to run down as usual at this period of the season. In fine *Hachoji* some little passing at \$107 as before. In *Filature* a little *Koshu* reported at \$125.

Kibiso.—A moderate business, ranging from *Filature* \$117½ to Common *Foshu* at \$22½. Some low middling *Oshu* done at \$50. Nothing reported in *Neri*. About two-thirds the unsold Stock is *Kibiso*, the bulk being low, undesirable kinds. Good *Oshu* and *Filature* sorts are scarce and wanted.

Mawata.—No transactions, and nothing to note beyond the arrival of a few piculs from the interior.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	Nom. \$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	87½ to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	110 to 115
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 60
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	20 to 12½
Mawata—Good to Best	175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 10th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
Waste Silk	15,343	12,416	9,626
Pierced Cocoons	1,933	3,065	2,560
	17,276	15,481	12,186

Exchange has weakened in favor of shippers: closing rates may be called:—London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.70. *Kinsatsu* have been steady at about 110 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 10th Jan., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,800	Pierced Cocoons	80
Filature & Re-reels	1,350	Noshi-ito	220
Kakeda	500	Kibiso	630
Sendai & Hamatsuki	400	Mawata	70
Taysam Kinds	100		
Total piculs	4,150	Total piculs	1,000

TEA.

Our Market has undergone no change during the past week, and we have still to report few transactions and a general disinclination to purchase on the part of buyers. The aggregate Settlements amount to only 360 piculs, giving a daily average of about 52 piculs. Prices for all grades during the latter part of the week have had an easy tendency, more particularly for Teas grading Medium, which may be quoted a half dollar lower. The following are the various grades: of Teas settled during the interval:—Good Common 35, Medium 70, Good Medium 134, and Fine 110 piculs. Settlements at Yokohama to date are 151,976 piculs, against 159,465 piculs for the same period last season. Total receipts at this port for the season are 153,554 piculs, against 162,789 piculs for the corresponding date in 1883. The total Export to the United States and Canada from Japan are as follows:—For New York and Boston, 15,674,183 lbs.; for Canada, Chicago, &c., 11,598,301 lbs.; and for California, 3,993,006 lbs.; making a total of 31,265,490 lbs. of fired Teas, against 31,290,665 lbs. Tea at the same date last season. The last American steamer (*City of Peking*) sailed on the 10th instant, taking 1,909 packages Tea for United States and Canada. Weights in this shipment will be given in our next Market Report. The steamships *Mosser*, *Benvenue*, and *Mark Lane* recently advertised for New York via the usual ports have all been withdrawn from the berth, and at present there are no steamers advertised for New York. The overland rate for the next steamer (*Arabic*, January 18th) has been reduced to two cents per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada, but the rate for San Francisco will be \$12 per ton as previously.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	12 to 14
Medium	16 to 18
Good Medium	20 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

Rates have again considerably declined during the week, but the amount of the Private Bills on offer has been small. The demand for Bank Paper has increased. Quotations at the close are weak.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9
On Paris—Bank sight	4.64½
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.75½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 3, VOL. I.]

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[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 1884.

BIRTH.

At Sapporo, Yezo, on January 8th, 1884, the wife of Professor W. P. BROOKS, Imperial College of Agriculture, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

At the German Hospital, on the 16th inst., at 3.45 a.m., ERNST ADOLF FRANZ REIMERS, native of Hamburg, in his 36th year, son of the late Wolf Reimers, Esq., of Hamburg.

On the 18th instant, at No. 45, Bluff, Yokohama, ARCHIBALD HAMBLE L. COLE, aged 42 years, eldest son of the late Hon. and Rev. W. G. Cole, of Trinity College, Dublin.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

It is stated that the attack on Bac-ninh will take place on the 28th instant.

At the recent fire in Osaka, one policeman and three firemen were severely injured, and 140 persons are reported hurt.

THE working of the amended Conscription Regulations is producing some discontent throughout the Empire.

A SUBMARINE cable has been completed, connecting Kotomo, in Hizen, with Pusan, in Korea. It is announced that the line will be open for public use from February the 15th.

TOKIO and Yokohama were visited by the first snow-fall of the season on the night of the 17th instant. The snow began to fall at about 11.30 P.M., and did not cease till a short time before dawn, when a depth of from three to four inches was measured in Tokiyo.

ONE hundred and twenty-one houses, in Kobiki-cho, were destroyed, and seventeen injured, by fire in the afternoon of the 17th instant. This district is inhabited by persons of the poorer

classes, and great distress was caused by the conflagration. A fire-man fell through the roof of a burning house and was badly hurt.

At 3 a.m. on the morning of the 18th instant, a fire broke out in a store in the second ward of Mita, Tokiyo. Two hundred and seventy-five houses were reduced to ashes, and nineteen partially burned.

A TELEGRAM from Kashidzuka, in Shidzu-oka Prefecture, reports that at 4 o'clock a.m. on the 16th instant, a fire broke out in a theatre, in Togi-ya Street, and destroyed more than 330 houses. Thirteen people lost their lives, and several were injured.

THE man who was recently reported to have murdered a woman in Kanda, mistaking her for his wife, of whom he was jealous, has been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labor.

THE performance at the Gaiety Theatre by the French Amateurs, announced for this evening, has been postponed to Thursday next,

AN accident happened on Thursday afternoon on board the British bark *Cross Hill*. A lad named Green, whilst at work on the main-yard, lost his hold, and fell to the deck, striking the rail in his descent. He is reported not hurt and progressing favourably. It is almost a miracle that he had no bones broken.

THE details of the negotiations in Paris show, as was explained by us some weeks ago, that the Cabinet at Paris is willing to take for the northern limit of French occupation in Tonquin, a line passing through Bac-ninh and Son-tai. China, however, seems disposed to insist upon maintaining the Red River as a line of demarcation.

THE special correspondent of the London *Daily News*, who spent some time in Japan last autumn, telegraphed to that journal an account of an interview he had with the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, on which occasion the latter declared that his Government is very desirous of opening the whole country to foreign commerce.

FURTHER intelligence goes to contradict the report that Son-tai was sacked by the French, as well as to show that the Chinese troops took no part in the defence. The *North China Herald*, however, publishes an account from which it appears that the French executed the prisoners taken at Son-tai, and that a leader of the Black Flags, having been wounded in the thigh and brought before Admiral Courbet, was immediately shot by the Admiral's orders. The same account says that 37 Chinese sailors, the crew of a junk which was discovered in the act of conveying arms concealed under bales of cotton, were beheaded within a few hours of their capture. Whatever may be the rights and wrongs of the war in Tonquin, it is evident, if these reports be trustworthy, that France's method of conducting the campaign must have the effect of giving a

serious shock to the reputation of Western civilization, and of alienating the sympathies of all civilized peoples.

A FIRE is reported to be burning in the Takashima Coal mine.

SOME excitement has been caused in the Settlement by the arrest of two Swiss gentlemen, Messrs. Ludwig and Trueb, on a charge of obtaining money from two local banks under false pretences.

It is stated that the competitive exhibition of Japanese paintings will be held at Uyeno, Tokiyo, in April.

It is rumoured that the new Railway Bonds of the Japanese Government will be issued at 90. This would make the rate of interest $7\frac{7}{10}$ per cent.

A VERNACULAR journal says that the Yokohama Specie Bank has realized a profit of six hundred thousand yen in connection with appreciation of *Kinsatsu*.

THERE is talk of a line of steamers being placed on the Yokohama-Kobe route to compete with the vessels of the Mitsu Bishi and Union Steam Navigation Companies.

THE total number of criminals sentenced by Japanese Courts during the first half of 1883 was 36,507, of whom 33,979 were males and 2,528 females. The number of capital punishments during the same period was 28, viz., 24 males and 4 females.

A CONSIDERABLE export of rice is said to be in process from Ise.

THE recent fracas between the military and the police at Osaka has been the cause of the death of one soldier, and four others are reported seriously wounded. The general opinion is that the custom of allowing soldiers to wear side-arms is to blame for this trouble, no less than for many similar disturbances in the past.

THE British barque *Sattara*, 940 tons register, has gone ashore on the Totomi coast, in the Tsuruga Gulf. There is no hope whatever of saving the ship.

A HEAVY fall of snow is reported from Niigata.

THE loss of a British steamer, the *Nisero*, off the coast of Acheen, and the capture of her crew by the natives are reported. The most strenuous exertions have been made by the Dutch Government to obtain the release of the prisoners, but hitherto without success. We learn, also, that some French naturalists who, despite the warnings of the Dutch authorities, persisted in conducting scientific researches in Acheen, have been massacred by the natives.

ABOUT eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, Yoshihama-bashi, the small temporary bridge crossing the canal near the Japanese Iron Works at Ishikawa, which has been in a very dangerous state for some months, gave way. Fortunately

only two persons were precipitated into the water, and neither of them were injured.

THE President of the United States, in his message to Congress, said:—"The question of the general revision of the foreign treaties of Japan has been considered in an international conference held at Tokio, but without definite result at yet. This Government is disposed to concede the requests of Japan to determine its own tariff duties, to provide such proper judicial tribunals as may commend themselves to the Western Powers for the trial of causes to which foreigners are parties, and to assimilate the terms and duration of its treaties to those of other civilized States."

INCENDIARISM has been rife in the capital during the week; several arrests have been made, and the police succeeded in extinguishing no less than nine fires (obviously the work of incendiaries) before they attained serious dimensions. At half-past three in the morning of the 15th instant, a fire broke out in a well-known restaurant called Ota-ya, near the iron bridge at Shinbashi. Seventeen houses were totally destroyed and three partially consumed before the flames were controlled.

A LITTLE after midnight of the same day (15th) a conflagration occurred on the site of the former Industrial Exhibition (*Kanko-ba*), in Kanda, Tokiyo. The site had been purchased, on the 29th of December, for a sum of 1,560 yen, by one Jô-ya Chobei, whose purpose was to erect a smithy there. There being a go-down already on the lot, its new owner sent there, as caretaker, a man called Sashio Riusuke. The latter was accompanied by his wife, a woman of thirty-two, and their daughter, a child of eight. The front of the go-down had been closed, and the windows hermetically sealed, so that the only available exit was in the rear. This, however, was completely in the possession of the flames before the attention of the inmates was aroused, and the three unfortunates were burned to death.

WEEKLY NOTES.

RUMOUR is very busy about the origin of the fire at Shinbashi on the 15th instant, and on this occasion her testimony is sufficiently uniform to be credible. Ota-ya, the house where the fire broke out, was a restaurant where both foreign and Japanese viands were provided, and where the strictest social virtues are not supposed to have been uniformly practiced by all comers. On Tuesday night, it is said, three Japanese, on the eve of their departure from Tokiyo, and two foreigners, described as residents of Tsukiji, hired a boat, and went a-pleasuring on the river, not unaccompanied, we may presume, by the usual elements of conviviality. Returning very late to the restaurant, and growing somewhat weary of the sound of the *Samisen* and the sport of *Ken*, the five sat down to a good solid game of draw poker, not taking much trouble to set any special limits to the betting. In what particular fashions the cards combined themselves, whether straight flushes encountered fours, or a "bobtail" collided against a "full," the police have not discovered, but, at any rate, somebody having bounced somebody else to the tune of fifty dollars, was bounced back again to the extent of five hundred, and not being provided with specie to that amount, re-inforced his previous bet with a brass candlestick which he discharged at the head of the gentleman that

"jumped so hard." The candlestick, at the highest point of its trajectory, encountered a kerosene lamp, and the two coming down together, "bust up" the game and fifteen or sixteen houses at the same time. Poker is a nice amusement, but in mixed societies, where gentlemen are not averse to adding brass candlesticks and kerosene lamps to their piles, there is just a chance that the *partie* may lead to unexpected developments.

It is stated that the term of office for Japanese Prefects will be increased from ten to twenty years. Originally the term was only four years, and as we cannot recall any case of a Prefect whose tenure of office exceeded that period, we are disposed to think that the contemplated change, if indeed it be really contemplated, will have little practical effect.

It is not so long since California's clamour against the ruin of cheap labour forced the Congress of a country which boasts itself the personification of freedom to pass a law diametrically opposed to all the principles of liberty. Yet we find that California is already beginning to feel the want of the hands she drove away, and to cry out for the cheap labour she so recently denounced. From the moment that the celebrated (shall we say infamous?) act became law, the Chinese settled in California knew that for ten years a monopoly was secured to them. Proverbially they are a shrewd people, not slow to realize and avail themselves of the advantages of a position. Quietly, therefore, but resolutely and steadily, they began to take the market in hand, until, in less than two years, wages went up from fifty to a hundred per cent. At first the good folks of the Pacific slope seem to have struggled against this tyranny, but the mild-eyed Ah Sins and Ah Hows were prepared for resistance. They did not bluster, neglect their daily task, or indulge in any of the petty annoyances which constitute the weapons of sulky Bridgets or frowsy Janets. On the contrary, they simply preferred their request for a rise of salary, and being refused, would turn up placidly in two or three days, hat in hand, and observe nonchalantly:—"My go now. More better you catchee 'nother boy." Out-door labourers are said to be even more intractable, and ranchmen have to pay now for what they call "unintelligent labour," more than Eastern farmers give for the very pick of harvest hands. Indeed, one journal, apparently well informed, states that in consequence of the impossibility of procuring men to pick and pack fruit for market, half the crop was lost upon some of the ranches last season, while a few grape-growers were so unfortunate that the produce of their ranches barely sufficed to pay off the Chinamen who stripped the vines. The hop-growers are still more seriously circumstanced, for while the price of hops has fallen fully one half, wages have doubled. Since the passage of the Restriction Act the number of Chinese who have left California on passports or return certificates, is stated at twelve thousand, and but a small fraction have yet returned. These twelve thousand are the very pick of the skilled workmen, and in a great majority of cases they have carried away savings sufficient to provide them with a competence for the rest of their lives in their own country. The effects of the exodus are partially mitigated by the arrival of smuggled Chinamen, *vid* British Columbia, but this source of supply is quite inadequate. We

need hardly comment on the consequences of the Act in the case of the Pacific Mail and the Oriental and Occidental Companies. The proceeds of their Chinese passenger traffic used formerly to average \$1,000,000 annually, but now scarcely half that sum is realized. The outward-bound vessels of the Companies have still their full quota of steerage passengers, as witness the *Oceanic* and the *Coptic*, which recently carried from San Francisco 800 and 1,200 Chinamen respectively, but on the return voyages lists almost blank are the rule. Altogether the troubles that were prophesied for California in the sequel of the short-sighted and unconstitutional policy of 1881, have come upon her with unexpected rapidity. It is not that Chinese labour alone grows scarce and dear. The price of all labour is correspondingly affected, for European immigrants, when they consent to work for hire, invariably demand better wages than are paid to Chinamen, as a tribute to the superiority of the Caucasian race. Never was there a more signal instance of mistaken legislation bearing witness to its own unwisdom. There is little hope, either, that any attempt to modify the Act will be made in the immediate future. The Californians were so violent in their demands for restriction that they will suffer a good deal before they consent to confess their error.

SOME statistics have recently been published which tend to show that Ulster is not so completely peopled by Protestants as has been commonly thought, and that Protestantism and prosperity do not necessarily go together in Ireland. The total population of the nine counties of the province consists of 833,566 Catholics, 379,402 Protestants and Episcopalians, and 451,629 Presbyterians. It appears, too, that the number of persons who can read and write is five per cent. greater in Leinster than in Ulster, while the per-centages for the latter province and Munster are about equal. As a test of prosperity the income-tax returns are quoted. They show that the average payment per head for Ulster is 3s. 5d., and for the other three provinces 5s. These facts are adduced with great exultation by the literary members of the National League, and the sternest censure is levelled at the heads of Lord Rossmore and his followers for venturing to disturb the peace or to interfere with the proceedings of the League. The motives of the Orangemen are also denounced as mean and sordid, their accusers claiming that their only object in creating a disturbance is to save their pockets by preventing the extension of the provisions of the Land Act to leaseholders, to which class the agricultural tenants in the north chiefly belong. These accusations of violence and mercenariness would sound better were they not formulated by men who have been committing murder, arson, and all sorts of outrages for the past three years with the object of getting their rents reduced or, better still, done away with altogether. The terms "fanatic" and "rowdy" applied to Lord Rossmore and his followers because they broke up a National meeting where treason, rebellion, and theft were openly advocated, contrast somewhat strangely with the utterances of Mr. Parnell, who told his followers, when they presented him with a cheque for thirty-eight thousand pounds at the Rotunda, that the Government of Ireland was "a system of robbery and fraud;" that emigration was "a murderous blow against the life of the nation;" the Earl Spencer "desired to give full play to

the unbridled insults and passions of the foreign garrison in Ireland; that English rulers were "wanting in common honesty," and that it was the determination of himself and his followers that "this generation should not pass away until it had bequeathed to those who come after it the great right of national independence and prosperity." If such language as this is to pass unchallenged, a new definition of treason will be required. -

THE Irish are an exceedingly sociable people, especially under the influence of a slight alcoholic impetus. When the representatives of the National League met in the Rotunda, Dublin, to "recognize" Mr. Parnell's services by lining his pockets, although there were twelve hundred of them present, they did not find the company nearly large enough for their hearts. So Mr. Dawson, Lord Mayor of Dublin, sat down and composed the following telegram for the purpose of letting the Irish-Americans have a share of the fun:—

Twelve hundred nationalists in meeting here in honor of Parnell greet America and send thanks for her sympathy.

To which the other side promptly replied:—

Irish-America salutes Ireland, re-echoes her cheers for Parnell and will never cease struggling with her for liberty until it is achieved.

The members of the National League have quite a pleasant time of it, dining and wining and reëchoing each others telegraphic cheers. If Irish-America really sticks to her promise, and immediately commences a never-ceasing struggle with Ireland, there is no apparent reason why the spectacle should not be very hilarious and edifying for the rest of the world.

WE mentioned in a recent issue the case of a police constable in New York who clubbed a drunken man to death. Another, and more remarkable, episode subsequently occurred in the same city, when a half drunken policeman, having mortally wounded a citizen by putting a revolver bullet into his abdomen, then proceeded to fracture his skull because he did not respond to an invitation to set out for the station. One result of this ready recourse to batons is that the people have conceived a wholesome dread of getting in the way of the constables, who are thus enabled to keep a crowd in excellent order. On the occasion of the recent fire at the Windsor Theatre, the most interesting incidents appear to have been furnished by the police. Six large engines were playing on the burning pile, and the noise they made was so deafening that it completely overawed the crowd of women, children, and "peaceable lager-beer-saloon keepers," who had assembled to see the sight. It is stated, however, that the constables raised their clubs in the air and rushed at the people, punching the foremost of the throng in the ribs and tapping the skulls of those in the rear, while if anyone offered the slightest resistance or remonstrance he was "set upon and jammed about in a most brutal and reckless manner." But the most noteworthy instances of clubbing were those of Nunan and Lent. The former's experience is thus described by an onlooker:—"When the flames first burst from the entrance of the theater and struck the front of the adjoining hotel, the shrieks of the occupants of the rooms could be heard for blocks. The firemen rushed into the interior of the building and dragged the people down one by one. Then the smoke and flames drove the firemen off. Young Nunan then climbed to the iron fire escape which was built on the front of

the hotel and worked his way to the top of the building, looking into the rooms and doing all in his power to find any victims that might have been left by the haste of the firemen. It was a fearless and courageous thing to do. He was well rewarded. When he arrived at the street, his hands blistered and his face flushed with the heat, the first man who greeted him was a huge Irish policeman. He jammed him up against the elevated railroad post and then clubbed him cruelly, dragged him to the line and pushed him out in the crowd." The second victim, Lent, was even less deserving of the treatment he received. "It became known among the firemen, when the fire had progressed to the first floor of the hotel, that a French woman was imprisoned by the flames in the extension in the rear. Lent rushed up to her room, and found her just about to drop from the window. He seized her and tried to take her down to the first floor, but she broke away from him and went back to her room for her trunk. Lent who was resolved to save her at any cost, dragged her to the floor below again, but her trunk was more to her than life, and she insisted upon going back to her room again. She was crazy with fear. When Lent returned he threw the trunk down stairs, and had no difficulty in dragging the woman after it. It would seem to a casual observer that up to this stage of the game he had not passed a particularly enjoyable evening. The mental and physical wear and tear consequent to a desperate effort to save a woman and her trunk from a burning building were not pleasant, and the severe tussle that Lent had with the woman certainly entitled him to some respect. He got it. The instant he appeared on the sidewalk he was received by the police, and clubbed with even more brutality than the unfortunate Nunan, who had scaled the building. These are only two of the many instances of clubbing that occurred that night." We apprehend that this amusement of the New York police will soon cease to be a one-sided affair. Somebody will begin to club them back again.

NOTES.

A STORY is told of a foreign Representative in Japan whose relations with the Government of the country were occasionally of a somewhat stormy nature. Fifteen or sixteen years ago there occurred an event which seriously disturbed this official's equanimity, and while he was under the early influence of the shock, he was waited on by half-a-dozen Japanese officers, who solicited his aid towards obtaining instruction in a particular branch of military science. Their answer was an angry recommendation to learn manners first and tactics afterwards—advice which perplexed them not a little, seeing that they were entirely without knowledge of the incident which prompted this outbreak. Nor was their ignorance wonderful, seeing that the thing had happened ten miles away and that the actors were men of a different clan. Another instance of vicarious misfortune is reported of the Dutch authorities, who recently applied to the Government of Japan for permission to employ Japanese coolie labour in the West Indies. The answer they received was, "Treaty revision first and coolie labour afterwards," and this, we believe, brought the negotiations to a standstill. It is, perhaps, somewhat hard on the coolies that treaty revision, a matter of which

their ignorance must be tolerably profound, should be used as a barrier to their obtaining lucrative employment. But their case is no worse than was that of the *Samurai* who were debarred from studying the manual and platoon exercise because an Englishman riding on the Tokaido had been obliged to subscribe to Japanese sumptuary laws. At the same time we trust that the sequel of the application for coolies is not to be taken as an index of Japan's future policy. It is very comprehensible that the Government of this country, assured finally of the hopelessness of obtaining any revision of the present treaties in a more liberal sense, might make up its mind to abide, hereafter, by the strict letter of those documents, and to withhold every privilege not specially stipulated for by their provisions. This would be an intelligible policy, but highly unpleasant. We should not like to be strictly confined, once more, to the areas included within the treaty limits, and compelled to forego summer trips to Hakone, Miya-no-shita, or Yukao. The fate of the Dutch application for coolie labour, reminds us, however, that such a contingency is by no means impossible.

It is with much pain that we record the sudden death of Mr. A. H. Cole, which took place at his residence yesterday (Friday) morning. Mr. Cole had for many years filled the post of sub-editor of the *Japan Mail*, and his abilities and cheerful industry won him the respect and regard of those with whom he was associated. Since last summer his health had been slightly impaired, but not sufficiently to inspire any apprehensions, and up to Thursday evening he was able to perform his usual duties. These sad events are, unfortunately, all too common in Yokohama, but the circumstances of the present case establish a special claim upon the sympathy of the public.

WE read that the Italian Minister of Justice intends to submit, for the approval of Parliament, a modification of the press laws actually existing. It is not pretended that the Italian press has abused its privileges, as a rule. The good sense of the public has always interfered to deprive of their power journals which attempted to make mischief. But there have been cases, it appears, where writers, encouraged by their irresponsibility, did not scruple to overstep the limits of fair criticism, and where persons assailed found the remedies offered by the law slow and unsatisfactory. The intention of the proposed modification so far as we can understand, is to fix the responsibility by establishing a clearer legal relation between the newspaper and the public. To accomplish this, a responsible director is to be substituted for the manager. In this crude form, the change does not promise much, and the leading Italian journal is of opinion that the Minister of Justice is in the wrong route: what is wanted is not a new definition of responsibility, but a law whose repressive powers can be exercised with the utmost possible expedition. This language has a retrogressive ring; but Italian journals are not alone in the opinion that among all abuses none can be more despotic or baleful than the abuse which vulgar and violent men call liberty of speech. We are not without an example in Japan, where there exists an English journal whose unique aim seems to be to persuade the Japanese that Englishmen hate and despise them. With such a mischievous nuisance staring us in the face every day, it is hard to believe that liberty of

the press ought to be universal, or to be quite contented with a system which permits one of the noblest results of Western civilization to become, under certain circumstances, one of its greatest disgraces.

THE Continental journals are making things as pleasant as possible for England in connection with the disaster in the Soudan. They have now quite a respectable list of items which will stand, they say, to Egypt's credit in the day when she makes her final reckoning with the self-invited occupant of her territory. There are: first, the bombardment and ruin of Alexandria; then the expenses of the war, of the bombardment, of the occupation, and so forth; then the introduction of the cholera; then the loss of the Soudan, and destruction of the Egyptian army that went there under the command of an English staff. If the occupation lasts a little longer, these friendly critics think that there will not be much left of Egypt. What they admire most is England's wonderful *sang-froid*. Now that the tenure of the Soudan has become troublesome, she calmly says, "give it up." But then it is not she, but Egypt, that has been making large sacrifices of men and money for sixty years back to keep the Soudan; so perhaps there is no special reason to be surprised at this exhibition of robust British egoism. One would imagine that these cheery analysts might be content to let the matter rest there. But no. They mean to be provided with something charitable to say in every eventuality, so they proceed to declare, first, that if England makes no attempt to recover the Soudan, she will have deliberately caused the loss of Egyptian territory; secondly, that if she tries to recover it, her object will be to keep it for herself; thirdly, that if she withdraws her troops now, she will be disgraced; fourthly, that she will make the loss of the Soudan an excuse to keep them where they are in perpetuity; and fifthly, that there are grave reasons to think that the loss was deliberately contrived with the intention of furnishing the excuse. We fear that with all her practicality it will puzzle England to steer clear of these various pit-falls. But on the other hand, if she falls into them, the shock will not be very serious.

TIN mining must be an exceedingly profitable speculation under some circumstances. At the first annual meeting of the Selangor Company of Shanghai, the Chinaman read out, to the shareholders assembled, a few very appetizing facts from the records of the Mt. Bischoff Tin Mine, in Tasmania. It appears that the total paid up capital of the Company working the mine is £29,600, and that during 1882 the net profits were upwards of £106,000. Nine dividends, of £60,000 were declared, at intervals of three weeks, during the latter half of that year. The chairman of the Selangor Company assured his hearers that, on comparing the prospects of their venture with the leading features of the Tasmania mine, he was unable to find one point in which the advantage rested with the latter. The Selangor Company was formed in 1882 for the purpose of acquiring and working a concession of four blocks of 250 acres each, to be selected at will in the State of Selangor, Malayan Peninsula. Only one of the blocks has been definitely selected as yet. It adjoins a famous mine called the Ampang, and trial borings go to show that the same deposit runs through both. The total produc-

tion of tin throughout the world in 1882, was divided as follows:—

	TONS.
Straits	11,705
Australia	10,067
Cornwall	9,400
Banca and Billiton	8,599
Peru and other countries	500
Total	40,721

The maximum price per ton during the past ten years was £148, and the minimum £55, while the average from 1878 to 1882 was £90 to £100. On the other hand, the cost of production in Selangor is estimated at an average of £40 to £45 per ton, and the freight from Singapore to London is 10s. With regard to the Selangor district and the mining methods at present in vogue there, the chairman gave the following interesting facts:—

Tin mining has been successfully carried on by Chinese in Selangor for a great many years past, and upwards of 20,000 men are engaged in it. As, however, they possess no machinery enabling them to drain the mines they open, immediately the mines become flooded, they are obliged to abandon them; consequently they can only work in the higher grounds, where the deposits are poorer, and so a merely infinitesimal amount of tin is obtained and exported compared with what may be, and will be, exported as soon as machinery is brought into general use. The Chinese workings in Selangor, with one exception, are mere scratchings in the hill sides, while the lower valleys, where the richest deposits exist, are completely inaccessible to them. When I was in Selangor, just twelve months ago, there was only one pump worked by steam in the state, and this has enabled a valley to be developed, which is, at the present moment, the richest yet discovered in the whole of the Malay peninsula. This is the "Ampang" mine, which adjoins the "Sungei Puteh" property of this Company, a plan of which property has been sent to each shareholder. The deposit at Ampang where the work is now going on is twenty-six feet thick. In the Appendix to our report you will see that the borings have proved that there is a deposit of nineteen feet thick in Sungei Puteh. A year ago when I was in the Native States the thickest stratum then known was sixteen feet. This in a mine in Perak, and was considered so wonderful that the Resident asked me to visit the mine with him to see it, and I did so. The percentage of ore in the "Ampang" mine is equally remarkable for its richness, and we have on the table a bag containing a sample of the wash dirt which was assayed by Mr. Hampton, the Engineer of the Perak Tin Mining Co., who was passing through the State on a visit, and who, having taken the samples to Penang to assay it, wrote officially to the Resident stating that it produced 47 per cent. of tin ore. The Resident published this letter in the *Straits Times*. The deposits are found so close to the surface, varying from five feet to between forty and fifty, that the cost of the machinery required, and the cost of the working generally, is extremely small as compared with the cost of tin mining in any other part of the world. In order to give you some idea of the value of the deposits of nineteen feet thick found on Sungei Puteh, I may mention that many of the mines being worked by Chinese contain deposits of between one and four feet only in thickness, the percentage of ore being far lower than the sample from the Ampang mine.

THE Tientsin correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* says:—"Li Hung-chang continues as peaceably inclined as ever and does not budge an inch in regard to preparations, except in regard to preparations for the defence of Korea; this is his pet scheme, and he is still keeping his eye on the Loochoo Islands. Of all the men in China, Li dreads a visit from the French up here, for he knows well enough if there is war the French will not visit Kwang-si and Yunnan, but that they are likely to pay another visit to the Summer Palace, and blockade Canton." The same writer also says:—"I don't believe China will go to war with France, but she will no doubt pick a quarrel with Japan about Korea. China certainly is making preparations to defend the southern provinces, as it is believed by some officials that France will not be satisfied with Tonquin, but will take Kwang-tung, Kwang-si, and Yunnan." The same authority adds:—"that the latest Imperial Edict issued at Peking is to the following effect:—"Instead of Li Hung-chang, T'so is now appointed Governor-General of Kwang-tung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan, and Generalissimo, and with him is to be P'ang Yu-lin at Kwang-si, Wa Ta-ching at Kang-tung, Li Mi-chu at Yunnan. Governor-General Chang Shu-shêng is to go to Tonquin as Commander-in-chief of all the troops to be brought in the field against the

French and the Black Flags included. Tsêng Kwo-chan is to take the place of T'so, of the Liang Kiang and Nan Ta-ching."

CONSIDERABLE anxiety is expressed in the Hongkong papers in regard to the safety of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Hwai-yuen*, that vessel having sailed from Shanghai for Hongkong on the 28th of December. The *China Mail* of the 8th instant, says:—"No news of the whereabouts of the *Hwai-yuen* had been received at the office of the China Merchants' Company here up to a late hour this afternoon. There were \$36,000, in treasure, on board the vessel. It has been reported that a large number of soldiers were also taken on board at Shanghai, and the conjecture has been circulating that possibly these "braves," having no stomach for fighting the French, and preferring cash down to hopes of payment, had taken possession of the vessel and run her into some convenient bay. This conjecture is, however, knocked on the head by the fact that there were no soldiers on board. Another conjecture is that another affair, something after the manner of the *Spark* tragedy, has been enacted, the supposition being that a number of desperadoes, knowing that the *Hwai-yuen* was to carry down treasure, took passage in her, and have made themselves masters of the vessel *en voyage*. It is quite certain that a serious mishap of some kind has occurred to the vessel. She left Shanghai ten or eleven days ago, and has not apparently since been seen from a single vessel, although steamers are always voyaging between here and the Model Settlement.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 16th instant publishes a telegram from Nagoya, stating that early on the morning of the previous day a fire broke out in the Theatre at Togiya-machi, in Aichi Ken, and spreading with great rapidity, destroyed over four hundred houses, fourteen persons receiving various injuries in attempting to extinguish the flames. On the same morning, at half-past twelve o'clock, another fire occurred in the buildings formerly used for the Industrial Exhibition, at Nurimono-cho, Kanda, Tokiyo, and the conflagration was not extinguished until eighteen houses had been destroyed. The cause of the fire is said to have been through a child dropping a piece of live charcoal. In this case three persons were burnt to death.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* states that the Japanese Naval Department desires to purchase the Kobe Manufacturing and Dockyard Establishments of the late Mr. E. C. Kirby; and that Mr. Matsuda, Superintendent of the Government Ironworks at Tokiyo, is instructed to inspect and report upon the condition of the Kobe factories with a view to negotiations with the liquidators of Mr. Kirby's estate.

THE butter that is exported from California and eaten in perfect confidence on bread and toast, is seldom, if ever, butter. A protest against the manufacture of the oleomargarine that is sent out from the grease factories has been publicly made by the *bond fide* dairymen of San Francisco, who, have taken urgent steps to stop the sale of oleomargarine for butter or for anything but what it is. To this end they have formed a permanent organization, which is likely to be productive of much good in stopping the sale of a spurious and deleterious compound.

THE Rev. G. A. Shaw, in an essay entitled "The Future Prospects of Madagascar," says that when the French ultimatum of last June was received by the Malagasy Government, a great "Kabary," or assembly of the people, was called to determine the answer that should be sent. The Prime Minister, after recounting the events that had occurred on the north-west coast, said:—"The French claim a third of Madagascar, and demand two hundred thousand dollars; * * * and in the event of our not acceding to their demands, or of the answer not arriving in time, or should the Governor of Tamatave make any military preparations, then they will bombard and destroy all the ports on the east coast. Now shall we yield to their demands, or what do you think we should do?" To this query, Mr. Shaw tells us, the people answered, "with a loud shout, saying, 'God forbid that we should do that.' They stood up one after another, and made speeches, tribe by tribe protesting against any cession of territory to the French, though but the size of a grain of rice. In many different speeches they showed that they did not in the least shrink from death in defence of their country; they begged for guns and spears, and that every able-bodied man should be drilled so that one and all might fight in defence of their fatherland." Probably there never was a popular assembly in any part of the universe that would not have returned a similar answer to a similar question, and we should not have been disposed to expect much from the Malagasy merely because their voices were loud in debate. The reverend gentleman from whom we quote, assures his readers, however, that "the Malagasy are a most determined people—their determination approximating to obstinacy—and when they say, 'God forbid that we should give up land even of the size of a grain of rice,' it means that the French will never obtain undisturbed possession of any part of the mainland till the Hovas are exterminated." How completely false this estimate was, our recent telegraphic news demonstrates. The Hovas have consented to surrender the northern part of the island to France, whose claim to this cession rests chiefly on the fact that it was stipulated in a treaty which she formerly concluded with tribes that had revolted from the Hova rule. The cession of Ulster and Munster by the Fenians to an enemy of Great Britain would constitute a parallel claim. Mr. Shaw's description of Madagascar's material prospects possesses special interest in the context of a French occupation that will sooner or later extend to the whole island. He writes as follows:—

From a foreigner's point of view, Madagascar presents an alluring future. The resources of the country, which has long been suspected of being rich, have, nevertheless, never been developed. No industry has been fairly tried except sugar-making, which succeeded so well in the hands of its first promoters that numbers have followed in their wake, seeing in the enormous productive powers of the soil and climate a sure and ready road to fortune. This industry employs plant, &c., to the value of about one million dollars around Tamatave alone, and of this, British interests are valued at 80 per cent., while one English firm estimates its actual loss, from the impossibility of cutting this year's canes, at between eight and ten thousand pounds. Many other valuable products might, it is believed, be raised from the soil and become articles of great commercial value, such as coffee, vanilla, cloves, cinnamon, and tea, while the low-lying swampy tracts might be made a mine of wealth to the rice grower.

The mineral wealth of the country remains to the present day an unknown quantity; the extreme jealousy of all outside influence having induced the Government to make it a criminal offence for any native to search for metals, and a cause for expulsion from the country for any foreigner to prospect for gold, silver, &c., or to sink any mine. There is, nevertheless, sufficient evidence to show that the mineral wealth of the country is great.

The means of communication are at present bad; but roads would not be difficult of construction, and railways might be formed with comparatively small expense. In fact, more

than one firm in London have made the offer to build a railway from the coast to the capital, the only obstacle to the enterprise being the want of security for the land on the one hand, and the still imperfectly settled confidence in foreigners on the part of the people. Now that these troubles have come upon the Malagasy, they are exultant that their opposition to foreigners stood sufficiently in the way of their making roads and railways; because, as they readily see, these would only have been a source of weakness in the present struggle; while the want of any easy mode of moving bodies of men accounted as European soldiers are constitutes their greatest strength. They have cut off supplies from the French troops, who well know the difficulty and danger of penetrating into the country. But when the Government shall feel itself strong enough, within, and by alliance with other nations, to cope with immigrants, there will be no difficulty either regarding the land question or the improvement of internal communication. The Government are not opposed to progress, and the life of the late Queen, just published in Madagascar, shows how much she was willing to do systematically from her private purse for the elevation of her subjects, and for the advancement of the country. The present Queen in a public "Kabary" has intimated her intention to follow the policy of her "mother"; and the Prime Minister, several years ago, in answer to a request from some traders in Tamatave, said that neither he nor the Queen would offer any opposition to the formation of canals between the lagoons near the coast. This could easily be done with but a small amount of capital, thus connecting ports and towns near the coast, which are at present with the greatest difficulty approached from the sea. The rivers are broad and fairly deep inland, and can be made a fine means of inter-communication, although they are of no use as harbours, being blocked with sand-bars at their mouths.

Another essential item in the consideration of the probable advancement of a country from a commercial point of view, and from the standpoint of the foreigner, is the labour question. In this the capitalist meets with no difficulty in Madagascar. There is plenty of good and reliable labour for those who treat the native workmen in a fair and honest fashion; who pay their wages when due, and do not try civilized dodges for cheating the labourers of their fairly-earned wages. It is true they come to Tamatave from a distance inland and farther south, but the foreigner has himself to thank for this inconvenience; the unlimited introduction of Mauritius and Bourbon rum having completely demoralized the natives in the vicinity of the ports, near which the principal demand for labour exists. If, as was earnestly desired by the native Government, a restrictive duty were placed upon this vile importation, and upon its manufacture in the sugar mills of the country, there is no reason in the world why the Betimisaraka should not become as good workmen as the Taimoro and Tanala. But so long as 10,000 barrels of this crude spirit are introduced for consumption in one year, among a people numbering perhaps half a million, it is unreasonable to hope that the labour market will be supplied by them. But as the Government sees this, and recognizing its evil effects upon the people, is desirous of restricting the traffic, surely European nations cannot much longer refrain from allowing the Queen to place a much higher duty on that which is killing off her subjects by thousands.

Turning to the religious and moral progress of the people during the past, there is as great hope for the future in this direction as in that of purely commercial, social, and political elevation. Although some Roman Catholics in the seventeenth century made the first endeavour to introduce Christianity, it was utterly futile; no lasting effect was made on the people, and the fruits of their zeal perished with them. It was not till 1821 that Christianity was really effectively introduced among the Hovas, and the history of its development has been one of the greatest marvels in the history of the Christian Church. A period of less than twenty years of frequently interrupted work on the part of a handful of British missionaries was succeeded by one of the fiercest persecutions for Christ's sake that the world has of late years seen. But the honesty of the people's convictions was shown in the fact that notwithstanding the royal mandate forbidding the reading of the Bible and meetings for prayer—in spite of the number of nobles, of women and of children even, who suffered death for conscience-sake—when the country after nearly thirty years was again opened to the missionaries, the number of Christians had, instead of diminishing, increased nearly thirty-fold. From that time, 1862, to the present day, steady, rapid progress has been made, till now the churches number over 1,200, the native adherents 300,000, and the scholars in the schools over 100,000. In 1862 the only literature possessed by the people was the Bible and one or two tracts; in 1880 it was reported that "the publications of various kinds issued from the Mission Press since 1870 had not been less than 1,500,000."* From the same authority we learn that during nine and a-half years the total issue of Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scripture amounted to 132,902, while the oldest periodical, *Good Words*, has a monthly circulation of 2,700. English is being taught and eagerly acquired by the people, who will thus find access to the stores of English literature with its ennobling influences to the thoughtful mind. These facts and figures tell their own tale of substantial progress and prospective advancement. Let us hope that whatever may be the outcome of the present difficulty there will be a glorious future for the "Great African island."

THE danger to Australia of French criminals finding their way to those colonies, in the event of the proposed transportation of *récidivistes* on a large scale to New Caledonia being carried out, has according to the *Melbourne Argus*, just been illustrated by a case at Ballarat. Extensive robberies had been taking place in that city, and for some weeks the police were utterly unable to detect the offender. Their efforts were at last, however, crowned with success by

* "Ten Years' Review of Mission Work in Madagascar." Antananarivo, 1880.

the capture of a man whom they have every reason to believe is the perpetrator of the robberies. The man when arrested stated that his name was "Paul Jones," and declined to give any further account of himself. He has, however, since admitted that his name is not "Jones," but "Louis Paul," and that he is a French Communist who arrived in Victoria some months ago from Nouméa. The presence of such a person as Paul in the colony is no doubt inconvenient; but it seems rather hard to stigmatize him as a robber because he appropriated property not belonging to him. He merely acts in accordance with his political principles. We might with equal justice apply the term "thieves" in this country to those who advocate the spoliation of landowners.—*World*.

WITH a fresh batch by every mail (says *The World*) American athletic records are becoming somewhat of a drug. The most recent additions to the list are, however, remarkable enough to be worthy of all notice. The amateur record for walking one mile was held by an American, E. E. Merrill. On the 27th ult. another American, A. P. Murray, walked a mile at Williamsburgh in the wonderful time of 6 min. 29½ secs., and now holds the record. On the 6th instant he supplemented this feat by walking three miles in 21 min. 9½ secs., which supersedes the previous best, 21 min. 28 secs., of H. Webster, England. Murray walks with scrupulous fairness, and has made his records in the presence of able judges of walking.

THE *Saigon Independant* of the 18th ultimo says:—We yesterday had communicated to us a private telegram according to which Admiral Lespes, who was to have taken command of the fleet in China waters, and who left France on board *Galissonnière*, received an order at Port Said to await the formation of a new division hastily composed of a part of the vessels of the evolution squadron and intended for the reinforcement of the Indo-China and China Sea divisions. Vice-Admiral Baron Duperré will be appointed to the command-in-chief of the French naval forces in the Far East.

WHEN M. Tricou commenced his career of muddle, menace, and mystery in China, we alluded, necessarily in guarded terms, to a somewhat shady diplomatic manœuvre, which, according to current report, he had given himself much unsuccessful trouble to accomplish during his residence in Tokiyo. This was nothing more or less than an attempt to persuade Japan that the Tonquin imbroglio offered an unique opportunity for her to wipe off old scores with China, and to dispose finally of that possible bone of future contention, the Riukiu question. There is more than one method of winning a country over to an alliance such as that contemplated by this manœuvre. There is the straightforward plan of laying the pros and cons of the business before the Government, and plainly acknowledging a desire to obtain its co-operation; and there is the more devious and less dignified device of endeavouring to excite a warlike spirit in one quarter and another, with the object of carrying the decision ultimately beyond official control. Those who have watched M. Tricou's career in the East, and who have observed to what length he suffers himself to be carried by zeal for his country's interests, will not have much difficulty in believing that

the latter scheme presented no more deterrent features to his moral vision than the former. Indeed, he is accredited with having employed his belligerent eloquence so assiduously in sundry quarters, and so persistently laboured to depict China's action in the matter of Riukiu as an insult which Japan's national honour was concerned in wiping out, that the good offices of one of his colleagues had finally to be solicited to persuade him to desist. As might have been expected, however, the mischief did not stop there. It was nearly as important to augment China's embarrassment by convincing her that, in the day of battle, she would have to reckon Japan among her active enemies, as to educate a fighting mood in Japan. We cannot, in justice to M. Tricou's abilities, suppose that he neglected the former step, or ask our readers to believe that his contrivances counted for nothing in the rumours which reached us, from time to time, of China's apprehensions as to Japan's possible attitude in the event of war between France and the Middle Kingdom. From the moment that France's restless craving after a colonial empire impelled her towards the delta of the Red River and Yunnan, the most sanguine observer did not fail to foresee that whichever way her enterprises eventuated, some unpleasant contingencies were inevitable. But among these we never reckoned a sensible deepening of China's feeling of umbrage against Japan. It would almost seem as though the fates had willed that, despite this country's really earnest desire to be on terms of the closest friendship with her neighbour, something should perpetually crop up to widen the breach between them. M. Tricou is not a Colossus, either morally or physically, but his powers of doing mischief were augmented by his position, and he used them with remarkable energy. We may be wrong, but we cannot help thinking that the mail-clad Japanese troops placed by the Chinese vernacular press in the van of the French forces at the assault of Sontai, were creations of M. Tricou's imagination. They are, at any rate, the outcome of the policy he pursued here. The *North China Herald*, speaking of these mythical warriors, says:—"Our readers are of course aware that some months ago the French Government made offers of alliance to Japan, which were promptly declined by the advisers of the Mikado. Chinese suspicion, however, has not been allayed, and now we hear of secret despatches and what-not, having passed between certain officials unnamed, the gist of which is that, on the requisition of M. Tricou, acting under the orders of his Government, the Japanese Government has actually furnished France with two thousand brazen-armoured troops to assist the French in fighting China in Annam. Details are not wanting of this singular transaction. A thousand and some odd hundreds of these mail-clad warriors have already arrived at Hanoi, and been used by the French General as the advance-guard against the Black Flags. But they gained little by their disloyalty to China, for the Black Flags, by the exercise of their well-known strategy, surrounded the Japanese mercenaries and almost annihilated them. Some escaped; but these were promptly pursued, surrounded, and captured. It is only due to the more intelligent of our Chinese friends to say that they do not give full credence to these wild reports, explaining them as having arisen from the facts of there being a few Japanese officers in the French army. But multitudes do actually believe the entire rigma-

role; *credo quia impossibile* is a motto acted upon in China quite as much as in some of our European countries." Our Shanghai contemporary cannot, apparently, offer us any more comforting assurance than that intelligent Chinese do not give "full credence" to these ridiculous rumours. M. Tricou may, therefore, congratulate himself on having obtained a certain measure of success. He has helped to sow seeds of discord between China and Japan, and we wish him joy of the achievement. He will long be remembered in the East as a diplomat who accomplished a vast deal of harm by the sheer force of shallow intrigue and unlimited bluster.

MESSRS. MEIKLEJOHN & Co. have published a *Pocket Directory of Japan*, and a map combined with a directory, of Yokohama. The former is an exceedingly handy little volume. The first thirty-two pages contain a calendar and a quantity of useful information; after which we have alphabetical lists of the foreign residents at the various treaty ports; a list of the diplomatic, consular, and other public bodies, and finally a diary. Nothing in the shape of a directory has yet appeared here which so well combines the qualities of compactness and perspicuity. We could have wished, indeed, that instead of giving us eight independent lists, one for each of the settlements and for the interior, the compilers had thrown the whole into one simple alphabetical schedule. But opinions will probably differ upon this point, and doubtless the former method presents facilities which, under certain circumstances, may be very desirable. The miscellaneous information which precedes the directory proper is given in a concise and accessible form. It is unencumbered by superfluous details, and may be said to embody all the facts likely to be required by foreigners in Japan. The map of Yokohama is a handsome sheet, neatly executed, and showing, besides a plan of the Settlement and Bluff, a clearly printed list of the foreign residents, &c., of Yokohama and Tokiyo. Not the smallest recommendation of these publications is their cheapness, the *Pocket Directory* costing only a dollar and a half, and the map one dollar. We feel very grateful to Messrs. Meiklejohn for having saved our time and money by these easily consulted and cheap compilations.

TIME will doubtless enable Europe to make up its mind as to the true character of the Marquis Tsêng. At present opinions differ. Some writers call the Chinese Ambassador a man of singular shrewdness and tact; while others sneer at his diplomacy, and speak of him as a grotesque *parvenu*, who has dubbed himself Marquis with a light heart, and whose title to be listened to by Western statesmen is as unreal as his patent of nobility. It is decidedly a false move to attack the colour of the Marquis' blood, but the journalists who adopt this method of criticism evidently think that a Chinaman is fair game for every species of assault. The most irreverent among them are obliged to confess, however, that the Marquis has at least struck out a new line of diplomacy. The stereotyped idea of a diplomat is a man impassible, silent, thinking first of concealing his own thoughts and doings, and next of probing his neighbour's. But the Marquis Tsêng has given such a rude shock to the sanctity of this legendary image, that among other polite similes his admirers compare him to a novel variety of insect which drags about, suspended from its tail, a cluster of reporters.

Of course the origin of this badinage is the Ambassador's so-called indiscretion in supplying to the Parisian journals copies of his correspondence with the Foreign Office. M. Ferry, it will be remembered, had laid before the Chambers extracts from the same correspondence, and these having been published by the press in due course, were found, on examination, to convey what the Marquis thought an unjust impression of the attitude taken by his Government. He therefore adopted the simple, but highly reprehensible, device of sending the context to be published in the same journals, so that the public might have an opportunity of passing judgment on the whole. Such a breach of official etiquette needs no comment. The proper plan for the Marquis to pursue would have been to preserve a dignified silence *vis-à-vis* the European public, and to have bequeathed to his own Government the duty of vindicating his reputation whenever, in years to come, a favourable opportunity might present itself. There would have been, to be sure, some uncertainty about this method. Neither the Marquis nor the T'sung-li Yamên could exactly foresee the day when it may be in China's power to place a French Ambassador at Peking in a similar predicament by contriving that one-sided selections of his correspondence be published in the vernacular press. So much the worse, however, for the Marquis. A rigid adherence to the rules of diplomatic reserve is far more important than the correction of a public misapprehension calculated to disturb the relations of two great nations.

DR. A. R. PLATT, the United States Consular representative at Chefoo, who has lived in China for eighteen years, paid a visit the other day to New York, and underwent the usual process of interviewing. Some of his remarks are interesting. Asked who is responsible for the present unfortunate state of affairs between France and China, he replied:—

"Whoever dictates the French foreign policy which is carried out by Minister Tricou in Peking. Minister Bourée was inclined to be pacific, but when he was withdrawn there was an instant change in the situation. Tricou is an absurd diplomat and a bully. He is hated and despised by all for his domineering conduct and mere bombast. When he paid his first ceremonial visit to Li Hung Chang he went through the streets surrounded by French gendarmes with drawn swords, and these guards were around his chair while he was actually talking to the Viceroy. Nothing could be more absurd, for if Li Hung Chang merely raised his finger it would be answered by thousands of soldiers. The interview was full of irritating remarks, and Tricou managed to arouse the anger of the Viceroy to a dangerous extent by his disagreeable behavior. Nearly every foreigner in China has turned against France and sympathizes with the Mongolians, who are forced into their present position."

"Do the military leaders of China favor the war?"
"Of course they do, for they are of the same ilk as Prince Kung. The two men who, besides Li Hung Chang, will take the most prominent part in the approaching conflict, are Pang Yu Ling and Tso Tsung Tang. Pang is known as admiral of the Yang Tse Kiang, and not only has the power of a viceroy, but his position is so powerful that he has frequently denounced viceroys. He is frightfully anti-foreign, and also has a morbid love for ferreting out secret revolutionary societies. He often goes around disguised as a poor coolie and talks with the populace in order to find out plots against the Empire or himself. He will sit down with a coolie suspected of disloyalty and say, 'What do you think of Pang Yu Ling?' 'He's an old rascal,' the unfortunate man is likely to reply, whereupon he is seized by soldiers and cast into prison or beheaded. Pang is the commanding military officer of the Empire and is thoroughly honest. He will protect foreigners while the laws allow them to live in China, but he openly avows his hatred for them."

"Next to Pang is Tso Tsung Tang, the general who suppressed the last rebellion and destroyed the forces of Yacoub Beg and his two sons. He is Viceroy of Nankin. Tso is a thorough soldier and sprang from the ranks, but he is a terrible hater of foreigners, and will not read the signs of the times. Flushed with his victories in war and swelled up with the importance of the army he lately led into Ili to meet the Russian forces then in Kuldja, Tso's vanity leads him to think that China can overwhelm the rest of creation. These are the men against whom Li Hung Chang is fighting for his supremacy, and the difference between them can be imagined when I tell you Li employs a man at Tientsin to do nothing but translate articles about China published in the Herald and other great newspapers, so that he knows just what is said about every move of his foreign policy. He is accurately informed even as to the kind of

newspapers he reads from. The recent letter of Admiral Shufeldt reflecting on the Empress caused a tremendous sensation at Peking, and Li Hung Chang was furious. He sent for Minister John Russell Young and remonstrated about it in a very stormy manner. I was present at the interview, and I never saw a man more furious than Li was. He shook like a leaf in his passion. This was the only unpleasant event of the present Minister's official career in China. Mr. Young is a great favorite with the Chinese government, and he has more influence with Li than any other foreign representative. The other Ministers are wild with jealousy at the preference which Li is beginning to show for America. Mr. Young is doyen of the diplomatic corps by right of seniority. When Minister Young met Li Hung Chang on his arrival as Minister, the Viceroy let his steamer wait a full hour beyond the appointed time.

THE Japanese bark *Tsurunoya Maru*, Captain Meyer, which left Shinagawa for Nagasaki in ballast, arrived at the anchorage on Monday last. Captain Meyer reports that on Wednesday last, off Omaisaki, during a strong W.N.W. gale, with a high cross sea running, the vessel sprung a leak, which gained with such rapidity as to necessitate her return to port. Was in company with a full-rigged ship bound up and a laden bark, painted black, beating down. The *Tsurunoya Maru* was formerly the American bark *B. Aymar*, and is partly owned by Messrs. Lake & Co., of Nagasaki.

THE *Hongkong Telegraph* emphatically denies the statement published by the correspondent of the *Daily Press*, that after the capture of Sontai, the town was given over to the troops to rapine and pillage. The *Telegraph* characterizes this as "an atrocious accusation," and we fully endorse the epithet if the *Daily Press*' correspondent did really venture to formulate such an assertion without the most convincing proof of its veracity. The *Telegraph*, after stating that the correspondent "was not within a hundred miles of the scene of action and had no possible means of obtaining trustworthy information," prints, in confirmation of its corrections, a letter from "a French officer who took part in the operations against Sontai." This letter we reproduce below. Our readers will observe, however, that it contains nothing which can be construed as a direct denial of the charge preferred by the correspondent of the *Daily Press*, though in other important respects its information is quite at variance with that supplied to the latter journal. The *Hongkong Telegraph* will be doing a public service if it can furnish some unimpeachable testimony as to the untruth of the barbarous act attributed by the *Daily Press*' correspondent to Admiral Courbet:—

HANOI, 27th December, 1883.

As you must have already heard, Sontai was captured by the French troops, after three days desperate fighting, on the evening of the 16th instant. Particulars of the attack have, no doubt, been sent to you by your special correspondent here, but I think I am perhaps in a position to give you a few details which are not likely to have been published.

Sontai was strongly fortified for an Eastern city, being surrounded by a wall some 16 miles in circumference, and besides being defended by several outlying forts, was protected by almost impassable swamps on every side. Admiral Courbet's plan of action was to make a false attack on the southern defences, so as to draw the Black Flags to that point, and then to make a dash on Phou-sá, a strong entrenchment defending the pathway leading to the eastern gate. This plan was carried out, and proved quite successful, the Turcos and Algerian legion carrying it, after some fierce hand-to-hand fighting. But even after capturing Phou-sá, the French were not allowed to remain in possession in peace, as a strong body of Black Flags issued from the southern gate, and, advancing through the swampy ground, made a desperate assault on the captured position, and were only beaten back after a stubborn resistance.

The Admiral's next movement was to send a strong detachment to take possession of a small hill overlooking Sontai from the north, and this being accomplished successfully, earthworks were quickly raised, and everything was in readiness for the grand assault. Early on the morning of the 16th the gunboats ranged in position, and commenced to shell the city, the field artillery, which was very well handled, doing a fair share of the work. For eleven hours the cannonade continued almost without cessation, and at 5 o'clock in the evening the troops advanced under cover of the guns against the northern gate. An entrance was soon effected, and the citadel was attacked. The citadel of Sontai is a square block, defended at its four corners by fortresses, which were mounted with some heavy guns. After some severe fighting, three of these forts were taken by the French, the Black Flags retreating into the fort at

the south-west corner. When hostilities ceased for the night, the Black Flags were still in possession, but when the French advanced at daylight, it was found that the enemy had abandoned the position and retired during the night. Without any further opposition, the city was entirely at the mercy of Admiral Courbet.

The casualties on either side, considering the hard fighting that took place, are exceedingly light. The French losses amounted to about 400, killed and wounded, including a large proportion of officers, whilst the Black Flags are reported to have lost not fewer than 600 men. On the French side there were from four to five thousand men engaged, exclusive of the gunboats, the total force of the Black Flags, according to a reliable estimate, not exceeding 1,800 men. There were no Chinese regular soldiers in Sontai, and the only resistance offered to the French was by Li Ang Fuk and his hardy Black Flags. The Turcos and foreign legion, who bore the brunt of the fighting, say the Black Flags fought like devils.

The bombardment by the gunboats almost demolished the town, and killed a vast number of Annamites and Chinese, traders, &c., who had sought shelter within the city. The victors captured about 200 small ponies, 250,000 francs, 300,000 cartridges, a number of Remington rifles—this being the arm carried by the Black Flags—5 Krupp guns, and a quantity of bronze and other old-fashioned ordnance. There was a report current that the chief of the Black Flags, Li Ang Fuk, had been killed in the assault, but this has since been contradicted, and the French authorities have no reliable information on the subject.

While the French were attacking Sontai, a body of troops—supposed to be Chinese regulars—marched out from Bac-ninh and opened fire on the entrenchments at Hanoi with some light field guns. However, the French garrison, 500 strong, easily held their ground, the enemy eventually retiring in good order.

After capturing Sontai, Admiral Courbet garrisoned the town with the half of the expeditionary force, and returned to Hanoi with the other half, where he now is, engaged in planning an advance on Bac-ninh. It is reported here that the attack on Bac-ninh will be made about the 10th January, but in some quarters it is asserted that nothing further will be attempted until additional reinforcements arrive from France. Personally, I think the Admiral will risk an attack, if he can see a fair prospect of success, before the arrival of General Millot, who is now on his way to assume the command of the French army in Tonquin.

THE special correspondent of the London *Daily News* telegraphs from Tokiyo, under date November the 28th:—

I have had a long interview with the Japanese Foreign Minister.

The Minister spoke freely on the subject of the opening up of the interior of Japan to foreign trade. He represents his Government as being most anxious for it, stipulating only that foreigners availing themselves of the privilege should be under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts. This would involve a revision of the treaties and the abolition of foreign legal jurisdiction in the open ports.

It is well that the people of England should understand the truth about the state of affairs in Japan, and for this reason such a telegram as the above is not unlikely to do some good. It may surprise the public to learn that the anxiety for unrestricted trade and intercourse is now on Japan's side, and that the tendency to perpetuate the present condition of semi-isolation is wholly on the foreign side. There is the plain fact, however. Dress it up in whatever euphuisms we please, its harsh outlines still stand forth unmistakably humiliating. Formerly it was the Japanese who wished to perpetuate the seclusion recommended by tradition and an unfortunate experience; now it is the foreigner who wishes to exclude competition from the commerce he has undertaken to develop, and who, to conserve his monopoly, is content that Japan shall never be admitted to any real intimacy with Western nations. We are aware that this statement of the case will be indignantly denied by many whose position it does not truly describe. There are persons, not a few, let us hope, who earnestly desire to see the work completed which Western envoys and fleets came here twenty-seven years ago to commence, but who, nevertheless, feel an honest apprehension that the time is not yet ripe, and that this country is scarcely fit to assume all the responsibilities of perfectly free intercourse. Such scruples deserve respect, though they might be justly met by pointing to the very scant consideration Japan's similarly inspired reluctance formerly received at foreign hands. But if this mood alone had to be dealt with, some *modus agendi* could soon be discovered, some temporary half-way house between

the present wretched dead-lock and the happier condition which might so easily be brought about. The other mood, the disposition to keep things as they are lest some vested interests should suffer by change, deserves to be differently treated. None of us will be disposed to admit that the interests of foreign countries and of Japan alike, as represented by their common commerce, ought to be subserved to the interests of a few merchants, whose property might be deteriorated, or their particular lines of trade interrupted, were the country thrown open. Yet it is impossible to doubt that this feeling lies at the root of much of the uncompromising opposition which everything resembling equal intercourse with Japan encounters among the foreign communities at the open ports. Some time ago, one of the vernacular journals expressed surprise that the people of Yokohama should be so blind to their own benefit as to oppose the opening of the country, with all the increased opportunities, industrial and commercial, such a measure must bring. The writer had evidently given his subject little serious thought. He did not see that, in commerce, whatever tends to subvert existing conditions must be inconvenient to somebody. Japan's foreign trade is a paltry business, compared with what it might be, and the circumstances under which it is conducted in Yokohama are as fatal to its healthy development as they are irksome to men of enterprise and capital. But, for all that, there have grown up under those circumstances a number of traders whose prosperity depends on keeping things in their present groove. To these men the opening of the country signifies the necessity of branching out in new directions; the certainty of seeing the domain they have hitherto monopolized invaded by capital and enterprise from without; the chance of finding the value of their local investments depreciate, and, in some few cases, the assurance that the illicit advantages which they now derive from an abuse of privilege will disappear with the exclusiveness of the privilege. This is the class which really stands in the path of progress and development. A great deal has been written and said about Japanese guilds and monopolists that environ the settlements and effectually check the growth of trade. But the influence of these guilds and monopolists does not deserve to be mentioned in the same breath with the influence of the foreign conservatives. For while the strength of the former depends entirely upon the permanence of the partial intercourse which alone is now possible, the efforts of the latter tend solely to perpetuate the incompleteness of that intercourse. In other words, the Japanese guilds, monopolists, and *sailori*, so bitterly inveighed against, are the inevitable outcome of conditions which a selfish and short-sighted section of the foreign community devotes all its energies to perpetuate. This is how the skeleton telegram of the *Daily News* reads in its expanded form.

DURING the year 1883 the number of actions brought by foreigners in Japanese courts and published in the columns of the local press, was eleven in all. Of these eleven, eight were decided in favour of the foreign plaintiffs, and three in favour of the Japanese defendants. The cases which went against the foreigners do not appear to have presented any perplexing features. Two were applications for an order to compel the defendant to take delivery of goods imported

by his directions, but in both instances conclusive expert testimony was offered that the goods did not agree with the original sample. The third case was a claim for compensation on account of damage incurred by a parcel of fans on ship-board. The plaintiff alleged that the damage resulted from defective drying and was therefore a fault of manufacture; but the defendant proved that the method of packing was in itself sufficient to have produced the injury. In the hearing of these cases eight different Japanese judges were engaged, one in each case; the judgments were delivered without any unnecessary delay, and the reasons were enunciated succinctly and clearly. Facts of this sort are worthy of record, as showing how partial and exaggerated is the notion, so frequently dinned into our ears in Yokohama, that justice is not accessible in Japanese Courts, and that there would be no security for life and property were foreigners obliged to submit to native jurisdiction. It will not be pretended, we presume, that the eight judges who, in more than two-thirds of the cases brought before them during 1883, delivered judgment in favour of foreigners and against their own nationals, were parties to a scheme for creating a falsely favorable impression of Japanese impartiality and fairness. Some critics, indeed, not shrinking from even this wild contention, avow that the Japanese Government and the Japanese Judiciary are parties to a plot which has for its object to throw dust into the eyes of foreign Governments, so as to persuade them to deliver over their nationals to a power which thirsts to make life in Japan miserable for all aliens. But these suspicions, though sufficiently becoming to lunatics or barbarians, scarcely claim consideration at the hands of sane or civilized men. If the creations of vulgar prejudice are to be preferred to the evidence of facts, it is hopeless to expect that our relations with this country can ever be placed on a footing of mutual liberality and confidence. There is, doubtless, an immense margin for improvement in the practice of Japanese civil law. There is, above all, the want of efficient legislation in matters of bankruptcy; a want which makes itself very keenly felt by foreign merchants. But these are points entirely apart from the spirit in which the law is administered. The latter is what the conservative section of the foreign community declares its inability to trust, and in the face of the evidence furnished by the records of 1883, we cannot but think that, if more attention were paid to facts and less to fancies, such a discreditable exhibition of race prejudice would soon be esteemed at its proper value.

BEFORE the Fisheries Act came into operation in 1865 there were many rivers in the West of Ireland where the continued presence of salmon seemed almost marvellous, having regard to the perils by which they were surrounded at every stage of their career. When, however, bag-nets, stake-nets, and other varieties of murderous engines, were abolished, and when the fish no longer found their passage up-stream completely barred, but were able, by judicious steering, to discover a narrow entrance which, in token of the care bestowed even on her finny subjects by Her Gracious Majesty, was designated "the Queen's Gap," a marked increase was soon observed in the stock of these well poached rivers, and it was generally concluded that all danger of salmon ceasing to be an article of

food was at an end. But there is another and more deadly obstacle to the growth of riverine population, and that is sewage. "It is well-known," writes the Hon. W. Mainwaring, in a paper contributed to the literature of the Fisheries Exhibition, "that the natural salmon stock of five of our largest rivers is practically exterminated, and that the fish present themselves annually at their unsavoury mouths, but to be baffled by causes chief among which is that of pollution; in other cases, less markedly offensive, the fish are known to be slowly but certainly receding." *Nature*, commenting on this paper, justly observes that "all the artificial breeding in the world cannot be of any avail in waters thus becoming more deadly, and to the chemist the utilization of waste offers a good field for work." Curiously enough, the same number of *Nature* contains a brief description by Mr. W. R. Browne of a recently suggested device for purifying sewage by an application of the old principle of the siphon. "Into a tank containing the sewage dips a siphon pipe some thirty feet high, of which the shorter leg is many times larger than the longer. When this is started, the water rises slowly and steadily in the shorter column, and before it reaches the top has left behind it all, or almost all, of the solid particles which it previously held in suspension. These fall slowly back through the column and collect at the bottom of the tank, to be cleared out when needful. The effluent water is not, of course, chemically pure, but sufficiently so to be turned into any ordinary stream."

THE new system of superannuation allowances for the Japanese Civil Service presents one feature which appears entirely superfluous. What is the use of a Pension Bureau? If Great Britain, with her immense Civil Service and its numerous ramifications, finds no necessity for such an office, why should Japan need it? In England the records kept in the various departments amply suffice to determine the ordinary allowances and gratuities, as well as those for special merit, and the deductions for bad conduct. We fail to discover any reasons why a similar system should not succeed in Japan. A Pension Bureau can do nothing that is not properly possible to a department. The officers of the Bureau can not conduct special enquiries into the circumstances of the cases forwarded for consideration. They will be compelled to accept, without cavil, the report of the department to which the claimant belongs, so that in the end their duties will be reduced to writing up purposeless records. We fear that in this matter Japan has thoughtlessly imitated the United States, forgetting that America inherits from her civil war a pension list too bulky to be managed by the departments in their ordinary routine, even if the labour could be distributed on any reasonable principle. It is a pity that a measure so excellent as the institution of superannuation allowances should have been made a pretext for adding another useless excrescence to a bureaucracy already inconveniently bulky.

It would appear, from the news brought by the American mail, that France's ideas with regard to China are daily becoming more intolerant. Under date December 12th, we are informed that M. Ferry had telegraphed to Admiral Courbet desiring him to resume operations with the utmost vigour, and further to let the Chinese authorities know that the French Chambers had given the Cabinet *carte blanche* to proceed as it

thought best in Tonquin. The same telegram says that the Admiral was directed to propose a renewal of negotiations, and that in the event of a refusal on the Chinese side, he was to proceed at once to the attack of Sontai and Bac-ninh. So soon as these places are captured, he is to propose another renewal of negotiations, and if again unsuccessful, is to seize one of the five large ports of China, but not either Canton or Shanghai. It will be seen that the Admiral's movements give an appearance of truth to these telegrams. The date of his attack on Sontai is not inconsistent with the notion that his advance was regulated, in the main, by directions from Paris, and if this view be correct, the assault of Bac-ninh is not likely to be long delayed. The negotiations alluded to are perplexing for two reasons. First, that Admiral Courbet is not situated so as to make negotiations with the Chinese authorities possible; and, secondly, that the negotiations were to have been proposed on the basis of the then military position in Tonquin. Now the French Cabinet has declared, more than once, that the possession of Sontai and Bac-ninh is absolutely essential to the consummation of France's projects; and we can scarcely believe that any arrangement, not including the occupation of these places, would have been deliberately proposed. After their occupation, there is little doubt that France will be ready to come to terms on the basis of the then *status*. The capture of Bac-ninh will not prove, we suspect, an operation of much difficulty. It is true that China does not appear to have put any strength into the defence of Sontai. There is, indeed, good reason to doubt whether she had any troops there at all. Whatever resistance the French encountered, and a pretty stout resistance it was, must be credited to the Black Flags alone. The garrison of Bac-ninh is therefore much stronger numerically, and the place has the advantage of being beyond the range of heavy artillery from the ships. But, on the other hand, it offers few facilities for defence from a military point of view, and, moreover, Pang's braves, raw recruits as they are, will probably be found to have less stomach for fighting than Liu's veterans. Yet even with Sontai and Bac-ninh in their possession, the French must see that they will not have advanced far towards a satisfactory settlement. China can keep up the same desultory species of resistance for an indefinite time, without actually acknowledging a state of war, and in the meanwhile the anti-foreign feeling will be growing, and the chance of unpleasant complications increasing, throughout the Empire. It is probably because M. Ferry foresees all this that he has resolved to make the capture of one of the five ports the next step in the proceedings after Bac-ninh has fallen. Canton and Shanghai are excluded from the programme, we are told, the reason for this forbearance being that France wishes to avoid all possibility of trouble with the European powers. We are disposed to think that, with this object in view, Formosa is likely to be the scene of operations. The seizure of a port of the mainland could only be a temporary measure, but the occupation of Formosa would include contingencies which the Chinese Government could not endure to contemplate calmly. Little as we can sympathise with the French pretensions in this business, or with the manner in which they have been advanced, we feel that some decisive action leading to a final and immediate settlement would be ultimately

more conducive to the interests of both Chinese and foreigners, than the present policy of unconfessed warfare and unreal negotiations.

MR. GLADSTONE'S position after the receipt of the news announcing the destruction of Hicks Pasha's army, seems to have been particularly embarrassing. A Cabinet Council was held on November 24th, and it is stated that every one of those present, with the exception of the Prime Minister, urged the advisability of establishing a British protectorate over Egypt. If this account be trustworthy, the course advocated by the leading London journals would appear to be endorsed by an overwhelming majority in the Ministry. Mr. Gladstone, however, is said to have stoutly opposed the adoption of any policy which would commit England to an active military support of the Khedive's enterprises against El Mahdi. His reported line of argument was that Great Britain's leading objects had already been accomplished in Egypt, and that her honour was concerned in the speedy withdrawal of her troops according to the pledges given to the Powers. At the same time he admitted that this withdrawal must necessarily be delayed, in view of recent events, though it could not be avoided on account of any assistance England might be supposed to owe the Khedive in his movements against the False Prophet. In short, Mr. Gladstone's contention was that the Soudan is entirely beyond the legitimate sphere of British interference, and, for the rest, he is understood to have said that an invasion of Lower Egypt by El Mahdi did not appear imminent. In the face, however, of the Cabinet's universal dissent from the Premier's ideas, it was finally decided to retain the garrison at Cairo, a decision which seems to have produced a most salutary effect in restoring confidence to the Egyptian Government. The Khedive immediately issued a proclamation announcing that the British forces would not be withdrawn, and the announcement was instrumental in checking a panic that threatened to paralyse the whole of Lower Egypt. Meanwhile, the report of the False Prophet's success is said to have seriously alarmed the Porte. The Sultan begged the Ulemas to use their influence against El Mahdi at Mecca, but the request does not appear to have elicited a favorable response. Telegraphic despatches state that the Sultan then ordered immediate preparations for an expedition to the Soudan, and that steps to raise the necessary funds were taken without delay. On the other hand, we read, under date December 4th, that the French Ambassador at Constantinople was "instructed to inform the Porte that under no circumstances would France allow Turkey to intervene in the Soudan." We are at a loss to understand by what possible right such a veto could be interposed, seeing that the revolt in Upper Egypt is openly directed against the Sultan, whom El Mahdi has denounced as a man of impure origin and a corrupter of the faith of Islam. At all events, whether or no the Marquis de Noailles conveyed this intimation to the Porte, we find Great Britain agreeing, a week later, that Turkish frigates might be permitted to act in concert with the English fleet in the Red Sea, on condition the frigates did not carry any troops. The British Government has evidently adhered to its resolution not to engage directly in the affair, and the Khedive has therefore been obliged to fall back upon Baker Pacha and Zebehr Pacha, who were to have set

out from Cairo to Suakim on December the 13th. Baker's force was to consist of 2,300 gendarmes (of whom 500 were mounted), 1,500 black troops, and 4,000 Bedouins with five guns. These troops were additional to those stationed at Suakim; but, according to latest advices, the garrison of that place numbered only 500 effectives, and the danger of night attacks from the rebels was so imminent that H.M.S. *Ranger* was engaged throwing shells over the town to scare the enemy. Baker's plan of campaign seems to be that the Blacks and half the Bedouins under Zebehr shall advance from Suakim towards Berber, while the other half of the Bedouins, under Hussein Pacha, go up the Nile, recruiting *en route*. The two forces will endeavour to effect a junction between Berber and Suakim. It must be confessed, however, that the prospects of this campaign do not look very promising, as will be gathered from the following account, extracted from the *New York Herald*, of the events that occurred in the neighbourhood of Suakim on the 2nd of December:—

Another fearful massacre has befallen a detachment of the Egyptian army while on the march from Suakim to Berber on December 2. At the halting place in a wady, thirty miles from Suakim, a force of 800 negroes and Bashi Bazouks were utterly annihilated by Kabbabish Bedouins who have declared for the False Prophet.

The troops were marching with most of their Remingtons packed on camels, when, suddenly, over five thousand Bedouins, armed with spears and old muzzle loaders, attacked the detachment. The camels all stampeded. About six hundred troops managed to form a square—the blacks on three faces, the Bashi Bazouks on the fourth. The fight lasted only about twenty minutes, the Bedouins crying, "Join us and kill the Christian dogs from Cairo!"

All the Bashi Bazouks were killed. Many of the blacks threw up their hands, shouting, "Aleikum salaam!" "Peace be to you, true Mussulmans," and then went over to the Arabs. The moral effect of this new victory of El Mahdi's followers is spreading like wildfire, his emissaries and dervishes appearing already in Upper Egypt and Assouan—the usual halting place for Cook's Nile tourists—and preaching holy war.

The whole country is in a blaze. The rank and file of the Egyptian army at a favorable moment is likely to declare for the False Prophet, who is now regarded by the entire population as the true Messiah of Islam. Now only 1,000 men are left to form the garrison at Suakim. The Arabs are firing shots into the town every night. Baker Pacha expects to leave on Wednesday or Saturday at the latest, but he can now merely watch events; and any march to Berber is deemed impossible.

Already the effect of Tel-el-Kebir is more than neutralized; and the gravest consequences may ensue in the delta, as well as in Upper Egypt. The Egyptian government is considering the question of laying a cable in the Red Sea between Suakim and Suez. King John of Abyssinia is collecting all the Abyssinians and Gallas tribes of the south and is ready to make a dash upon Massowah and acquire the long coveted seaports.

Another account of the Egyptian defeat says that spies entered Suakim and reported that the hill men were hovering near the town. On hearing this Mahmoud Taper Pacha, anxious to efface the defeat at Toka on the 6th ult., on account of which a court martial was pending, sent forward 500 black troops and 200 Bashi-Bazouks against the hill tribes, he himself remaining at Suakim. At the distance of three hours' march from the town the Egyptians were attacked by several thousand men. The Egyptians fought stubbornly, but were cut to pieces. Fifty, of whom half were officers, escaped. This defeat of the troops which have hitherto been regarded as the flower of the army has caused great consternation, as it tends to show that the task of opening the route from Suakim to Berber with the material at Baker Pacha's disposal is a nearly hopeless one. The Sultan of Turkey has despatched an aide-de-camp to Hedjaz and two court dervishes to the Soudan on errands relating to El Mahdi's revolt.

The present disaster, following on the annihilation of Captain Moncrieff's force near Suakim last month, indicate a general rising of the Bedouin tribes under the banner of the False Prophet. It shows that the relief of Khartoum will be a most difficult operation and that the proposed line of defence between Suakim and Berber will be almost impossible to maintain against El Mahdi's advance. A letter from Suakim gives an account of Captain Moncrieff's fate. He landed with Mahmoud Pacha at Trinkitat, forty-five miles south of Suakim, whence he marched to Toka. The force lost eleven officers and 142 men, besides six Turks and several Greeks; they lost also one gun and three hundred rifles. Captain Moncrieff was last seen on horseback surrounded by the enemy and defending himself with his revolver until he was dragged from his horse, overcome by numbers, and cut to pieces. The reports of the engagement, if so it can be called, are to the effect that the Egyptian troops were formed in a square, as usual, but that the square was broken into by eight of the enemy, who locked their shields and rushed through the line. An immediate panic seized the troops, who fled in confusion, throwing away their arms, ammunition, water, bread; and even stripping off their clothes in order to escape the faster. Mahmoud Pacha returned to Suakim, and refused again to face the rebels with such troops. Toka is held for the Egyptian government by a body of soldiers of the Soudan army, assisted by some impressed convicts. A panic prevails at Suakim, and it is suggested that black troops should be ordered up from Massowah.

Zebehr Pacha, whom the Khedive has selected to act with Baker, is famous as the conqueror of Darfour, and, after the Mahdi, is said to be the most remarkable man the Soudan has produced. It is reported that he is a bitter enemy of Gordon Pacha, and that his ideas of the value of English officers for campaigning in the Soudan are not at all complimentary. One half, he says, would fall sick, and the other half nurse them. What he would like is to have thirty or forty Ulemas to preach the true religion, a process that would dispose of El Mahdi and his pretensions in a very short time.

THE fire at Sapporo, which recently consumed the house occupied by Professor Brooks, of the Imperial Agricultural College, broke out in the servants' quarters and at a most inconvenient hour of the night, namely, eleven o'clock. Professor Brooks and his wife, and a guest, Miss Shaw, escaped in their night-clothes, and nothing was saved. Happily, the inmates sustained no injury.

WE (*Hongkong Daily Press*) hear that the Kwang-tung authorities have officially notified the foreign Consuls at Canton that the river is about to be blocked, leaving only a narrow channel for the passage of vessels up.

THE *Mercury* says:—"A telegram has been received from St. Petersburg, announcing the death in December last of Mr. P. A. Ponomareff, head of the well-known tea firm Ponomareff & Co., in Hankow. Deceased was 42 years of age, and came out to the Far East as a youth, without any means, some twenty years ago. He is said to have left seven million dollars."

THE report of the P. & O. S. N. Co. shows that the net profits of the year amount to £212,310, which after deducting an interim dividend of 2½ per cent. admits of a further dividend of 2½ per cent. and a bonus of 2 per cent., a balance of £9,310 being carried forward to a new account. Considering the badness of trade, and the loss caused to the Company by the enforcement of quarantine in Egypt and Italy, this is a very satisfactory result.

It is reported (says the *Courier*) that the commander of the forces in Chekiang, accompanied by the Ningpo Taotai, has lately visited a place called Chin Wu-kung, near to the entrance to the river reading to Ningpo, and that it has been decided to build a fort there. Some European soldiers are said to have been buried on the spot where the fort is to be built, and a small memorial erected to the memory of an instructor in the British Army is reported to have been removed. Foreigners have to respect the remains of Chinese, and why should not Chinese be respectfully requested to respect the burial place of British soldiers?

THE story of the loss of the British bark *Sattara*, of Liverpool, is a very simple one. It appears that the vessel was in a Westerly gale on Sunday last off Omaisaki, and in an attempt to wear ship, which failed, she drifted and was stranded about five miles to the westward of the light. The accident occurred in the middle of the day, and fortunately no lives were lost. The *Sattara* may be reckoned a total loss, as she lies bilged and with her back broken. The captain has engaged the schooner *Helena* of this port to visit the scene of the wreck to bring back the crew.

THE JAPANESE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE progress of Japanese reform has, of necessity, been very slow in the direction of the Civil Service. The circumstance attending the fall of feudalism, though, theoretically, they overthrew the old-fashioned doctrine so long prevalent in England and still paramount in the United States, that public offices are the property of the ruler, were nevertheless of such a nature as to unavoidably perpetuate that evil. For, while the permanent existence of the Government of the Restoration depended, in great part, on the selection of competent men to fill the various administrative posts, its immediate safety could only be secured by mitigating, as far as possible, the financial disasters which the abolition of the Daimiates entailed in so many cases. It is the statesman's first duty to adapt his reforms to the conditions he has to deal with, and we cannot be at all surprised that the Central Government of Japan, in the early days of its existence, paid more attention to the clamour of needy *Samurai* than to the strict dictates of economy. Members of Cabinet and Heads of Departments must have been more than human to ignore the distress of their clansmen and supporters, and to turn a deaf ear to the appeals of men whose abstract title to the privileges and emoluments of office was as valid as their own. It resulted, therefore, that during the first few years of the Mediatized Government's existence, the public offices were crowded with apparently functionless functionaries, whose principal business seemed to be of a mutually obstructive nature, and whose numbers were so obviously excessive that foreign critics, ignoring, or not caring to know, the exceptional circumstances of the case, saw constant justification for preferring, against the chiefs of the new bureaucracy, sounding charges of corruption, nepotism, and iniquitous alienation of public money.

This was bad enough, but there followed another, and, if possible, a worse, evil. The process of weeding out these redundant establishments had to be undertaken sooner or later. Before long the task was commenced, and, at the approach of financial periods, each department of State was visited by a convulsion—an earthquake, as the light-hearted sufferers were pleased to call it—which shook off a cluster of the useless parasites, and gradually reduced the staff to moderate dimensions. Necessarily, however, there sprung up, under the influence of these constant shocks, an universal consciousness of insecurity. Nobody knew whose turn should come next. It would be unfair to assume, and indeed there is little reason for the assumption, that these winnowings of the grain from the chaff were largely subserved to favoritism or party-spirit. But they probably suffered from such taints at least as much as would have been the case elsewhere,

and they certainly had the effect of inducing a perceptible paralysis, or perfunctoriness, of effort throughout the middle and lower grades of the public service.

To remedy this evil—to restore, or rather to impart, to the service something of that stability so essential to zeal and efficiency—the evident plan was to institute a system of superannuation allowances. Nearly three years ago, the advisability of taking some step in this direction was strongly urged in our columns, but the Government, though, we believe, long cognizant of the necessity, only recently succeeded in adapting other conditions to the proposed reform. A Notification, which we translate elsewhere, has now been issued, enacting various regulations for the grant of superannuation allowances and gratuities to civil servants, and we cannot doubt that the measure will be welcomed heartily by all Japan's friends. It was no light matter that men who had served their country well should be cast off, like worn-out garments, when the occasion was convenient, or when age began to impair their usefulness.

It is right to mention here, that, even before the promulgation of the Notification in question, there did exist, in the Japanese Civil Service, a system of gratuities intended to recompense long service. But it was an exceedingly illiberal system. Half the amount of an official's monthly salary was multiplied by the number of years he had served, and the product represented his gratuity, on retirement. Thus, to take an example, an appointment of 200 *yen* per month entitled its holder, on retiring from office after twenty years' service, to receive a lump sum of two thousand *yen*. We call this an illiberal system, because, first, it contrasts markedly with the rules for the commutation of pensions in England, where the lump sum receivable, by way of gratuity,* amounts to a year's average pay multiplied by two-thirds of the length of service in years; and secondly, because the emoluments of office in Japan are so small that a gratuity calculated on the above basis, represented, in a great majority of cases, the veriest pittance.

Questions of this nature occupied the public mind in England also, not so very many years ago. Looking back at the annals of the English civil service, we find that the present system of superannuation allowances had its origin in a practice which grew up, in certain of the larger offices, during the first half of the reign of GEORGE III., when, by voluntary collections from the salaries of Civil Servants, a fund was provided for the support of those who might be disabled in the discharge of their duties, or who might retire after long service. Indeed, it would surprise a great many Englishmen to be told the truth about their Civil Service.

* This money is paid by a Life Insurance office, not directly by the Treasury.

For up to the year 1810, those doing duty in the State departments were little more than private clerks, or *employés*, of the head of their department. They had no legal status as public officials, and their pay came out of a fund made up of the fees collected in the department; the balance of which fund, like the appointing power itself, was regarded as a part of the perquisites of the Minister or head of the office. This state of affairs was a part of the old "spoils system" which had formerly prevailed, and under which offices and places in the Civil Service were simply saleable property. The statutes of 1810 and 1816 remedied these false conditions by making all those engaged in the established service public officials with fixed salaries. About the same time, too, attention seems to have been directed to the desirability of making the Service more attractive by means of provisions for disability or declining years. In 1811 a partial measure in this direction was inaugurated, and its results proved so conducive to efficiency, as well as to economy, that various modifications followed, always in a liberal sense; until, in 1859, a final revision of the laws brought them to their present form. The rule now is that, if there has not been more than ten years' service, there can be no allowance. The retiring allowance, after ten, and before eleven, years of service, is at the rate of ten-sixtieths of the current salary of which the official is in receipt at the time. At eleven years of service, the allowance is eleven-sixtieths of the salary, and so on, increasing at the rate of one-sixtieth for every year of service up to forty years, after which there is no increase. Thus the maximum allowance, under ordinary circumstances, amounts to two-thirds of the salary.

These data enable us to compare the system now inaugurated in Japan with that prevailing in England. In Japan the general rule is that a minimum of fifteen years' service is necessary to establish eligibility for superannuation allowance: in England the minimum is ten years. On the other hand, the amount of the allowance after fifteen years' service is the same in both cases, viz., one-fourth (in England fifteen-sixtieths) of the retiring officer's salary. The rate of increase, however, is different; being in England one-sixtieth per annum, and in Japan only one-two-hundred-and-fortieth. Again, while in England the increase continues up to forty years, after which length of service the allowance is two-thirds of the salary, in Japan, the increase ceases after thirty-five years, when the allowance becomes one-third of the salary. It thus appears that, in its main features, the Japanese scale is less liberal than the English. Doubtless, under the circumstances, this is an error on the right side.

An integral part of the English method of securing faithful and efficient officers is that the salaries are carefully graded, so

that there are regular additions dependent upon length and excellence of service. We have reason to believe that reforms in this sense are not yet completed in Japan, though much has been undoubtedly effected. It will be seen, however, that the new Regulations embody carefully guarded provisions for the granting of special, or discretionary, allowances, up to a fixed limit, in cases of severe bodily injury or disability incurred in the execution of duty, abolition of offices, and so forth. These details find their counterpart in the English system. We miss, however, in the Japanese regulations, any clauses referring to exceptional merit or special service of great public value. Possibly the power to deal with these cases is specially reserved, but without some provision for its exercise, the system cannot be considered perfect.

A most important regulation is that which enacts that, except in special cases of incapacity through illness or physical injury, no official becomes eligible for a pension before he is sixty years of age. It is evidently the desire of Japanese legislators to make superannuation allowances a genuine provision for old age. We are not prepared to say that the method adopted is too severe, having regard to the peculiar circumstances of Japan's case, but we may observe that the same limit of age formerly existed in the pension regulations of the English Colonial Office, and that its effects proved very harsh in practice. The rule, however, told with most severity in the case of high officials whose offices were not permanent, and who often found themselves, at about the age of fifty, without any hope of re-appointment or any sufficient means of support. In the Japanese Regulations, some provision against these contingencies appears to be made in the shape of special pensions to officials of the upper grades (*vide* second clause of Article II.).

It has been said that the prosperity of the principal European States is owing, in a great degree, to the character of their Civil Service, which has been instrumental to the development of their resources and to public economy. Fully endorsing this, we welcome with satisfaction everything tending to the moral regeneration of official life in Japan. The institution of superannuation allowances is a step in the right direction. It was preceded by another reform, not generally known, but even more indicative of the Government's fidelity to the spirit of improvement. We allude to an order recently issued to the various departments that in future the minimum of service in any grade before promotion to a higher shall be four years. We learn also that the authorities contemplate inaugurating tests of qualification, or, in other words, substituting the "merit system" for the arbitrary methods now existing. It is scarcely necessary to say that the sooner this change can be effected, the better. The consequence of a similar reform in the British Service has been not

only that a limit is set to the exercise of improper authority, to intrigue and venal influence, but that Government itself assumes in the eyes of the people a purer aspect. Men see that while servility and manipulation, partisan scheming and official prostitution, are repudiated, honour and emolument are brought within reach of the best capacity and the highest character: that, in short, fidelity to public interests is an obligation paramount to all the selfish claims of individuals and of parties. It will be a happy day for Japan's prestige and prosperity when she finds herself in a position to remove from her Civil Service the traces of feudal institutions and arbitrary government.

JAPAN'S CRITICS.

THAT a Hongkong journal should be ill-informed in matters relating to Japan is not surprising. Ignorance of this country and its people is the normal condition of foreigners who reside here, and a similar, or even greater, want of knowledge may well be pardoned in a journalist living a thousand miles away. What does, however, surprise us a little is that this lack of information should be thought no obstacle to the delivery of *ex cathedra* opinions on Japanese affairs by a newspaper which, like the *Hongkong Daily Press*, manifests a general desire to be just and accurate. Perhaps the key to this enigma is to be found in the fact that our Colonial contemporary entirely underestimates the extent and importance of the subject he undertakes to discuss. He calls the abandonment of extraterritoriality in Japan a threadbare question, and then proceeds to dismiss it with an airy statement that "when the Japanese enjoy under their own laws the full security for life, property, and reputation which is conferred by the laws of Western nations, then foreigners may cease to claim extraterritoriality." This is an unimpeachable position. It brings the problem at once within reach of a few pretty platitudes and enables the advocates of extraterritoriality to strike an imposing attitude. But we want something more than platitudes. We want to know, for example, who is to be the judge of Japan's condition. Who is to say whether or no she enjoys, under her own laws, full security for life, property, and reputation? The *Hongkong Daily Press* evidently thinks that the judgment is to rest with foreigners, and gives us an example of the grounds upon which the verdict may be based by quoting the recent police case at Nagasaki. "Instead," he says, "of the policeman, accused of causing the death of the Chinaman who was killed, being placed on his trial in ordinary course, and being held convicted or acquitted according to the result of such trial, the case was made the subject of a private investigation." Hence our Colonial contemporary argues that "in

Japan the judicial process is not independent of active interference by the executive, and that consequently the operation of the law is not certain and impartial." This reasoning is perfectly fair and logical so far as it goes, but it stops short at a very important point. It fails to show that there was anything out of "the ordinary course," or that the judicial power was in any way interfered with by the executive, in the case under consideration. We have to remember that the matter of investigation at Nagasaki was the act of a body of police in the discharge of their duty, and that while the act itself might properly have been tried by the usual tribunal, the duty had been made the subject of diplomatic representations by the Chinese Government, and the whole affair had excited feelings by which, unfortunately, those engaged in the controversy on the Chinese side had suffered themselves to be unduly influenced. Under these circumstances it was considered wiser, in the interests of public order and international comity, to conduct the investigation into the conduct of the police with closed doors. In commenting on the fact, we said that "such a course is within the discretion of every Government," of which assertion the *Hongkong Daily Press* declares that "a more lamentable display of ignorance it is almost impossible to conceive," and that "so far from the course followed in the case in question being one which is 'within the discretion of every Government,' it is one which would never be dreamt of in any civilized country of which public trial is one of the institutions." It is unfortunate that before passing this sweeping judgment upon the incorrectness of our position, the *Daily Press* did not take steps to supplement its own singularly imperfect information. In Articles 263 and 264 of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure, which came into force in January, 1881, we find the following provisions:—

Art. 263.—All criminal, correctional, and simple police cases brought before the jurisdictions of judgment will be there examined, debated, and decided in public court under pain of nullity of the condemnation pronounced.

Art. 264.—Nevertheless, if, according to the nature of the accusations, the discussion would appear to be dangerous to public order, to decency, or to good manners, the tribunal may, either on the decision of the public administration, or on its own authority, direct that the discussions shall take place without the presence of the public. The judgment must always be given in public.

This code, which in all its leading features reflects the most enlightened spirit of Western jurisprudence, has been critically examined by several juris-consults of European reputation, and their detailed verdicts, published at intervals in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, were, without exception, highly favorable. It did not occur to one of these specialists, who had made the science of law their lifelong study, to find fault with the discretionary power vested in the public administration by the Article we have quoted. It did not occur to them to find fault, for the simple reason,

that the same power is vested, and must always be vested, in the public administration of European States, of whose methods, for the rest, the new criminal procedure of Japan is a counterpart. Yet because exceptional circumstances dictated an exercise of this exceptional power in Japan, the *Hongkong Daily Press* does not hesitate to assert that "healthy public opinion, which in our own country is the greatest safeguard of the purity of the administration of justice, is wanting in Japan, and in the absence of such safeguard, how can foreigners give their assent to the abolition of extraterritoriality?" We know not whether to marvel more at the ignorance or the recklessness of these comments. The commonest principles of justice require that before levelling wholesale denunciations against a Government and a people, a public writer should take some pains to inform himself of the correctness of his premises. This easy precaution has been wholly neglected by the *Hongkong Daily Press*. Our Colonial contemporary will do well to remember, in future, that even among the recognized institutions of Western civilization there may be something which is not yet included within the limits of his profound knowledge.

Nothing in the outlook of Japan's foreign relations appears to us more hopeless than the carelessness and ignorance of those who, from proximity and experience, ought to be best able to appreciate her condition. Here we have a case of a Hongkong journalist who, speaking with all the assurance of authenticated knowledge, informs his readers that "while Japanese ideas on jurisprudence remain so very different from those of Westerns, the maintenance of the present system of extraterritoriality is indispensable." This difference, so loudly proclaimed, rests, as we have shown, on the evidence of a proceeding strictly in accordance with the provisions of a code which, in all its leading features, is an exact counterpart of the systems now obtaining in the most civilized Occidental States, and which has elicited warm encomiums from the most celebrated European jurisconsults. Under ordinary circumstances such grotesque sciolism as that displayed by the Hongkong newspaper would be dismissed with a smile of contempt, but, most unfortunately for Japan, her reputation lies, to a great extent, in the hands of local critics. The outside world, in general, has no means of ascertaining the truth or falsehood of what these critics say, and is naturally disposed to defer to their exceptional opportunities of obtaining information. During the past three years the provisions of the new codes have been carefully observed in Japan. The trial of accused persons, even political offenders, has invariably been conducted with the utmost publicity; every latitude has been given to counsel, and the judges have shown themselves painstaking and im-

partial. All this, however, is passed over in silence, and because the conduct of policemen, in the discharge of an unusual duty, is carried, by a foreign treaty Power, altogether outside the domain of every-day criminal procedure, and is consequently investigated in a manner prescribed by a part of the code specially adapted to extraordinary contingencies, an English journalist flippantly declares that Japanese do not enjoy under their own laws full security for life, property, and reputation. To grapple with such ignorance and recklessness seems truly a Sisyphean task. We do not like to think that the deliberate object of those foreign local writers who discuss the subject of treaty revision, is to throw dust in the eyes of the public. Yet in the face of their sweeping errors and contradictions, we know not what else to conclude. Only a few days ago, an English newspaper, published in Yokohama, contained the following statement:—"Japan is said to demand that the extraterritorial rights of aliens shall be totally abrogated, and that the customs tariff shall be fixed entirely at the will and pleasure of the Government." Now not only have no such demands ever been made by Japan; not only has she never been seriously accused of making any such demands; but the very journal which contains this extraordinary statement, itself published, some time ago, a series of leading articles on the subject of treaty revision, and in them fully explained that Japan asks for nothing more than a limited amount of jurisdiction over foreigners, as a probationary step, but above all, to correct the glaring deficiencies which exist under the present system, and whose existence the journal in question fully and frankly acknowledged. What conclusion are we to draw from such strange tergiversations? A newspaper which yesterday told its readers that the demands of Japan are limited and reasonable, and to-day informs them that the same demands are unlimited and unreasonable, must surely be swayed by passion and prejudice rather than by fairness and love of truth. We cannot wonder that the outcome of all this, so far as the general public is concerned, should be helpless bewilderment. And yet it is most important that the position should be clearly understood. Again we repeat, what we have often said before, that the Japanese Government does not claim the right to "fix the tariff entirely at its own will and pleasure." The day must come when it will enjoy that right, like every free State in the Occident, but for the present it is willing to pay the utmost respect to vested interests, and to proceed with whatever degree of deliberation may be considered advisable. Neither does "Japan demand that the extraterritorial rights of aliens shall be totally abrogated." Even were she prepared to formulate such a demand, its wisdom would be very doubtful, in view of the strong race prejudices

of those over whom she would have to exercise jurisdiction. What she asks is that there shall be inaugurated some system pointing to the abolition of extraterritoriality hereafter, and so contrived as to correct abuses in the present. This end would be accomplished by restoring to her a limited amount of jurisdiction, extending, for example, to misdemeanours and delicts. In the event of such an arrangement being made, she has offered to guarantee that in every case where a foreigner is tried, a majority of the Judges on the bench shall be foreign, and that simple police cases shall be investigated by a Japanese and foreign magistrate, the decision of the latter to be binding in case of disagreement. In making this proposal, Japan's avowed object is the complete opening of the country, so that aliens shall enjoy here all the privileges of trade, travel, and residence, which Japanese enjoy when they visit the West. The extraterritorial system was devised to suit a condition of partial intercourse, and it is as much Japan's desire, as it is the professed aim of the Treaty Powers, to remedy that condition. All this has been repeated over and over again, but when simply and honestly stated, it presents such a reasonable and laudable programme, that those who desire to perpetuate the existing state of affairs find it necessary wholly to misrepresent Japan's proposals, and falsely to attribute to her Government demands which are calculated to excite foreign apprehension and opposition. It is a discreditable state of affairs; discreditable to the honesty of foreign criticism; discreditable to the consistency of foreign professions, and discreditable to the intelligence of foreign judgment. But we have the comfort of knowing that truth will prevail in this instance, as it has ever prevailed. Sooner or later the attitude of foreigners towards Japan will cease to reflect that race prejudice of which they themselves are the loudest deprecators; and sooner or later European Governments will recognise that this nation cannot be condemned to a perpetual state of partial intercourse with its fellows, and to the continued stigma of semi-barbarous isolation, simply because the local interests of a few hundred foreigners have drifted into a groove that runs in the opposite direction from real progress and larger international fellowship.

THE BANKS OF EUROPE.

At the last session of the International Congress of Statisticians, held at Budapest, the Statistical Society of Italy was commissioned to prepare an enquiry into the condition of the note-issuing banks of Europe. The work has been completed,* and is composed of a series of monographs referring to the banking establishments of France, Great Britain, Italy, Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, the

* *Statistique internationale des banques d'émission.*

Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, and Spain. The details furnished enable one to form an idea of the systems of the different banks, the different circumstances of their origin, and the services they render to Government and the public.

The banks of France, Spain, Belgium, and the Netherlands, possess features which betray, if not a common origin, at least many points of resemblance. We may trace throughout them all general ideas which prevailed at the establishment of the Bank of France. The fundamental statutes of the latter were enacted by Imperial Decree, on January 16th, 1808; and the capital was then 90 millions (francs). After the Revolution of 1848, the departmental banks, founded under the First Empire, were absorbed into the central institution; the power of issuing notes exchangeable on demand was extended to the end of 1897, and the capital was fixed at 182½ millions of francs. The affairs of the bank are in no way mixed up with those of the State, though the latter appoints its Governor. The board of management is elected by the shareholders, and there are 90 branches. In Spain, the *Banco Espanol de San-Fernando*, founded in 1829, after various modifications, became, by a decree of March 19th, 1874, the Bank of Spain. Other banks of issue which had existed up to the latter date in eighteen of the principal towns, were thenceforth obliged to unite with the central bank, or to go into liquidation. The Bank of Spain belongs to a society of shareholders, but is under obligation to make certain advances to the State, as well as to collect the taxes in provinces where no official organization exists for that purpose. The Governor and the two vice-Governors are appointed by the KING, but the board of managers, by the shareholders. The capital is 100 millions of *pesetas* (93 million francs). In Belgium an analogous organization exists. The National Bank, possessing the power of issuing notes payable to bearer, was created by a law dated May 5th, 1850. A quarter of its profits belong to the State. It performs the service of the Treasury; is charged with the care of the public funds and with the manipulation of the national debt. The governor and vice-governor are appointed by the KING, and the Government exercises an active surveillance over its operations. The capital is, at present, 50 millions of francs. In Holland, the Netherlands Bank, which alone is authorized to issue notes, was organized, in 1814, on lines laid down twelve years previously by an official of the Batavian Republic. Its statutes were revised in 1864, and its privilege of issue was extended to March 31st, 1889. The first capital, in shares purchased by the Government, was subsequently allotted to the public. The bank performs, at Amsterdam, the service of the State, gratis, and keeps the public funds, of which the total figures in its balance sheets. The KING names the president and secretary; and a special commissioner, whose functions are almost a sinecure, is supposed to watch over its operations. The capital is 16 millions of florins (33,600,000 francs).

These details show that the Bank of France furnished the model of the Spanish, Dutch, and Belgian establishments. The same privileges, and the same methods of naming the board of management, as well as the principal officers, exist throughout. In every case the Bank renders larger service to the Treasury than in France, but the principles which, from the era of the Consulate, have ruled the French organi-

zation, are plainly traceable in the other establishments.

Great Britain possesses a banking system which differs considerably from those we have just considered. The Bank of England is a corporation created, in 1694, by royal charter. Its capital of £14,553,000 (367,026,660 francs) is divided among a great number of proprietors. It is at present conducted according to the principles of PEEL'S Act of 1844, and has a separate department for the issue of notes. These may be issued to the extent of 14 millions sterling on public securities, but beyond that amount every note must have its equivalent in gold in the strong-room. A plurality of note-issuing banks still exists, but their number is undergoing gradual diminution owing to restrictions imposed by the Act of 1844. No provincial bank established since this Act became law can issue notes, nor can the notes of the 279 banks previously existing circulate beyond a radius of 65 miles from London, or exceed the aggregate already issued in 1844. The consequence of these restrictions is that the number of such banks has been reduced to 150. The banks of Scotland and Ireland, however, have the power of issuing notes in excess of the number they had in circulation in 1844, but only on condition that the extra issues are secured by an equivalent in specie. The Bank of England is the Government's bank. It administers the national debt; keeps the accounts of the holders of public stocks as well as of the Government, and pays the interest on the Funds. In addition to these services, it pays the State a yearly tax of £120,000 on its ordinary note issue of 14 millions, and a corresponding percentage on additional issues.

Returning now to the Continent, we find that the banking systems of all the States other than those on the west, reflect the violent political, and consequently economical, shocks produced there during the last quarter of a century. Beginning with Germany, we have an Imperial Bank surrounded by a number of private institutions. The system is governed by the provisions of a law passed March 14th, 1875. Originally the Bank of Prussia and thirty-two private banks exercised the right of issuing notes. In 1867, it was decided that they should all be submitted to the federal legislation. In 1875, the unification of Germany having been accomplished, the Bank of Prussia disappeared and was replaced by the *Reichsbank*, or Bank of the Empire. Its capital, amounting to 140 millions of marks (172,200,000 francs), was formed with that of the Bank of Prussia, supplemented by funds obtained from an issue of interest-bearing Treasury Bonds, and the whole is divided into 40,000 shares. The State concerns itself directly about the affairs of the Bank. The Chancellor superintends it carefully, having under his orders a board of directors named by the Emperor and holding office for life. The private banks have not disappeared. Fifteen of them do not subscribe to the new régime: sixteen have subscribed. They are not allowed to have any branches, and their notes circulate only within the States from which they derive the right of issue. The *Reichsbank* manages all the financial business of the Empire, gratis. It may also be charged with the conduct of business on account of the Confederate States. In addition, the Treasury shares directly in the profits of the Bank. Thus, in 1877, a profit of 4,296,183 marks remaining after interest on capital and allotments to the reserve fund had

been deducted, was divided equally among the shareholders and the State. Side by side with the notes of the Bank, circulates paper-money, to the amount of 120 million marks, issued directly by the Empire and exchangeable for specie at the Treasury.

Coming, now, to Austria, we find only one bank of issue, the National Bank of Austria. Its administration is less directly controlled by the Government than that of the *Reichsbank*, but it is, nevertheless, chiefly occupied in sustaining the Treasury and the public finances, embarrassed as they are by the existence of a fiat currency. The bank's right of issue dates from 1816, and was renewed in 1862. Arrangements were also made at the latter date, to gradually extinguish the State's debt to the institution and to prepare for the resumption of specie payments. The Governor is nominated by the EMPEROR, who also confirms the nomination of the directors chosen by the shareholders. The institution does not, as in Germany, perform the service of the Treasury, but has charge of the finances of the salt-mines, connected with which there is a circulation of 68 millions of florins. The Bank's capital is 90 millions of florins, and its circulation, in 1876, was 286 millions. In the various crises through which the country has passed, the Bank has always come to the assistance of the Treasury, but the result of these events is the fiat currency, first issued in 1862, and still unredeemed; and side by side with it, a paper money of the State, amounting, at one time, to nearly 400 millions of florins.

In Russia there is a veritable State Bank. Before the Crimean war there existed in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and other large towns, official banks, the assets of which had been absorbed by the State. The Bank of Russia was then founded. It took charge of the reserves, and assumed the liabilities of the former Banks, and its capital, amounting to 20 millions of roubles (80 million francs) was furnished by the Treasury. From whatever direction this institution be examined, it is found to be only a species of ministry, whose operations, good or bad, go to enrich or impoverish the Treasury. It is divided into two parts, one of which has to do with State affairs, the other with commercial. It includes its paper issues among its assets, and the Treasury is supposed to be its debtor to that amount. It includes them also among its liabilities under a slightly different name. In 1881 the Treasury owed the bank, on account of paper circulation, 545 millions of roubles. The institution, simple as its lines appear, is by no means a rudimentary affair. Its mechanism is as well conceived as that of the great establishments of the Occident. Among its functions is the very difficult duty of managing the finances connected with the liberation of the serfs.

Finally, we have the Italian Banks. In 1844 the Government of Piedmont created the Bank of Genoa, under the surveillance of a royal Commissioner and sub-Commissioner. The Bank absorbed that of Turin, which had no business, and took the name of the General Bank. It was the germ of the present National Bank, which, following the Piedmontese flag from capital to capital, has its principal office now in Rome. The ancient banks of issue were not, however, abolished. The five principal ones continued to exist, and ultimately united with the National Bank to form the celebrated *Consorzio*, which helped so largely to cure the country of the leprosy of a forced currency. The National Bank

gives a fair idea of Italy's recent progress. In 1870 its capital was 80 millions (francs); its bills and acceptances 198 millions; its circulation 290, and its reserves 159. In 1881, the capital was 200 millions; the bills and acceptances 244; the circulation 461, and the reserves 170.

We have omitted Norway, because the banks there enjoy a *quasi* liberty, which is supposed to have contributed to the wonderful rôle played by the country in marine transport. With the exception of Norway, however, it is worthy of note that the States of Europe are entirely strange to the free banking system, which is said to count for so much in the wonderful commercial prosperity of the United States. Everywhere is conserved the right of the Sovereign to authorize the issue of notes payable at sight or to bearer. The confusion of public and private interests caused by this interference on the part of the State, is not seriously felt in Western Europe, but already in Germany the Treasury of the Empire absorbs a considerable part of the profits which belong properly to private enterprise. Side by side with the notes of the Bank, we have the notes of the State circulating. In Austria the Bank, though more independent in appearance, suffers from the effects of the fiat currency and from the depreciated notes of the State. In Russia matters are still worse, for we have a State Bank issuing paper money below par. There is to be observed also, a general tendency towards a single Bank. In France this tendency has actually matured, and in other countries the local banks have been absorbed, more or less, by a central establishment. This result, whatever may be its bearing upon commercial facilities, certainly enables the Bank to offer more solid assistance to the State at seasons of peril.

NOTIFICATION No. 1 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby Notified that the following Regulations for Granting Pensions to Officials have been enacted:—

REGULATIONS FOR PENSIONS.

Art. I.—Pensions will be granted, on retirement from the service, to Civil Officials of the *Chokunin*, *Sonin*, and *Hanin* classes, according to the number of years they have served and their age.

Art. II.—Pensions will be granted for life to those who, having attained the age of sixty, retire after serving fifteen years or upwards; and to those who, although they have not attained that age, retire on account of the abolition of their office or functions, or on account of incapacity brought about by incurable illness.

Special Pensions may be granted to Ministers of State, Privy Councillors, Ministers of Departments, and Presidents of the Senate or the Council of State, who retire after completing a service of two years, or upwards, in those grades.

Art. III.—Pensions will be granted for life to those who are obliged to retire from the service in consequence of permanent ill-health contracted, or serious injury sustained, in the execution of their official functions, even though their period of service be less than fifteen years.

Art. IV.—In the case of officials who, having become incapacitated for further service by permanent ill-health contracted, or serious injury sustained, in the execution of their duty, shall have forwarded a medical certificate to that effect from a licensed physician, and obtained permission to retire, Pensions will be granted without reference to the number of years they have served.

Officials who come under the categories enu-

merated in Articles III. and IV., and who, moreover, have lost the use of eyes, ears, or a limb, may, in consideration of these facts, whether they apply to retire, or are retired by order, be granted, in addition to their regular pensions (as set forth in Articles III. and IV.), Special Pensions not exceeding seven-tenths of the emoluments of their offices at the time of retirement.

Should the above-mentioned medical certificate from a licensed practitioner seem of a doubtful character, the Head of the Department to which the official belongs, shall cause him to be duly examined by a Government medical officer, and shall be guided by the latter's report.

Art. V.—Pensions shall be based on the salary of which an official is in receipt at the time of retirement. A Pension awarded after fifteen years service will be $\frac{1}{4}$ (or $\frac{1}{4}\frac{0}{10}$) of that salary. For every year after fifteen years service the pension will be increased by $\frac{1}{40}$ of the salary, until, at thirty-five years' service, it attains an aggregate of $\frac{3}{4}$ (or $\frac{3}{4}\frac{0}{10}$) of the salary; after which it will not be increased. In the case of officials who retire when not on the effective list, their Pensions will, nevertheless, be calculated on the basis of the salary of their office.

In the cases enumerated in the second clause of Article II., and in Articles III. and IV., Pensions will be awarded amounting to $\frac{1}{4}$ (or $\frac{1}{4}\frac{0}{10}$) of the salary of which the official is in receipt at the time of retirement.

In the case of officials who retire within a year after promotion, the Pension will be calculated on the basis of the salary attached to the grade immediately below that to which they have been promoted. This does not apply, however, to the case of those who retire in consequence of ill-health contracted, or injuries received, in the execution of their duty.

Art. VI.—Those who retire, for reasons connected with their own convenience, before attaining the age of sixty; or who retire after receiving a reprimand for irregular conduct; or who are deprived of office in consequence of a breach of duty or of a conviction before a Criminal Court, will not be eligible for a Pension, even though they have served fifteen years.

Art. VII.—For the purposes of these Regulations, the period of service shall be reckoned from the month of August, 1871: those who received office subsequent to that date will count their service from the month of their appointment; but no service can be reckoned before attaining twenty years of age.

Those who were in office before August, 1871, will receive, in addition to, and at the time of obtaining, their Pension, a lump sum, calculated by multiplying the monthly salary of which they were in receipt in July, 1871, into the number of years they served before the former date.

Art. VIII.—In the case of officials who have previously served in the army or navy, or who are reappointed after having been out of office, previous service shall count towards Pension. But this rule will not apply to service at a distance from Head-quarters (*Go-yô tai-zai-chiu*), or to the case of those who have already received Gratuities at the expiration of a fixed period of service, or on giving up office.

Art. IX.—Officials who, being already in receipt of Pensions, are reappointed to office, and who receive, in their subsequent office, emoluments less than they formerly received, will have their ultimate Pension calculated on the basis of their previous emoluments.

Art. X.—In the case of officials of the *Chokunin* or *Sonin* classes, who, being entitled to, or already in receipt of, a Pension, die; or who, though not yet entitled to a Pension, die in the execution of their duty; a special Allowance, not exceeding one half of the Pension of which the deceased was in receipt, or for which he would have been eligible, will be granted to his widow for her sustenance, during life. Should there be no widow, the same Allowance will be granted to his child and heir,

whether boy or girl, own or adopted, until he or she shall have attained the age of twenty years. In order to be eligible under this Regulation, a widow must have been duly registered in her husband's family.

In the case of officials of the *Hannin* class, the provisions of this article shall apply to those only who, being eligible for Pension, die in the execution of their duty. Further, the Allowance shall be made to widows only: orphans, parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters shall not be eligible.

Art. XI.—Should a widow re-register herself in her parents' family, re-marry, or die, the Pension of which she was in receipt will be granted to her child and heir, provided the latter is less than 20 years of age.

A daughter who marries, or a son who enters the Government service and receives pay, or who becomes a student in one of the Government colleges at the Government's charges, shall not receive any Pension.

Art. XII.—When there is neither widow nor progeny eligible for Allowance, or when a widow re-registers herself in her parents' family, or re-marries, and there is no progeny, a special Allowance, not exceeding two thirds of that for which the widow or heir would have been eligible, may be granted, for life, to the parents or grandparents of the deceased, should they have been dependent on the deceased and without any one to support them.

Art. XIII.—When parents and grand parents are living, the Allowance shall be granted to the father; and to the mother, should he die or forfeit it. The grand-father and grand-mother will become eligible after the father and mother in the same order and under the same conditions. To become eligible under this rule, fathers or grand-fathers must be at least fifty years of age, or incapacitated, by permanent illness or deformity, from carrying on any trade: mothers and grand-mothers must be widows, and must have attained the age of fifty at the time of the deceased's death.

Art. XIV.—When a widow who is eligible for an Allowance, has neither progeny, parents, or grandparents, living, a Gratuity, not less than the amount of the widows pension for one year, and not exceeding the aggregate of that pension for five years, may be specially granted to her brothers or sisters, provided they were dependent upon the deceased and are less than twenty years of age, or being more than twenty, are incapacitated, by illness or deformity.

Art. XV.—Pensions shall be paid from the month after retirement from office, and Allowances from the month after the death of the official who was in receipt of, or eligible for, the Pension.

Art. XVI.—After the Head of the Department, or of the Local Office to which the claimant of a Pension or an Allowance belongs, shall have submitted due proofs of eligibility to the Pension Bureau, and after the latter shall have duly investigated the case, the grant shall be finally determined by the First Minister of State.

Should the recipient of a Pension or an Allowance have any complaint to make in connection with it, the grounds of complaint must be forwarded to the Head of the Department, or Local Office, to which the complainant belonged, for submission to the Pension Bureau. Complaints of this nature must not be made to a Court of law.

Art. XVII.—The Council of State will issue certificates to those who are entitled to Pensions or Allowances.

Art. XVIII.—A Pension shall be forfeited by persons who are deprived of their civil rights. Under the undermentioned conditions the Pension will be suspended during the several periods referred to:—

- 1.—When civil rights are suspended.
- 2.—When receiving a salary after a second appointment.
- 3.—When ceasing to be a Japanese subject under unavoidable circumstances.

4.—When living abroad without permission from the Government.

Art. XIX.—Should the recipient of an Allowance be convicted of an offence involving a punishment of major detention or upwards, or come under the 3rd or 4th conditions of Art. XVIII., the Allowance shall cease.

Art. XX.—When an official entitled to a Pension retires from the service, the Head of the Department or Local Office to which he belongs, shall forward to the Council of State an application for Pension, covering the official's records, and, in the event of his retirement being caused by illness or injury, duly authenticated medical certificates and explanations of the circumstances of the case.

Art. XXI.—Applicants for Allowances must forward to the head of the Local Office concerned the following documents:—(1) an application bearing the names of the applicant and two of his or her relatives (and that of his or her guardian, if there is one); in cases where no relatives are living, the application must bear the names of two heads of families of the applicant's locality: (2) a copy of the applicant's registration certificate (and of any grant of Pension or Allowance which may have been already received): (3) in case the official in connection with whom the Allowance is applied for has died in the execution of his duty, an accurate statement of the nature and circumstances of his decease, accompanied by a duly authenticated medical certificate. On receipt of these documents, the Head of the Office, after carefully investigating the facts of the case, will forward the documents, with a covering application, for the decision of the Council of State. Applications, not made within a year of the event to which they refer cannot be entertained.

Art. XXII.—When a Pension or Allowance is stopped, the fact will be notified by the Pension Bureau to the Local Office concerned, and the latter will recover the certificates, from the recipient of the Pension or Allowance, within two weeks. Should the recipient of a Pension or Allowance die, or change registration, the remaining members of the family or relatives must forward a statement of the fact to the Head of the Local Office concerned, for transmission, with a covering statement, to the Pension Bureau.

Art. XXIII.—Pensions and Allowances will be paid by the Finance Department and transmitted through the Local Authorities in June and December, every year, for the whole of the preceding half year, or for such portion of it as may be due.

Art. XXIV.—Those applying for payment of Pensions or Allowances must forward their Pension or Allowance certificates, together with a certificate of the fact that they are alive, and a receipt, to the Local Authorities.

Art. XXV.—When recipients of Pensions or Allowances change their place of residence, they must apply, for payment, to the Local Authorities of their new place of residence, three months before the date when their Pension or Allowance falls due. If the application be not made within the prescribed time, the Pension or Allowance will be paid through the Local Authorities of the recipient's former place of residence.

Art. XXVI.—If application for payment of a Pension or Allowance is not made for a year, or upwards, the portion due for that period shall not be paid.

Art. XXVII.—Petitions concerning Pensions or Allowances must bear the counter-signature of the proper Local Official.

Art. XXVIII.—Should a Pension or Allowance Certificate be stolen, lost, or destroyed by accident, the fact must be immediately reported to the Local Authorities for transmission to the Pension Bureau.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
First Minister of State.

4th January, 1884.

NOTIFICATION NO. 1 OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that the construction of a submarine telegraph between Kotomo-mura, Higashi, Matsuura-gori, Hizen and Pusan, Korea, *via* Sato-no-ura, Ishida-gori, Oki and Tsukugahara, Shimogata-gori, Tsushima—permission to undertake which construction was granted to the Danish Telegraph Company—having been completed, the line will be connected with the Telegraph Office at Nagasaki; and branches will be established at Tsukugahara and Pusan. The lines will be open on and after the 15th of February next, and the following tariff will be charged.

N.B.—The opening of the branch at Sato-no-ura will be announced hereafter.

TARIFF FOR EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE MESSAGES.

		Interior.		Interior.
		Nagasaki	—	Nagasaki.
		Sato-no-ura	20	30
		25	40	50
Tsukugahara	25	40	50	Tsukugahara.
Pusan	30	50	60	70
				Pusan.

1.—European messages will be charged according to the above tariff per one word: Japanese, per seven *Katakana* (letters).

2.—*Katakana* will be reckoned per seven; and any fraction of seven shall be counted as seven.

3.—In Japanese messages, the addresses and names will not be charged for. In European messages they will be charged at the same rate as the words in the message itself.

4.—Telegraph communication between Japan and Korea shall be conducted according to the provisions of the International Telegraph Code.

5.—Messages from Sato-no-ura, Tsukugahara, and Pusan, to China and other foreign countries via Nagasaki, will be charged as follows:—Sato-no-ura to Nagasaki 30 cents per word: Tsukugahara to Nagasaki 50 cents per word: Pusan to Nagasaki 70 cents per word.

All further messages will be charged according to the External Telegraph Tariff.

(Signed) SASAKI TAKAYUKI,
Minister of Public Works.

January 15th, 1884.

THE NAKASENDO RAILWAY LOAN AND EXCHANGE BONDS.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

On the 28th of December last, the Government issued the above regulations. Our readers being acquainted with their tenor, we will now proceed to discuss their merits.

The object for which the Nakasendo Railway Bonds were issued, is, as is mentioned in Article 1 of the Regulations, to construct a railway from Takasaki, Kotsuke, to Ogaki, Mino, *via* the Nakasendo and to defray the cost thereof. It was our earnest wish that Tokiyo should be connected with Osaka, but when the project was first announced, we feared that the work would be delayed. Now, however, the Notification having been issued, we are convinced that the work will be rapidly executed—a fact which gives us unbounded satisfaction. But the projected line is announced only to run from Takasaki to Ogaki, and no provision is made for extending the line west of Ogaki, that is, from Nagahama to Otsu—a distance of 17 *ri*—with the above fund. If it be that the fund—yen 20,000,000—is inadequate to build the railway between Nagahama and Otsu, it might easily be increased by a few more million yen.

In short, the necessity to raise the loan arose out of the want of a line between Takasaki and Ogaki; so, if the extension of the line from Nagahama to Otsu is necessary, it would not be difficult to add a few more million yen to the loan. Is it that the Otsu-Nagahama line is not mentioned in the Public Loan Bonds Regulations because it is believed that the traffic between the two places can be done by steamers on the Lake Biwa? Our views are opposed to this. However great the convenience of steamship traffic may be, it cannot be compared to that of railways. Much more is this the case when the confusion and trouble attending the transfer of cargo and passengers from the cars to the steamers and *vice versa* at Nagahama and Otsu is taken into consideration. Then again, on the passage, the ships may encounter severe gales which endanger their safety. Under such circumstances, the traffic between Osaka and Tokiyo, which would involve much trouble, would be found unworthy of a civilized community. This is, therefore, to be most severely deprecated. If the above short-sighted policy is to be adopted, *kago* can be as well substituted for the tunnels through the Iwagori range and ferry-boats for steamers on the Kiso river. There is no necessity whatever for expending such an immense sum of money for removing a little inconvenience, unless the whole thing be perfected. No satisfactory reply can be made to this argument. The necessity of constructing a line between Nagahama and Otsu, simultaneously with the Nakasendo line, is demonstrated beyond doubt. It is, therefore, unaccountable that the Nagahama-Otsu line was not mentioned in the Notification. If it were intentionally left out, then the reason, we firmly believe, must be, not because the line is considered unnecessary, but because there is another fund for its construction.

As regards the issue of the bonds to raise the funds for the work, we find that they are to be issued as the progress of the work demands, at an annual interest of seven per cent., which is to be paid in June and December. The principal has to stand five years; and, then, it is to be redeemed within twenty-five years by means of drawings. The details in connection with the issue, the amount to be issued, and the price of the scrip, are to be decided by the Minister of Finance. At present, it is extremely difficult to ascertain the condition of the market for such securities. Should the bonds be issued yearly to the amount of, say, yen 2,000,000, no serious effect would be produced in the market. But if they were all issued within the space of a year or a year and a half, the effect would be serious. Considering the existing condition of the market, we find that, though the bonds are worth yen 90, yet, as the market has a peculiar aspect, and is not in a healthy condition, there would be but a small number of buyers who would pay yen 90 for bonds which bear seven per cent. annual interest only, after standing for five years. This is a problem which we cannot solve. Supposing the Minister of Finance should fix no price, they will be issued at yen 90 at first, then at yen 85, owing to no demand, and afterwards at yen 80 or yen 75. Or, reversing the case, they will be issued at yen 75, then at yen 80, yen 85, and yen 90 as the demand becomes brisk. If this method were resorted to, serious injury would arise to the holders of the bonds from their extraordinary fluctuations. This being the case, the Minister of Finance will no doubt avoid adopting such a course. But if he attempts to fix the price, the means which he must adopt will be of an extraordinary character. Indeed, the issue of bonds is a difficult question.

Public Loan Bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* were formerly issued; and therefore these are not of the first creation. The first issued were to stand three years and be redeemable in twelve years. Now, they are to stand for five years and be redeemable in thirty years. The old ones were endorsed with the name of the purchaser, while the new ones are transferable. The principle

feature of the latter, however, is that foreigners are allowed to invest in them. The Railway Bonds are similar in this respect. It is the first time since the Meiji Restoration that aliens have been allowed to subscribe to any domestic loan. We believe that the result will be of no little importance.

The bonds are to be issued for the purpose of withdrawing the paper currency; and principal and interest are alike to be paid in silver. The reason underlying this change is apparent without explanation. Originally, the currency system of Japan was based upon a silver and gold standard; and one gold *yen* was equal in value to one silver *yen*. But whatever may be said, when the paper money is redeemed, the Japanese currency system must be based upon the silver standard only, for many years to come. The new bonds are sold for paper money; and when the period of redemption arrives, the principal and interest are to be paid in silver. The new bonds, therefore, present advantageous features; but at present, when the difference between silver and paper money is hardly one-tenth, no benefit would accrue from their possession. With this prospect before him, no capitalist would invest, however great the hopes of the Minister of Finance may be. Thus, so long as the present stagnation continues, nobody will buy the bonds, and their existence will be nominal. Some say that they are not intended for sale alone, but are to be issued on the idea that their presence in the market will check such an unusual rise in the value of silver as was witnessed last year. Should silver stand 150 to 160 against paper money, people could make *yen* 8 or *yen* 9 out of six silver *yen* by buying the bonds. When such is the case, the demand for the bonds will augment to such an extent as to check the fall of the fiat money. Such is the merit of the new bonds. This opinion is plain and simple; but we cannot believe that the bonds are to be issued for no other purpose than that suggested above.

The feature of the two above-mentioned bonds which demands our most serious consideration, is that foreigners are allowed to invest in them. This is of no little importance. Whether or no Europeans will buy them, is a question which we do not desire to answer at present. If forced to answer, we must say that but a few will buy them. Europeans at home are unacquainted with the internal condition of Japan and the Japanese, and, consequently, would not bring capital to invest here, although they may know that the bonds bear seven or eight per cent. interest. Nor would the foreigners living in Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki or Shanghai invest. In our opinion, these Bond Regulations are the initiative steps towards bringing foreign capital into the country at a future time, when the national resources will be developed.

Since aliens are allowed to buy our bonds, they can transact business on the Stock Exchanges at Tokiyo, Yokohama, Kobe, and Osaka. If this is inconvenient, they can have Stock Exchanges of their own in the Settlements. Then, we expect that the business in these institutions throughout the country will be rapidly increased. Should Japanese be brought face to face with aliens in the field of business, they will acquire experience, and finally elevate their position to that of "true" merchants. We cannot but congratulate them upon this prospect. But, as it is, the natural order of things that no good is unattended by evil, the fact of allowing foreigners to invest in the bonds adds to our difficulties.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

SIXTH AND SEVENTH DAYS.

The meetings of the closing days of this week have exceeded all that preceded them in interestness and number of the attendants. The addresses of gentleman in the community, not connected with Missions, in testimony to what changes they had witnessed were emphatic and encouraging, while

the many subjects for request connected with Missions were urgently presented at the throne of Grace. In view of the action of the Evangelical Alliance, recommending the observance of a Second Week of Prayer, it was resolved to continue the meetings at the Seamen's Mission Rooms, No. 86, another week and meet from 5-6 p.m. Also in view of the very special services to be held by the native Churches of Yokohama, to-day, at 9 a.m., and 7 p.m. at the Union Church, it was resolved that to-day's subject be Prayer for the Revival of God's work among the Japanese. Dr. J. C. Hepburn was expected to lead the meeting. The subject for the days following to be Prayer for the revival of God's work among the Foreign Residents of Yokohama.

The Foreign service at the Union Church yesterday morning was largely attended, and the Sermon by Rev. Mr. Klein was of so impressive a character that, as far as possible, we will reproduce it in these columns to-morrow.

The Meeting at 212, Bluff, generally of a very interesting character, was more than usually so in view of a number of interesting facts being stated showing the marvelous movings of God's Spirit at present in Japan among all classes, high and low. The question was raised whether we had a right to believe God would convert all Yokohama? Not a few answered in the affirmative that God could, and it was the duty of all to pray that he would do so, and that in order thereto, we needed most of all to reiterate the Disciples' Prayer, "Lord, increase Our faith!" Attention was called by a sea-faring man to the need of prayer for the observance of the Sabbath on the part of our tea-merchants, owing to the extensive effect of their example upon all classes of the people. He himself could bear witness to the ruin Sabbath desecration had brought to men of business profaning the Sabbath.

CLOSING DISCOURSE.

The Sermon on the text suggested by the Evangelical Alliance for the last Sabbath of the Weekly of Prayer was preached at the Union Church, Yokohama, 13th inst., by the Rev. F. C. Klein, of the Methodist Protestant Mission to Japan, and was as follows:—

1ST THESSALONIANS, 3, 12-13.

"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all *men*, even as we do toward you: To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints."

The Apostle's affection for those who were led to Christ by his efforts was marked, and his wise counsel and godly admonitions to them are profitable unto all. Unquestionably there were reasons why the Thessalonians should increase and abound in love, and that similar reasons exist to-day is, doubtless, why the text has been presented for elucidation. When we stand with earth's unfortunates amid scenes of degradation, where the spray from the rushing current of iniquity falls at our feet, and our hearts sicken at the sight of lawless transgressions, our thoughts turn to the seared innocence of Paradise as the starting point, and the absence of love as the cause which reddened the earth with a brother's blood, and has sent wild, ceaseless pulsations of enmity coursing through the forms of men. 'Tis the reign of malignant hatred to God and man which tarnishes the name of man, and sullies still more his lowered manhood. Human conception can form no realization of a grander work than this, the restoration of fallen humanity, and the reestablishment of its love, elevating and unfolding, as it does, human nature into the image of God; and this sublime work well merited the direct interposition of God in the great act of substitution, whereby the plan of redemption was fully and forever consummated. Why should we abound in love? Because it is God's command, and an essential requisite of Christian character. Because we are the subjects of prejudice; we draw our conclusions with improper motives, influenced, too

often, by local, personal, and other considerations; we are prone to unduly depreciate the merits of others, and unduly magnify our own, and other manifestations make it a necessity for us to increase and abound in love, for as Spurgeon aptly says:—"Love is the marrow of the bones of fidelity, the blood in the veins of piety, the sinew of spiritual strength, yea, the life of sincere devotion." The source of Love is in God, "for love is of God," and the apostle says "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost." A sincere, and an earnest trust in God insures it as an inevitable result, and "The consciousness of its presence in the heart is what makes the Christian," for his newly awakened powers are actively exercised by love as the motive power; and with it he possesses the sure and only foundation of all hopes which are inspired by the acceptance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To properly love we must know something of the object of our affection, consequently knowledge must come in to satisfy and also develop the love possessed. A true man can only love the truth, and as God is truth, the more we know of him the more we can love him. There can be no doubt that love is a creation, for both doctrine and experience teach that he whom God loves, in him he creates love on the principles of cause and effect; for when the man fully realizes that God does love him he loves God in return; and the slightest drawing to him, I may remark, is the result of His Spirit, and should be encouraged by us. Why love one another as Christians? Because "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." "He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." Our hopes centre in a common object, we each seek the same dwelling of the Almighty where alone can come no footstep of decay, and we ought to be closely united in the endeared ties of true brotherly love, for as we feel it will be thus in Heaven, only intensified, why not have it begun here below? "If God so loved us we ought also to love one another." 'Tis human to love those who love us, but the Gospel love is as broad as Christendom, and sweeps out over the whole earth; and if we selfishly limit ours we fall short of the christian standard. The Psalmist never threw upon the canvass of humanity's ever-unfolding picture a more sublime scene than is depicted in "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." With such love as is urged upon us by the Gospel the Christian rises far above the ravings of prejudice, the ambitions of limited self, and the clanishness of church or party, but, loving God most of all, he loves Christians because they are God's children. Therefore this love is a necessity in the life that seeks a steady development here in righteousness, and a full fruition of all hopes in the beyond where life will be lived in its purity, peace, and love. Why should we love all men? God is no respecter of persons, since he loves all men, how can we do otherwise than love them? We must never forget that the soul of the lowest wretch is as precious to him as our souls are to us, and that the same Saviour died to regain him and develop all his faculties. All men, especially sinners, need the warm sympathy of true hearts, and if we turn to them a cold heart we not only disobey God, but stultify our Christian manhood, for if he is ever ready to shed abroad his love in their hearts, how dare we fail to love them. Paul was only a Christian man, laying aside his special gifts and powers, yet feeling his weakness, but here he holds up his manner of love to the Thessalonians, as an example of what their love should be to one another and to all men. To-day we possess the same hopes, privileges, principles, and character-moulding forces of Christianity as he possessed, yet can we begin to say to others what he said to the Thessalonians? Have not God and men the right to expect it of us with the profession we make? None rejoice more than I that we are in these times of true philanthropy and great advance, where the revived principles of a

broad humanics are felt in the widening of thought and feeling, and where the reign of keen asperities, impassioned thought, and embittered prejudice recedes further into the past. But let us be honest, and acknowledge that it is the basis of our Christianity which has caused it, the lever which moves raises and develops the world; that which has done so much to harmonize men's differences, to soften the asperities of their estrangements, to focalize their sympathies and to centralize their efforts, and that upon which all worthy enterprises can rest; 'tis the love of God to man, and man's love to God and his fellow-men. Therefore we, with the moving millions of Christians, who, feeling the common ties, having the common interests of a uniting brotherhood, are panting, amid life's struggles, for the one eternal peaceful bivouac on the marshalled plains beyond, ought, and I trust do, possess the love which rises above the affected friendships of earth, and sees in every man a brother, and has for such a brother's heart and open hand, seeing in him, as in all men, latent powers and possibilities which, if roused and improved, will develop grand results for God and humanity. I honor and love all who thus feel the promptings of a pure unselfish brotherly love; and I would rather far be an humble votary at the shrine of those who, in thought and labor, in life and in death, sought the elevation of the degraded, the broadening of fraternal relations, and the inculcating of principles which bind heart to heart the sons of men, than to stand over the mouldering dust of the greatest warriors who have ever stained the earth with the blood of their fellow men. We are here, as Christians, in these fair isles, not to seek the further degradation of the inhabitants; not, with rude iconoclastic act, to demolish their temples; not to offer them a substitution of rites and ceremonies, neither force on them the emptiness of pretentious vicegerency claims, nor bind their thought; not to turn their allegiance from the Mikado and the powers that be; but with the open Bible—thank God for it in Japan to-day—with its grand principles, glorious doctrines, and inspiring promises, to wage a peaceful warfare in those spheres of thought and feeling where the reason, judgment, and conscience of men are touched and acted upon for their eternal interests. We seek the elevation of the Japanese that they may become what they ought to be, and what they will be by the acceptance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which we believe they will do. And surely while here, far from the associations of our native lands, we need to be closely united in love as God's children, and possess true love for all who tread the soil of the Mikado's Empire. What has our love to do toward having us presented unblameable in holiness? Love is the foundation and ramifier through the superstructure of Christian character; and from it come the natural and expected developments which mark the ornamentation of a pious life, and, if properly used, it can not fail to promote our growth in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. The text assures us that, at the coming of Christ our hearts are to be presented blameless in holiness. Why? Because Christ is holy, and we are to be like him, and because "without holiness no man shall see the Lord." Our condition, and the time when, in that condition, we are to be presented are set forth. To my mind that is clear enough. A man's body is imperfect. Jesus Christ was the only perfect man since the fall. When a man's body is consigned to the grave it is still an imperfect body, but his soul, if he died in the faith of Jesus Christ, will be cleansed by the blood of Jesus, for "the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin," and it will be fit for Heaven, and angelic associations. At the resurrection, that body will be raised a prefect, glorious body like unto Christ's. The soul already perfect will reinhabit that glorious body, and thus will be presented unblameable in holiness at Christ's coming. Bear in mind that God is thus to present us there,

at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he can not there thus present us, unless we now commence the work of elevation and growth in grace. Heathen philosophers asked the question, is the soul immortal? Some accepted a kind of affirmative answer, but it was for this divine revelation, with its matchless power to lift the veil of the future, and declare in unmistakable tones that "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality;" and the words of the Son of God, are "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live." Thus forever are scattered the shadows which hung round the grave, for now we see immortal life rising before us resplendent in unclouded glory, a fixed, immutable verity. We therefore see why the Apostle said "if in this life only we have no hope in Christ we are of all men most miserable," for the future is before us, into it we each must enter, and if alone as we are, where can we go, what can be our hope there without Christ? It is just as easy for me to believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into this world in human form, that his advent was heralded by angelic choirs, and that he received the homage of the wise men of the East in the manger of Bethlehem, as it is for me to believe that George Washington lived and died, on the banks of the Potomac, in the frame house on the slopes of Mount Vernon. And as I rest the interests of my immortal soul on my belief that Jesus trod the streets of Jerusalem, spent that awful season in Gethsamene, was crucified on Calvary, even though "he did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth," that he rose from the sepulchre's gloom and walked and talked with men after his resurrection, so do I as firmly believe he is coming again, because scripture declares it. He himself said, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am ye may be also." No, theory, argument, or anything else is now needed. I can add nothing to this positive declaration from the Son of God. And as not a single statement he made ever fell short, or has ever been proven to be untrue, I am fully persuaded that my belief is settled in One who is both mighty to save, and mighty to come again. The hard, stubborn, immovable fact stands out before the world that he has fulfilled all he promised, in the time designated, and with the gilding of the western hills by the daily setting sun, hastens to us, with silent tread, the dawn of eternity's glad morn. The outlook to-day is flooded with the glory of coming universal triumphs for Christ. Already the camp-fires of the Lord's army are burning on the mountain-tops and in the valleys, lighting up the heathen lands and the isles of the sea. He is coming, surely coming; and then shall be heard the trump's loud alarm, and the glad triumphant song of Christendom, growing louder and louder still as nation after nation catches the grand refrain, till, mingling with the music of the spheres, the universe will magnify the eternal Majesty of the earth and skies. When, in conclusion, is this to occur? I do not know, no man knows, for "the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night." A lack of knowledge of when it is to be does not, in any sense, lessen the certainty of its coming. How is it to occur? By the power of the Almighty; "according to the working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself." And the same power which swept victoriously through death's dominions, and triumphantly waved the broken bonds of the grave, will likewise cause "The heavens to pass away with a great noise and the elements to melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein to be burned up." Why will this occur? That Christ's divine sovereignty may be universally acknowledged. "As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God," that the wrongs of earth may be righted, and there are many waiting for that day, and that Jesus may gather his own

from among the children of men. But, while He tarries his coming in visible form, He is here this hour, and knocks at the door of your heart, not only somebody else's, but your heart, for admission, that he may dwell and reign there without a rival. 'Tis his right thus to reign, and if acceded to by each, happy will be the hour, grand will be the life, triumphant will be the death, and glorious will be the crown worn in Heaven. Well, the past is irrevocably passed. If we loved not Christians and all men as was our duty, 'tis now too late to go yonder to do or undo. The record has been closed. May God grant that, taught by our mistakes and encouraged by our successes, we may press boldly onward to the coming struggle, seeking ever to increase and abound in love, looking unto Him who will guide us to the end, and at last will present us unblameable in holiness when He comes.

MEETING OF THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan took place at 2.30 p.m. on the 10th inst., in the Union Church, Tsukiji, Tokiyo. There was a large representation of ladies and gentlemen members, and a few native gentlemen present.

The President, Rev. Hugh Waddell, called the Alliance to order by a fervent prayer for the purity and spiritual prosperity of the whole Church of Christ in Japan and all the world. This was followed by a Hymn, and the President's address. The latter was based upon a review of the statistics of the advance of Christian work during the past year in Japan. These statistics, he said, though incomplete, were such as might well fill all hearts with gratitude to God, and encouragement to wait more earnestly upon God in the time to come, especially during the present year. The statistics given were as follows:—In 1859, No. of converts, 0; 1876 (17 years later), 1,004; 1879, 2,965; 1882, 4,987; 1883, 6,598. Amount of contribution, 1859, 0; 1879, yen 3,189; 1882, yen 12,344; 1883, yen 16,166. In 1859 copies of scriptures or parts, 0; 1876, 21,000; 1883, 109,003; of bibles or testaments 20,368. 1859, religious books and tracts, 0; 1876, volumes, 6,000; 1883, in Yokohama, American Tract Society, 37,357; London Tract Society, 38,330; Christian and various, 31,620; total 107,307. Two weekly papers, circulation, 2,000; two monthly papers, circulation, 2,700.

After giving the above comparison of statistics, the speaker called attention to the remarkable increase of the past year alone, nearly equalling in numbers that of any three years preceding it. This was great cause for rejoicing, when each one of these sixteen hundred souls was viewed as a temple of the Holy Ghost. If we ask how comes this great increase? The answer was that the Holy Ghost has been specially sought, and here is an answer in some hundreds of souls being added to the Church. If all real Christians, what a glorious sight. If not, many among them are undoubtedly the Lord's true disciples. He then alluded to the Evangelical Alliance having been originally organized to appeal to the Courts of Europe on behalf of religious liberty. Here in Japan, we happily have little occasion to do this. What, then, is the object of our Alliance, asked the speaker unless it be to lift up our hands to the Court of Heaven on behalf of those among this people enthralled in the slavery of sin and superstition. He spoke of the representative character of the Alliance—composed of many nationalities and denominations, yet bound together in the closest bonds of unity and affection. Our mission, then, is only this, to seek the unifying and consecrating influence of the Holy Spirit to dwell in each one of these souls, and make them temples holy unto the Lord. He spoke of the anxiety and apprehension felt by many prior to the conventions

and gatherings together of the past year, lest some cause of disagreement might arise among brethren of so many nationalities and difference of ecclesiastical view. But on coming together as at Osaka, what was the result? Only harmony and fraternity, love and concord. A native brother said to the speaker, "I am astonished to see men of so many nationalities and denominational peculiarities, all rejoicing together and working for the common good." And so again on the return from Osaka, we saw the same thing here in the Great Fellowship Meeting, or Native Evangelical Alliance, when both Native and Foreign laborers were bathed in tears of a common joy at the presence and power of the Spirit of God. The only danger for either the churches or ourselves is that we should ever be without the Spirit of God. As converts increase we should continually cry unto God to fill them with His Holy Spirit, for what with the Spirit's presence might be a virtue, without His presence would easily become a vice. The speaker referred to the contrast that met his eyes to-day and ten years ago on his arrival in Tokiyo. Then, but a few paces from where we now were met, he was present at an examination of Mr. Canother's first candidates for baptism. Now, that little company had become a great host and a power in the land. Wherever we go throughout Tokio, chapels and preaching places stand out, as lights to guide to Christ. But last year's blessing was only a foretaste; we want a wider and deeper one this year. We have plenty of wells, they are sunk on every side, we want them to be filled. He acknowledged the danger of excitement or of mere moving men's sympathy. What we want, is a deep flowing river flooding all hearts, and overflowing the whole land. Think of the thousands of scripture portions in the hands of the people needing the Spirit's illumination to bring its truths to their hearts. Think of the thousands of Christians throughout this land lifting up their hands in prayer with and for us. The speaker alluded to the great pleasure he had experienced in meeting with the native brethren in their observance of this week of prayer. At a place where but a few years ago he had been called to visit a poor sick blind man, and who dying left some to witness to the true light that had irradiated his soul's darkness, now three churches are flourishing in that neighborhood, and as he listened to the remarks of one and another, and their appeals in prayer for the presence of the Holy Ghost, he could not but feel we are all one, all have common wants and common experience of the grace of God. He spoke of the privations and sacrifices of a missionary's life, how dull and unimproving if destitute of the Holy Spirit's presence, but with that presence what a delight now, as of old, to be a missionary. Our joy will be great; our work will endure when all material churches and structures are crumbled to dust. Let us then, as an Alliance, emphasize this as our mission above all else; to seek the Holy Ghost, for ourselves, for the Churches, for each individual heart. He remembered the great revival in Ireland—of whole hamlets turning unto God, but a reaction and coldness set in. He did not believe there was any necessity for a reaction, but if, with increasing desire, God be sought, the blessing may go on widening and deepening till it flooded the whole land. For this purpose let us thank God we are united as an Alliance, and let that Alliance be to call upon God. The President alluded to the presence of Korean Christians here in Japan, and of the visits of Japanese Christian and Bible Colporteurs to Korea, and of the desirability of the love of God dwelling in all hearts and all being made one in Christ Jesus.

This earnest address on the part of the retiring President was followed by the election of officers for the ensuing year, and of a number of persons as members of the Alliance.

The following were proposed and elected members:—Rev. H. Kozaki, Rev. G. F. Smith and wife, Rev. C. E. Garst and wife, Rev. F. C. Klein and wife, Rev. C. H. D. Fisher and wife, Rev. William E. Walz and wife, Rev. J. P. Moore and wife, Rev. J. C. Spencer and wife, Rev. D. C. Spencer and wife, Mrs. Carrie Van Peten, Miss A. P. Atkinson, Miss M. H. Whitman.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—Rev. R. S. Maclay, D.D., President; Rev. E. R. Miller, Vice President; Rev. J. H. Ballagh, Cor. Secretary; Rev. H. Loomis, Rec. Secretary; W. T. Austen, Esq., Treasurer; Rev. H. Loomis, Librarian. Council:—J. C. Hepburn, M.D., I.L.D.; Rev. N. Brown, D.D.; Rev. J. L. Amerman, Rev. M. C. Harris, Rev. J. Hartzler, Rev. P. K. Tyson, Dr. C. G. Knott, Rev. A. D. Gring, J. Thompson, Esq., Rev. H. Waddell, Rev. C. S. Eby, Rev. F. C. Klein, Rev. W. J. White.

Following these elections the Committee on Arrangement of Programmes reported having circulated 2,500 in the Japanese language and 400 in

English. They also recommended the adoption of a proposition for observing a Second Week of Prayer especially for the outpouring of the Spirit of God upon Japan, and all flesh, according to the promise in Joel 2-28. The reasons adduced were as a fitting memorial of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Week of Prayer, and especially on account of the very intimate relation of the observance of the Week of Prayer with every advance of mission work in Japan. This was shown in the appointment of Missionaries to Japan by three societies the very year the request for prayer first went forth, and representatives of these societies were able in Japan to unite with their brethren in all the world on the first observance of the Week of Prayer and have continued so to do yearly with ever widening and increasing interest and good results. The request for prayer that was made from Japan during the Week of Prayer 1865, for the removal of the edict against Christianity, was followed not long after by that blessed result. The first outpouring of God's Spirit upon Japan took place in 1872, during the observance of a Second Week of Prayer at beginning of the Japanese New Year, and which resulted in the establishment of the first Church of Christ in Japan. During the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Week of Prayer, the Japan Branch of the Evangelical Alliance had its first Annual Meeting and which now celebrates its Tenth Annual Gathering. Also the revival of 1883 originated in the blessing of God experienced during the Week of Prayer at Yokohama and elsewhere. But the special reason for approval of the recommendation was that it arose from the expressed desire of earnest native Christian workers in Central and South Japan for a special day to follow the present week for that purpose. This proposal led to the suggestion of its being extended to an entire week which also has met with a hearty approval on the part of native and foreign brethren in different parts of Japan. The recommendation was approved of by the Alliance and the committee was requested to make arrangements for united meetings as far as possible with their native brethren.

Following the transaction of these business items, were the address of Dr. C. G. Knott on "Dreams of the Past, and the Facts of the Present;" and an address, by the Rev. A. H. Bennett, on "Allegiance the Strength of Alliance." The former has already appeared *in extenso* in this journal, the latter can only be presented, as the President's has been, in abstract.

Owing to the rapid and easy flow of Mr. Bennett's speech any attempt to reproduce his address must be disappointing to those having experienced the pleasure of hearing him. Not unfrequently it happens that addresses affording most pleasure at the time appear quite meagre in print, and vice versa, and those disappointing when delivered give most delight in print. The speaker said that faulty ideas were common in regard to the principles requisite for an alliance of any kind. The two words Allegiance and Alliance in the theme "Allegiance the Strength of Alliance," which he had chosen for his subject had a common origin and might be rendered ad-linking, or joining to, one to peers the other to superiors. Some alliances were without allegiance, as of the Four Kings in Abraham's time, and the defensive alliance of the Canaanites against Joshua; and as were the alliances of men binding themselves to slay others as in David's and Paul's time, which in the nature of things could have no long continuance even if they had ended successfully. Most alliances may be represented by the mighty chain around the dome of St. Peter's binding by its several links every stone together. But a great iron wheel bound together to the centre would be a more fitting representation of the power of Alliance based on allegiance. But some consider that allegiance interferes with alliance. The Jews thought themselves hindered by not being able to join in alliances with other nations. Much as we may have observed how the glazing of some pottery is cracked by the shrinking away of the weightier body of the clay, so the Jews were kept from confederacy with the surrounding nations that they might be a great integer relying upon the Rock of Israel. Is the emphasis to be laid on love our neighbour as ourselves, or on love God first and then let the other come as the various parts of a musical harmony. Attention had been called very properly to the need of prayer for the Spirit of God, but it seems to me that the great and primary duty of each and all is to obey their King and their God; to follow his commands as each may have the knowledge to know His will, and in God's own good time and way we shall be able to keep step with step, and eventually to see eye to eye when the Lord shall build up Zion. The proceedings of the Alliance closed with singing, and the benediction pronounced by the President

IN H.I.G.M.'S CONSULAR COURT.

Before ED. ZAPPE, Esq., Consul-General.—SATURDAY, 12th January, 1884.

P. BOHM V. THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK.

This was a petition for the raising of the arrest on the schooner *Mary C. Bohm* and some skins which had formed part of her cargo and were afterwards transhipped to the British schooner *Ada*. The arrest had been ordered on a motion of the Bank for a debt for which the said property was pledged to it.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the Bank, and Mr. Bohm appeared in person.

The following judgment was given on Saturday. In the action of the coal merchant, P. Bohm, of this place, arrest-defendant, against the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, at this place, arrest-plaintiff, for the raising of an arrest, the Imperial Consular Court at Yokohama, composed of Consul-General Zappe, gives judgment to the effect that the arrest caused to be put upon the vessel *Mary C. Bohm* is confirmed, whereas the arrest caused to be put upon 358 sealskins is to be raised again. The costs of the litigation are to be borne by plaintiff and defendant, one half by each.

FACTS.

On the 8th November, 1883, the plaintiff bank, for a claim of up to the amount of \$15,000, alleged to be due to it from an agreement of pledge, caused an arrest to be placed on the vessel *Mary C. Bohm*, owned by the arrest-defendant, and on the cargo consisting of 385 sealskins. At the hearing set down for the 10th January, 1884, the arrest-defendant disputes both the claim and the existence of a ground for the arrest, and moves that it be raised. He adduces that since the 8th November last year, the plaintiff has taken no steps to settle the question of the claim disputed by him. In proof of its claim (plaintiff alleges) the bank relied solely upon the document of pledge of the 22nd August, 1882, according to which the arrested vessel *Mary C. Bohm* had been pledged to it for \$44,000. That debt, however, had been paid off by payments which he had made to the bank amounting to \$58,683.70. The pledging of that vessel had moreover only served as an additional security for the amount of about \$44,000, due to the bank in account current, which fact was already shown by that amount being far in excess of the value of the vessel; for the same purpose, and under the same conditions also the other vessels belonging to him had been pledged to the bank. On the 5th November last year he had requested the bank to render him an account, which the bank had promised him in its letter of the 9th November, but up to the present it had not done so, instead of which it had, however, between the 5th and 9th November, caused the arrest to be placed on his ship and her cargo. With regard to the proceeds of the hunt of the *Mary C. Bohm*, he acknowledged having given the plaintiff a promise in his letter of the 30th June last year, to send the skins taken to England, through the plaintiff, for sale, that, however, had been done when he still owed money to him, which was no longer the case. The plaintiff, moreover, with regard to the arrest on the skins, had only relied upon the letter of the 30th June last year, without making credible the claim for which the skins were to be delivered to him. Arrest-plaintiff, for the maintenance of the arrest, quotes sections 707 and 885 of the O. o. C. P., and contends that the demand for the arrest has been sufficiently substantiated by the document of pledge of the 22nd August 1882, and by defendant's letter of the 30th June 1883, which is not disputed. The plaintiff does not dispute that payments have been made to him by the defendant to the amount aforesaid, but alleges that by those payments the debt as shown by the said document of pledge had not been paid. Plaintiff further says that, according to the notes to section 805 of the O. o. C. P., the Court, in a procedure of arrest, was not to go beyond arguing the question whether a claim has been made credible, because only the arrest is the subject of the obligation and not the establishing of the claim. As a ground for the arrest it was sufficient that the defendant made the attempt to withdraw the pledged vessel—which according to the agreement of pledge could only leave the harbour with plaintiff's permission—after this permission had been given for an otter-hunting expedition, from the plaintiff's control, by instructing the captain who was then, after that expedition was completed, on his return voyage to Yokohama, not to return to Yokohama, but, after newly equipping himself in the neighbourhood of Yokohama, to go South with the vessel. If defendant had not been prevented from the execution of this purpose by the imposition of

the arrest, then the plaintiff's claim for which the vessel is security, would have been seriously endangered. With regard to the 358 sealskins the plaintiff contends that the arrest on the same has not been carried out. In any case, it was no longer in force, because the skins, in consequence of an agreement with the defendant, and with permission of the Court, had since been sent to England for sale. Should the Court, however, in spite of this, still consider them to be under arrest, then with regard to them also the letter of the defendant of the 30th June 1883, and the document of pledge of the 22nd August 1882, would be sufficient for the substantiation of the claim and of the ground of arrest, combined with the illegal proceedings of the defendant already described. For those reasons the plaintiff moves that the arrest be confirmed. Defendant moves that the witness Baade be heard to contradict the grounds of arrest asserted by the plaintiff.

GROUND.

For the maintenance of the arrest of the vessel *Mary C. Bohm* and her cargo, consisting of 358 sealskins, which was ordered on the 8th November last year, on a motion of the plaintiff and against the deposit of a security, it is required, that plaintiff in accordance with the provisions of section 800 al. 2, of the C. o. C. P. make credible both the claim, which is to be secured by the maintenance of the arrest, and a proper ground for the arrest. To the first requirement, the plaintiff has in so far conformed as he shows by the document of pledge of the 22nd August 1882, that the arrested vessel is thus pledged to him, so as to make himself paid out of the vessel, in default of payment of the debt set down in the document of pledge at \$44,000. It is true defendant raises the objection that that debt has been paid off by payments amounting to \$58,683.73 which he made to the plaintiff, but as the plaintiff disputes that those payments were made against the debt on the pledge, this contention of the defendant which has not been proved, cannot be considered in the present proceeding. With regard to the pledged vessel, the ground for the arrest also is to be considered as sufficiently established. According to the tenor of the above-mentioned document of pledge, the pledged vessel may only leave the harbour of Yokohama with the permission of the pledge-creditor. If the plaintiff, by way of exception and in the defendant's interest, gives him the permission to let the vessel make a particular voyage, for an agreed upon purpose, and if defendant, after this has been done, without the consent of the plaintiff gives the order to the vessel—the same then being on the return voyage to Yokohama—to avoid Yokohama, and to extend the voyage, which then might have been considered as nearly completed, in another direction, which is in direct contradiction to the agreement with the plaintiff, then the plaintiff is justified in regarding this proceeding of the defendant as endangering the claim which was to be secured by the previous pledging of the vessel. The conduct of the defendant has only been confirmed by the evidence of the witness Baade as contrary to the agreement. Under the circumstances of the case the arrest on the pledged vessel had to be confirmed. With regard to the arrest on the 358 sealskins, the establishment of the claim, as required by the provisions of section 800, al. 2, of the C. o. C. P., is wanting. Even if the conclusion be drawn from defendant's letter of the 30th June, 1883, that the plaintiff at the time when that letter was written to him, had an undisputed money claim against the defendant, for which the skins in view were to be transferred into his possession, the letter in question does not afford the least information as to the amount of the claim and whether it still exists. Nor have there been other circumstances adduced by the plaintiff through which the existence of a claim other than the claim on the pledge already argued, is made probable. Nor has the plaintiff given the Court any clue to judge, whether for the securing of his claim, as pledge creditor, a further security, besides the arrest on the pledged vessel, can be demanded by confirmation of the arrest imposed on the skins. For the plaintiff has not at all named the amount of the sum which, he alleges, defendant owes him, and, although, according to the document of pledge, the vessel is security for a claim of \$44,000, he has only moved for the arrest to the amount of \$15,000, and does not at all assert that the arrested vessel is not worth that sum. The confirmation of the arrest which has been imposed on the 358 seal-skins, had therefore to be denied. The contention of the plaintiff that no arrest had been imposed upon the skins, and that even if the arrest had been decreed, it was no longer in force, because of the shipment of the skins to England in the mean time, is an erroneous one. According to the records, the arrest on the skins has been decreed, and it can only be raised by the decision of the Court. The arrest thus decreed is

not made illusory by the fact that the skins which form its object, from reasons of advisability, and on a motion of the parties before the Court, have been handed over to a third party for sale, for the proceeds of the sale take the place of the object under arrest, and remain deposited in Court till a final decision has been given on the arrest. The decision with regard to the costs is in accordance with section 88 of the C. o. C. P.

THE SILK TRADE OF JAPAN.

The following is taken from Messrs. Griffin & Co.'s Half-yearly Silk Report, just published:—
RAW SILK.

In reviewing the Trade for the past six months, we observe the following salient points:—

- 1.—The enormous Export (no less than 23,704 bales); being, without exception, the largest crop ever handled at this port since the opening of Japan to foreign trade.
- 2.—The great increase in "Direct shipments by Japanese;" these amounting for the six months to 5,654 bales, against a total of 2,006 for the same period of last season.
- 3.—The reappearance on this market of *Sodai* and *Taysaam* sorts, the like not having been offered in quantity for many seasons past.
- 4.—The generally moderate scale of prices, which have been rendered still more unremunerative to dealers by the marked appreciation of *Kinsatsu*. These, which in the first part of last season ranged about 160, have recently averaged 110 per \$100.
- 5.—The aspect of the crop as to quality.

1st. EXPORT.—Looking at the comparative tables at the end of this report, we see that the figures show a total of 23,704 bales for the half-year; or an excess over last season of no less than 5,409 bales. The increase is greatest in the export to Continental Europe (4,990 bales); next comes the United States with an increase of 960 bales; while to England there is a decrease of 541 bales.

In this connection we would notice the rapid growth of the trade in America; seven years ago the export was but 62 bales for the six months, now it is 6,856—an increase of more than a hundred-fold. It is curious to note that the excess of Export to New York over last year is entirely made up of increased shipments on native account, and is more than counter-balanced by the shrinkage in the outturn of the North China crop. The American demand has in fact run strongly upon *Kakeda* and other *Oshu* silks, to supply the falling off in re-reeled *Tsattees* from Shanghai.

It will be seen also that fully three-fifths of the silk exported (or say 14,462 bales) has found its way to Southern Europe. Fashion would seem to have run upon goods requiring fine silks; and notwithstanding the good average *raccolta* in Italy, and there has been a current demand in the Lyons market for good Japan raws. Coarse kinds also have been freely shipped to fill the expected short supply of *Taysaams* from China.

The trade to Great Britain, once so important, appears to be slowly but surely on the wane; and it would seem—however well English manufacturers may be able to hold their own in some branches of the trade—that the industries of Silk-throwing and weaving are certainly passing into other hands. The shipments to London (which seven years ago were equal to one-half the total export) have now declined to the insignificant figure of 2,386 bales; or, say one-tenth part of the whole (23,704)—one-third of that to the United States (6,856)—and less than one-sixth of the export to France (14,462). With increased financial and Banking facilities, shipments can now be made direct to the markets of consumption; the business of London as an *entrepôt* has in consequence much diminished, and the quantity of silk actually used in Great Britain is only sufficient to support a feeble trade in the Raw material.

2nd. DIRECT SHIPMENTS.—The statistics show an excess of 3,648 bales over the total at 31st December, 1882. Of this increase 984 bales have gone to New York and 2,664 to Europe. Various theories have been started to account for the sudden activity displayed by native shippers, some holding that the Government were remitting money in silk instead of in bullion or Bills of Exchange, while others take the alarmist view that Japanese have determined to do their own business without foreigners' intervention. However this may be, there is no doubt that, at least, some of these "Direct Shipments" have resulted unsatisfactorily, and at the time of writing such business has been much curtailed.

3rd. COARSE SILKS.—A prominent feature in the present season has been the large supply of

good *Hamatsuki*, *Sodai*, *Nagahama*, and other coarse silks, such as are not commonly exported. Foreigners have been ready buyers of these kinds, the rumoured short crop in the *Taysaam* districts of North China furnishing a good opening for similar silks from Japan. On the other hand, the fact of Japanese being also ready sellers would seem to argue a general unhealthy state of the interior trade, as these kinds usually form the bulk of the raw material used in the native looms.

4th. PRICES.—The season opened on 22nd June at high rates, in sympathy with markets in Europe which had experienced a sharp rise on a rumoured failure of the crop in Italy and France. Here on that day, \$540 was eagerly paid for some ordinary *Maibashi* grading 2½ to 3, with \$490 for *Hachioji*. Within a week prices had dropped fully \$40, when it became known that, after all, the Italian crop would be a fair one.

July.—This month opened with still lower prices, business passing on a basis of \$475 for *Maibashi* Hanks averaging 2½. By the middle of the month there was a little more tone in the market, and the top quotation for 2½ Hanks rose to \$500. Filatures from Koshu province made their appearance about this time, and were found to be bright in color and of good quality, No. 1 being dealt in at about \$630. The month closed weak on a fall of \$10 in Hanks, desirable Filatures holding their own. Settlements for all July 1,400 piculs.

August.—Business began in earnest during the first half of this month; supplies came in more freely; holders were firm, and prices generally were well maintained. This state of things continued all through the month, which closed with a strong market for all classes. *Kinsatsu* rose from 125 to 115, and producers began to complain bitterly that their already attenuated profits were in consequence still further reduced. Settlements in August total 3,100 piculs.

September.—The market being now fairly well supplied with nearly all grades, both buyers and sellers settled down to hard work; and *Hamatsuki* sorts began to show in the daily list at slightly higher prices. Up to the middle of the month the market was active; scarcity of money among the dealers made them current sellers; *Sodai* and *Yechizen* kinds put in an appearance; arrivals of all descriptions came in freely from the interior, and a good business was done. This continued along with a slight reduction in prices, and the end of the month found us with a settlement-list of 4,900 piculs and a stock on hand of 5,000 piculs.

October.—Prices wilted during the first few days and business was in full swing, purchases averaging 150 piculs a day; all classes were freely taken, a marked preference being given to *Oshu* and full-sized silks. The same state of things continued throughout the month, prices drooping and buyers operating freely as rates declined. Sellers were ready to do business, and the transactions for October are returned as 5,400 piculs, shipments of Filatures and *Kakedas* to New York being well up on the list.

November.—The very low range of prices now reached induced free buying and business went on apace. By the middle of the month Hank sorts were lower than they had been for years—Good average *Shinshu* being weighed at \$455. From this point things began to mend; better news arrived from Europe and sellers managed to establish an advance all round. Filatures were also freely bought, medium kinds at lower prices, while the better classes were well supported. The U.S. Mail steamers leaving October and November took large cargoes, shipments on Japanese account being specially heavy. Transactions during the month, 6,000 piculs.

December.—Business generally fell off: holders had recovered some of their *sang-froid* and began to express hopes of better times, the stronger among them resolving to wait until the turn of the year before realizing further. Supported by better news from European markets, prices were raised, especially for Hanks; by the middle of the month the strength extended to other kinds, and demand ran strong in the direction of coarse *Taysaam* sorts. This course of events was further accelerated by still better reports from Lyons, and the year closed with settlements in *Shinshu* Hanks at fully \$35 per picul above the lowest point touched in November. Reports from New York were not so good, owing to forced sales there of Japanese-held silks, and buyers for that market were proportionately discouraged. Stocks of good desirable silks, however, are small, and holders maintain a strong position believing that the beginning of 1884 will bring higher prices. The general feeling, both among buyers and sellers, seems to be that good descriptions suitable for the U.S. market will be scarce for the next two or three months. Settlements for December 2,200 piculs, bringing the total for the half-season up to 23,000 piculs.

5th. QUALITY.—In spite of some complaints in certain districts as to light yield, there is no doubt

that the crop has been exceptionally good both in quality and quantity. From Oshu province the arrivals have been especially good; *Kakedas* (which now embrace *Haremichi*), *Sendai*, and *Hamatsuki* being alike plentiful. In *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, some of the producers who have a reputation to maintain have turned out good, trustworthy silk; while other chops, especially in the Medium Grades, have been uneven and unreliable as of old.

It is beyond question that the production of Raw Silk in Japan is capable of much greater extension; and, if reellers will carefully attend to the *quality* of what they produce they may rest assured of a good demand for their wares in the future.

WASTE SILK.

The trade in this important article shows a steady growth during the last few years as will be seen by the Tables on the other side. The recent advance in the art of Silk-spinning has combined with the requirements of fashion to cause a good demand for Waste Silk generally, and notably for the high-class *Kibiso* and *Noshi-ito* of Japan. The manufacturers of the North of England claim that in "spinning" they can hold their own against all competitors; and certain it is that a fair proportion of the fibre exported hence finds its way to Great Britain. Large quantities have also been shipped to Marseilles *en route* for Switzerland and other manufacturing centres; but shipments to the United States have been small, and it would seem that the trade there is yet in its infancy. Out of a total export for the six months of 16,689 piculs, about 16,000 have gone to Europe and not more than 700 to America.

The market opened in the latter half of July by the settlement of about 100 piculs *Noshi* and *Kibiso*. *Pierced Cocoons* also began to come in, but no transactions were effected until later on. During August, buyers and sellers settled down to work and a considerable business was done at good

prices:—Best *Filature Noshi* bringing \$155, and Best *Filature Kibiso* \$125; Good *Joshu Noshi* being quoted \$90 to \$95. This state of affairs continued till the middle of October when business slackened off, buyers looking for concessions in price, and by the beginning of November quotations for *Kibiso* generally, and *Joshu* kinds of *Noshi-ito*, were reduced \$10. On this level buyers again came in, and the year closes with prices somewhat above the lowest point, the available Stock in Yokohama being reduced to 800 piculs. There should be considerable supplies in the interior, but dealers assert that the present range of prices does not offer much inducement to bring them down.

PIERCED COCOONS—The supply of these has not been large and the export to date is 1,933 piculs against 3,065 on 31 Dec. last. Best qualities, giving heavy per-centage, have not been plentiful, and prices have been fairly steady on basis of—Common, \$80; Medium, \$90; Good, \$100; and Best \$110. There should be some yet to come down; but they may be held over for what producers would consider better times. The bulk of purchases were made as usual in August and September.

NOSHI-ITO.—A large business has been done in this class, and transactions have ranged from Common *Hachoji* up to the Best *Filature* kinds, with extra quality and length of fibre. Demand has been good for *Noshi* from *Joshu* province grading "Good Medium to Good;" while best fine sorts have also found buyers at full rates. *Oshu* has been sought for all along at from \$140 to \$150 per picul, and good *Shinshu* has been freely taken at \$110 to \$100. At the time of writing, Stocks of all kinds are reduced to a minimum and "arrivals" come in dribbles.

KIBISO.—"Filatures" and the better kinds of *Hank* sorts have been eagerly taken, especially during the last two months; after the drop in prices noticed above buyers came in freely and the

demand has fully equalled the supply. Medium and Low *Kibiso* have also at times had their turn, and the year closes with scarcely 600 piculs in stock, the bulk of same being low undesirable kinds. Quotations have recovered something of the fall in good to best descriptions, these being scarce and wanted.

MAWATA.—For the first few months next to nothing was done, sellers and buyers being wide asunder with respect to price. Latterly business has resulted at \$175 to \$195 for *Oshu*, according to grade; and the market has been practically cleared at about these figures.

EXCHANGE.

During the six months, shippers have had the benefit of fairly low rates without great fluctuations. Credits on London at 4 months' sight opened at 3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$; dropped temporarily to 3/8 $\frac{1}{4}$; hardened to 3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$ as the season got well underweigh; improved another farthing by the end of September, bounding by quick steps to 3/10 at the beginning of November. (The great stagnation in Imports and consequent preponderance of Exports had caused a real scarcity of dollars; but the stringency soon passed when news came in reporting shipments of bullion from East and West.) Thence to date a fairly steady market, about on the level of 3/9 $\frac{1}{2}$, closing weak.

KINSATSU.—Those important factors in the native merchants' calculation have seemed persistently adverse to his interests throughout the period under notice: quotations at the opening of the season being 133 per \$100, or about 15 per cent. less than at the opening of last season when the rate was called 156 per \$100; a steady appreciation continued with slight fluctuations until, in November, business was done at less than 110, showing a further loss to the dealer in silk of another 18 per cent. Since that date currency has varied between 107 and 110, closing fairly steady at about 109 *yen* per 100 silver dollars.

EXPORT TABLE JAPAN RAW SILK FOR THE HALF-SEASON COMPARED WITH RECENT YEARS.

	Dec. 31, 1883.	Dec. 31, 1882.	Dec. 31, 1881.	Dec. 31, 1880.	Dec. 31, 1879.	Dec. 31, 1878.	Dec. 31, 1877.	Dec. 31, 1876.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy ...	14,462	9,472	4,171	4,910	5,330	7,579	8,657	9,137
United States	6,856	5,896	2,674	3,460	3,148	1,536	611	62
England	2,386	2,927	1,953	2,497	4,831	3,548	8,420	9,235
Total	23,704	18,295	8,798	10,867	13,309	12,663	17,688	18,434

UNSOLD STOCK OF RAW SILK IN YOKOHAMA AT SAME DATES.

	Dec. 31, 1883.	Dec. 31, 1882.	Dec. 31, 1881.	Dec. 31, 1880.	Dec. 31, 1879.	Dec. 31, 1878.	Dec. 31, 1877.	Dec. 31, 1876.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
	4,400	4,300	9,000	5,400	3,300	3,360	1,200	2,000

RAW SILK QUOTATIONS (SEMI-MONTHLY) COMPARED WITH 1882.

	No. 2 SHINSHU HANKS. 1883. 1882.	Good 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ JOSHU HANKS. 1883. 1882.	FILATURES NO. 1, 10-13 DENIERS. 1883. 1882.	FILATURES BEST NO. 1, 14-16 DENIERS. 1883. 1882.	FILATURES GOOD NO. 2, 14-18 DENIERS. 1883. 1882.	RE-REELS BEST NO. 1, 14-16 DENIERS. 1883. 1882.	KAKEDA GOOD NO. 2. 1883. 1882.	HAMATSUKI NO. 2. 1883. 1882.
July 15...	— \$530	\$500 \$490	\$655 —	\$635 \$670	— \$650	— \$650	— —	— —
July 31...	— 535	490 500	650 —	640 680	\$620 650	\$610 650	\$570 \$620	— —
Aug. 15...	\$525 520	490 485	650 \$640	640 660	620 640	620 645	570 580	\$460 \$480
Aug. 31...	525 530	500 500	550 645	640 650	620 630	620 630	560 570	470 470
Sept. 15...	520 540	490 520	640 650	640 660	610 630	620 625	555 575	480 470
Sept. 30...	510 550	485 530	630 660	630 670	590 640	610 630	550 580	480 470
Oct. 15...	500 535	475 510	620 660	610 660	590 635	600 630	545 580	480 470
Oct. 31...	490 525	460 500	615 650	590 650	575 625	590 620	545 570	470 470
Nov. 15...	475 520	450 500	600 640	590 640	570 620	580 620	540 560	455 460
Nov. 30...	480 525	455 500	600 635	595 620	570 590	580 600	540 560	455 460
Dec. 15...	500 530	470 505	610 640	600 625	580 590	585 605	540 570	470 470
Dec. 31...	500 535	475 510	610 645	610 630	580 590	585 610	545 580	470 475

EXPORT TABLE WASTE SILK FOR THE HALF-SEASON COMPARED WITH RECENT YEARS.

	Dec. 31, 1883.	Dec. 31, 1882.	Dec. 31, 1881.	Dec. 31, 1880.	Dec. 31, 1879.	Dec. 31, 1878.	Dec. 31, 1877.	Dec. 31, 1876.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	14,756	11,876	8,987	9,569	10,833	5,993	3,915	3,613
Pierced Cocoons ...	1,933	3,065	2,560	713	3,858	1,836	3,015	3,768
Total Piculs ...	16,689	14,941	11,547	10,282	14,691	7,829	6,930	7,381

UNSOLD STOCK OF WASTE SILK IN YOKOHAMA AT SAME DATES.

	Dec. 31, 1883.	Dec. 31, 1882.	Dec. 31, 1881.	Dec. 31, 1880.	Dec. 31, 1879.	Dec. 31, 1878.	Dec. 31, 1877.	Dec. 31, 1876.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
	800	3,500	2,800	2,214	470	450	—	—

WASTE SILK QUOTATIONS (SEMI-MONTHLY) COMPARED WITH 1882.

	PIERCED COCOONS, BEST 1883. 1882.	BEST FILATURE AND OSHU NO. 3. 1883. 1882.	BEST SHINSHU NOSHI. 1883. 1882.	GOOD ASSORTED JOSHU NOSHI. 1883. 1882.	BEST SELECTED FILATURE KIBISO. 1883. 1882.	BEST OSHU KIBISO. 1883. 1882.	MIDDLING JOSHU KIBISO. 1883. 1882.	BEST OSHU MAWATA. 1883. 1882.
July 15	—	—	—	— \$112	—	—	—	—
July 31	—	\$145	—	\$90 110	—	—	\$40 \$55	—
Aug. 15	—	150 \$160	—	90 115	— \$135	— \$110	40 55	— \$210
Aug. 31	\$110 \$115	150 170	— \$160	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 120	\$125 145	— 125	40 55	— 210
Sept. 15	110 115	150 170	— 160	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 120	125 145	— 120	40 55	— 205
Sept. 30	110 115	150 170	— 160	90 110	125 140	— 120	40 50	— 210
Oct. 15	110 110	150 165	— 145	90 95	125 140	— 120	40 50	— 210
Oct. 31	107 $\frac{1}{2}$ 105	150 165	\$110 145	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 95	115 135	\$100 115	37 $\frac{1}{2}$ 50	\$195 205
Nov. 15	107 $\frac{1}{2}$ 105	145 160	110 140	85 95	120 135	100 115	35 50	195 205
Nov. 30	107 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	150 160	110 140	84 95	120 135	100 110	35 45	190 200
Dec. 15	107 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	150 160	110 140	83 95	117 $\frac{1}{2}$ 135	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 110	35 45	185 205
Dec. 31	—	150 160	110 140	85 95	117 $\frac{1}{2}$ 135	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 110	35 45	185 205

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 15th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Baker Pasha meditates the transfer of the base of operations to Massowah.

The Abyssinians are stated to be friendly.

London, January 11th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

The Egyptian Government has decided not to abandon Suakim.

The evacuation by the civil population of Khartoum has been ordered.

London, January 14th.

RATIFICATION OF THE LESSEPS CONVENTION.

The *Gaulois* states that the British Government has ratified the Lesseps Convention, protecting the interests of British shipowners. *The Times* denies this.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

London, 2nd January.

THE REVENUE FOR 1883.

The revenue for the past year amounts to £90,000,000, showing an increase of £3,690,000 as compared with that of the previous year.

London, 4th January.

THE RISING IN THE SOUDAN.

The threatening of Upper Egypt by the Mahdi and his followers is engaging the serious attention of the British Government at present.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday, when Egyptian affairs were discussed. The Council is summoned again for to-day.

It is rumoured that an important decision in connection with the measures to be adopted to cope with the rising in Egypt is imminent.

London, 5th January.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

The Egyptian Government has sent a vigorous Note to the British Government, stating that if England refuses assistance in the Soudan the Egyptian Government will relinquish the Eastern portion to Turkey.

London, 7th January.

THE CABINET COUNCIL ON THE EGYPTIAN CRISIS.

At the Cabinet Council held on Saturday no decision was arrived at respecting the steps to be taken by the British Government in Egypt for the preservation of order should the Mahdi continue to advance.

BRITISH REPLY TO THE EGYPTIAN NOTE.

The British Government, in reply to the Note sent by the Egyptian Government, state that they have no objection to Egypt giving up the eastern portion of the Soudan to Turkey, nor would they object to a Turkish expedition for the suppression of the rising in that country, provided that the whole expense of the same was charged to the Turkish exchequer.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

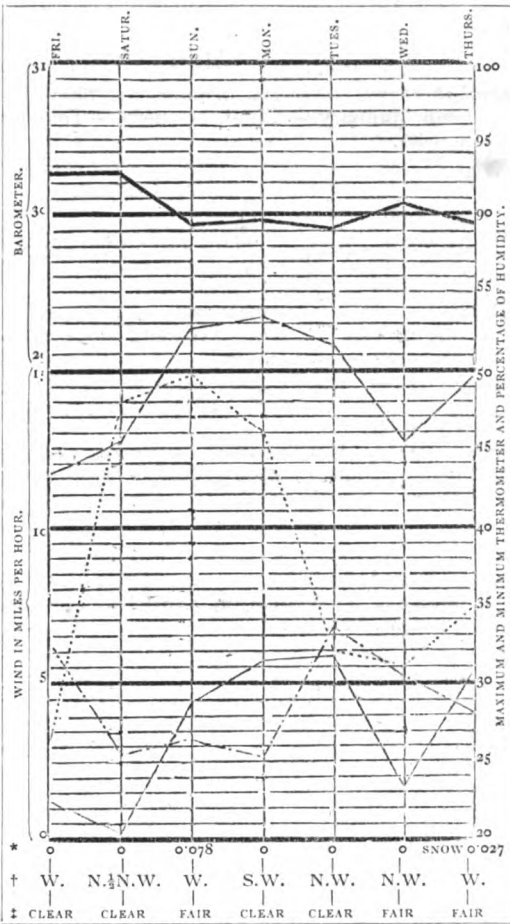
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 23.0 miles per hour on Tuesday at 7 a.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.302 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.820 inches on Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 53.2 on Monday, and the lowest was 29.4 on Saturday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 53.5 and 26.8 respectively.

The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 0.105 inches, against 0.108 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Jan. 24th.
Kobe }
From Europe, }
via Hongkong. per M. M. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 23rd*.
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Feb. 11th.†

* *Volga* (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 16th.
† *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, Jan. 19th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Jan. 20th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Sunday, Jan. 20th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 23rd.
Nagasaki }
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Jan. 26th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Feb. 2nd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

Solution to Chess Problem of 29th January, 1884,
by M. Hans Seeberger de Gras.

White.

Black.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1.—B. to Q. 7. | 1.—Q. takes P. ch. |
| 2.—R. covers and ch. | 2.—Q. takes R. ch. |
| 3.—Q. takes Q. mate. | if 1.—B. takes P. |
| 2.—Q. to Q. 2, takes | 2.—K. takes P. |
| P. and ch. | if 1.—K. takes P. |
| 3.—Q. or Kt. mates. | 2.—Anything. |
| 2.—R. to Q. 5. | if 1.—Q. to R. 6. |
| 3.—Q. mates. | 2.—K. takes P. |
| 2.—R. to B. 3, ch. | |
| 3.—B. mates. | |

Correct answer received from "TESA."

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

It is said that two men-of-war are under orders to visit Europe.

The ward-offices experience considerable pressure of business, owing to the recent revision of the Conscription Regulations.

The Yokohama Gas Company propose to reduce their rates of lighting both houses and streets.

The Buddhist priests have held meetings respecting the Conscription Regulations. The Chief priests of different sects from various localities, have arrived in the Capital to forward a petition to the Government praying that those who have successfully passed the Theological School shall be exempt from service.

Emigration to Hokkaido shows an increase of 738 as compared with last year.

In rural districts great confusion prevails owing to the military service having been made compulsory. In the prefecture of Shiga, seventeen ward officers have been arrested on suspicion of having assisted the people to evade the conscription. In the prefecture of Shidzuoka, young girls have been espoused or young boys have been given inheritances, in the idea that married men and heirs of families are exempt from the service. The engravers are consequently busy in making stamps for the people who require them for making application to the ward offices.

A few days ago a curious accident occurred in Benten Dori. A servant in a watchmaker's shop was cleaning a clock with kerosene. Suddenly the oil took fire; and the man, naturally, threw the vessel outside the shop. It fell into a bucket of water, and the flames spread over the surface. The unwitting author of the mischief made matters worse by rushing out and kicking the bucket over so effectually that the burning oil not only flashed over the street but caught the clothes of a passer-by, who had the presence of mind to throw off his garments, and escaped with some burns on his arms and legs.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

A fort will be erected at Hishijima, Sagami, in the prefecture of Kanagawa.

The guns of the *Tsukushi Kan* have been tried at Boshu and the results were most satisfactory.

A letter from Ogasawara-jima (Bonin Islands), dated the 28th of December last, says:—On the 5th of October, Chichi-jima was visited by a most severe gale, increasing in force toward 2 p.m.; houses and trees were demolished. At 5 p.m. the wind changed from S.W. to S.E., when all danger was over. Next day, the local officers went round the vil'ages on a tour of inspection and found the roads impassable owing to the ruins of houses, trees, and rocks which were strewed about. The damage to the rice fields was considerable. In Hana-jima, the damage to houses was less severe, only five being destroyed, but the rice-fields suffered most severely. Coffee planted for experimental purposes has suffered more or less severely. In Kiyodai-jima, the damage was confined to trees.—*Choya Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The berth continues to be well filled with steam tonnage for usual destinations, but there is little doing in coastwise freights. The German steamer *Hesperia*, 1,136 tons has been chartered, Nagasaki to this port, \$1.15 per ton, and several small sailing vessels have found employment from Formosa to Yokohama with sugar. Although freights are low, there appears to be no more tonnage idle at the moment than is usual at the time of year in China and Japan.

ARRIVALS.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 12th January,—Shimidzu 10th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 14th January,—Kobe 11th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 14th January,—San Francisco 22nd December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 14th January,—Fukuda 11th January, General.—Handasha.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 15th January,—Yokkaichi 12th January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 15th January,—Yokkaichi 12th January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 15th January,—Toba 12th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 16th January,—Handa 14th January, General.—Handasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 16th January,—Sakada 13th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 16th January,—Shimidzu 13th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,216, James, 16th January,—Kobe 13th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 648, Thomas, 16th January,—Hachinohe 13th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 17th January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 17th January,—Kobe 15th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Matsushima Maru, Japanese bark, 444, Yamashita, 17th January,—Oginohama 10th January, Rice and General.—Takahasha.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 17th January,—Hongkong 9th January, via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 18th January,—Hongkong 12th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 457, Streamer, 18th January,—Yokkaichi, 15th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 17th January,—Yokkaichi 15th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 18th January,—Hakodate 15th and Oginohama 16th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, Hussey, 18th January,—Kobe 16th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 472, Sakai, 19th January,—Hakodate 16th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imada, 13th January,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 14th January,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 14th January,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 14th January,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 15th January,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hesperia, German steamer, 1,136, J. Wagner, 15th January,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 15th January,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Daukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 16th January,—Atami, General.—Tokai-kaisha.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 16th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 15th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 16th January,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 16th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 16th January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 16th January,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 9th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Eckstrand, 17th January,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 17th January,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Loretta Fish, American ship, 1,847, H. A. Hyler, 18th January,—Hongkong, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 18th January,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 18th January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 759, Tokuta, 18th January,—Yokosuka Dock.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 18th January,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Matsumoto, 18th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, James, 18th January,—Hakodate and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 19th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Mengaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 19th January,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe: 16 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. E. J. Smithers, U.S. Consul, Rev. and Mrs. T. W. MacNair, Rev. and Mrs. F. W. Voegler, Miss Ada Johnson, Lieutenant F. P. Gilmore, and Mr. D. Marcus in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. M. Griffith, Messrs. F. Koch, A. Scheffer, and Ichangio H. Kothari in cabin; and 800 Chinese in steerage. For Shanghai: Rev. and Mrs. Henry M. Woods and John H. Wisner in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—6 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—10 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Sakada:—2 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Kobe: Governor Tokito, Governor Orita, and 12 Japanese in cabin; and 35 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hakodate:—5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Tsuruda, Mrs. Tsuruda and child, Messrs. A. Coye, M.

Willett, C. W. Phipps, T. A. Eckstrand, Murakami, Toyomi, and Akaba in cabin; and Mr. Hilsten in second class; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 86 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, Messrs. Tobler, Voight, and Illies in cabin.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—For San Francisco: Captain R. Cass and Mr. M. Frank in cabin; and 82 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—105 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—Mr. and Mrs. Shitayama, Messrs. T. Ito, and T. Ichioka in cabin; and 98 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Rev. and Mrs. Belioz, Messrs. J. D. Jordan, Okigawa Fukuzo, Okigawa Taki, Tachibana Kinjiro, Uchida Sansei, and Tsuda Yoshitsugu in cabin; and 112 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—15 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Kobe:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 31 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Griffith, Messrs. H. Koch, A. Scheffer, and Ichangio H. Kothari in cabin; and 800 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Nakauchi, mother and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Wood, Mr. E. J. Smithers, U.S. Consul, Mrs. Mayfield, Miss Annie Stone, Lieutenant Gilmore, U.S.N., Captain Gordon, Messrs. J. Potter, H. V. Love, F. J. Speshitoff, M. Machanoff, A. Stopford, A. J. Caswell, R. Hamilton, John H. Wisner, S. Inouye, Fukui, K. Iwase, Kobayashi, Sato, Sakurai, K. Kawada, and J. Hasegawa in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. S. Irimajiri in cabin; and 63 Japanese in steerage. For Oginohama: Mr. T. Takayama in cabin.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, for Kobe:—5 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Messrs. A. Patterson and D. Crowe in cabin; and 50 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Mengaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. E. Terpee, 3 children, and 1 servant, Gabriel Jourdan, Stephen Earnbull, George Lisle, Francis Roberts, A. Morelli, and Robert Johnstone in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$111,920.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$102,711.19; for San Francisco, \$47,095.00.

Per French steamer *Mengaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 655 bales; for England, 18 bales; Total, 693 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 15th January, at 6 a.m. with moderate westerly breeze and snow to Oginohama, where arrived on the 16th, at noon, and left on the 16th, at 6.30 a.m. with light westerly winds and fine weather to Kawatsu; thence to port fresh northerly winds and rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 18th January, at 11 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 18th January,—Hongkong 12th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October,—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 17th January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 17th January,—Hongkong 9th January, via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No material change has taken place in the demand, and prices do not admit of alteration, in many instances the quotations below being quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$24.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.25
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.00 to 33.25
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	6.50 to 7.25
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.60 to 0.70
	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

A sale of 5,000 Devoe was reported yesterday at \$1.72½; otherwise, no business has been done during the past week. Holders are, however, firm and look for an advance. Deliveries have been 19,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.72
Comet	1.69
Stella	1.58

SUGAR.

Business continues to a retail extent only, and prices are unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last issue of the 10th instant, we have had a quiet Market with but moderate business, Settlements for the week being returned as 400 piculs. Arrivals have been very scanty, and this combined with some demand for native requirements has reduced the available Stock to 3,700 piculs. Prices are nominally without change; but (with some exceptions) may be said to be the turn in buyer's favor. Still further depressing news from New York has caused almost a cessation of buying for that quarter. The bulk of the business done has been in Common Re-reel and Filature kinds grading very low in the scale.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Khiwa*, which left on the morning of the 12th instant, carried 563 bales; of which, 482 were entered as going to France and

81 for England, Japanese exporters being again well represented. These figures bring the total Export up to 24,624 bales, against 19,007 to same date last year, and 9,479 the year before.

Hanks.—Business in these has fallen away, and very little has been done. Prices are nominally unchanged, but it is likely that firm offers for a quantity at a trifle under present quotations would lead to business. Among the few purchases made we notice Omama, \$480; Joshu, \$475; Annaka, \$470. Stock is stationary at last week's figures.

Filatures.—Again fine sizes of good quality have been sought after, and true 10/13 denier silk has commanded its price: Common and mixed Filatures have also been in demand at from \$510 to \$550 per picul. Buyers for the New York Market have again held back for better times and lower prices; meanwhile, good desirable sorts are scarce and firmly held. Among the recorded business we observe some fine-sized Shinshu at from \$610 to \$620. In coarse sizes the little doing ranges from *Nihonmatsu* at \$635 down to common rejections at \$500.

Re-reels.—Rather more doing in these, demand running chiefly on 2½ to 3. Anything Good is firmly held, and the Stock on offer embraces *Shinshu* "Fan" chop \$610 "Helmet" \$585. In *Maibash* "Turtle" chop is offering at \$590, and two or three lots "Five Girl" have been settled at \$580. Other kinds down to "Inferior" at \$550, \$545, \$535, and \$525 according to quality.

Kakeda.—Very little doing in this class, and the small purchases made have been more than counter-balanced by the return of silk previously taken into godown. All quotations must be considered more or less nominal except for quality grading 2½ to 3 which is enquired for at late rates.

Oshu.—About 60 piculs have changed hands among which are *Sendai* \$490 and *Hamatsuki* \$470 to \$445. Stock same as last reported.

Taysaam Kinds.—A sale of *Shimada* reported at \$420, beyond this nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	Nom.	\$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)		495 to 505
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)		485 to 495
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)		480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)		470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3		455 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½		440 to 450
Filatures—Extra		625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers		610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nom.	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers		595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers		590 to 600
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		580 to 590
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers		580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers		565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra		605
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.	585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2		540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3		520 to 530
Oshu <i>Sendai</i> —No. 2½		470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2		470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4		420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom.	400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 17th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	15,028	9,870	4,720
America	7,114	6,154	2,674
England	2,482	2,983	2,085
Total	24,624	19,007	9,479

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more doing in this branch; Settlements for the week about 400 piculs, again equally divided between *Noshi-ito* and *Kibiso*. Stocks are slightly increased, but desirable parcel are scarce, and command full rates especially *Joshu* *Noshi* and *Filature* *Kibiso*.

Pierced Cocoons.—Without change; no transactions, and no Stock worth mentioning.

Noshi-ito.—Good sorts in demand, and business done in *Filatures* at \$130 to \$135 (for a parcel *Tomiyoka* \$160, perhaps \$155 is asked); *Oshu*, \$145; *Joshu*, Best Fine, \$110; Good Medium, \$87½; Common, \$65. Supplies are not coming in very freely, and the Market is fairly supported at the advance.

Kibiso.—The week has seen a marked rise in

Filature kinds, Best *Shinshu* having touched \$125, with ordinary "Cocoony" at \$117½. A little done in *Oshu* at \$97½, with something passing in low kinds of *Joshu* and *Hachoji* at \$40, \$30, \$18, and \$15. Stock shows a slight increase.

Mawatta.—No transactions: a few bales have come in from the country, bringing the Stock in Yokohama up to 110 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	Nom.	\$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best		155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good		135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium		115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best		140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom.	110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom.	100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom.	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best		110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good		90 to 92½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary		80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected		125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds		115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good		95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best		85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds		65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common		50 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low		25 to 17½
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common		18 to 10
Mawatta—Good to Best	Nom.	175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 17th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	15,517	12,442	9,674
Pierced Cocoons	1,948	3,065	2,560
	17,465	15,507	12,234

Exchange has steadied on basis of following quotations:—London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 90; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72½. *Kinsatsu* have not fluctuated greatly, and close 109½ to 109 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 17th Jan., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,800	Pierced Cocoons	80
Filature & Re-reels	900	Noshi-ito	270
Kakeda	500	Kibiso	690
Sendai & Hamatsuki	400	Mawata	110
Taysaam Kinds	100		
Total piculs	3,700	Total piculs	1,150

TEA.

The same desultory kind of business reported in our last Market Report continued up to the 14th instant, when daily Settlements only amounted to 55 piculs; for the past four days, however, an increased demand has been ruling, and total Settlements for the week show an increase over previous Settlements for like period for some time back. Prices again have a firmer tendency, especially for Teas grading above Medium which are in very small supply. Receipts from the country during the interval have about balanced the demand, and Stocks are about the same as they were a week ago. Total Settlements for the interval are about 695 piculs, and comprise the following grades:—Good Common 135, Medium 305, Good Medium 90, Fine 70, Finest 20, and Choice 65 piculs. The cargo of the *City of Peking*, despatched on the 10th instant, consist as follows:—For New York, 15,654 lbs.; for Chicago, 4,385 lbs.; for Portland (Oregon), 150 lbs.; and for California, 67,201 lbs.; making in all for United States 87,390 lbs. Fired Tea.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	12 to 14
Medium	16 to 18
Good Medium	20 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

There is little or no change to report in rates during the week. Transactions have been small, and quotations at the close are steady.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.64½
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.75½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 26TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 1884.

BIRTH.

On the 2nd January, 1884, at Sadec, near Saigon, French Cochinchina, EDGAR DE LAHOGUE, son of Monsieur Thony de Lahogue and of his wife Anna Nègre, eldest daughter of Mr. A. F. Nègre, of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FURTHER particulars of the fire in Shidzuoka show that eleven persons were burned to death, seven of whom were women.

THE vernacular Press estimates the number of native Christians in Japan at 5,591, and the number of churches at 88.

SEVERAL arrests of incendiaries have been made in Tokiyo during the week, and a considerable diminution is noticeable in the number of fires.

A PERFORMANCE was given by French Amateurs at the Gaiety Theatre on Thursday evening, in aid of the funds of the Yokohama General Hospital.

It is said that the Japanese nobles have memorialized the Government in favour of a national constitution on the basis of that of Great Britain.

THE Minister of Finance has notified the issue of Railway Loan Bonds to the amount of five million *yen*. The bonds are to be issued at 90, so that the rate of interest will be $7\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.

THE case of Yukioka Shobei v. Edward Whittall came up again before H.B.M. Court for Japan, on the 22nd instant. Judgment was given for the plaintiff; damages, \$1,097.67.

ON Tuesday evening a ball was given at the Masonic Hall by the ladies of Yokohama in aid

of the funds of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Upwards of six hundred tickets were disposed of, and the affair was in every respect a great success.

THE Minister of the Interior, General Yamagata, has published a notification embodying very strict rules with regard to the use of swords by the police.

THREE wardens of Hiroshima Prison, at which a disastrous fire attended by serious loss of life occurred some months ago, have been sentenced to major seclusion for nine years, having been found guilty of neglect of duty in failing to open the prison doors when the conflagration broke out.

THE trial of the police concerned in the death of the Chinaman Wai Hinno at Nagasaki has been concluded. The vernacular press states that the policemen charged with stabbing the Chinaman has been sentenced to five years major confinement.

THE much talked of pier at Shinagawa seems likely to be really commenced ere long. On the 22nd a number of persons from the offices of the Tokiyo Municipality and the Water Police were engaged marking out the position of the pier, which is to be carried out in the direction of the second fort.

ON the morning of the 23rd instant, the Meteorological Department, Tokiyo, received intelligence of a remarkable rise of temperature throughout the country. At Nagasaki the thermometer registered a difference of 14° F. in 24 hours, and from Sapporo a rise of 13° was reported. These changes of temperature were accompanied by heavy rain throughout the south-eastern districts, and snow in the north.

THE Annual Meeting for receiving accounts and electing a Committee of the Yokohama General Cemetery, was held at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms on Tuesday, 22nd instant. The financial condition of the Cemetery was found to be satisfactory, there being a credit balance of \$590.48. The total number of interments during 1883 was 50, which was also the number for 1882 and 1881.

AT three o'clock in the afternoon of the 20th, a fire, the work of an incendiary, broke out in Kotohira-cho, Shiba, Tokiyo. The flames, which made their appearance in a pile of firewood, quickly attracted attention, and would probably have been extinguished at once but for the strength of the wind. Eight houses were ultimately destroyed, and three more or less injured. At 7 o'clock, the same afternoon, a bath-house in Bakuro-cho took fire. The flames were quickly got under but the owner of the house was badly hurt in the operation. Another conflagration occurred, the same evening, in a shed which had been erected for building purposes at the temple of Kaianji, near the grave of His Excellency Iwakura. The shed was demolished.

WEEKLY NOTES.

It is nearly nine hundred and fifty years since Masakado took the title of Hei-shin-ô, and building himself a palace at Sarushima, in Shinôsa, reigned, for a brief period, as Emperor of Eastern Japan. The rebel monarch's pretensions were effectually disposed of by the warriors Sadamori and Hidesato, but it is related that his vanquishers had nearly yielded to the bewilderment of a Protean spell which enabled the pretender to multiply himself into the similitude of seven horsemen, among whom one alone was mortal or sentient. The eagle-eyed archer Tawara Todo proved too much, however, even for this imperial Hydra. His sight was so keen that among the seven heads he singled out the only one in whose temples a pulse was beating, and his skill was so unerring that he shot an arrow which pierced the vulnerable temple at this very spot. In those days the measures taken to exterminate troublesome subjects were of Old-Testament efficiency. Everybody was cut off, even to the children in the womb. Sadamori and Hidesato were not the men to neglect their duty in this respect, and for centuries it was universally believed that the race of Masakado had no representative, however distant, throughout the empire. That this was a popular fallacy has recently been proved after a somewhat singular fashion. It appears that there lives in the village of Sugefu, of the Sôma district in Shimôsa, a wealthy farmer by name Hanchô-bei. This man, whose estate is one of the widest in the province, is the direct descendant of Masakado. Near his house there is a sepulchral mound, known as the "Tomb of the Thirteen" (*Jiu-san-dzuka*), in allusion to the thirteen families into which Hanchô-bei's blood relations are divided. This mound, it is needless to say, has always been regarded with the utmost veneration. There is also, among the heir-looms in the yeoman's possession, a black lacquer box, which from generation to generation remained unopened. Each son and heir, as he received the box from his father, was solemnly informed of a tradition that whoever ventured to raise the lid should lose his sight forthwith. No one, it appears, ventured to test the truth of this superstition until the present representative of the house, being a man of considerable learning and enlightened ideas, concluded that duty forbade him to respect such old wives' tales. At the beginning of this year, therefore, he invited his relatives of the thirteen families, and having informed them of his resolve to see what the box contained, proceeded to open it in their presence. It contained a worm-eaten scroll, on which were written, in characters scarcely legible, the following words:—"Two hundred pieces of gold are buried in the Tomb of the Thirteen. Let none but a soldier venture to use them." Below this sentence was the seal of Hei-shin-ô (the usurping emperor), and the date, "New Year's day, A.D. 938." The astonishment of the assembled party is said to have been great, but they concluded that, as sensible men, they ought not to leave such a

treasure unemployed in the bowels of the earth. Having agreed, therefore, that when the gold was taken out, one-half should go to Han-chôbei, and the remainder be divided among the thirteen relatives, application was made, a few days ago, in due form, to the local authorities, and with their permission, steps have been taken to open the tomb. Should the search be successful, the value of the gold, expressed in the paltry coin of these latter days, will be about twenty thousand dollars. The only question that puzzles us is, of what shape will the pieces be? We say "pieces," but it would perhaps be more correct to translate the Japanese by "slabs" (*Ogon no ita*). It has never been stated, however, so far as we know, that gold, as an instrument of exchange, was used in Japan in any form other than dust so long ago as the tenth century. From an antiquarian point of view, therefore, the treasure buried in the Tomb of the Thirteen will possess great interest. Meanwhile, it has yet to be found, and though the story we have recounted receives general credence among Japanese, the sequel seems somewhat problematical.

A TOKIO journal tells a very sad story of insanity caused by grief. Some days ago the wife of a fishmonger, by name Matsugoro, living in Tobe-machi, Yokohama, received news, from Tokiyo of the sudden death of her father. The event affected her so much that she could neither sleep nor eat, and though her husband watched her with the utmost anxiety, she managed to escape from her home during the night of the 22nd, and with her child, a girl three years old, on her back, jumped into the canal from Yukimibashi in Kami-sakuragi street. Both the mother and the baby were drowned.

PRISON statistics, prepared this month, show that the number of persons confined in the jail at Ishikawa is 1,977, of whom 66 are soldiers. In the prison at Ichigaya, there are 1,321; in the prison at Kajibashi 356, of whom 23 are women, and in the Tokiyo Penitentiary, 941. Thus the total number of persons confined in civil prisons in Tokiyo is 4,595.

The route from Tokiyo to Tateyama, in Boshu, used, until quite recently, to be the scene of a most animated competition between two steamship companies, the *Boshu-maru-gwaisha* and the *Miura-gwaisha*. The public, as usual, benefited by the rivalry, for fares were gradually lowered until the passage cost only forty cents. At this point the *Miura-gwaisha* succumbed, and the *Boshu-maru-gwaisha*, having things all its own way, suddenly raised the price of a ticket to one *yen*. Travellers by that route are thinking of petitioning the Government to establish another *Miura-gwaisha*.

WE referred yesterday to a report that a certain European firm had been authorized by the Korean Government to prospect for deposits of metalliferous ores in the interior of the country. It appears that a contract was made shortly after the Korean Treaty with Great Britain had been drafted, and that steps have already been taken to carry out the plans therein specified. Should the prospectors meet with success, the mines may be worked without further delay; but the profits beyond a stipulated sum must be shared with the Korean Government. Gold and silver mines are excluded from the contract, as the government has resolved to keep these precious metals—if such there be in Korea—under its

direct personal supervision. One cannot but admire the energetic fortitude with which the merchant prospectors have entered upon this interesting work. As for as our present knowledge of the country's resources is concerned, copper currency is as scarce as silver, and it seems hardly probable that the mountain fastnesses of Korea conceal another Comstock lode. Enterprise is laudable, and we sincerely hope that in this case it will meet with success. Korea may turn out something after all.

TERRIBLE accounts of the disasters caused by the recent fire in Shidzuoka appear in the vernacular press. In addition to severe injuries suffered by members of the police-force and fire brigade, the loss of life was very considerable. The fire, it will be remembered, broke out in a theatre, where a company of actresses had been performing a few hours before. Six of these actresses, with an old woman and four men, were sleeping in the back part of the theatre when the flames reached them. Not one of the eleven escaped. Among them an actress called Umeji was *enccinte*. In her agony she gave birth to a child, which was found dead beside her corpse. Another, Harukichi, had joined the company the preceding day, accompanied by her father, mother and brother, who came to see her first performance. These four were also among the victims. A second party of six actresses, accompanied by one man, made their escape from the burning theatre, only to find their further progress blocked by a godown. The flames had almost reached these unfortunates when their cries were heard by the owner of the godown, who was just then plastering the doors and windows in the front of the building. This man, Kichiyemon, immediately guessed what had happened. Running to the back of the godown, he succeeded, by an exercise of great strength, in pushing open a door which had been hermetically sealed, and through this entrance the seven fugitives passed or were carried, some having already lost the command of their limbs. They were all saved, but not so Kichiyemon's godown. The flames gained admission by the same door as the actresses, and the building was reduced to ashes.

WE read in the *Yomi-uri Shimbun* that, during the last three months of 1883, the number of passports granted to foreigners by the Kobe authorities, for the purpose of travelling in the interior, was 197 in all. Of these 94 were granted to British subjects; 35 to Americans; 34 to Russians; 12 to Frenchmen; 11 to Germans; 4 to Dutchmen; 2 to Chinese; 2 to Swiss; 1 to a Norwegian, 1 to a Portuguese, and 1 to a Dane. During the same period the number of permits to travel abroad (*Kaigwai-riyoko-ken*) granted to Japanese subjects were 29, of which 14 were for New York; 5 for Hongkong; 1 who for Fusan, Korea, and 1 for Germany. We learn from another journal that the number of pleasure-seekers who visited the eighty-five lodging houses in Gokenmachi, Yoshiwara, Tokiyo, throughout 1883, was 33,409, and that the amount of money they paid for their rooms, &c., was 15,698 *yen*. It appears from this that the takings of each house scarcely amounted to 15 *yen* per month. There are, therefore, more lucrative professions than that of letting temporary lodgings to the Lotharios of Tokiyo. The record of the two little steamers, the *Tsu-un Maru* and the

Nakajima Maru, which ply from Riyogokubashi and Yeitai-bashi to Shimosa and Yashiu, is more promising. The number of passengers they carried during the latter half of 1883 was 45,329, that is to say, an average of about 124 each per diem.

THE Chinese Government appears to be growing seriously apprehensive of the results of the disasters that visited the Shun-t'ien Prefecture and the provinces of Chili, Shantung, Hupei, and Anhui, last season. There is a prospect, by no means remote, that Peking itself may be besieged by an army of desperate mendicants, and, to avert such an inconvenient state of affairs, an Imperial Decree orders the establishment of a refuge at Tsing-kiang Pu, a place to which the waterways communicating with the northern and southern portions of the Empire converge, and whither a continuous stream of destitute refugees is constantly making its way. Hitherto the Cabinet at Peking has not applied to this trouble the active remedies its magnitude now appears to have demanded. Small donations from the Imperial purse and the diversion of tribute grain to the relief of the sufferers, were measures which contrasted ill with the strong terms of His Excellency Li Hung-chang's memorials, and with the announcement that the Viceroy of Chili and the Lady Li had contributed, from their private funds, no less a sum than one hundred and fifty thousand taels to buy food and clothes for the refugees. The decree, mentioned above, alludes to the sufferings of the people in feeling terms. The Emperor says that his "heart is filled with compassion," and that "the thought of the homeless and suffering condition to which the lower classes of the people have been reduced, affects him so deeply that he can neither sleep nor eat." These natural, if somewhat exaggerated, expressions are alluded to with scant courtesy by the *North China Herald*, which interprets them to mean, "in plain English, that the Government is both embarrassed and alarmed, and appears anxious to do anything that may be calculated to save itself from a severe internal shock." It is not an uncommon thing with Governments to dislike, and try to avoid, severe internal shocks, but if our Shanghai contemporary's estimate be correct, there is more sound than substance in the Emperor's order that a hundred and forty thousand taels shall be immediately distributed among the sufferers. It is stated that the Viceroys to whom the decree is addressed, will have much difficulty in raising the money; that the people have already been heavily taxed to meet the expenses of war preparations, and that numerous commercial crashes have largely expanded the circle of distress. The perplexity of the Viceroys was recently illustrated by a proposal of Li Hung-chang, embodying, apparently, a plan for obtaining charitable contributions by the sale of titles of nobility. The *North China Herald* says that "the rotten state of affairs which exists at present points very unmistakably in the direction of events which can not but be fraught with disastrous consequences to the Manchu Government, unless a more practical and enlightened policy be adopted before it is too late." Some will be disposed to think that this forecast is not unworthy to be placed in the context of the Chinese Emperor's pathetic utterances, but it can scarcely be contested that the lot of the Imperial Government is cast in somewhat troublous times.

It was not very wonderful, though certainly very regrettable, that the President and Parliament of the United States should yield to the clamour of the people of the Pacific slope, and, in a moment of weakness, pass a law which violated the first principles of the American Constitution, and will always remain an indelible stain upon the civilization of the "Land of Liberty." But we should have thought that, after this first act of mischief was performed, after a concession had been made to the momentary madness of uneducated monopolists, the American Administration would have gladly closed its eyes to any devices calculated to nullify the effects of its pernicious error. Such, however, is not the case. On the contrary, telegrams from Washington speak of "the earnest purpose of the State Department to prohibit the illegal immigration of Chinese," just as though the Government of the Republic were engaged in some philanthropic undertaking of a nature to confer lasting reputation on the country, instead of devoting its energies to enforce the provisions of a measure which, had it been enacted three centuries ago, would scarcely find one apologist to-day. It may be that the State Department feels a little vindictive over the business, and means to let the people of California reap the full fruits of the folly they have sowed. Such an intention would certainly seem consistent with the zeal exercised to prevent anything like evasion of the anti-immigration bill. Not content with formulating strongly worded remonstrances against the laxity of the Department of Customs at Canton in issuing certificates to everybody that chooses to pay for them, although the applicants may be really of the common-labourer class and not merchants or students, the United States' authorities now declare, that they are not content to leave the settlement of the matter entirely to the good-will of the Chinese, and that if additional legislation on the subject be deemed necessary, "a bill will be introduced in Congress by Senator Miller, providing further guarantees against imposition by subordinate officers in China." One wonders how long it will be before America rouses herself to a sense of the insult she is doing to her own intelligence and civilization. There are many prejudices which, though wrong, command a certain measure of respect, but to our thinking, nothing resembling a passable excuse has ever been urged in defence of the anti-Chinese Immigration Bill.

NOTES.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE HARU, having almost reached the age of seven, is to have a separate Palace built for his use between the Imperial Palaces of Awoyama and Akasaka. The little Prince has hitherto lived under the care, and in the mansion, of His Excellency Nakayama. He is the only surviving child of the Emperor, and for a long time the state of his health was a constant source of anxiety, though happily of late he seems to have gained strength. The plan of the new palace has already been decided upon, and the building will be commenced immediately, so as to be ready for occupation next August. It will be of wood, after the usual Japanese model. His Majesty the Emperor does not appear to be progressive in the matter of buildings. He still prefers the Japanese style, though it is more expensive, far less durable, more exposed to the danger of fire, and less healthy than the European. It may be,

indeed, that the form of the Prince's residence has been fixed without reference to the Emperor, but wherever the responsibility rests, it does seem a pity that while brick and stone are used everywhere throughout the capital in the various offices, official residences, and other buildings erected under Government auspices, the palaces for the Emperor himself, and for the Princes and Princesses of His Majesty's family, should be of wood. Japanese houses are very beautiful, very æsthetic, very cleanly, and very airy—though those who have lived in them know that they are several degrees hotter in summer and colder in winter than European houses—but even if all these advantages were several times multiplied, there would still remain the unanswerable objection of inflammability. Fires are the curse of Tokiyo. The citizens can never be rich, prosperous, or happy so long as their residences and all their household goods are reduced to ashes once in every five years. The heroic measure of rebuilding the city in brick is, of course, out of the question, though, from a financial point of view, it would be one of the best speculations ever made. But we should be prepared to find that every patriotic and enlightened Japanese would endeavour to promote building reform, and to encourage the use of brick and stone by himself setting the example of employing them whenever the opportunity offered. So long, however, as the Emperor is of a different mind it is inevitable that the old fashions should survive, and that the energies and resources of the people should be wasted, year after year, in weary efforts to recover from disasters which a little steady resolution would soon enable them to avoid altogether.

WE observe, with much pleasure, that the Order of the Rising Sun has been conferred on Lieutenant A. H. Hawes, Captain J. James, and Mr. B. H. Chamberlain. We believe that Lieutenant Hawes has served the Japanese Government longer than any other foreigner, and there can be no second opinion about the excellent work he did in connection with the organization of the navy, and, above all, of the Marines, whose discipline, soldierly bearing, and efficiency reflected the highest credit on their instructor. Captain J. James reputation also stands very high. He has been the originator of some valuable suggestions with regard to the mercantile marine, and his professional knowledge was of considerable service in the sequel of the *Imeute* at Sôul, the year before last. Mr. B. H. Chamberlain's duties have not, perhaps, been of a nature to establish a special claim to the honour now conferred on him; but his exceptional attainments as a sinologue, and his highly valuable contributions to Western knowledge of Japanese literature, render him worthy of any distinction. While offering our congratulations to these gentlemen, and recording our sense of the justice of the Government's choice, we may be permitted to note with satisfaction this practical departure from the mistaken notion that the distinctions which a foreign government has to bestow are less accessible by Englishmen than by any other nationals. Writing upon this subject nearly a year ago, we said that, though official permission must be sought and obtained before one of Her Majesty's subjects may publicly accept and wear a foreign order, such permission, in the case of civilians at all events, can be procured without any difficulty; and that, under the circumstances, the comparative

exclusion of Englishmen from these distinctions in Japan was calculated to convey an impression certainly at variance with the sentiments of the Japanese Government. Since then, six British subjects have been decorated, viz., the three gentlemen mentioned above, and Mr. W. H. Stone, of the Telegraph Department; Mr. A. S. Aldrich, of the Railway Department; and Mr. P. Osborn, of the Kanagawa Kencho.

OUR telegraphic news includes an announcement of maritime disaster which involves the loss of over 200 lives and a valuable ship and cargo, amongst the latter being fifty thousand dollars in specie. We recently published paragraphs from Hongkong papers referring to the extraordinary disappearance of the *Hwai-yuen*, which sailed from Shanghai on the 28th ult., for Hongkong, and had not been heard of up to our latest advices from that port dated 12th inst. The *Hwai-yuen*, Captain Wilson, was a steamer of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, of 984 tons register, and for some years past has been running regularly on the Shanghai-Hongkong-Canton line. She last left Hongkong for the North on the 20th ult., and left Shanghai for the South on the 28th, having on board \$50,000 in specie belonging to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, about 150 Chinese passengers, and a numerous crew, and when only one day out, off Yuesan, which is not far from Chusan, struck a rock and filled and sank so rapidly that there was only time to get out two lifeboats, one of which capsized. Whether the few Chinese who were saved to tell the story were in the second lifeboat or not does not appear, but it would seem that all on board were lost except five Chinese. There would be six or seven Europeans on board, as the deck officers and engineers in this company's ships are foreigners, the crew being Chinese.

MANY doubts have been expressed with regard to the prospects of colonization in Yezo, for though the place offers many attractions to immigrants, the nature of the agriculture it requires is said to be distasteful to Japanese settlers. It is to be observed, nevertheless, that the number of persons proceeding thither augments every year. This was notably the case during 1883, when, it is stated, Hakodate Prefecture alone contributed 738 colonists.

A NOVEL petition has been presented to the French Government. The petitioners pray to be delivered from "*un vacarme superlativement inutile, arbitraire, et impertinent*." One of them explains the case thus:—"My physicians had given me over. I could find no peace from my sufferings except during a few moments of slumber just before day-break. But I had reckoned without the clocks. Scarcely had the first beneficent sensation of rest come upon me, when the striking of a clock roused me with a shock. As if one did not suffice, another chimed in, and soon, heaven knows how many were clattering and clanging. Heaven knows, too, how many other unfortunates were suffering like myself, and how many are still suffering. It hurts me when I think, every morning, at the first stroke of five o'clock, of all the miserable folks who may be writhing, unpitied, on their beds of torture in the vicinity of some inexorable clock." Another petitioner declares that he has seen, in the streets, the very

dogs protesting against the nuisance, and almost driven mad, as their paroxysms of barking showed, by the "*frisson épileptique des cloches*." Anyone who can honestly laugh at these petitioners must be a person exceptionally blessed as to his nervous system.

REFERRING to the report of the British Board of Trade of its proceedings under the Weights and Measures Act of 1878 for the year, *Bradstreet's* remarks that one of the most interesting points in the report is that relative to the comparison recently made of the English standard of length (yard No. 1) with the United States standard (yard No. 57). The examination was made by Prof. C. S. Peirce, of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, who went to London for that purpose, in June last, on behalf of Prof. F. E. Hilgard, who has charge of the Bureau of Weights and Measures at Washington. The result is curious as showing the extreme degree of accuracy attained in mechanical instruments in modern times. After a large number of comparisons made with all possible care, it was found that at 62° F. the United States standard was longer than the one deposited at the office of the Standard's Department by .00022 of an inch. The accuracy of the standard kilogram in the British office was also tested by comparison with the French standard, and was found to be 2.0178 milligrams, or .03047 of a grain avoirdupois, too light. Among the new measures referred to in the report, those for the measurement of mechanical and electrical energy are deserving of particular mention, though it appears that no practical meter capable of use in commerce and daily life has as yet received official sanction.

THE Horonai Coal Mine is an example of a Japanese enterprise crippled by causes which ought to be easily capable of remedy. The present out-put of the mine is only about twenty thousand tons per annum, not because its capabilities of production are limited, but because the local demand does not require a larger supply than that quantity. All that is needed, however, is that the coal should be better known. Access to the mine, which is situated in the province of Ishikari, Hokkaido, has now been rendered easy by the construction of a railway, but the coal, having to compete with that of Karatsu, and other varieties of established reputation, is naturally slow to make its way. From what we have been able to learn its quality is excellent, and very satisfactory results are obtained by using it with due regard to its properties. Coal, like everything else, has its peculiarities, and to burn it profitably these must be consulted. There is a coal whose ashes and dust cake and solidify into hard masses, which will effectually choke the fire unless ventilation is promoted by constant stirring. On the other hand, there is a coal which does not thus solidify, and if this variety be unnecessarily stirred, the consequence is that it falls, unconsumed, through the bars of the grate. Horonai coal is of the latter sort. Its clinker is very small, and when it is used in stoves or ordinary grates, it may be left to burn itself out comparatively undisturbed. Its heat-producing power is very high; it gives off a light smoke, and as it contains hardly any trace of sulphur, and leaves very little ash, its wearing effects upon the interior of the furnace are trifling. In Sapporo stoves burning this coal are said to require a minimum

of cleaning, as it is found that the fire may be continually replenished without removing the ashes. We learn that several steamers have tested the quality of the coal and reported on it favorably. For the information of the public we re-produce three of these reports:—

REPORT OF A TRIAL OF HORONAI COAL IN H.B.M.'S
GUNBOAT "ZEPHYR."

	HORONAI.	WELSH FERDALE.
No. of Hours' run	7	7
Expenditure	42 cwt.	35 cwt.
Speed attained	8 knots	8 knots
Consumption of Coal per } hour per H.P.	3.45 lbs.	3 lbs.
Quantity of Smoke	2 to 5	1 to 2
Percentage of Ash	9½ %	14½ %

REMARKS.

At the expiration of the run, the fires were very dirty, the fire bars being covered with clinkers and ashes. The clinker and ash left by burning this coal is much lighter than that produced by Welsh Coal, the mean weight of a bucket of clinker from Horonai Coal, being 20lbs. against 35lbs. Welsh. The smoke was heavy on first firing, but quickly cleared. I consider this a fair coal being superior to Takashima, though inferior to Welsh.

(Signed) G. N. A. POLLARD,
Lieutenant and Commander.

August 21st, 1883.

REPORT OF A TRIAL OF HORONAI COAL IN THE
"KOSUGE MARU."

	HORONAI.	KARATSU.
No. of Hours' run	8	8
Expenditure	6.25 tons	7 tons
Speed attained	9 knots	9 knots
Consumption of Coal per } hour per H.P.	2.76 lbs.	3.09 lbs.
Percentage of Ash	8.1 %	

REMARKS.

In trying Horonai Coal, I have found it to be a very good steaming coal with a small percentage of ash as compared with Karatsu; the consumption is also less; the smoke from this coal is lighter than from Karatsu or Takashima. I consider this coal equal to good English coal.

(Signed) J. NAISMITH, Chief Engineer.

REPORT OF A TRIAL OF HORONAI COAL IN TOKIO BAY
IN H.L.J.M.'S "RAIDEN KAN."

	HORONAI.	KARATSU.
Consumption and Time required until steam.....	388 lbs.	400 lbs.
Gauge represents	52 minutes	1 h. 20 m.
Consumption and speed per hour at 85 Revolution per minute.....	327 lbs.	500 lbs.
Expenditure during the Trial	5½ knots	5½ knots
Percentage of Ash	1,435 lbs.	
Pressure	8½ %	14 lbs.

* Density of Boiler Water at 200° average 1½
Temperature of Condensed Water..... 32°
Temperature of Feed average..... 93°
Temperature of Fire Room..... 96°
Temperature of Engine..... 60°
Remarks on Karatsu Coal are extracts from the Log Book and are not actually trialled.

The Horonai Coal, as mentioned in the above table, we believe to be a very suitable steaming coal, its smoke being light, its heat violent, and having no property of solidifying.

(Signed) HIRATSUKA GIDO,
Dai Ki Kan shi "Raiden Kan."

AN extraordinary series of games at billiards has just been concluded at Paris. It is understood that it is the French game that has been played. The final heat "for the championship" was between Schæffer and Vignaux, and was witnessed by a large crowd. Before play commenced Schæffer announced that, whatever the issue, he challenged Vignaux to play a new game with cushions only, the points and stake to be the same as in the present match with him. Rudolph, who played some exhibition games last year in Yokohama, challenged the winner of the present game to play a similar match with him. Vignaux accepted Schæffer's challenge; but Schæffer did not answer Rudolph's challenge. Vignaux began the play with a run of 62. Schæffer then began to make up the ground lost the previous day, and made runs of 164 and 156, reaching a total of 615; Vignaux having made 237. At this point there was an intermission. When the game was resumed Schæffer made runs of 69, 47, 72 and 81; Vignaux made runs of 110 and 76. Vignaux

finally won, leaving Schæffer 124 behind. Vignaux played twenty-eight times; Schæffer twenty-seven times. At the conclusion of the match Vignaux was loudly cheered.

MUCH as has been said about the remarkable cheapness of cremation in Japan, it would appear that the compulsory practice of that habit bears somewhat severely on the poorer classes. Our readers are probably aware that within a certain area of the city of Tokiyo no interments are permitted unless the body has been previously reduced to ashes. This area of prohibition—encircled by a red line on the map, and hence designated *shubiki-uchi*—includes many temples whose parishioners have inherited there burial places used by generations of their people, but now virtually closed to all who cannot afford to defray the cost of cremation. The temples in their turn, suffer by the veto, inasmuch as no inconsiderable portion of their income is derived from donations received on account of masses for the dead or tendance of the tombs. A joint petition was accordingly addressed, some short time back, to the authorities, praying that the prohibition might be relaxed, and we learn from the vernacular press that this petition has been favorably considered to the extent of designating certain places in the suburbs where interments will be permitted without cremation. The necessity for this change is decidedly to be regretted.

OUR readers may remember a story, the details of which we published some time ago, to the effect that the English Vice-Consul at Kertch was the head and promoter of a piratical association, and that, being pursued by the Russian police, he had escaped to Constantinople in a bale of goods. It would appear that this wonderful tale was an invention of somebody connected with the Central News organization, for it is now denounced as a falsehood from beginning to end. Mr. Colledge, the gentleman whose romantic adventures were made the subject of such ingenious fabrications, has instituted legal proceedings against the papers which published the statement, and it is expected that he will recover heavy damages.

THE *Whitehall Review* tells the following singularly inaccurate story:—"About five years ago the Japanese Government commenced to build an imperial palace in the European style at their capital, Tokio. Unfortunately the site chosen for it did not afford a good foundation, and when the building was one storey high it fell down. An English architect was then sent for, and since that time the building has gone on satisfactorily, being now on the eve of completion. One wing is to be the residence of Prince Arisugawa, and will be devoted on State occasions to the entertainment of distinguished Europeans. It is being fitted up in great luxury. The style of the furniture is French, but the larger part of the order has been made in London by the well-known house of Jackson and Graham. This firm has furnished the ball-room, in which the furniture is in Louis XVI. style, superbly carved, and covered with a very fine white silk brocade, which has been specially manufactured in Spitalfields. The grand piano, built by another eminent London firm, is a very fine instrument. The case is an enamelled white-and-gold one, and there is a charming little music cabinet to match. The private dining-room is furnished with light oak richly carved, and the curtains are of peach-coloured

silk. There also is one sitting-room, furnished with decorated satin-wood, and another with carved mahogany. A boudoir is resplendent with marqueterie, with the chairs in rich silk, very tastefully trimmed. There are two ebonised bookcases, with carved panels, in which the details are so refined and the execution so perfect that they are almost more fit for an exhibition or art museum than for a private residence. But emperors are privileged persons, and can afford to combine splendour with comfort."

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It is certainly true that about five years ago, the Japanese Government commenced to build an Imperial Palace in European style, but it is not true that when the building was one storey high it fell down. No part of the building ever fell down. A crack appeared in one of the arches, and it was then determined to build elsewhere. The *Whitehall Review* speaks as though this accident occurred under Japanese architects, but the fact is that an English architect was engaged on the work from the commencement. His place was subsequently taken by another gentleman, but the building has not "gone on satisfactorily" since then, for the simple reason that it has not gone on at all. There seems to have been some insuperable difficulty in determining whether an European or a Japanese style should be adopted, and we do not know that a decision has yet been arrived at. Meanwhile, Prince Arisugawa's palace, a building quite distinct and more than a mile away from the site of the Emperor's palace, is fast approaching competition under the able direction of Mr. J. Conder. The furniture referred to by the *Whitehall Review* is doubtless for the Prince's use.

We extract from the *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, the following interesting notes on the Chinese quarter of San Francisco:—

The Chinese and their Chinatown are of unending interest to the visitors from the East, and the streets, the stores, the theaters and restaurants of the Chinese quarter of San Francisco are always well dotted with wondering and curious white people. During the Knights Templar conclave, Chinatown was uncomfortably full of white people, and special performances were given at the theaters, from which Celestials were excluded. The law and authority of this alien settlement is exercised by the Chinese Consul, who occupies three houses on Clay Street Hill, and floats the Imperial yellow flag of his country from the roof-top. Colonel F. A. Bee, who is the American Secretary of this Consulate, is to all purposes the chief one in authority there, and receives visitors in a sunny office, where some Chinamen are always assembled to relate their wrongs, make oath to legal documents, or have passports made out for their return to "big China." Colonel Bee is a tall, benevolent looking man, greatly resembling Secretary Folger, and his white whiskers and kindly voice are enough to make him a refuge for any one in trouble. Except in special cases, few see the noble mandarins to whom the Emperor has given the charge of this Consulate, and all business is dispatched by the American Secretary and his interpreters. Through the kindness of Colonel Bee we were permitted to meet Mrs. Ching Ling, wife of the Chinese Vice Consul at New York, and several ladies of the higher and most exclusive circles of Chinatown. Mrs. Ching Ling we found to be a tall, slender, and rather stately dame, who trotted into her parlor on feet not quite three inches long. Her hair was dressed in a most elaborate manner, decorated with jade and gold ornaments and a bunch of pink chrysanthemums. Her eyebrows were shaved to their arching lines on her forehead, and the brightest blush of rouge covered either cheek, shading up over the eyelids and temples. Her lips were colored a deep red, and her ears were hung with large gold and jade earrings. She wore the loose trousers and blouse of dark blue silk, and when she had minced in on her poor little feet she greeted us with two or three prettily accented English words of greeting, and gave us the limp handshake appropriate to the woman of fashion all over the world. Mr. Ching Ling had a strange mixture of womanly dignity and childlike simplicity about her, and through her interpreter we carried on quite a conversation, her funny little children clinging to her knees and watching us with their slant eyes all the time. While we were talking to this Chinese madonna, a vision appeared in the doorway in the person of

Mrs. Ching Chung Chow, wife of one of the rich merchants and a woman of most unusual beauty. Mrs. Ching Chung Chow is young and charming, with a delicate olive skin, full round eyes, as softly black as a fawn, and the most graceful little ways of doing everything. She chanted her dainty little English sentences at us, listened with the greatest interest to the jargon the interpreter repeated after us, and had the most bewitching ways of any woman I have seen in a fortnight. While we were raving over this celestial beauty, Mrs. Ching Ling's maid set the tea tray on the round center table, and the hostess proceeded to offer us cups of tea, unattainable in any ordinary way, and of a quality to inspire a poet's song. The tea leaves that floated around in the larger cups, in which they were steeped, were one and two inches long, and the tea itself was of a delicate amber tint. Crystallized sugar was offered us to put in it, and thin wafers and dried ginger completed this unique refreshment. We spent a charming half hour with her, left with many compliments on both sides and assured Mrs. Ching Ling and Mrs. Ching Chung Chow that we should only take too much pleasure in future visits.

In the rounds of regular sight-seeing all strangers go to the Grand Theater, or play house of the Donu Quai Yuen, where melodrama and tragedy alternately excite the audience to shouts of laughter and rounds of applause. The performance begins at 5 o'clock in the evening and lasts until midnight, and the historical plays often run for a week before the one drama is completed. The actors are all brought over from the old country at salaries ranging from \$2,000 to \$6,000 a year. At times troupes of jugglers and acrobats have come over for shorter engagements, and occasionally a famous singer or musician. The drama goes on with fine disregard of the unities, and the scenic accessories are so meager that much is left to the imagination. Women never appear on the Chinese stage, and their parts are taken by gifted men, who mince around the stage in the little foot hop and talk in a piping falsetto. The costumes are often of great richness and splendor, and some of the robes of superb brocades and of satin stiff with needlework and gold thread are worthy of places in an art museum. The Eastern visitors go daft over the Chinese theater and want to attend steadily, but to the San Franciscan it is the height of martyrdom to endure the constant accompaniment of the gong, the wooden drum and the one stringed fiddle, on which the orchestra play a wailing sort of tune that half-way resembles "Old Tom Tucker" and "There is a Happy Land." After the theater comes the Hang Fah Low Restaurant, where the plebeians sit below stairs and the gentry ascend two or three tiers of kitchens to the upper floor, where they are seated in gilded alcoves and served with cups of wonderful tea, accompanied by preserved ginger and citron and lychee nuts. Great banquets are given at the Hung Fah Low by the swells and rich merchants of Chinatown, at costs ranging from \$350 to \$200. Invitations on vermilion paper are sent out days beforehand, and when the circle of guests assemble at the round table on the appointed evening incense sticks are burning, the board is decked and a native orchestra is squeaking and hammering away in an alcove. The Chinese are an abstemious race, and the table, when set for one of these great banquets, resembles a dolls' tea party, all viands visible at the first course being just about enough for a schoolboy's lunch. A saucer of ginger, a saucer of cocoanut slices, a pear cut into many sections and ready to fall apart at a tap, a dish of lychee nuts and some queer biscuits filled with chopped meat and decorated exteriorly with parsley leaves, generally occupy the center of the table. A teacup and china spoon and a little tumbler of a glass for holding the fiery rice brandy are set before each guest and after the courses of abalone soup, bird's nests and unspeakable fishes and fowls, the entertainment winds up with a whiff of opium all round in any of the little alcoves that open from the dining hall.

A celebrity among these people is their great doctor, Li Po Tai, who has been in this country nearly thirty years and has a larger income from his profession than any white practitioner in the city. Li Po Tai first had the small pox and then suffered by a gas explosion, and in consequence his appearance is enough to make one's hair stand up with fright. His patients all come to his office when able, and Li Po Tai sits up in a little den of an office overlooking the plaza and feels pulses all day long. He is habited in gorgeous silks and brocades and sits on one side of a long table, blinking through his narrow eyes like the incarnation of all wisdom. The patients are mostly white people, who come to him after a varied round of their own physicians, or at the instigation of some of his resurrected and enthusiastic patients. Li Po Tai rests the patient's elbow on a blue silk cushion and proceeds to feel the right pulse with his three hooked and long clawed fingers. He feels the right pulse to ascertain the condition of the brain, stomach and kidneys, and then grasps the left wrist to find out about the heart, liver and lungs. Although he knows practically nothing of anatomy as our physicians know it, he makes a wonderful diagnosis of a case. He charges \$10 a week for his services, including his medicines, patients either come to his office and drink the tisanes, or take the packages of mysterious stuff home and make their own hot drinks. Li Po Tai has many notions that puzzle and interest his patients. He first treats them to a severe course of antidotes for quinine poison if they confess to ever having taken that deadly drug. He next commands them not to eat shell fish or uncooked fruit, to let alone poultry,

fried meats, eggs, watery vegetables, all liquors and everything sour. For these thirty years Li Po Tai has made his patients drink hot water, and dyspepsia, cancer and tumors are his specialties. Li Po Tai is a shrewd old fellow, who scrapes the \$10 gold pieces into his table drawer by the hatful every day, and his income from his profession is computed at more than \$6,000 a month. Like all the gentlemen of his race, Li Po Tai is fond of a sociable game in his few hours of relaxation, and this, coupled with his spirit of speculation, alone prevents him from outranking some of the great millionaires of the Pacific slope. The crowds of white men and women waiting in his office all day and every day, prove how profound is the faith in his skill, and his patients will hear to no aspersions or derogatory criticism upon this celestial Esculapius.

Chinatown abounds in dozens of odd characters and celebrities, and picturesqueness and dreadful smells mark every foot of this older part of the city that they have converted into a genuine bit of Hong Kong. While opium haunts and gambling dens are strictly against the law, the special policemen will pilot people around to them and treat them to sights that surpass the evils and degradation of any great city. What perversity and morbid curiosity sets the Eastern stranger to prowling in San Francisco slums no one can tell, for certainly no visiting Californians ever ask for special policemen to convoy them around the slums of St. Louis, or of any Eastern city. There are reputable and interesting things to be seen and studied in Chinatown, and for strangeness and picturesqueness it quite surpasses anything on this continent. Adjoining the celestial there is a foreign quarter, where the Latin races lead their own peculiar life, and Spanish, French and Italian ring on the air. There are all sorts of foreign names, signs and sights, and at the funny little Tienda Mexicana there is always a collection of dark and ginger colored senors and senoras eating their peppery tomatos, their tortillas and frizoles, and accompanying them with the true vino and chocolate that only can be had in this one little place outside of Mexico. For these odd things alone San Francisco interests one as no other city can and forever holds a fascination to its brightest visitor.

AN American newspaper correspondent, who has on several occasions shown himself to be possessed of peculiar facilities in Paris, publishes a statement which, if authentic, sheds a new ray of light upon French diplomacy in the far east. He says that in the course of a recent conversation with M. Ferry, he asked that gentleman "what would be the minimum of the Government's demand," when terms of agreement, or disagreement, with China could no longer be postponed. To which, M. Ferry gave this extremely suggestive reply:—"I do not dare tell you, for, if the Chinese knew, it would render them too exacting." Under ordinary circumstances, it would seem that, if the distinguished statesman wished to keep the Chinese in complete ignorance of his designs, he would not have been so confiding with a newspaper writer; but in this particular controversy, the French appear to have acted upon a theory that their Asiatic opponents could not possibly know or hear of anything, no matter how deeply it concerned them, unless it was absolutely forced upon their attention. In no other way can some of the extraordinary announcements put forth by Paris officials be plausibly explained. It is well within the range of credibility that M. Ferry not only made the remark attributed to him, but made it in earnest; and that China has but to maintain a persistent rigidity of upper lip to bring the business to whatever conclusion she likes best. In fact, almost anything can be believed, except that a sanguinary and desperate war is contemplated or desired by either side. Diplomacy can no longer keep up that pretence, at any rate.

THE universal revival of a taste for the *Cha-no Yu* ceremonials seems to have extended even to the precincts of the Palace. We learn that a new tea pavilion has been erected within the enclosure of the Imperial Park at Aoyama, and that the last details of furniture and decoration having been completed, His Majesty the Emperor proposes to hold an inaugural *chaseki*

there on the 21st instant. Lovers of Japanese art will have welcomed with pleasure the evidences of this growing disposition to reverence the canons of old times, but it must be confessed that the consequences are not everything one could desire from an economical point of view. The rage for pictures and utensils by the old masters has become so great that an Indian-ink sketch of the Sung period commands a thousand *yen*, and a cup of the most approved workmanship and authenticity is scarcely less valuable. Considering the fabulous prices paid for antiquities and works of art by European and American connoisseurs, there is; perhaps, nothing to marvel at in the rates now ruling in Japan, but we suspect that the Finance Minister's railway bonds would be more rapidly taken up were it not for the competition of these new attractions.

THE old feudal notion that everything exceptionally fine or beautiful appertains to the ruling classes, still finds expression, from time to time, after a fashion not, perhaps, wholly disinterested. We read in a vernacular newspaper that one Matsu-Saburo, a farmer, residing in the village of Shichinobe, Awamori Prefecture, imported from England, some years ago, a sire whose progeny out of a native mare is just now arriving at maturity. The colt is said to be something quite out of the common. Its height is four feet and a half, its hoofs are like adamant, its skin like velvet, its points perfect, and its countenance indicates the possession of all the equine virtues. Farmer Saburo, concluding that such a splendid steed does not become a person of his humble station, has petitioned the local authorities to move for its transfer to the Imperial stables, and the matter is now receiving due consideration. We trust the worthy husbandman's project will be successful.

THE *N. C. Daily News* publishes the following:—"A remarkable story reaches us from Canton, according to which a servant in the employ of a foreign firm in Hongkong has been arrested by the officers of P'êng Yü-lin, carried before the Admiral at Canton, and decapitated. It seems that the famous pirate of T'ai-chou, Huang Chin-man, recently tendered his allegiance to P'êng, and was appointed by him to cruise about the Cantonese waters in search of smugglers and pirates. Among many junks captured by the ex-pirate were two, on board of which were found six foreigners, said to be Frenchmen, and a quantity of arms and ammunition. The Chinese crews of these junks were taken before Admiral P'êng and questioned, when they stated that the junks were owned and the men employed by the compradore of Soey-che (Arnhold, Karberg & Co.) at Hongkong. Orders were at once issued for the arrest of the compradore, whose name is Chên; but when the officers arrived at the hong they found that Chên was away, upon which they arrested the second compradore and brought him before P'êng Yü-lin. The facts elicited from the prisoner corroborated the story told by the crews of the junks, but showed that he himself had no ownership in the boats. Nevertheless the unfortunate man was condemned to death, and decapitated on the spot. The deceased was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Russell & Co. at Shanghai. The senior compradore, Chên, is stated to be still at large; but all his family are under arrest as hostages. The charge against

him is one of high treason, in abetting the enemies of China. We are not prepared to vouch for the truth of this story, but it comes to us from a fairly reliable Chinese source."—Our contemporary rightly dubs the above a "remarkable story;" from inquiries we have made, we are able to say that it is a pure romance, with but the faintest, if any, foundation. The man said to have been decapitated is still alive and at large in Canton. A good many tales equally devoid of truth are just now current among the natives at Canton.—*Daily Press*.

No small degree of mystery seems to attend the movements of the Korean Commissioners, or Envoys, who recently visited the United States. Various reports have appeared in the American newspapers, to the effect that the cost of the expedition had been miscalculated, and that the visitors, not to put too fine a point upon it, were excessively "hard up." There has been no indication of unkindness or discourtesy in these allusions, but the alleged fact has been recorded, together with other current news. It has been distinctly stated that efforts have been made by the Koreans, or on their behalf, to raise considerable sums of money; but these assertions have been generally followed by prompt denials. The latest authoritative intelligence concerning the party is the unexpected announcement that they left New York on the 1st of December in the steamship *Trenton*; the United States Government having undertaken to convey them home in a national vessel. They will come by way of the Suez Canal, and the *Trenton* will stop at Marseilles for two months, to enable them to look at Paris and London. This is a partial repetition of the plan pursued when the first Japanese delegation to Western shores visited America. The Shōgun's representatives were carried from Yokohama to Panama in the *Powhatan*, and from Aspinwall to Washington in the *Roanoke*; and were brought back, we believe, in another ship. In their case, however, no lack of funds was apparent. They spent money profusely, and made lavish presents wherever they went. They availed themselves of the means of transportation offered them, partly because of their ignorance of all foreign matters, but chiefly because there was no other way for them to travel with comfort and propriety. Very possibly the Koreans sail in the *Trenton* because they, likewise, find that course the most becoming and convenient. The suggestion of impecuniosity may be the idlest of rumors.

MR. GLADSTONE'S prerogative of conferring complimentary dignities is subject to occasional embarrassments, if we may credit the stories now circulating in London, respecting the grant of a baronetcy to the Premier's physician and friend, Dr. Andrew Clark. The lack of perfect harmony between the First Lord of the Treasury and his Royal Mistress is too old a story to require reticent treatment, and it appears to be pretty well authenticated that Her Majesty exhibited, for a time, a strenuous opposition to the bestowal of this particular distinction. The Queen's ostensible objection was that no precedent existed for creating a medical baronet, unless the recipient of the favour had acted as a resident Court physician; but the fact is generally admitted that Her Majesty dislikes to surrender the theory that she is the actual, as well as the nominal, fountain of all honours to be enjoyed by her subjects. Lord Beaconsfield's

tact, in affairs of this kind, was perhaps preferable to the present Prime Minister's matter-of-fact procedure. The late Conservative chieftain always obtained what he wanted, yet never allowed it to appear, at least to his Sovereign, that he was anything more than an instrument for the exercise of the Royal bounty. In the case of Dr. Clark, Mr. Gladstone insisted on carrying his point, and, of course, no impediment could stand in the way of his positively expressed determination; but the relations between himself and the Throne are not likely to be improved by the incident, and the purveyors of personal literature have found opportunity of circulating gossip to an amount, and of a quality, not altogether agreeable to contemplate.

Questions concerning the adjustment of a dignity of much higher grade than that of Dr. Clark's are said to perplex the Ministry at this moment, although in this instance no objection on the part of the Sovereign is expected to arise. That the Marquis of Lorne should receive some appropriate acknowledgment of his service as Viceroy of the Canadian Dominion, is fairly within the established order of things, and it is also obvious that the possession of some definite rank in his own person would lessen the still existing anomaly of a Princess wedded to a commoner;—for a commoner Lord Lorne is, in spite of his prospects as elder son of the Duke of Argyll. But there are difficulties which the devotees of Conservatism and the guardians of the laws of precedence confess themselves unable to solve. To make a baron of the ex-Viceroy would be an insufficient elevation for the occasion, and yet to give him any higher rank in the British peerage would be to assure him a social and official superiority over his father. For all his greatness and power when his "foot is on his native heath," the Duke, sitting in the House of Lords, is a mere baron. In the highlands his name is Argyll, but at Westminster it is only Sundridge. Of all the noblemen who hold the title of duke in any part of Britain, His Grace of Argyll is the most poorly endowed as a peer of the United Kingdom. No other Scottish duke falls below the grade of earl in the House of Lords. The Marquis (by courtesy) of Lorne might be dignified by a high Scotch title without interfering with his father's precedence, but his labours as Canadian Viceroy were of national significance, and could not be aptly rewarded by the bestowal of a sectional rank. Looking at the puzzle from a great distance, it appears that the awkwardness might be overcome by converting the present dukedom into a dukedom of Great Britain, and giving to the son a minor, though sufficiently exalted, position in the same peerage. It is true that the existing order of ducal precedence might be in some measure confused by this arrangement,—and Their Graces of Great Britain are understood to be tenacious of privileges,—but the Scotch dukes rank, we believe (according to the date of their patents) above all excepting those of English creation prior to the Duke of Portland; and under any circumstances the just claim of the House of Argyll to a loftier grade in the Lords than that of baron, could not well be disputed. It would be difficult for any of his six Scotch equals, one of whom has three dukedoms centred in his individual person, to show a more valid right to the highest degree of the peerage, from a historic, political, or social

point of view. On his own account, too, the Duke merits consideration from a Ministry led by Mr. Gladstone, or from any Liberal Ministry, for that matter. Some inquiry has been raised as to the colour of Lord Lorne's politics,—on what ground, we are unable to discover. He certainly sat for Argyllshire, in the House of Commons, as a Liberal, and it need not be taken for granted that his Vice-regal experience has turned him into a Conservative. But, granting the possibility of so thorough a change, the addition of a single vote to the heavy Opposition majority in the Lords could not be a matter of much concern; besides which, the circumstances of the case are such as to allow no weight to party considerations. It is more than possible, therefore, that the late Viceroy, who is now Marquis by tacit consent, may presently become an earl, or better, by legal investiture, and start an independent line of his own. But even then, the most important consequence of his Canadian career may probably be the advancement of the head of the Campbells to a titular station which—as such things go—has long been due to this eminent family, and the reasons for withholding which are not easy to understand.

THAT strange social scandal which has so stirred the curiosity of Parisian upper circles, is entering upon its final phase. On the 28th of November, the Deputy for Marseilles and his wife appeared before the Ninth Chamber of the Seine Tribunal to prosecute an agent of secret-police, by name Morin, for conspiracy and defamation of character. Morin was supposed to be an agent of the former Countess Osmont, now Madame Lenormand, a lady whose foible was to convict her husband of inconstancy, and who, for this purpose, employed the secret police to collect evidence against him. M. Lenormand may be a Lothario, or he may be a Hippolytus, but unfortunately for the elucidation of this uncertainty, his accusers selected a virtuous lady as the pretended object of his some-time gallantry, and the immediate consequences were flourishings of revolvers, slappings of faces, and other amenities which attracted some attention. Cited before the Tribunal and questioned by the President, Morin declared that he had frequently gone with M. Clerget, the director of the agency to which he belonged, to seek information from the inmates of a house inhabited by the family of Mlle. Royannez, now the wife of the Deputy for Marseilles, M. Clovis-Hugues. "The director," said Morin, "generally conducted the enquiries himself. One day Mme. Corbillon, door-keeper of the house where the Royannez family live, told Clerget, in my presence, that Mlle. Royannez' relations with M. Lenormand had been of a questionable character. That they used to exchange amorous glances, and that, one day, she, the door-keeper, had surprised them in one another's arms on the stairs. She added that M. Lenormand used generally to visit Mademoiselle by climbing in through a window. As for me," concluded Morin, "I only repeated what I heard. The whole story came from Mme. Corbillon." The next witness was a journalist. He, too, had interviewed the door-keeper, and learned from her that she held Mme. Clovis-Hugues in the highest esteem, and had never uttered a word of aspersion against her. Mme. Corbillon herself was now called. She was an indignant witness, and delivered herself as follows:—"I received a visit from M.

Clerget, who asked me questions about all the inmates of the house in the *rue de la Pompe*. He spoke specially of Mlle. Royannez, and said that she had formerly been the mistress of M. Lenormand. I protested. M. Clerget declared he had his facts from M. Lenormand, who was a friend of his. 'If M. Lenormand told you such a story,' I replied, 'he is an imbecile, for the whole thing is an infamy.' Next came up for examination a shopman. He said that Morin gave him a dinner, one day, and then took him to M. Clerget, who said:—"We want you to help us. There is a foolish old woman, jealous of her husband, and anxious to be separated from him. To further her plans we want you to come and tell the Commissioner of Police that you have seen M. Lenormand kiss Mlle. Royannez. In exchange for this evidence I will give you 50 francs." The witness then went on to explain that, not venturing to refuse directly, he pretended to be drunk, and so obtained his *congé*. A gardener gave evidence to the effect that M. Lenormand had promised him money if he would declare before a magistrate that he had seen M. Lenormand and Mlle. Royannez exchange glances from the gardens of their respective houses. The man pointed out that the wall between the gardens was too high for this amusement, but M. Lenormand replied, "you can say they stood on ladders;" at which the other burst out laughing and the ex-Countess went off in a pet. M. Lenormand himself was called, finally. His evidence was short but of an impressive character. Asked whether he had ever had relations with Mlle. Royannez, he replied, in a loud, distinct voice:—"I have never in my life seen Mlle. Royannez until to-day." It need scarcely be added that the case was sent up for trial, and that Paris is very indignant about the existence of such social abuses in the centre of civilization and refinement.

ONE of the symptoms of industrial activity in modern times is the development of disputes between workmen and employers. Italy, discovering this, is about to establish a "council of Prud'hommes" after the examples of France, Germany, England, and Austria. In France such a council, the members of which are elected by a combined vote of masters and men, has existed since 1806; in Germany, since 1809; in England, since 1865; and in Austria, since 1869. Troubles about wages, hours of labour, and similar matters, though from time immemorial they have led to terrible disturbances of the public peace, are obviously subjects beyond the intelligent cognizance of common law. Their consideration by a mixed tribunal of employers and employed is at once a rational and effective device. In proof of its efficiency we may quote the case of France, where, during a space of ten years, no less than 184,514 trade disputes were settled by the *conseil des prud'hommes*. In Italy, the draft of a law providing for a similar council has just been submitted to Parliament. The details of the proposal are that the college of Prud'hommes shall consist of from 12 to 16 members, elected half by employers and half by employed. The president of the Council and the Vice-President are to be nominated by the Minister of Justice, and chosen from a list of six candidates drawn up by the civil tribunal. The college will include a bureau of conciliation and a tribunal of arbiters. The bureau of conciliation is to act as a Court of First Instance. Like the tribunal of arbiters, its functions will be to

adjudicate upon questions about salary; about the price of labour, executed or in course of execution; about hours of labour, special contracts, faulty work, indemnities, and so forth. The judgments of the tribunal of arbiters are to be without appeal up to awards of 150 francs. For election purposes two lists of voters, one of employers, the other of employed, will be prepared by a parochial junta; and the persons borne upon these lists will elect their representatives. The qualifications for voting will be an age of twenty-five or upwards, and the previous exercise of some industry or art during a period of at least five years. Any expenses incurred, in excess of the income of the college, will be borne by the parishes concerned. Workmen serving in the college, will be entitled, during session, to receive compensation equal to the amount of their ordinary pay. How many vexations might be removed from the course of trade in Japan, if a mixed college of foreign and Japanese merchants could be formed on lines similar to those mapped out by the Italian Minister!

THE *Kankiyo Jumbo*, a Korean journal, published fortnightly in Seoul, has the following:—Since March of last year (1882), more than fifty Korean youths have been sent to Japan to be educated. Most of them are staying at the *Kei-o-gi-jiku*, where they receive the benefit of an Occidental education in common with six or seven hundred Japanese students. A special building has been assigned to the Korean students, and every care taken to ensure their well-being. Some of them are studying foreign languages and political economy, while others devote their attention to sericulture and agricultural sciences. Not a few have graduated from this establishment and joined the Imperial Military College for officers (*Rikugun-shikan-gakko*).

THERE is, in Japanese cities, a class of tradesmen called *Keidzukai*, whose business may be succinctly described by saying that they deal in whatever they can get. These individuals have been somewhat harshly designated receivers of stolen goods, but the epithet does them an injustice in so far that they sometimes indulge in the luxury of legitimate commerce also. The latter fact makes it a little difficult to bring the *Keidzukai* within the sphere of any legislation framed wholly to suit dishonest traffic, and it would appear that the authorities have hitherto been somewhat chary of meting out to them the treatment their courses merit. Recently, however, there have been enacted a series of regulations (*Kobutsu-shō-tori-shimari-jōrei*), the gist of which is that the *Keidzukai* are obliged to keep the police *au courant* of all their transactions, and that whatever purchases they conclude without notifying the stations in their ward, are regarded as illicit transactions. As might have been expected, these provisions, even in prospect, prove exceedingly inconvenient from the *Keidzukai's* point of view: so much so, indeed, that in the two wards of Shiba and Kanda alone, upwards of twenty flourishing followers of the receiver's profession have been obliged to put up the shutters, while of the thirty thousand persons hitherto similarly engaged, it is expected that twelve or thirteen thousand will try some other trade. It is intolerable that in these hard times official meddling should have the effect of cramping industries already nearly paralyzed. This is a matter which might well be taken up by philanthropic journalists. Indeed, we recommend the

unfortunate *Keidzukai* to carry their complaints to Yokohama. Having regard to the sympathy and support which the profession of bath-house girl with *et ceteras* received from certain official and unofficial members of the foreign community last summer, the receivers of stolen goods, if they stated their case deftly, might, not extravagantly, hope to find themselves championed by a couple of newspapers and, perhaps, a Consul-General.

A FINE, full-fledged example of the unblushing development of the feminine intellect of Boston, Massachusetts, is given by one of the priestesses of that cult, in a description of young Robert Browning's work as a sculptor in Paris, and of the intensely realistic methods by which he attains his results. The artist has recently illustrated, in clay, the legend of Dryope beloved by Apollo, and has chosen the moment when the god, transformed into a Python, envelops the Princess in his complicated folds. The fair Bostonian who tells the readers of a leading American newspaper all about it, intensifies her narrative with a minuteness of detail which leaves little opportunity for the imagination to go astray. From her portrayal of the scene, we are led to infer that Apollo made a reptile of himself, because the shape afforded more unrestrained facilities for hugging than that of any creature known to natural history, not excepting the bear. A snake can embrace all the way from his head to his tail,—which not even a swan can do;—which proves the superiority of Apollo's intelligence to that of Jupiter, in this species of adaptive transformation. This, however, is not directly set forth by the lady correspondent. What she does say, respecting the ecstatic realization of the myth, is told in language which strives more ingeniously to preserve a delicate balance than ever Blondin strove to keep himself from tumbling into the Niagara rapids. Whether the balance is preserved, after all, we will not presume to decide; but here is the description:—

The girl stands there, proud and graceful in her nude beauty, while round her the Python coils, rearing his head almost to the level of her lips. Does she feel his divinity, and tremble at the knowledge of his power? Her head is slightly thrown back—her proud eyes still refuse him, but her full lips seem almost ready to be won. In one moment more you can see she will have surrendered, heart and soul. It is a most happily chosen instant. All terror has been charmed away by dawning love; yet maiden pride still holds the beautiful form erect, still shines from the not quite consenting eyes.

After getting safely ashore at the conclusion of this passage (to keep up the tight-rope figure), we might suppose the fair correspondent content with her achievement, and willing to rest without risking another repetition of a next-to-impossible feat. But she undauntedly essays the still more perilous flight of delineating the sculptor's processes, and presenting a view of the model—or models, for the snake must be counted as one—during the progress of the work. In this performance she might be rivalled in style by Théophile Gautier or Ernest Feydeau, but in courage by nobody, excepting perhaps Mr. Mallock. Her readers are informed exactly how she "saw the model, with the great live snake coiling around her." It appears that a genuine Python had been obtained from the Antwerp Museum of Natural History, and that Adèle, the model, "was very fond of the serpent." At first she was afraid "to pose, thus snake-embraced," but she gradually conceived a singular affection for the monster, "and no longer shrank from his strange embrace." The Boston lady

appears in some manner to have shared the abnormal fascination, for she writes seriously of the huge, "moist, unpleasant" creeping thing as "a creature of noble mind and gentle nature." "His embrace," she avers, "might easily have been fatal, for he was ten feet long and very large. But he never so much as tightened his coils uncomfortably round the model, during the weary hours and days in which she stood with him entwined about her." Why "weary?"—one is tempted to inquire. After reading the eulogies lavished upon the creature, are we to believe that any extent of enwrapped communion with him could have been wearisome? Hardly to Adèle, we imagine, inasmuch as, when the snake died, as snakes are known to die from excess of emotion,— "she burst into tears; for during their close association she had grown to love him as if he had been a human friend." The gentle historian of this curious episode seems to have mourned, also; for, lifting up her voice, she cries, "Alas for art, this good and kindly snake is dead!" It is almost incredible that so maudlin and prurient a rhapsody should be thus unfolded by an authoress,—a poetess, we believe,—of dainty and immaculate Boston, in the columns of a journal which conspicuously advertises that "its tone is pure," and that "it refuses to print demoralizing details which many other papers resort to." But such is the fact. The writer signs her name, quite unabashed. One detail, alone, of the publication appears not wholly discordant. It is dated from Paris. Journalists of the tougher sex are mostly aware that literature of this description is often to be encountered in that capital, and that amazing groupings, not dissimilar to that described, are visible to those who choose to seek for them; but they are not usually associated with high art, and, even in that least fastidious of communities, a veil of discretion would be drawn by men, not to say women, of letters, over such incidents of studio experience as are disclosed with unbridled freedom by the American correspondent. This, however, is putting it mildly. Memory is ransacked vainly, to find in modern literature a narrative parallel, in its various conditions, to the tale of Adèle and the snake whom she loved, or, in the products of healthy imagination, a picture like that of the nude model knotted, girdled, and enlived by a "good and kindly" ten-foot reptile, "very large," and "of noble mind and gentle nature as befitted his high descent." Descent from what, or whom? Since the original historic Python lured, by his wiles, the mother of mankind from the paths of feminine propriety, it is doubtful if any of his tribe has exercised such unwholesome power of captivation as the original of Mr. Robert Barrett Browning's metamorphosed Apollo.

A GREAT reputation covers a multitude of blunders, but it is a question if *The Times* does not strain the confidence of the public a little too severely by the carelessness in editing which has of late distinguished it, and which would bring worse than ridicule upon a journal less solidly planted. In adjacent columns of a recent issue, we find a remarkable announcement of the defeat of General Butler, the present Governor of Pennsylvania, and a bewildering description, in the mixed rhetoric of M. de Blowitz, Paris correspondent, of Sarah Bernhardt's acting in the "scene where Lady Macbeth, starting in terror from her sleep,

confesses her crime." There are probably not many readers of *The Times* who do not know of which State General Butler was Governor; and few readers of Shakespeare who are unaware that Lady Macbeth does not start from her sleep at all, in the scene referred to. Certain lapses of the mighty Thunderer have been explained on the theory that Mr. Chenery "does not care for politics." Are we to suppose that his indifference extends also to literature?

ON the 1st of last month the U.S. corvette *Trenton*, 10 guns, sailed from New York for the Asiatic station, where this vessel is to take the place of the *Richmond* as flagship. The *Trenton* has on board the Korean Embassy to the United States, and will convey those interesting strangers, to their own country by way of the Suez Canal. It is also stated that the vessel will touch at Gibraltar, Marseilles, Naples, and Port Said, and at such other points as the Koreans may desire. She will make a rather lengthened stay at Marseilles while the members of the Embassy visit London and Paris. The following is a list of the *Trenton's* officers, as published in a recent issue of the *Army and Navy Journal*:—Captain R. L. Phythian; Lieut-Commander R. B. Bradford; Lieuts. A. Walker, W. T. Swinburne, A. G. Berry, H. W. Schaefer, C. G. Calkins; Junior Lieutenants M. L. Wood and Fredk. W. Coffin; Ensigns Geo. C. Foulk, C. A. Gove, A. Gleaves, C. N. Atwater, and J. H. L. Holcombe; Ensigns (junior grade) E. H. Tillman and F. W. Bowdon; Naval Cadets H. H. Balthis, J. H. Gignilliat, R. L. Lerch, H. C. Pettit, S. Z. Mitchell, S. W. Armistead, Geo. W. Street, A. P. Legare, T. S. O'Leary, C. P. Eaton, C. W. Dyson, W. T. Gray, T. V. Toney, W. J. Wilson, R. T. Frazier, W. C. Herbert, George M. von Schrader; Medical Inspector E. S. Bogert; Passed Assist.-Surgeon N. McP. Ferebee; Assist.-Surgeon H. B. Scott; Paymaster G. A. Lyon; Chief Engineer Jos. Trille; Passed Assist.-Engineers J. L. D. Borthwick and H. T. Cleaver; Assist.-Engineers E. R. Freeman; Chaplain Wesley O. Holway; Captain of Marines Henry A. Bartlett; 2nd Lieut. of Marines L. Karmany.

THE *World* has the following on the newly appointed Admiral of the China station:—Vice-Admiral Dowell is the right man just now as Commander-in-Chief in Chinese waters. As a midshipman, he earned the China medal and clasp, and after distinguishing himself at the siege of Sebastopol, he was at the capture of Canton in 1857. His wounds and services secured promotion for him, but he was again entitling himself to official honours seven years later in the Straits of Shimonoseki. It is not necessary, however, to mention his other honourable experiences, or even to recall to mind the part he took in the Egyptian War. He is a man of ripe knowledge, a firm and courageous officer, a representative whom no diplomatist could readily outwit. He always has the confidence of those serving under him; and with a native talent for smoothing away difficulties, he bears the official reputation of being able to avert misunderstandings that are not intentional, and, on the other hand, of being equal professionally and personally to all emergencies. He will certainly want all his wits about him; for even with a war between China and France possible, and with fanatical attacks upon European residents in different ports of that empire

probable, he will have at his command only a miscellaneous lot of small craft, nearly all of an obsolete type.

A HOME paper says that a recent prosecution in a New York police-court has disclosed an extraordinary story of gambling on board the Cunard steamer *Servia*, and Henry Rice has been compelled to refund to Robert Sullivan a sum of 2,780 dols., of which Sullivan charged Rice with having cheated him. The other passengers say it is merely a quarrel between the two over the division of their winnings from twenty others, who lost various sums, averaging 200 dols. each. One passenger lost 1,500 dols.; two Englishmen lost 500 dols. each. One passenger landed in a penniless condition. An American, returning from Oxford, assisted by others, forcibly compelled the restitution of the money that had been won from a young man coming from India. The play was generally high, and frequently the loss of hundreds of dollars depended on the toss of a coin. Money was also lost at card playing.

M^DM^E. ADELINA PATTI has been communicating a few personal reminiscences to the *Figaro*, from which it appears that the life of a prima donna (or prim^a donna as the *Morning Post* called it the other day) is far from being the spoilt existence that one would take it to be. People may not believe it, but the position is one which for dangers surpasses that of the Czar of Russia. They are caused by her rivals, she thinks, but they go beyond the limits of permissible rivalry. "Once during a performance of *Linda*," she says, "I received a number of bouquets, the last of which was composed very oddly. One of the flowers fell out of it on to the stage, making a regular thud. It consisted of an enormous ball of lead, which, if it had been more firmly tied to the bouquet, must have struck my head. As it was, the bouquet hit my shoulder." On another occasion the curtain fell on M^dm^e. Patti's head and she was saved only by the fashion then prevailing of rolling up her hair high upon her head; but it was not a mere accident. She has had matches put into the water she drinks, and has even received poisoned gloves with a request to let the maker call them by her name. After this revelation no one can wonder that she gets £1,000 a night occasionally.

SCOTCHMEN will be more than ever convinced that no good thing can come out of any place south of the Tweed by the results of the genealogical researches which M. de Lesseps has just made known. Like so many other Frenchmen, he is really, it seems, a Scotchman. In Scotland there were many Lasseps and Lessels, Lesseps and Lassels, while in France there were none of his name except himself and his own family. One of his direct ancestors was with James II. at St. German, and it was at that time that his family settled in France. The discovery of his Scotch origin seems to have made a great impression on M. de Lesseps, for he referred to the matter at considerable length twice over during his visit to Newcastle: and, indeed, some of the details are highly interesting from the point of view of hereditary genius. M. de Lesseps is proud of being a diplomatist; and the conduct of one of his ancestors who was ordered to arrest Henry IV. of France, but who, instead of arresting the King, forewarned him of his danger, may perhaps be taken to show

that diplomacy runs in the family. So, again, although M. de Lesseps modestly disclaims being himself in any sort an engineer, it is interesting to know that one of his ancestors followed a technical profession, and that, according to vestry records still preserved, the Cathedral of Edinburgh was built by an architect named Lesseps.—*Pall Mall Budget*.

It is beginning to dawn on people's minds that King Alphonso is a person to be reckoned with, that he has character. Were that not the case, the Crown Prince would not now be in Spain. The speech which the young King has just delivered at the opening of the winter session of the Academy of Jurisprudence is calculated to strengthen that impression. Not only did its delivery greatly affect the hearers, but even in the reading it has, despite the necessary platitude of expression, an air of firmness and of purpose not common in the formal utterances of Kings. The past six months have been a time of great trial for the King of Spain, and he has come out of them with credit. Whether for good or evil, he must be taken account of as a very vital factor in Spanish and even in European politics.

THE Durban correspondent of *The Times* says:—Mr. Fynn, the late Resident with Cetewayo, is now in Maritzburg, conferring with Sir Henry Bulwer. I hear from Zululand that much distress prevails there. Hundreds of the people are living in the bush, under crags, and little cultivation is going on. The uncertainty produces, at present, a paralysis of industrial confidence, and may lead to further bloodshed hereafter. Usibepu's intentions are quite satisfactory; but he may have some difficulty in restraining his hot-blooded advisers. Cetewayo is said to be sulking. All the existing troubles are attributable to the intrigues of outside agitators with Undabuko and others, who were playing their own game, irrespective of Cetewayo.

BARNUM's agent, Mr. Gayford, has met with no success in attempting to engage the world-renowned hairy family of Mandalay. The family consists of a mother—Madame Maphoon—her son and daughter. Their features are like those of the ordinary Burmese type, but their faces are entirely covered with a growth of fine, flocculent hair, several inches in length. There is nothing at all repulsive in their appearance. On the whole, they seem strongly to resemble the celebrated Russian family which were exhibited throughout Europe a few years ago, under the felicitous sobriquet of *Pudelmenschen*.

WE have already had occasion to note the wide spread of incendiarism in the metropolis. A veritable *petroleuse* was arrested a day or so ago in the guise of an elderly female armed with a bottle of kerosene oil, sundry rags, and other inflammable material. Hardly a day passes without the arrest of persons suspected of incendiarism.

JOURNALISM is well represented in Hongkong at present; war-correspondents abound. Amongst other well-known writers, we note Messrs. Colquhoun and Scott, correspondents of the *London Times*; Mr. Ross Raymond, of the *Daily News*; Mr. Cameron, of the *Standard*; and Colonel Gilbert, of the *New York Herald*.

ACCORDING to the *Jiyu Shimbun*, the Naval Department is about to build two steel cruisers,

the lines for one of which have already been laid down. The vessel will be 70 mètres in length, with a width of 10.3 mètres, and a depth of 4.15 mètres. She will carry four 15-centimètre guns and one 12-centimètre, beside five fish torpedoes. The twin screw condensing engines are to be of exceptional power, capable of attaining a speed of sixteen knots.

It is reported that the German Government is about to send an Ambassador Extraordinary to China, in order to bring German influence to bear on the Peking Government, with a view to the preservation of peace between France and China.

THE following proclamation was addressed to the French troops by Admiral Courbet after the capture of Sontai:—

Soldiers and marines!
The forts of Phu-sa and the citadel of Sontai will henceforth be celebrated through your bravery. You have fought; you have conquered a redoubtable enemy. You have shown once more to the whole world that France can always depend on her children. Be proud of your successes. They assure the pacification of Tonquin.

MR. TONG KING-SING arrived in Hongkong by the French mail steamer *Oxus* on the 15th inst. on his way back to Shanghai. According to the *London and China Express*, he was summoned back to China by wire, and his western travels were thereby curtailed. He passed through London, only remaining twenty-four hours, on his way from South America.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Khiva* left Hongkong on Thursday, the 24th inst., at noon, for this port, *via* Nagasaki and Hiogo. The English mails of 14th December are coming up in the *Benalder*, which vessel left Hongkong on the 23rd instant.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* advertises a considerable increase in the size of its sheet, the circulation having largely multiplied.

It is reported that a series of lectures are shortly to be delivered by Mr. Fukuzawa and his colleagues at Mita. They will commence to-day (26th inst.) at 1 p.m.

WE hear that a well-known firm has obtained permission from the Korean Government to prospect for mines in the interior of that country. Gold and silver are not included in the permit.

It is stated that the usual exhibition of antiquities at Nara will be opened this year on March the 3rd and kept open till May the 28th.

WE regret to have to record the death of another old resident, Captain B. Trask, a native of Salem, Mass., who died at sea, on board the British ship *Ben Nevis*, whilst piloting that vessel from this port to Nagasaki.

THE *Nagasaki Express* of the 19th inst., says that telegraphic communication was effected with Corea yesterday for the first time, but believes the line is not yet in proper working order.

THE American bark *Jennie Harkness* sailed this morning for Takao and Taiwan, where she will load sugar for the United States and Canada.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Tokio*, for this port, left San Francisco on the 24th instant.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN JAPAN.

REFERRING, in a recent issue, to the subject of railway construction in Japan, we said that, according to the *American Railroad Manual* for 1883, the average cost of the lines laid in the United States during 1880, 1881, and 1882, after due deductions had been made on account of watered stock, was about thirty-five thousand dollars per mile; and we then proceeded to contrast this with the corresponding figures in Japan's case, on the assumption that rumour was correct in estimating the cost of the Tokiyo-Takasaki line at seventy thousand *yen* per mile. Since then, we have obtained exact figures, showing both the originally estimated cost and the actual outlay up to the present time, and it gives us pleasure to find that the results are incomparably more satisfactory than we had supposed.

The detailed estimates, prepared in July 1881, for 81½ miles of single line from Tokiyo to Mayebashi, with stations and rolling stock, contemplated a total expenditure of 3,490,941 *yen*, of which 1,320,750 were silver. At the rate of exchange then ruling, this meant that each mile of road would cost thirty three thousand dollars, approximately. According to the independent opinion of foreign experts, these figures were below the mark. It was thought that if the cost of construction did not exceed forty thousand dollars per mile, the result might be considered an economical success. Circumstances, however, appear to have proved exceptionally favourable. Not only did the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* greatly facilitate the purchase of credits abroad, but the condition of the European markets was such that material was obtained at a price nearly a third less, on the whole, than the original estimate. Owing to these causes, and by the practice of a rigid economy in all the details, the figures representing the actual expenditure, up to the 31st of December, 1883, are unexpectedly small. They are as follow:—

Amount expended in Japan up to December 31st.....	<i>Yen</i> 1,089,061
Amount expended in Europe up to October 31st	\$ 685,669
Cash remitted but still unexpended	\$ 140,564
Total.....	<i>Yen</i> 1,915,294

It is, of course, impossible to convert the paper money into silver with any degree of accuracy, as the rate of exchange varied so largely from time to time. For our present purpose, however, we shall err on the right side by neglecting the difference between silver and paper altogether. It will then be seen that, up to the close of last year, the total expenditure per mile, had not exceeded \$23,500. In this calculation we have taken the length of the road as 81½ miles, for though only 56½ miles are actually open to traffic, a great deal of work has been done on the remaining sections, while permanent way material

has been imported, and is actually in Japan, for 100 miles. It is, indeed, premature to speak, as yet, of the cost of the line, seeing that no part can be described as complete. Enough, however, has been done to justify a tolerably confident estimate that the ultimate expenditure will not exceed thirty thousand dollars a mile.

The directors and shareholders of the *Nihon Tetsudo-gwaisha* deserve to be sincerely congratulated on this result. Railway construction in Japan is still in its early youth, and the progress of the line from Tokiyo to Mayebashi has been watched with special interest, because it is the first undertaking of the sort in which private enterprise has had a share, and because, further, it has been, from beginning to end, independent of foreign assistance. Similar work has been done in the south by Japanese engineers, but their association with European experts, though practically insignificant, has always been sufficient to mar the idea of complete independence. In the case of the Tokiyo-Mayebashi road, however, from the preliminary survey to the final opening, the Japanese have managed every detail without the smallest recourse to foreign aid, and, as might have been expected, there were, at the outset, many critics who predicted a correspondingly complete failure. Happily the issue disposes finally of these apprehensions. For our own part, several years' intimate observation of Japanese ability to assimilate scientific knowledge precluded any fear that the engineering difficulties of railway construction would prove a serious stumbling-block. But we did doubt the possibility, under existing conditions, of carrying out any large public works in this country on thoroughly economical principles. There was, first, the fatal absence of skilled contractors, possessing sufficient capital to undertake work on a large scale, as well as sufficient practical experience to qualify them for the particular species of work under consideration; and there was, next, the habit, not yet altogether eradicated, of overloading every business with costly officialdom. It would not have much surprised us, therefore, to learn that the expenditure on the Tokiyo-Mayebashi line had considerably exceeded the estimates; and, indeed, as we mentioned in a recent issue, such a rumour was at one time prevalent. But the figures quoted above—figures, we may observe, which can be absolutely relied on—show conclusively that the Japanese can manage the construction of their railways not less economically than efficiently.

It is just to note, at the same time, that the line from Tokiyo to Mayebashi runs through a flat country presenting a minimum of engineering difficulties. Its cost ought, therefore, to have been correspondingly small, and cannot be taken as an accurate basis for future estimates. The outlay on account of land, again, is a comparatively petty item in Japan. Thus, under this

heading, we find that the total expenditure on the line in question (81½ miles) is set down as 117,320 *yen*, namely 97,040 *yen* for the purchase of land for lines and stations, including compensation for crops, removal of trees, &c., and 20,280 *yen* for removing houses and other buildings. On the other hand, the large rivers which the Tokiyo-Mayebashi road crosses necessitate a disproportionately heavy outlay on account of bridges. Against this item alone we have a sum of 826,905 *yen*, including 226,625 silver *yen*. The *American Railroad Manual* shows that 27,019 miles of line constructed in the United States during 1880, 1881, and 1882, cost, altogether, \$2,023,646,842, or an average of \$75,000 per mile. One half of this nominal expenditure is said, however, to represent watered stock, so that the actual cost may be placed somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$40,000 per mile; whereas in Japan, judging by what has been already accomplished, \$35,000 would seem to be a liberal estimate. The Commissioner of Railways, Mr. INOUE MASARU, has just reason to be proud of these results.

A STORM IN A TEACUP.

MR. WILLIAM G. HOWELL has addressed the following letter to the *London and China Express*:—

SIR,—A letter on the subject of the Japanese Treaty Revision, signed by "Six Japanese," appeared in your issue of the 22nd Nov., and in it I find the following:—

Will it be credited that, in a memorial presented by a somewhat similar body in London to Earl Granville a year or so back, one of the suggestions (the italics are mine) in connection with the revision of our treaty, was that English clerks in Japan should be adequately provided with ready-made clothing duty free, and with cheap cigars?

The memorial referred to was a report on the Japanese proposals for a revised treaty between Great Britain and Japan, drawn up by a committee of merchants in London interested in the Japan trade, and appeared in your columns on Oct. 1, 1881. The passage in it pointed at in the above quotation is as follows, and occurs towards the end of the report, after all really important matters have been carefully and exhaustively dealt with:—

Groups VIII., *Wines and Liquors* and X., *Tobacco*, are reasonable articles of taxation; but as they would chiefly fall upon the foreign residents, 10 per cent. may be considered a sufficient charge. *Clothing and apparel* are also mainly for foreign use, and can only yield a trifling revenue. If worth taxing at all, 5 per cent. should be a sufficient duty to place upon them.

The memorial itself was very full and exhaustive, very carefully drawn up, and contained many practical and excellent suggestions in regard to the revision of every section of the treaty, which were at least well worthy of the consideration of the Japanese Government. Unhappily, as I still think, these suggestions were introduced by, or interspersed with, reflections and charges which did not commend themselves to my sense of justice to the Japanese, and I took occasion to address you on the subject, pointing out what seemed to me at once the merits and the defects of the memorial. But anything more calculated than the above quotation to alienate friendly advocates I have never encountered. I have no knowledge of the six gentlemen who have appended their names to the letter in question; but I venture to assure them that they have greatly discredited themselves by this flagrant misrepresentation of facts, and can only reinstate themselves in the position of antagonists worthy to cross swords with men of honour, by an immediate and ample retraction of it.—I am, &c., W. G. HOWELL.

London, Nov. 24.

We readily agree that the paragraph, extracted from the letter of the six Japanese, betrays a want of accuracy and a

disposition to place the facts of the case in an unjustly repellant light. But Mr. HOWELL'S censure has considerably more sound than substance. To accuse these six Japanese of "a flagrant misrepresentation of facts," disqualifying them "to cross swords with men of honour," may produce a striking effect, as a phraseological feat, but assumes, on closer examination, a somewhat farcical appearance. For after all, in what respect is it false to describe the London Merchants' recommendation as motivated by a desire to provide foreigners in Japan "with ready-made clothing duty free, and with cheap cigars?" We waive the consideration of the word "clerks," since we presume that Mr. HOWELL is not disposed to rest his case on a question of verbal definitions. The London Merchants, while confessing that wines, liquors, and tobacco are "reasonable articles of taxation," think that ten per cent. "may be considered a sufficient charge." Why? Because "they" (doubtless the Merchants refer to the taxes) "would fall chiefly upon the foreign residents." They further think that, with regard to clothing and apparel, "if worth taxing at all, 5 per cent. should be a sufficient duty to place upon them." Why, again? Because "they are mainly for foreign use." Now, as there are two sides to every question, let us try to look at this matter from a Japanese, as well as a foreign, point of view. And first, it may be readily admitted that, speaking generally, there should be no distinction made, so far as taxation is concerned, between foreign and Japanese traders in Japan. It is true that, at present, strangers residing in Yokohama pay from forty to fifty per cent. less taxes than their Japanese fellow-residents. But this seeming anomaly may be partially defended on the ground that, in a country where aliens do not enjoy the same privileges of trade and travel as natives, and where a part of the machinery for the former's government is provided without any expense to the latter, some difference should exist between the amounts of their respective contributions to the funds of the State. No such principle applies, however, or can properly be applied, to indirect taxes levied in the form of duties. Where these are concerned, foreigners do not claim any privilege that is not equally extended to Japanese. This much admitted, it follows that in fixing tariff rates, their incidence ought to be considered not less than their amount. To take an extreme case. Pianos are articles scarcely, if at all, used outside the foreign settlements. Would any Japanese think it fair that a heavy import duty should be imposed upon these instruments? Such a course would be an obvious violation of the principle postulated at the outset, since its effect would be to levy upon foreigners a tax to which Japanese are not liable. The authors of the London Merchants' memorial evidently thought that a similar consideration applies

to the case of imported clothing, liquors, and tobacco. These articles, they say, are used chiefly by the foreign community, and ought, therefore, to be subjected to a duty less heavy than that usually imposed upon such staples. That this contention is, in some respects, reasonable, few, we apprehend, will be disposed to deny. But unfortunately it proceeds upon a false premise. Foreign consumption of foreign liquors and clothing in Japan is a bagatelle compared with Japanese consumption. There are, roughly speaking, 2,500 foreign residents in this country, and for every one of them that drinks imported liquor and wears imported garments, there are probably thirty or forty Japanese who affect the same luxuries. These Japanese, too, are precisely the classes that can afford to pay taxes and whose purses prudent financiers would seek to reach. Thus the London Merchants' plea, honestly urged in defence of what seems a fair cause, assumes, on closer inspection, a very doubtful complexion. We cannot, with any show of reason, ask the Government of Japan to modify the duties upon eminently dutiable articles, the consumption of which is daily increasing throughout the country, merely because they happen to be used in proportionally greater quantities by foreigners than by Japanese. There is another point also that increases the difficulty of discriminating in foreigners' favour. Japanese manufactures are beginning to compete, little by little, with foreign, so that any limits set to the duties levied on the latter, must necessarily apply to the case of the former also. It is a matter of fact that the Japanese Government was recently constrained to exempt from the operation of the new tobacco tax cigars and cigarettes made in Japan, because the imposition of the tax upon the native manufactures alone would have virtually conferred a monopoly on imported articles. It is plain, therefore, that the position taken by the London Merchants is open to many objections, and certainly the fashion of their argument is singularly unhappy. To a casual reader it would seem as though the mere fact of an article being destined chiefly for foreign use was sufficient, in the opinion of the memorialists, to place it in an exceptional category for purposes of taxation. We cannot be surprised that the Japanese interpreted the memorial in this sense, more especially when we remember that the document was otherwise disfigured by reflections and charges of a mischievous and discreditable nature. What really does surprise us is that a writer like Mr. HOWELL, who spent many years in Japan and who may be supposed to know something of this country's foreign relations, should pass by all the vital questions discussed by the correspondents of the *London and China Express*, and confine himself to firing noisy broadsides of blank ammunition at this one little bit

of injudicious cynicism. Such a course, if pursued by any one else, might be easily construed into an attempt to divert attention from the true issues, and to bring unmerited discredit on the whole argument of the Japanese by exaggerating an irrelevant indiscretion. As for the "immediate and ample retraction," which alone can restore the six unfortunate gentlemen to "the position of antagonists worthy to cross swords with men of honour," its terms would be likely to cause their composers some perplexity. "We said," one can fancy them explaining, "that the clause referring to clothes and tobacco embodied one of the chief suggestions in the memorial. This was a serious prevarication. The adjective 'chief' ought to have been omitted. We also spoke of 'ready-made clothing.' This was an unpardonable generalization. To be worthy of crossing swords with honourable men, we should have known that the terms 'clothing' and 'apparel' may be improperly applied to cloths and linen as well as to coats and shirts. We further spoke of 'English clerks in Japan' as the persons for whom certain tariff concessions were claimed. This was a 'flagrant misrepresentation of facts.' We ought to have written 'partners, principals, and clerks.' Altogether we have 'greatly discredited ourselves' by a flippant attempt to be satirical, and we humbly confess that you have shown your thorough appreciation of the position by choosing to censure our momentary indiscretion rather than to consider questions which concern the well-being of our nation and the reputation of yours." Would this method of retraction be a sufficiently prompt and ample prelude to the recrossing of honourable swords, or would it be necessary that some more pop-guns of sounding sentiment should be discharged at the heads of the six Japanese? It is sometimes both pleasant and profitable to spend brief intervals in the regions of romance, but the revision of the treaties, and the painful position in which both Japanese and foreigners are placed by the present dead-lock, are eminently practical matters, not to be adjusted, or in any way advanced by Mr. HOWELL'S dithyrambic capers, however delicately cut. That gentleman might have usefully promoted discussion had he considered the serious questions advanced by the correspondents of the *London and China Express*, instead of wasting his powder on a paragraph which, after all, contains only one really objectionable word.

THE SITUATION IN EGYPT.

It becomes difficult to understand the attitude of HER MAJESTY'S Government towards Egypt. Mr. GLADSTONE'S aversion to engage directly in a struggle with the strange wave of religious fanaticism now surging towards lower Egypt is intelligible enough, when we remember that every step England takes in that direction

lengthens the distance she will have to retrace, and multiplies the dangers she will leave behind her, in the day of her final withdrawal from the banks of the Nile, should that day ever come. But, on the other hand, to leave the Soudan to its fate, would be to abandon the fruits and prospects of all the anti-slave policy forced upon Turkey and Egypt by Great Britain during the past twenty-five years, and to destroy the brave work of such men as Sir SAMUEL BAKER and General GORDON. It is hard to imagine England sitting with hands folded in quite contentment while, in a country within easy reach of her highway to India, troops of unfortunate human beings, robbed from their homes, are perpetually driven like cattle into life-long servitude. This is one of those gigantic brutalities that civilization must sooner or later rouse herself to crush, and when, remembering how, in olden times, whole continents poured forth their chivalry to rescue the sepulchre of a prophet, buried a thousand years before, from its profane guardians, one observes the profound apathy with which this world of the nineteenth century, our own little island excepted, used to regard the unspeakable barbarities practiced upon thousands of men, women, and children in the valley of the Nile and the robber regions of Darfour, one recognises the truth of the old saying that the moods of men are more various than their manners. There are, doubtless, persons to whose hard practicality arguments of this sort do not appeal, and who will probably find a stronger warrant for extending British protection over the Soudan in the fact, communicated to *The Times* by Prince IBRAHIM HILMY, that the only two Nilometers available by Egypt are at Khartoum and Berber. But in every case England's reasons to check MOHAMED-AHMED'S progress assume the character of an obligation, and however reluctant Mr. GLADSTONE may be to have his hand forced by circumstances, it is not likely that he will prove himself the one statesman in history strong enough to despise them. At the outset, he seems to have been little moved by the insistence of the KHEDIVE. Egypt might deal with the Soudan herself. All that England meant to do, with Turkey's co-operation, was to keep the ring. The ships of the QUEEN and SULTAN would sail up and down the Red Sea, and prevent the tide of Islamism from spreading to Arabian shores. The KHEDIVE'S answer to this programme of good-natured neutrality was remarkably shrewd. He had at command the services of one Englishman of note, who might be trusted not to refuse any task involving peril and hardship, and whom England would be little pleased to see treading in the footsteps of General HICKS. The task of crushing the MAHDI was entrusted to VALENTINE BAKER, and under his orders was placed a force scarcely sufficient to garrison Suakim. Even this might not have moved the GLADSTONE Cabinet. VALENTINE BAKER had gone out into the wilderness. His doings and his fate did not necessarily concern HER MAJESTY'S Government. But the KHEDIVE had another practical argument to advance. He appointed ZEBHER PASHA as BAKER'S colleague. The significance of this measure does not appear to have been fully appreciated yet. ZEBHER, in the days when he was virtually ruler of the Soudan, distinguished himself by nothing more than by his support of the slave trade. A writer in *The Times* says that, in 1869,

ZEBHER RAHAMA'S "*seribas* were slave depôts, and the line of them across the desert marked the track" of this brutal traffic. Then followed, in 1877, his visit to Cairo, with the intention of persuading the KHEDIVE to let him found a kingdom of his own in Darfour and the Bahr Gazelle—a project which failed through the direct intervention of GORDON PASHA—and then, the insurrection of ZEBHER'S followers under his son, SULEIMAN, who was defeated, captured and shot by the forces under General GORDON'S direction. The KHEDIVE, by sending ZEBHER to the Soudan at this juncture, tells England, in so many words, that since she declines to help him, he must help himself as best he can, that is to say, by having recourse to the assistance of a man who was proved a rebel, and sentenced to death, four years ago, and who will go to the Soudan with the object of recovering his old position as a slave-dealing potentate. Whether or no this roused the London Cabinet, the telegraph does not say, but it does tell us that General GORDON has consented to assume the command in the Soudan, stipulating, however, that his responsibility shall be *vis-à-vis* his own Government only. Now it is quite impossible that General GORDON and ZEBHER PASHA can work together. ZEBHER hates GORDON, with all the bitter hatred an Oriental may be supposed to feel for an European who baulked his pet projects, defeated him in the field, and caused the execution of his son. If GORDON is really going to the Soudan, ZEBHER must stay at Cairo, and yet, among Egyptians, ZEBHER is probably the only man who can hope to make head against the MAHDI. GORDON'S condition, again, if it means anything at all, means that he is to carry on the campaign absolutely after his own fashion and without reference to any superior authority save that of his own Government. Such a proviso is worthy of the stern old soldier, who recently told a prominent Chinese statesman that he could never consent to serve China in conjunction with a man whose breach of faith in former years had for ever marred his title to be trusted. So far, then, as the position has been explained to us by the telegraph, MOHAMED-AHMED is about to be confronted by two leaders, an Englishman and an Egyptian, of whom the latter is an implacable enemy of the former, his superior, while the former is to conduct the campaign without responsibility to any Government save that of England, who has declared, through her present Ministers, that she will have no active share in Egypt's trouble with the fanatical rebels of the Soudan. This is why we say that it is difficult to understand clearly the attitude of Great Britain in this business, or the programme Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues have mapped out for themselves.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Theological Hall, 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, January 23rd, the Vice-President for Tokiyo in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Tokiyo Meeting, having been published in both the daily and weekly editions of the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

The TREASURER intimated that, in consequence of the reprinting of those parts of the Transactions which had become scarce, several completed sets had already been sold.

The Rev. J. SUMMERS then read his paper "On Chinese Lexicography, with proposals for a new Arrangement of the Characters of that Language." The paper opened with a brief discussion, partly historical, of the main features of the written language, such as the nature and origin of the characters employed, and the more important modifications in the manner of writing them. In this connection some specimens of the ancient "tad-pole" style of writing were shown. The difficulties in arranging and classifying the numerous characters were then noted, and the various plans which had been adopted by lexicographers criticised. Thus to classify by the sound, as was done by Dr. Wells Williams, required in the first place a knowledge of the phonetic value of the character, which phonetic value further was by no means fixed, but varied in different localities. The common method of arranging by the number of strokes in the primitive was obviously unscientific. Dr. Norris, of the Asiatic Society of London, had elaborated a system which had never been published and in which the arrangement was based upon the character of the *principal* stroke, as it appeared to him. The choice of the principal stroke was of course quite arbitrary, and was the more objectionable in Dr. Norris's plan, as he was himself unacquainted with the true manner of writing the character. Dr. Rassellief's method was also somewhat arbitrary, although in certain particulars it approximated to the author's plan. This plan was then described. A kind of alphabet was first formed of the six elementary strokes which make up any character—the dot, the horizontal stroke, the vertical stroke, the sweep, the hook, and the crook. The character was classified by the order in which these elementary strokes succeeded each other. This required a knowledge of the proper way to write a given character—a knowledge, however, which could be easily acquired, as the correct order of writing the strokes depended upon a few very simple rules, and was, except in a few special cases, rigorously followed by all Chinese writers. Thus a character could be spelt out in terms of these six fundamental strokes exactly as a word in a European language is; and its position in the dictionary similarly located. In the spelling out of a character, the primitive was to be used, not the radical or radicals which might be present. A knowledge of these radicals was assumed on the part of the student. Each radical, however, would be found in its proper place as determined by the order of its component elementary strokes. If a character was composed of several radicals, it would be found tabulated under the lowest one to the right. In conclusion, the author claimed for his method the advantage that it would greatly save time as compared with other methods; and that besides it would generally be found that words of a like signification came together.

A very animated discussion followed, largely interspersed with questions upon special points which had not appeared sufficiently clear during the reading of the paper.

The Rev. Mr. GRING doubted if, after all, the system would be of such superiority as its author thought, as it also seemed to require the learning by heart of the 214 radicals.

The CHAIRMAN, in criticism of certain remarks of Mr. Gring's, pointed out that a dictionary was valuable because it contained the uncommon words, and that in any process of abridgment the ordinary words which everyone knew should be the first to be sacrificed. He felt it would be premature to enter into any detailed criticism of the plan which the Rev. Mr. Summers had laid before them. The best test would be the practical test; and he would reserve his judgment until the new dictionary was published and in his hands.

The thanks of the Society were then conveyed by the CHAIRMAN to the author for his very interesting paper, and the meeting was adjourned.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

A meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms for receiving the accounts and for the election of a Committee, at which the following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. Russell Robertson (in the Chair), B. Gillett (Hon. Sec.), J. Brooke, R. Dross, H. Grauert, F. Grösser, E. Berger, J. P. Mollison, A. J. Wilkin, T. Walsh, H. Barlow, and Rev. E. C. Irwine.

THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREASURER, FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1883.

Dr.		
To Superintendent's Salary 12 months	\$480.00	
To Labor Account 12 months	347.54	
		\$827.54
To Repairs	51.14	
To Tools, &c.	16.01	
To Sundries—Lime; Cement; Drain-pipes, &c..	9.67	
		76.82
To Books, Stationery, Advertisements, &c.		16.50
To Medical Attendance, Dr. Eldridge on 2 cases of accident to Cemetery Coolies		18.00
To Loss in Exchange .....		.04
		938.90
To amount at Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, 31st December, 1883, at call	502.00	
To balance in the hands of Treasurer 31st De- cember, 1883	88.48	590.48
		\$1,529.38
Cr.		
By Balance brought down from previous account 31st December, 1883		446.38
By Interment fees 12 months	665.00	
By Fees for erecting Stones, Enclosures of Graves, &c.	418.00	
		\$1,083.00
		\$1,529.38
January 1, 1884. By balance brought down		\$ 590.48

DEPENDENCY.

Interment fees, since paid and passed to the
credit of new account \$ 50.00 || E. & O. E. | B. GILLETT, Hon. Treasurer. |

I have examined this account with the vouchers relating
thereto, and find it correct.

HENRY BARLOW.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1884.

INTERMENTS IN THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1883.

British	22	Swiss	3
American	14	German	5
French	6	Dutch	1
Total	50		
1882.	50	1881.	32
1880.	71	1879.	54
1878.	69		

The CHAIRMAN, after reading the report of the Committee and the accounts, observed that, this meeting presented a marked difference to most others held in Yokohama, as there would be no appeal to the pockets of those present, the only business before the meeting being of a formal nature. He would like, however, to remark that at the meeting last year when the question of the new cemetery was broached, he was not posted in the matter and knew very little about it, but that morning, he had an interview with the Kenrei, who had admitted that the delay in finishing the new Cemetery rested with the Central Government in Tokiyo. They had not yet decided upon what terms the ground should be handed over to foreigners. At the last meeting the question had been raised as to the necessity of closing the present Cemetery, and objections had been made as to the distance from the Settlement at which the new one was placed. The Kenrei, who certainly had a voice in the matter, had the question of closing the old Cemetery brought to his notice on account of the health of the Japanese living in Honmura. This had been repeatedly urged upon him by the Board of Health; nevertheless, it could not be closed in a day, and as the Consuls have to be consulted in the matter, the Committee might rest assured that sufficient notice would be given.

Mr. MOLLISON asked who was to pay for the laying out of the new Cemetery.

The CHAIRMAN said that the present one was granted to foreigners under the convention. He had not brought the question up in his conversation with the Kenrei, but he thought that if the Kenrei closed the old one he might pay part of the outlay; still it might be urged that he had given the ground and made the road to it.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that if it was in the interests of the health of the Japanese that the old cemetery was to be closed, it was rather like straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, for Honmura was in a filthy state.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said that if the Cemetery had to be moved for the health of Honmura, he thought that it would be better to move Honmura for the general health of foreigners.

The members of the old Committee were then asked to submit themselves to re-election, and the following gentlemen expressed their willingness to serve again, namely:—Messrs. T. Walsh, A. J. Wilkin, H. Grauert, and B. Gillett.

Mr. Blakeway having resigned, Mr. J. M. des Pallières was proposed in his place.

Mr. BROOKE proposed the election of the Committee as above.

Mr. MOLLISON seconded.

Carried unanimously.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Treasurer for his attention and for being able to show so good a balance.

This was seconded by Mr. BARLOW, and carried unanimously.

This concluded the business, and the meeting adjourned.

NOTIFICATION NO. 7 OF THE FI-
NANCE DEPARTMENT.

It is herewith notified that, in accordance with the Public Loan Bonds' Regulations for the construction of the Nakasendo Railway, issued by Notification No. 47, in December of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), bonds to the amount of five million yen will shortly be issued, subject to the following special articles:—

REGULATIONS FOR THE ISSUE OF THE NAKASENDO
RAILWAY BONDS.

Art. I.—The Finance Department will regulate the form and issue of the Public Loan Bonds.

Art. II.—The price of the bonds shall be 90 yen for a face value of 100 yen.

Art. III.—Persons desirous of buying bonds will apply to the Nippon Bank, its branch offices or agencies, up to the 20th of February next, stating the amount of bonds they require and giving their names and addresses.

N.B.—The Agencies will be advertised by the Nippon Bank.

Art. IV.—Applicants for bonds will deposit 10 yen as a security on every 100 yen worth of bonds, at the office where they have made application.

Art. V.—After payment of the securities, the Nippon Bank, its branch offices or agencies, will give the applicants receipts for the amounts. These receipts may not be sold or purchased.

Art. VI.—The Finance Department will announce, through the Nippon Bank, the whole amount of the bonds to be granted to applicants up to the 30th of next March. The amount of the securities paid in will be deducted from the value of the bonds, and the remaining sum paid by two monthly instalments of 50 per cent. on the whole amount. The first payment will end on the 30th of April, and the second on the 15th of next June. The second instalment may be paid simultaneously with the first.

Art. VII.—The two instalments having been paid at the Nippon Bank, its branch offices or agencies, a provisional certificate will be granted in exchange for the receipts given for the securities and other payments. These provisional certificates shall not be made the basis of business transactions, but they may be hypothecated with the Government or Nippon Bank.

Art. VIII.—The bonds will be issued through

the Nippon Bank in exchange for the provisional certificates.

Art. IX.—In case the instalments are not paid when due, as set out in Article VI., the security, and the first instalment if paid, will not be refunded to the applicants.

Art. X.—Should the receipt for security or the provisional certificate be lost, the owners of the missing documents will at once report the matter to the office where they have been obtained, stating the number of the certificates, and giving their names and addresses.

Art. XI.—The circumstances attending the loss of the documents must be testified by the owners to the Nippon Bank, its branches offices or agencies; new certificates will be granted upon the testimony of two persons who shall confirm the loss. The missing documents will thereupon be advertised in the newspapers and declared null and void.

Art. XII.—The interest on the security and the amount paid for bonds will be seven per cent. per annum. On sums paid on or before the 15th of the month, the interest of half a month will be allowed; on those paid on the 16th of the month and after, the interest will be reckoned from the first of the following month.

Art. XIII.—The interest on the security and sums paid for bonds, not exceeding half the year's amount of the coupons, shall be paid when the bonds are exchanged for the provisional certificates.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister of Finance.

January 23rd, 1884.

NOTIFICATION NO. 3^B OF THE HOME
DEPARTMENT.

ADDRESSED TO THE POLICE FORCE IN ALL CITIES
AND PREFECTURES (TOKIYO EXCEPTED).

Attention is herewith called to Notification No. 71B of the 15th year of Meiji (1882), issued by the Home Department, to the effect that the police are forbidden to draw swords except in urgent cases; and that they are further required to observe the following rules:—

N.B.—In case of wounds being inflicted on occasions other than those enumerated in Article I, even though through accident, the police will be prosecuted by law.

RULES REGARDING THE USE OF SWORDS.

Art. I.—Swords may not be drawn except under the following circumstances:—

- 1.—When there is no means to protect the safety and property of the people except by armed interference, weapons having been employed with murderous intent.
- 2.—When the offending parties are armed with deadly weapons, and other means of defence are unavailable.
- 3.—When criminals and escaped convicts resist capture with murderous weapons, and the police making the arrest are unable to carry out the law without using theirs words.

Art. II.—Even though swords should have been drawn in accordance with these regulations, the police are required to make no use of them should the offenders finally yield peaceably.

Art. III.—Swords having been drawn in accordance with these regulations, care must be taken to avoid wounding any party or parties not concerned in the affair.

Art. IV.—Whenever it has been found necessary to make use of swords, the police must at once report the circumstance to the Chief of the Office to which they belong, even though no wounds may have been inflicted.

YAMAGATA ARIAKIRA, Home Minister.

January 21st, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF GAMBLERS.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Fine clothes and good food can only be obtained by those who work hard, and there are many who so strive to obtain them. But when men can procure these mundane luxuries without exertion by gambling, it is no wonder that the vice cannot be suppressed. Idle young men bred in cities and country towns, who are not taught any trade or profession, and whose only desire is to indulge in a life of pleasure and debauchery, on seeing how gamblers live, are apt to form an exaggerated idea of the pleasures of such a life, and to cast in their lot with them. The Government, knowing this tendency has made the law more stringent than before. There are two reasons why they cannot hope that the present laws will effectually stop the evil. First, the provincial police have to employ men who are acquainted with the people of the district and who, having been gamblers themselves, know where to find the offenders. As the proverb says, "snakes know where snakes live." But as a rule, these men receive bribes and let the offenders evade justice. In this way the police are prevented from carrying out the law; for if they do not employ these spies they cannot catch the gamblers, and if they do employ them the above abuse is certain to occur. Secondly, men of high station, who are surfeited with the common pleasures of life, take to gambling as a new excitement, and access to the houses in which they carry it on is most difficult. One cannot make a law which shall be stringent to one class of men and lenient to another. To make a law operative, it must be based on the equality of all men. Of late the police system and supervision have been considerably improved. We cannot decide by the two examples given above whether the law is imperfect or not; but to prevent young men from being drawn into the toils of the gamblers, exceptional vigilance is required. On the 26th of last December, we argued the question in these columns, and brought it to the attention of the Government. The Government, being acquainted with the circumstances, quickly responded to our appeal for a reform by issuing in the beginning of the year Notification No. 1, in which the old rules were revised and four new ones added. Our readers will have this Notification still in mind, and we would have commented on it before, but matters of a more pressing nature have delayed us. A careful perusal of the Notification shows that the principal change made in the old law is a transfer of the gambling offences from the executive to the administrative sections of the Code. The new laws set a limit to the penalties, which, however, are more severe than they were previously. Article 4 says that Superintendents of Police, Governors, and Prefects, are at liberty to enact such measures as will enable them to enforce the law, with the sanction of the Home Minister.

Upon this point depends the importance of the alterations. Gambling is prevalent in all districts, though there is a difference in the degree to which it is carried on and in its pernicious effects on the people. In the Eastern provinces it flourishes far more than in the Western, and Kotsuke, especially, enjoys an unenviable notoriety. Each band of gamblers have their own customs by which they regulate their meeting and dispersing. Therefore, to arrest them, it is necessary to exercise great vigilance both directly and indirectly. Article 3 says that any house may be entered at any moment for the purpose of arresting gamblers. This is necessary because the offenders use every means in their power to evade the detectives, and carry on their pastime in houses which are difficult of access to any but

themselves. Unless the police are invested with power to enter any dwelling where they have a suspicion that gambling is being carried on, there will be no chance of catching the offenders. To deal with a crime which is so easy of concealment, and of which it is so difficult to adduce sufficient evidence to ensure conviction, it is necessary that the police should be granted this exceptional power. This being the case, the strict enforcement of the new rules should remove the abuse. Nevertheless, it must be borne in mind that the transfer of the act from the executive to the administrative involves the loss of personal liberty. To allow the police to enter private dwellings is against the principles of freedom. From a purely logical point of view, the Notification in question is not a pleasing one. The safety of personal freedom is secured by the executive power being independent of the administrative and overruling it. Personal freedom and safety depend on the inviolability of private dwellings. The reason the Government, which pays the utmost regard to personal rights and freedom, sanctioned the measure, and that we journalists, who have no end in view but the liberty of the people, approve of it, is because it is the outcome of necessity. On this account the Government inserted the word "temporary" in the rules, that is, they will not remain long in force. We earnestly hope that the Government will be enabled to rescind them shortly. Law in itself is inactive, and the power to put it into force rests with the functionaries. The scope of the penalties are as stated above, but the enforcement of them is left in the hands of the local officers. This being the case, we are unable to foresee what steps the provincial officers may take in carrying out their duties. These details will have a most important bearing upon the Notification, and by them it will be made either stringent or lenient, beneficial or injurious. Thus great responsibility will rest with the provincial officers. There is nothing more productive of injury than a law whose scope is unrestricted. The more clearly defined a law is, the less liable it is to err and the more easily it is amended. Although a law whose scope is undefined is easy of application, yet there is the danger of it being perverted from the original intention of its compiler. The details of the measure in question have no defined limits, but are to be fixed by the provincial officers as they deem fit. So far so good. But the plan is not entirely free from the danger that personal liberty may be infringed. What a grave responsibility rests on the provincial officers! But knowing that they are politicians of considerable skill and experience, we believe they will avoid all pitfalls. Moreover, the Home Minister has the power to veto their enactments, so that we are convinced that no abuse will arise from the Notification in question.

THE DRIFT OF NATIONAL SETTLEMENT.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

We cordially sympathize with our readers in welcoming the New Year, the 17th year of Meiji, more especially as the interval to elapse between the present and the establishment of a constitutional government is now but one of five years.

Let us, for a little while, review the history of the past year, its vicissitudes and experiences. In order to fully appreciate the status of society, one must, first of all, take its essential elements into consideration, since merely incidental events cannot constitute a criterion. For instance, certain social conditions, of an ultimately progressive tendency, not unfrequently fail to convey the idea of immediate improvement, and often wane and wax in their beneficent influence before achieving final success. Hence, those who strive to achieve greatness take no note of a momentary retrogression except to resolve to advance ten steps where they have lost one. In fine, the upward and pro-

gressive tendency will gain the ascendancy. The incidental events and superficialities of every-day life may impose upon the vulgar and uneducated, but should in no wise affect enlightened minds, or persuade them to imitate those who, influenced by the petty events of the moment, modify their policy as it is alternately attended by success or failure. Having thus distinguished between the essential elements of society and the trivial incidents of the moment; we shall proceed to examine the drift of national sentiment.

There probably never was a period, even in the remotest prehistoric times, though we have no historical data or tradition to prove this, in which the people did not evince an interest in the affairs of the nation, though there have been decided fluctuations in the intensity of the interest evinced. During the old feudal times, however, it was only the *shizoku* who took part in the nation's affairs. They numbered but little above four hundred thousand, and even though their vassals be added to this number, they did not exceed two millions. In point of fact, this empire was the outcome of but two million of souls—the nobility, and their retainers. But in the course of time, and in accordance with the laws of destiny, the feudal system was abolished and prefectures established in its place; the result being that the *shizoku* had to forego their hereditary emoluments, and that the people began to participate in the control of the national interests. A new world of thought and action was called into existence, although the participation of the people remained restricted as before, not more than two million having a voice in the government—a fact which was greatly deplored by men of enlightened minds. But on the other hand, the *shizoku* were compelled to resort to trade and commercial pursuits in order to earn their daily bread. No longer could they give heed to the national politics, the control of which was monopolized by Government officials numbering not more than one hundred thousand.

Matters stood thus in the 11th and 12th years of Meiji (1879-80). Since then the political spirit has taken firm hold upon the populace, especially as the new doctrines expounded by political pioneers at the beginning of our era developed into form and power, and exerted the greatest influence amongst the young and energetic spirits of the people. Everyone might henceforth take part in political affairs, be he trader, farmer, or what not, so long as he could devote time and money to the purpose. The rapid growth of an universal interest in national politics found speedy outlet in the form of a petition to the Government to establish a National Assembly, and to permit the formation of political societies. The maximum activity in the political arena was exhibited during the 15th year of Meiji (1882), and large numbers of political societies sprung up throughout the empire. Foremost among these were young, or still youthful, men, who were guided by the advice given by their cautious elders. Last year, however, the seeming decrease of political activity gave rise to grave apprehensions. Yet these were but surface indications, for political zeal has, if not actually increased, certainly not diminished; and politicians have shown a more earnest and better spirit than ever before.

Public lectures, social gatherings, and the like are among the chief indications of political activity. In Europe and America, where politics enter so largely into the every-day life of the people, public lectures and social gatherings, unless of unusual importance, are not made a subject for remarks; but in Japan, such events form the standard by which political activity must be judged, especially as the people are only just awakening to a sense of its importance. In this manner, the past year was less notable for the spread of political zeal than was the year before. Is this owing to any actual decrease of the value of politics in the eyes of the people of Japan? Certainly not. The case is analogous to the light emitted by an incandescent object where each fresh outburst of glowing flames is followed by an increase of fiery vigour.

One of the most notable facts of last year is that politicians have shown the most unwearied fidelity in the pursuit of their ideals, although their zeal has occasionally been momentarily damped. The tendency to change, which was so noticeable among the politicians of the early part of our era, has given place to a spirit of conservatism, to the decided betterment of political sentiment.

Turning our gaze from the political to the social condition of the empire, we find much upon which we may congratulate ourselves. At the time of the Restoration, the institutions, manners, and customs of the olden time were summarily dispensed with, leaving the people in a state of chaotic confusion. Etiquette, morals and every social restriction entered upon a period of laxity. Yet the public keenly felt the want of social law and order, and, as the years rolled by, a desirable restoration was partly effected. Although there is not a little discrepancy between the manner in which social order is maintained at present and in the days gone by, yet the necessity for preserving the integrity of the social status has suffered no change. This was notably the case in the 7th and 8th year of Meiji (1874-75), while great progress marked the past year. Availing themselves of the want of speedy social amelioration, the adherents of the system of ancient learning attempted to revive the manners and customs of olden times, but without avail.

With regard to trade and commerce, we have to note that the public has suffered severely from the stagnation of all manners of industries and business. Rice fell to 4.50 *yen*, while silver ranged from 105 to 106 with corresponding cheapness of all sorts of commodities. This was, to a certain extent, in favour of the poorer classes; but whatever advantage they may have reaped was more than counterbalanced by the distress of the agriculturists, who were unable to purchase more than the bare necessities. Hence great loss was entailed upon manufactures and industries. Brewers suspended their trade, and petty manufacturers were ruined wholesale. The people looked eagerly to the Government for some remedy to ease the national distress.

Among the principal events immediately effecting the people, was the dispersion, by order of the Government, of the general meeting of all provincial assemblies. More political gatherings were forcibly stopped last year than ever before. Although the meeting in question was dispersed, the members of the various provincial assemblies remained in constant communication with each other; a fact of great importance to the meeting itself. Shortly after this event, Mr. Itagaki returned from his European tour. It was generally expected that his return to the political arena would be productive of a beneficial change; however, he has returned to his native place without anything notable having occurred. The Liberals assailed the Liberal-Conservatives, and threw all sorts of opprobrious epithets into their teeth. This hasty proceeding brought great discredit upon the Liberal faction, while it materially obstructed the progress of politics.

With regard to Government administration as bearing upon external intercourse, nothing of note took place. The condition of the country in this respect remained as satisfactory as heretofore. Relations with Korea have become somewhat complicated in the last two years. The opium question and the unfortunate Nagasaki episode aroused considerable interest in political circles, but the most experienced diplomatists apprehended no difficulty in a pacific solution of the matter. We still await its settlement. The restoration of the Shimonoseki indemnity by the United States was of no little credit to the people of America, and is a kindness which will never be forgotten by Japan and its people. The public anxiously awaits the necessary appropriation of the refunded indemnity. Sir Harry Parkes was transferred to China after prolonged service in this country. H.I.M. Ministers were likewise transferred from one post to another. H.E. Ito's return from Europe gave rise to considerable speculation with regard to a probable change of the administration, but no alteration of importance has occurred. As regards the treaty revision, nothing of a definite character has transpired. Its stands evidently on a similar footing to that of foreign trade.

For the matter of education, the study of ethics has considerably increased. Confucianism and the doctrines of Mencius enjoy great popularity among certain classes. A strong tendency towards the German system of education has been noticeable. The English system, upon which our modern education is based, has so strong a hold upon the public that it is questionable whether the German system will ever exert a greater influence. National education is of the first importance, and demands the serious attention of those who are responsible for its progress. The Government has wisely engaged a foreign adviser to superintend educational matters. The riot at the university

was thought at first to be of grave import, and many promising students were expelled.¹ And certainly the new Conscription Regulations will materially obstruct the advance of education.

The commercial policy pursued by the Government during the past year has no features of immediate importance. It is a subject which demands the immediate attention of the authorities, as trade has come to a complete standstill. The issue of the Public Loan Bonds may, however, be due to a prospect of better times in the near future. Various notifications have been issued with respect to commerce and agriculture. Many of these were framed for the purpose of promoting the interests of the Nippon Bank and the *Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha*.

The modification of the regulations concerning provincial assemblies, and the establishment of the Toyama Prefecture, are noteworthy events in the record of provincial administration. Local expenditures have been skillfully curtailed. No serious misunderstandings have arisen between the local administration and assemblies, with the one exception of the Toyama Prefecture. In consequence of the depreciation of all commodities, a surplus has been produced in the local budgets, which may be appropriated to defraying the possible deficiencies in this year's taxes. The industries fostered under the auspices of local administrations have completely failed.

The military organization is undergoing a thorough revision, to its great improvement. The appropriations for the Army and Navy have been largely increased. New war vessels have either been purchased or are being constructed. Military service has been made compulsory, and it is to be hoped that our national well-being will profit thereby.

The prisons flourish rather too rankly just at present, owing to the increase of convicts in consequence of hard times. The Fukushima affair gave rise to great excitement throughout the empire; but the decision of the judges only echoed the popular verdict. We sincerely regret the occurrence of such a deplorable affair.

The death of H.E. Iwakura produced great changes in official circles. He was one of the best and wisest of our Ministers, whom the nation justly regarded as a pillar of the State.

The revision and alteration of the Press Laws have materially increased the burdens of the journalistic world. The issue of the *Official Gazette* (*Kwanpo*) has offered renewed facilities to journalistic enterprise.

The successful completion of the Tokiyo-Kumagai Railway has given considerable impetus to undertakings of a similar nature; and this fact, combined with the increased convenience of transport, has encouraged the Government to draw up plans for the construction of a railway between Tokiyo and Saikiyo (Kiyoto). A wonderful regeneration of the interior will be its certain result.

No ministerial changes of great importance have taken place. Among other associations, that of the traders' and manufacturers' has been fairly successful.

THE SECOND WEEK OF PRAYER.

JANUARY 13TH-20TH, 1884.

The Second Week of Prayer exceeded the first in point of interest on the part of those present, although the meetings were not nearly as largely attended as those of the first week. This was particularly the case with the attendance at the Foreign Meetings though the spirit of devotion perceptibly increased to the close. The sudden death of a well known citizen occurring under circumstances of special regret, added to the solemnity of the closing meetings of the Week. The Native Meetings opened with a 9 a.m. and a 7 p.m. service held in the Union Church on Monday, the 14th inst. These services, which lasted above two hours each, were largely attended and a remarkable spirit of prayer and of faith was manifested. The Pastor, Rev. Inagaki Akira, preached a suitable Sermon on John 5:25, "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." The Sermon was an earnest and instructive presentation of the truth that the word of Christ alone infused with the Spirit of God can speak dead sinners to life. This was typified in Christ's breathing upon his disciples and saying, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." The Sermon was followed by a meeting of another hour, filled with stirring addresses and earnest tender prayers. It seemed nearer akin to Pentecost than any previous meeting seen in Japan. The bright beautiful sunlight streaming in through the great East stained-glass window; the well filled seats of well-dressed males and females—of the latter, three Girl's schools were largely represented; the solemn hymns of praise; and above all, the thought of the many hundreds of their fellow Christian country-

men being assembled at the same hour all over the land on this first day of this Special Week of Prayer, and all seeking the renewal and enlargement of the revival of the past year, made all naturally feel that the day was one to be made memorable to Japan. The results of the morning meeting were not what many anticipated, particularly those who expected the Lord to show them great and mighty things that they had not yet known. The evening meeting proved more truly a blessing; the fervent prayers offered at the 5 p.m. Foreign Meeting for a special blessing upon the Pastors of the four Native Churches of this place were signally answered in their joy, and fervor, and zeal. After nearly all had withdrawn a few united in a thanksgiving that God had not disappointed his children's expectations. The Tuesday night meeting at the Ten-an-do Church, the Wednesday night meeting at the Woman's Union School, 212, Bluff; the Thursday night meeting at the Sumiyoshi-cho Church; the Friday night meeting at the Baptist Mission School; and the Saturday night meeting at the Ferris Seminary for Young Ladies, 178, Bluff, were all most interesting meetings. The addresses of the leaders, and the subjects discussed and prayers offered were all of a very instructive and profitable character. More earnest and edifying meetings it has scarcely been anyone's privilege to attend in this or any other land. A perfect unity of heart and an intensity of desire seemed to characterize all present. At one of the meetings a Pastor spoke of the conviction that some one had expressed that we should have a ten-fold greater blessing this year than we had last. He spoke of what that meant by reviewing the blessings of the past year, and alluding to those already experienced the beginning of this year. At the beginning of last year four persons began earnestly to pray for God's Spirit to be poured out upon themselves and others. Soon spiritual sleepers were aroused; backsliders were reclaimed; a great Spirit of unity arose between Christians of every name, and also between the foreign and native teachers. Then a readiness to suffer loss for Christ; the increased observance of the Sabbath, and of the study of the scripture; the many hundred of believers added to the Churches, 166 in Yokohama alone; the great advance towards full support of the native pastors, and self-support on part of nearly all native Churches; a new Christian Weekly; the increase of Christian literature; the devotion of time, money, and of believers' own persons to the Lord—all this had been enjoyed, and we were now to look for and confidently expect a ten-fold blessing. Very special prayer was made for the Spirit of God to be poured out on the Great Union meeting to be held at the *Meiji K'wai-do*, Tokiyo, on Thursday, at 2 p.m., January 17th. This prayer was signally answered both as regards the weather, the numbers assembled and the really great results of the meeting. The day proved most favorable, notwithstanding the appearance of a storm in the air, which fell the following night in snow to the depth of several inches. The meeting began promptly at 2 p.m. and lasted three hours, or to 5 p.m. The ground floor of the Hall was well filled: except a tier of seats in front of the platform every seat was occupied, and there were enough persons standing in the side aisles to have filled the vacant seats. Rev. Dr. Verbeck and Rev. H. Kozaki occupied the platform. Leading pastors and officers in the Churches of Tokiyo, with a considerable number of missionary gentlemen and ladies were observed in the audience. The girls of several schools with their lady teachers filled up the entire section of the Hall by the side of the organ brought there for the occasion. Another section was occupied by married or aged females. The remaining three sections of the Hall were occupied by men of middle age, the working force of the Tokiyo Churches. A spirit of solemnity seemed to rest upon the entire audience, unlike upon any other gathering we had ever observed in so public a place. The services were introduced by the Chairman Rev. Dr. Verbeck giving out the Hymn in Japanese:—"All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice," which, sung to the tune of Old Hundred, was rendered with great effect. The Chairman then read impressively the 8th Chapter of Romans from the Japanese New Testament, which was followed with prayer by the Rev. H. Kozaki. Addressing God, as the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob—the God of the Covenant, he thanked the Divine Majesty of Heaven and of Earth for our assembling together to-day, and for the Spiritual blessings, especially in the better comprehension of Spiritual truth, vouchsafed unto his children in Japan the past year. He then besought God for an enlarged outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon all preachers and Christian workers; upon Our Country; upon Our Rulers; and upon all the Churches in Tokiyo. He followed his prayer with a short address setting forth the object of to-day's meeting, viz., to seek the outpouring of God's Spirit upon all Japan. We

were encouraged to do this in view of the great blessing bestowed in the past year, and we should pray that it might be ten-fold greater this year. The past Week of Prayer had been attended with much blessing, but we could not feel satisfied therewith, and hence this Second Week of Prayer, and the Union Meeting of to-day. All which seemed to be of God's guidance, since very little consultation had been, or could have been held about it. The importance of the object of the Meeting, he said, could not be exaggerated. Without the help of God the Kingdom of Christ cannot be advanced among men—learning, wealth, political power were not enough. The Spirit of God now, as at the first, was the only agent who could quicken dead souls into life. No other helper was sufficient for the great task of converting the thirty-six millions of our people to Christ.

During the delivery of this address an alarm of fire in the vicinity, produced a little delay, but no disturbance, of the proceedings. The Chairman announced the locality of the fire, and suggested that anyone anxious for their own or others property should quietly withdraw, but that no apprehension was felt for the safety of the building wherein we were assembled. At this point several persons were disposed to go to the doors and windows to look, but the aged Minister Okuno arose and offered a prayer that God would stay the fire, spare the people the loss of their homes, and save the meeting from disturbance. This prayer had the effect of quieting apparently all hearts. The Chairman, nevertheless, appointed a Committee to go to the scene of the fire and report to the meeting, which they soon did; that while they were there, a cry arose, "the wind has changed!" and so there was no longer apprehension to be felt for the place where we were assembled. This report was followed by thanksgiving and a further prayer on the part of Rev. Okuno that God would speedily stay the fire for the people's sake. Not long after, a door-keeper announced the fire to be at an end. During the interval of these announcements prayer had been asked especially for a number of young men once professors of the Christian faith, preparing or prepared for the work of the Ministry, but who had turned aside and seemed in danger of losing their faith altogether, and also for a Christian professor, a Chinese scholar, who, report said, had joined some new sect of Buddhists. Two prayers followed these requests, one of which was made by the Rev. Inagaki of Yokohama. In remarks he thanked God for the freedom from alarm manifested at a meeting for prayer at Yokohama that day week, during a severe earthquake; and now again in the presence of fire in the Capital where fires are so terrible in their ravages. He also alluded to the remarks of the native Chairman of a ten-fold blessing to be expected the present year. He spoke of the removal of distrust from foreign and native brethren's hearts, of their unity and sympathy in work, of the great increase in Church membership and zeal on the part of former laborers, and that new laborers were coming forward. Notably among the latter was a judge in one of the provincial Courts, who had been several years past a zealous Christian, but with the New Year resolved upon a new consecration of himself to Christian work, and intends resigning his judicial functions to give himself entirely to Missionary work. He spoke also of the tidings from Sendai of the unity manifested in the meeting together of of the Churches there, and also of the Churches at Nagoya and other points in the interior, and of the greatly increased zeal and unity in the Churches of Tokiyo and of Yokohama, and in their good results. One of the latter, he mentioned, was of a young man, a weak believer, who had been shunning the military draft, now offering himself up and being willing to join the army, and seek to serve God there and anywhere as a Christian ought to do. The Japanese version of the Hymns, sung to the same tunes as in English, "Sweet hour of prayer," and "Nearer my God to thee," had been interspersed between addresses and prayers. Several prayers were offered by pastors of various Churches in Tokiyo, followed by a lad's confession in prayer of his great sinfulness. After this followed a prayer by an elder in one of the United Churches of Christ, in Tokiyo, that moved all hearts with its importunity and spirituality. The petitioner entreated most reverently and lovingly and earnestly for the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit upon all before we left that place. It was in such an earnest, effective strain that all seemed moved to the depth of their souls in its humble entreaties, and felt that prayer must stop where we had received so manifest a blessing. The Chairman called upon several persons to lead in prayer, who represented different Churches and denominations. Rev. Mr. Correll prefaced his prayer with some remarks on the prophecy in Isaiah of "beating their swords into plough shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks," being strikingly exemplified in the use made of this

Hall built but a few years ago to oppose Christianity now filled with Christian worshippers seeking the conversion of all Japan. The application of this text to the circumstances of the place in which we were met, sent a perceptible smile of approval of its appositeness to many countenances. He was followed in remarks by another calling attention to its further appositeness to the scene of confusion witnessed in this Hall the last time Christian services were held here—the interruption on the part of a class of hearers of the preaching service held under the auspices of the Biennial Synod of the United Japanese Church of Christ held there Nov. 20, 1883, and what was witnessed here to-day. Also to the further contrast this assembly of several hundred or a thousand persons assembled in the Meiji Kwaido, in the Capital of the Empire, presented to the score of persons assembled in a little school room in Yokohama, twelve years ago, during the first Japanese observance of the Week of Prayer when the windows of heaven were first opened, and the Spirit of God was first poured out upon Japan. Nor was this all: to-day in all parts of Japan from Sapporo in the North, to Kagoshima in the South; and from Sendai in the East, to Kanazawa in the West; thousands of Christians were assembled supplicating this one great blessing for Japan. We should have faith to believe these prayers were to be specially answered, and that the Saviour's instructions to Paul were applicable to us to-day, "Fear not, Paul, for I have much people in this City"; and that this should prove true not only of the Capital where we were now assembled but of the whole empire of Japan. After singing the hymn—"Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow," Mr. Tsuda arose and very feelingly addressed the audience. He thanked God for His great grace to Japan, and then traced some of the providential dealings in not only bringing the Gospel to Japan, but bringing it in at the right time. If God's Kingdom had come sooner how would it have been received while the *Daimio* were in power, and had absolute control of the lives of their subjects? They could, and would, have persecuted believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. But now, how changed! The Government has been consolidated, and extends to all classes of the people; is in no wise opposed to Christianity; while the Buddhist and Shinto priests have lost their power and the patronage of the Government to a very great extent. Then the course of studies in the schools is helpful to Christianity. This was just the time for Missionaries and the dissemination of the Gospel. Then the gracious baptism of the Spirit received last year will mark the year, *Meiji Jiu-roku-nen*, 1883, in the future Church History of Japan as the year when the Church first received the Holy Ghost in any considerable measure. As we think of the blessings already received, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to God. Our people also, high and low, are all anxiously inquiring for the Gospel. He then recounted some conversations he had with a gentleman in a position to know of the interest felt in the spread of Christianity on the part of some of the leaders in thought and in political affairs in Japan. One of these had expressed his astonishment, and apparent grief, that Protestant Christianity had not spread faster and had not made more converts. "Why are there not more?" he asked, "And why are they not more rapidly made?" The speaker also alluded to the prophecy of some one made last year, that in 16 years more Japan would be a Christian country; and now, also, that this year will be crowned with a ten-fold blessing above the year that is past. All this, he thought, was most probable, yet many would doubtless fall away and lose their faith. What we all needed was to have our bodies of sin destroyed; we all needed spiritual bodies, *i.e.* bodies filled with the Spirit of God. The old man should be crucified, and all evil removed—entirely given to Christ to destroy, and so have sin killed; and the grace of the Holy Ghost to come in and dwell in us as in a temple. Let us, then, in this most important time in all Japan's history, have our sins removed and have new hearts given us wherewith to serve God efficiently and acceptably. This address he followed in a humble prayer imploring the grace and strength we all so much need.

Other native brethren spoke of the need of Christ's prayer for the Unity and brotherly love of the disciples being fulfilled; also of the fulfilment of the promise in Is. 65:24, "And it shall come to pass that before they call I will answer; and while they are yet speaking I will hear." And yet, continued the speaker, the necessity and privilege of calling upon God continues, and it is the duty of all, especially of evangelists, to give themselves to the ministry of the word and to prayer. These remarks followed by prayers, led the Rev. Mr. Kozaki to call the attention of the meeting to the request first made for prayer for such as had turned back from the ministry and had lost faith; and he also re-

quested special prayer to be made for our esteemed and beloved Sovereign, His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, that he might become a worshipper of the true God, and lead his people into a knowledge of the Divine will; and that God would raise up zealous and intrepid Evangelists—men full of faith and of the Holy Ghost—like Paul, and like Luther, to save the millions of our people. For this nothing could take the Holy Spirit's place. Learning could not, eloquence could not, nor could anything else. It was the same power that was required now as at the first animated the early Christian Church and made it such a power in the earth. This address brought tears of hearty response to many eyes, and was followed by several earnest prayers for the objects suggested. As the hour for closing, 5 p.m., had arrived, the assembly was asked to unite in the Lord's Prayer, led by the Chairman. This was followed by singing the Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," after which, the Chairman, Rev. Dr. Verbeck, pronounced the Benediction, and this truly remarkable meeting was brought to a close. No one present could doubt that God himself had been in that assembly, in the name and person of His Son, through the presiding, controlling, and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, and all in answer to prayer.

The remaining meetings of this Second Week of Prayer at Yokohama were very interesting, and a number of important subjects were brought forward in the addresses of the leaders, and in the prayers of those present. Notably among these were prayers, with strong cryings and tears, not only, for kindred, but for certain sections of the country less accessible or hopeful for Missionary or Christian work than others. Kiushiu and the province of Mito were especially mentioned. Several items of encouragement were brought to knowledge in connection with these places. Special prayer was also offered for Yokohama, so exalted, like Capernaum, in privileges, and like it so in danger of destruction from want of improvement of the same.

The Services at the Union Church, both native and foreign, on the 20th inst., were of a very interesting character, and were more largely attended than ordinary Sabbath Services have ever before been known to be at that place, and as no special efforts had been put forth to increase the congregations it would appear to have been the result of prayer offered the past two weeks.

A SKETCH OF THE FISHERIES OF JAPAN.

BY NARINORI OKOSHI

(Member of the Japanese Consulate in London.)

At the Conference on Tuesday, October 23rd, 1883, at the International Fisheries Exhibition, Mr. Sonoda Kokichi occupied the Chair. He said it gives me much pleasure to introduce to you Mr. Okoshi, our lecturer, on this occasion. Before he proceeds to read his Paper, you will, perhaps allow me to make a few remarks. It was my intention to lay before you an official Paper in connection with the fishing industries of Japan. But I regret that, owing to the absence of any statistical information from my government on the subject, I have not been able to do so. My friend Mr. Okoshi, however, kindly undertook the task of preparing a Paper, which he will have the honour to read to you presently. But I must mention that, being left without such desirable information as I have stated, he has met with no small amount of difficulties. He has had to gather information from various semi-official sources, while he is not professionally connected with fishing industries. If you observe, therefore, any short-comings in his treatment of the present subject, I desire you to attribute them to the circumstances under which he has had to labour. If you find, on the other hand, anything interesting or valuable in his Paper, it would be a source of great satisfaction to him as well as to myself.

The lecturer said—It would be perhaps too audacious on my part to attempt to speak on this subject, which I have never made the particular object of my study, and with which I have never been connected, especially before such a select audience as this, and after many interesting Papers have been read by eminent specialists at this Conference. But at the same time, it would be a matter of great regret to lose this opportunity kindly afforded me, without showing you what deep interest Japan takes in this question, and what extensive fisheries she possesses. I am sorry to say, however, that for want of deeper knowledge, and of the materials which I could not obtain in London, I am not enabled to give you ample information upon Japanese fisheries, which embrace such a large field of investigation and require a

great deal of experience. No doubt many things will be left to be desired, and this I hope you will excuse. I shall try, nevertheless, to give you a general idea of our fisheries.

The geographical situation of Japan with respect to the continent of Asia is very similar to that of Great Britain to Europe. Our Empire consists of the mainland, Kiushiu, Shikoku, its northern provinces of Hokkaido or Yeso, the Kurile Islands, Okinawa, better known as Loo-choo, and the Bonnin archipelago in the south; it embraces an almost tropical zone of 24 degrees of latitude, and a glacial zone of 51 degrees. This peculiar situation of our country affords us most extensive fishing-grounds, and its variety of climate produces in the Japanese sea almost every sort of fish imaginable; while in the interior, which is traversed by many rivers and brooks, and interspersed with lakes, fresh-water fish is also abundantly found. Either on account of our geographical position, or from some other cause, the chief food of our people has been, and is still, fish, which in Japan is eaten as meat is in this country. Although the use of flesh-food was introduced by foreign intercourse, yet it has not, and I think will not, take entirely the place of fish; far from such being the case, only the better class of people can afford to live on meat. Hence it appears to me that there is a great difference in this respect between the people of Japan and those of this country; the difference is, that in Japan even the poorer class of people can live on fish, while fish is chiefly a luxury for the better class of the English community. Therefore it is needless to say that Japan takes a great interest in this question of fisheries, though it is a matter of regret that our section in the Exhibition is not so largely and well represented as might be desired.

I.—SEA-PRODUCE.

Our fishing-ground is estimated to contain over seven millions of cho, i.e. about eighteen millions of acres: compared to the cultivated land of about eleven millions of acres there is a difference of about seven millions of acres in favour of the sea; supposing one acre of land produces one ton of corn, a fishing-ground of the same extent should produce seventeen times as much, if it be properly worked. If such be really the case, Japan should produce tens of millions of tons of fish. Indeed, our fishing-ground not only produces fish, properly so-called, crustaceans and molluscs, but it also abounds in salt, also several kinds of sea-weeds, which are largely taken by our fishermen and consumed most extensively in Japan. According to the returns from the Imperial Statistical Bureau for 1879, the quantity of our sea-products was as follows:—

	KIN. ¹
Salt fish	13,297,054
Dried fish	4,713,868
Salted Sardines	31,752,119
Total	49,763,041

Hence it must be about fifty millions of pounds' weight. Salt was produced in that year to the amount of 4,848,199 koku,² being about twenty-seven million bushels.

The above statistics are exclusive of the products of Yeso and the Loo-choo Islands. The following table shows the quantity of sea-products of Yeso for the year 1878:—

	KOKU.	FISH.
Salmon	69,149	Each contain- ing 6,000 fish } = 41,489,400
Masu (Spring Salmon)	12,471	12,000 " } = 14,965,200
Cod fish	11,296	6,000 " } = 6,810,600
Herrings	515,481	
Sardines	180,171	63,265,200
Sea-weeds	60,615	
Bêche de mer	12,293	
Total	861,476	

While I was writing this Paper, a most interesting statement, showing the statistics of our sea-produce by diagrams and map, was received by the Japanese Consulate from our Department of Commerce and Agriculture.

From this document, which has been specially prepared for the National Fisheries Exhibition held in Tokio this year, it appears that Japan and Yeso, excluding other dependencies, produced in 1881:—

	KIN.
Salt	910,331,833
Dried fish	4,550,422
Salt fish	80,501,944
Dried Sardines	194,657,489
Dried Sea-ear	976,684
Dried Shrimps	3,373,999
Cuttle-fish	2,458,586
Bêche de mer	522,066
Colle Végétale	1,699,058

Exclusive of salt and sea-weed, the total quantity amounts in round numbers to two hundred and eighty seven millions. It must be borne in mind

that in this enormous amount of sea-produce, fish which is consumed fresh, and also fresh-water fish, are not included. As to the latter kind of fish, as well as those used for manure, their quantity must be enormous, considering fish is more eaten when fresh than in any other state. It seems difficult everywhere to obtain accurate statistics of fish consumed fresh; and there appears no return for it in Japan. If it could be ascertained, we should find that the quantity of fish we consume yearly is something fabulous. Take, for the sake of argument, the town of Tokio, containing about one million of souls, what will be the daily consumption of fish? Supposing, for instance, that one-half of its inhabitants being too poor to buy fish (although this might not be the case), lives on rice and vegetables only, and the other half lives upon fish and rice; supposing, again, each consumes half a pound of fresh fish every day, the daily consumption of fish in Tokio alone would be 25,000 lbs. We may infer from this what an enormous quantity of fish is supplied by the Japanese seas and rivers in a year to feed thirty-six millions of people. The total value of our sea-products is estimated at about thirty millions of yen.

At first sight this vastness of our fish-products seems too astounding, and it might be doubted whether the above statement might not be an imaginary conclusion; but when we find what is the real fishing power of Japan, this doubt will vanish away at once.

II.—FISHING POWER.

We find in the official return³ that the number of our fishermen (I presume that those who are employed in fishing, not being *bond fide* fishermen, also women and boys are included therein) is stated to be 1,530,795; fishing boats, 187,220; nets, 436,999. These 1,530,795 fishermen are distributed among 341,479 families, about five people on an average forming one family.

The number of British fishermen is estimated to be—

England	42,000
Scotland	48,000
Ireland	24,000
Total	114,000

EXPORT OF SEA-PRODUCTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES FOR THE YEAR 1880.

To	CUTTLEFISH.	SEAWEED.	DRIED SEA-EAR.	COLLE VÉGÉTALE.	BÊCHE DE MER.	SHELLS OF SEA-EAR.	OTHER ARTICLES.	TOTAL.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
China	647,761	696,735	261,799	286,838	234,015	5,608	207,423	2,340,179
England	—	—	—	2,575	—	99,464	3,238	105,277
France	—	—	—	910	—	2,525	5,760	9,195
America U.S.	621	6	957	578	—	6,723	1,669	10,554
India	5	—	3	856	—	—	—	864
Russia	—	1	—	—	—	—	749	750
Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
Australia	—	—	—	—	—	—	120	120
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	500	730	1,230
West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	33
Other Countries ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	19,958	19,964
Total	648,387	696,748	262,759	291,757	234,015	114,820	239,717	2,488,203

It will be seen from the above table that we exported to the value of 2,488,203 yen, and from this amount 2,349,199 yen were to meet the demand of China alone.

The following table shows our imports of sea-products from other countries for the same year:

	TORTOISE SHELLS.	CORALS.	OTHER ARTICLES.	TOTAL.
China	6,479	626	35,805	44,910
England	6,855	—	5,863	12,718
France	412	—	1,318	1,730
America, U.S.	157	—	853	1,010
India	75,050	100	12,054	87,814
Russia	—	—	2,410	2,410
Germany	875	—	1,613	2,488
Australia	243	—	—	243
Holland	1,299	—	—	1,299
Italy	—	124,797	124	124,921
West Indies	30,480	—	600	31,080
Other Countries ..	13	—	3,695	3,708
Total	122,564	126,822	64,945	314,331

It must be pointed out that we require very little importation of foreign sea-products. From the above table it will be seen that tortoise-shell and coral form the largest amount of the imports, and naturally enough the former is largely imported from India, and the latter from Italy. These two articles are used in Japan chiefly for ladies' hair ornaments.

Let us see what was the state of our exports to China alone, in the following six principal sea-products for the last three years:—

and the tonnage of fish caught in British water at 550,000, each fisherman catching about five tons of fish every year. Now, supposing one-third of 1,500,000 be *bond fide* fishermen, and each catches the same amount of fish as a British fisherman, they would catch 2,500,000 tons. I am sorry I am not enabled to state the economical condition of fishermen and the capital employed for fisheries in general, nor could I state the tonnage of the 187,220 fishing boats, without misleading the reader by rough calculation. However, the majority of those boats are Japanese junks, strongly built and not of very large dimensions, carrying from 5 to 12 persons; but some must be sailing boats of European build. This enormous amount of fish, shell-fish and sea-weeds captured by an army of fishermen, is for the most part consumed at home, but some is exported abroad.

III.—JAPANESE FOREIGN TRADE IN SEA-PRODUCE.

Our sea-products occupy one of the most important classes of our exports, and there is a prospect of great increase. The following figures show a remarkable development of this branch of industry.

EXTRACT FROM OUR IMPERIAL CUSTOMS RETURN.

Dried fish, sea-weeds, shells and fish oil, 14 different articles in all, exported to foreign countries.

QUANTITIES.	DECLARED VALUE.
1871.—19,547,000 Cty.	1,133,000 Yen.
1876.—28,668,000 Cty.	1,626,000 Yen.
Increase, 9,121,000 Cty.	Increase, 493,000 Yen.
1881.—40,007,000 Cty.	2,415,000 Yen.
Increase, 11,339,000 Cty.	Increase, 789,000 Yen.

It must be remarked that from 1871 to 1875, during 5 years, our exports in sea-products have increased about 46 per cent.; and from 1876 to 1881 during 5 years, 39 per cent. in quantity; and from 1871 to 1881, during 10 years, they have more than doubled, both in quantity and value.

	1880.	QUANTITY. CTY.	VALUE. YEN.
Dried Sea-ear	1,069,667	—	261,799
Dried Cuttle-fish	3,913,788	—	674,761
Bêche de mer	518,474	—	234,015
Colle Végétale	1,341,823	—	286,838
Sea-weeds	23,637,871	—	577,427
Do. cut	3,170,024	—	119,307
Total	33,388,857	—	2,127,147
1881.			
Dried Sea-ear	850,370	—	212,050
Dried Cuttle-fish	2,750,644	—	476,505
Bêche de mer	577,889	—	285,839
Colle Végétale	1,293,900	—	330,335
Sea-weeds	27,637,094	—	681,323
Do. Cut	4,212,021	—	158,499
Total	37,422,018	—	2,344,611
1882.			
Dried Sea-ear	1,064,109	—	283,385
Dried Cuttle-fish	3,724,488	—	645,227
Bêche de mer	661,849	—	271,648
Colle Végétale	758,936	—	206,616
Sea-weeds	22,831,872	—	408,279
Do. Cut	4,059,545	—	121,837
Total	32,100,799	—	1,946,992

IV.—FISH AND SHELL-FISH OF DIFFERENT KINDS FROM THOSE USUALLY EATEN IN ENGLAND.

Differences of the Japanese seas, and also differences of climate, may produce fish and shell-fish which are not seen in the English market, but which are consumed in Japan. Some perhaps may be caught in British seas, but are not used for eating purposes, as the taste and customs of the people are different. Again, the fish most

¹ One kin is equal to English lb. 1.33377.

² One koku is equal to about 5 bushels and half.

³ This statement, extracted from official returns, is found in the Keizai Zasshi (Japanese Economist) of June 9th, 1883.

recherché in Japan is not so in this country. The most common and largely consumed fish, called Maguro or tunny-fish, varying in size from 3 feet to 7 or 8 feet in length, is not seen in this country. Whether the British sea does not produce it, or it is not caught by fishermen, I do not know, but this fish is largely caught and consumed in my country. Although, I think, Octopus, Cuttle-fish, Sea-eels, and Bêche-de-mer may be found in British waters, they are not eaten in this country.

On the contrary, eating Cuttle-fish may be looked upon with horror by the people of London, while in Japan they are readily eaten. This point has been referred to by Mr. Henry Lee in his most elaborate paper entitled 'Sea Monsters Unmasked,' with illustrations of a Japanese fishmonger's shop, where a large cuttle-fish hangs down, with its feet touching the ground; in every Japanese fish shop indeed, this ugly looking animal is exhibited, his head hanging on a hook. Its size varies according to its species and locality, but a very large one is never eaten; it is generally eaten when from one foot to three feet in length in its normal state, that is to say, when it is uncooked, because once boiled, it shrinks to half its length, and gets stouter and its skin becomes of a dark-red colour. Cuttle-fish is eaten fresh, dried, or salted, but is generally consumed fresh. Again, sea-eel and bêche de mer are largely consumed fresh, but a great amount of them is dried and used for exportation to China, and the shells of sea-eel are now exported to Europe for the manufacture of buttons and other purposes. There are many varieties of shell-fish, families of molluscs, including oysters, lobsters, crabs, &c., which are eaten.

Among sea fish, the most esteemed in Japan are sea breams (*Chrysophrys major*), turbot and sole, and the family of tunny-fish called Katsuo, but smaller in size, varying from one to four feet in length. This last-named fish is most extensively taken, and consumed either fresh or dried. It is mostly caught in Shikoku; when dried, it may be kept for several years; it is this fish which is denominated in the statistics referred to before as dried fish (*Katsubushi*), the quantity of which amounts to about five millions of catties every year.

As to fresh-water fish, carp, eels, sly-silurus (*Namazu*), and Ayu of the smelt family are most *recherché*; while the consumption of eels which are caught either in the sea or in fresh water—fresh-water eels being preferred—must be something enormous, as in Tokio there are thousands of restaurants called Iel-houses, where this fish is principally served. Herrings and salmon are chiefly fished in Yezo, and dried or smoked on the spot, as the difficulty of transport to the capital prevents their being sent there fresh; hence, fresh salmon is very seldom seen in the market of Tokio. Sardines reach the capital fresh, and are consumed largely in that state; but not only are they sent dried, but they are also greatly used for manure.

As to the quantity of whales caught in Japanese waters, I am unable to give a statement, for want of information; not only is oil extracted from this fish, but its bones are used for different purposes; and it is also eaten in Japan when dried, although in small quantities, its taste rather resembling meat than fish.

Glue and wax, as exhibited in our Court in the Fisheries Exhibition, are also made from the skin and intestines of different fish, through chemical process. Besides all these and other kinds of fish, different sorts of sea-weeds are very largely consumed as eatables in Japan.

It will be of peculiar interest to know that there exists in our country a sea-fish called Fugu, belonging to the order of *Tetrodon*, which is generally known to be very poisonous. In some localities the sale of this fish is strictly prohibited but there are different kinds, some of which are said not to be poisonous. As this fish is of peculiarly pleasant taste, the lower class of people are often tempted to eat it. There is a proverb which says:—"Fugu wa Kui tashi Inochi wa oshishi" ("Great is the temptation to eat Fugu, but greater is the dread of losing life"). This shows how agreeable its taste is, and how poisonous it is to those who eat it.

V.—MODE OF FISHING.

Fish are caught either by nets, lines or other gear, according to their nature and kind. Nets are a little different, according to the localities where fishing is pursued. I shall endeavour to give some idea of the cod-fish, bream, mackerel fishing, and that of some other fish.

Nets are seldom used for catching cod; it is generally caught with lines. This fishery principally flourishes in the Northern sea, beginning from the 37th degree of latitude, therefore mostly on the coasts of the Island of Yezo, where generally five fishermen in a boat take with them 50 or 60 stout lines made with hemp each line being from 160 to 200 yards long. To each line about 50 branch lines are attached at the interval of every 5 feet,

and at the end of these, hooks are fixed: Lead is attached to both ends the lines, and 3 buoys are fixed to it. Sardines or herrings, fresh or salted, are used for bait. The cod-fishing season, though it varies according to localities, lasts generally from December to March. The time for fishing is generally from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., but this varies, of course, according to weather and tide. In the north the average quantity of one day's fishing is about 460 cod-fish per boat. In the Eastern sea the mode is a little different; it is conducted by 3 or 4 men in a boat, and the average fish caught is no more than 70 or 80 a day. Northern fishermen appear to be more skilful, in spite of rough and often stormy seas. I must not omit to mention that cuttle-fish is generally used for a bait for cod-fish in the Eastern fisheries.

Sea-bream is generally caught by trawl-nets, but line-fishing is nevertheless employed to some extent. The line for sea-bream is generally 2,000 yards in length, and at the distance of every 2 yards a branch line, 4 yards long, is attached with a hook at the end. It is thrown into the sea at sun-rise, with crabs or other molluscs for bait, and every 2 or 3 hours it is taken out.

As to the mackerel-fishing, it is pursued at night; a number of boats sail in the evening and anchor where it is likely mackerel would flock. The fishermen also attract them by the use of torches, and catch them by hand-lines, using for bait sardines, or some other small fresh fish.

The mode of catching the octopus is very curious. A long cord of several miles in length is laid at the bottom of the sea, and branch lines, one or two yards long, are attached at intervals of 2 yards; at the end of each line, old shells, or bamboo cut in the form of pots, are hung down. The octopus is generally attached to rocks or some other objects, in order to protect its soft head; so that it finds these pots a very comfortable home, and gets inside and holds them strongly with its feet. Generally the cords are left for 6 or 7 days, and then they are taken up with potsfull of octopus, which, being of a very timid nature, stick closely in them, believing that they are in the safest place. In this manner the small kind of this fish is caught on the south and east coasts of Japan.

Tunny fish, and katsuo of the same family, are taken by rod and line. The boats for catching the latter kind of fish are generally strongly built, and manned by 8 or 10 men. When attracted by fresh sardines thrown into the sea by fishermen, they flock in great quantities, and then they are caught with artificial fish as bait. It is said that this fish is so easily and extensively caught, that young fishermen even forget that the boat would sink from being overlaid with several tons of fish; there is therefore one old patron on board. When he thinks enough has been taken, he gives the order to his younger fellows to stop. Whale-fishing is performed with harpoons by numerous fishermen in several boats, pursuing the animal several miles off the coast. This mode of taking them seems to be general in the Japanese sea; but in Kagoshima, they pursue it into the bay, and then capture it with nets.

I am enabled to give the above statement concerning octopus and katsuo fishing, owing to the information kindly furnished me by Mr. K. Nabeshima, a student in London, who not only lived among the fisherfolk of Hizen, but is also himself a great fisherman.

As to the practice of throwing nets, which are known in Japan by the name of *To-Ami* and which, are very largely used either in sea or fresh-water fishing, I leave it to be explained by a most elaborately prepared note kindly furnished by Mr. K. Nabeshima, and which will be found in the Appendix. It may be worth mentioning that there exists in the eastern and southern coasts of Japan a class of women-divers, whose calling is to catch sea-weeds and shell-fish, especially sea-eel. Those who are familiar with Japanese pictures cannot help being struck with those representing beautiful women with red bathing-dresses, some diving into the rough sea and others coming out from the water, holding some shell-fish in their hands. But the women-divers actually engaged may not have such a mermaid-like beauty as represented in the pictures. However, their bravery and skill are very well known in Japan.

Those who have travelled in the interior, especially in Tokaido, may no doubt have remarked these divers; it is sometimes very amusing and refreshing after a fatiguing journey, to pass a couple of hours at the place where we alight on the sea-coast, looking at the divers, who will catch you shell-fish if you give them some recompense. At first, travellers are very much struck with the skill of these divers, who, according to the reward promised, bring shell-fish of different sizes. But they may discover afterwards that the divers had collected different sizes of shell-fish beforehand, and know very well what kind of these to choose, according to the amount of reward they should

receive. Though this is only for the pleasure of curious travellers, not the real calling of the professional divers, still this fact shows to what a large extent this diving class of fisheries is carried on in Japan.

As to the fresh-water fishing, rod and line, nets and different kinds of implements are used. Fresh-water fish culture has existed from olden times, and especially that of carp; fresh-water bream, oysters, and gold-fish have also been extensively cultivated. It was only some years ago that the special attention of the government, as well as that of private individuals, was directed to the importance of salmon culture, and that of some other fish; and new scientific methods have been applied to it, and appear to be very successful.

In order to show what pleasure we take in fishing, it will be as well to mention the existence of private fishing ponds, besides river fishery in Tokio. In the suburbs of the capital some private individuals cultivate different kinds of fish in their ponds, and sometimes each pond contains fish differing either in nature or size. Any one is permitted to fish in one of these ponds, on paying entrance fees for the hour or day. I am informed that in some places ponds are classified according to the amount and quality of fish they contain; the entrance fee differs according to this classification. Therefore any one who, however skilful he may be in fishing, hopes by paying a small fee to catch many big fish in one of these ponds is greatly mistaken, because in the inferior ponds only small and worthless fish are kept.

As to the hooks and nets, I may point out that our hooks, both small and large, have a very sharp barb (though some have not, according to the fish to be caught); it is difficult to ascertain when it was invented, but at any rate this would prove our skill in fishing industry to have existed from ancient times. Lines and nets which are made of hemp, or other strong coarse material (and sometimes of silk), are generally varnished with the juice extracted from unripe persimons (fruit called *kaki*), in order to give them strength, and the power of resisting water; English nets are usually tanned. It would be very interesting if, after a careful examination, this stuff should also be made use of in this country for preserving nets and lines; and on the other hand, if the persimon fruit were condensed by some chemical process, Japan could supply it easily for the use of the British fisheries, and a mutual advantage might be derived from the transaction.

Fish preserved in tin are principally prepared in Hokkaido (Yezo); some specimens, such as oiled sardines, preserved oysters and tunny-fish, are exhibited in our Court. This branch of industry, being introduced only a few years ago, may require some improvement in preparation, in order to be more in accordance with European taste; with such improvements Japan may be able to meet a demand for these articles from abroad.

VI.—FISH COOKERY.

Cookery of fish is almost an art in Japan; the way of cooking is manifold. It may be divided roughly into several classes:—1. Raw fish, which is subdivided into two; the first mode is raw fish, properly so-called, that is to say, the flesh of the fish is cut in thin slices and arranged on the plate very neatly in the form of waves, sometimes without taking the skin off the fish, according to its kind, and it is served with sauce (*shoyu*), mashed raw turnips, horse-radish, and generally some fresh vegetables cut in small pieces and seaweed. In the second mode it is called *Arai* (washed), because the flesh being cut in small slices, is washed with fresh water till it shrinks and gets harder. Sometimes two or three different sorts of different colours are arranged on the same plate, and divided into red and white, which gives them a beautiful appearance. 2. Grilled. 3. Stewed. 4. Grilled with sauce. 5. Grilled first and stewed afterwards. 6. Mashed and boiled, prepared like sausages, which has a different name, according to its divers forms and manner of preparation. The inferior kind is made of shark's flesh and that of some other fish; the most *recherché* is made with bream and lobster.

This general classification may be again subdivided into several modes; it may even be said that there are as many varieties of fish cooking as there are different kinds of fish; and it may seem almost inconceivable to the English mind, how neatly, prettily, and with what genius and excellent taste this branch of cookery is conducted in our country. Any one who has been present at a Japanese dinner cannot fail to be struck with the good arrangement with which the different kinds of dishes are prepared; a dozen dishes, almost all made of fish, are differently cooked and arranged with vegetables and accessories. Sometimes we are puzzled to guess with what sort of fish the dishes are prepared; and this shows by what ingenious

hands they have been composed. The dish most in vogue is composed of eels grilled with sauce. In England eels are cut in small pieces, and generally stewed or fried; but in Japan they are, while alive, cut into two along the back, but leaving the skin attached, and the bones are taken away, so as to leave skin and flesh, when they are prepared. With what quickness, skill and dexterity this part of their preparation is executed in the eel-houses is almost inconceivable. The man who does this work does no other part of the cooking; another man prepares them with bamboo skewers for being grilled; a third man does the next part of the work, and so forth; there is a real division of labour.

We must not omit to mention that a great quantity of fish and all kinds of molluscs are used for soup, and very often eaten with vinegar and some greens and sea-weeds. The most essential element of our cookery of either fish or vegetables is the sauce known here under the name of Japanese shoya, properly called *shoyu* which is extracted from beans and koji; hard dried fish is also greatly used. This dried fish is cut into small slices and used for the preparation of sauce, or put over shell-fish soured in vinegar. This gives such a flavour to the fresh fish and vegetables that its use becomes almost indispensable to our cookery.

It must not be supposed that fresh fish can be obtained, and consumed with equal facility in every part of Japan; some tracts being very mountainous, the inhabitants of this region in the remote part of the interior are far from seaports, and generally are a class of peasant farmers, who live on rice or other cereals and vegetables only, being deprived, through the difficulty of transport, of the means of procuring fresh fish. It is true there are railways, but only a few lines connect three chief towns with a few seaports. Fish transport is generally effected by water, and then by carts or men-carriers. In spite of these difficulties of transport, a large amount of fish is consumed generally, because in my opinion, (1) the Japanese seas abound in fish, (2) our fisher folks are very skilful in the fishing industry, (3) the process of drying and salting fish is well conducted, (4) the fish cooking art is so developed that those who can, depend upon fish only. This last case must not be overlooked, because a great demand for fish (besides its cheapness) depends on the taste and liking of the people. In England, fish is often boiled simply, which takes away the best part of its flavour, and with whatever well-prepared sauce it may be taken, it is not so delicious as when prepared otherwise. England, having inexhaustible sea-fishing ground, with 114,000 active British fishermen, and above all with good transport, is more advantageously placed than Japan, yet the consumption of fish is comparatively small. The chief cause of this (putting aside the dearth of fish and other causes) seems to me, the way of cooking, which it is so desirable to have improved so as to increase the demand of fish consumers, and it would be worth while to try to study the Japanese fish-cooking art, in order to adopt it in this country.

As to the case of Japan, a great many improvements in fish-culture, industry, and for the easier transport of fish may be required. When the great line of railway from the capital to the north, which is in the course of construction by a Japanese Company, is completed, it will, I am sure, give more facility for the transport of the sea-products of Yezo, and increase its fishing industry in no small degree. In conclusion, the best means to improve national fish-industry is by the way of exchanging different views and information through the channel afforded by the International Fisheries Exhibition, which will doubtless be for the benefit of every party interested in this branch of national and international wealth.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. WILMOT (Commissioner for Canada) moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Okoshi, for the very lucid and interesting Paper he had read, and which he was sure, when printed and circulated, would prove of very great benefit. It taught him, who lived at the antipodes almost of Japan, that they there had their ideas in regard to preserving, cooking, and utilising fish quite beyond the conception of Canada, or even England. The multitude of fish which were taken in the Japanese waters appeared to be very great, the population was very great, and consequently they wished to utilise fish in every way. He was somewhat amused to hear that they consumed the devil-fish, or cuttle-fish, which he was sure the people in this country or Canada would not think of touching. It was evident, however, that it was an article of food, and showed him that almost every description of animal extant in the waters was intended for the food of man, and it was only on account of prejudice that some kinds were not eaten. He had no doubt the time would come when it would be used elsewhere, especially after it was shown in this Paper

that it was a useful food. Another thing which struck him was that the females in Japan engaged in fishing operations; in this country when they went to the bathing ground in their bright-coloured dresses, it was more for the purpose of becoming fishers of men. If the Japanese custom were introduced here, no doubt many more fish would be taken.

Mr. J. B. BLOOMFIELD seconded the vote of thanks. He said that he, unfortunately, was an Irishman, and as such had a very doleful tale to tell when he came to think of the difference of civilisation between Japan and Ireland. This Paper said that in Japan the most was made already of one of the greatest gifts God had ever given to man, the great harvest of the sea, which took very little trouble on the part of either rulers or people to make the most of; but in his unfortunate country they had at present over 2,500 miles of unfished coast; and about 527,000 acres of inland waters which did not contribute, except the salmonidæ, a five-pound note in value to the national food. It appeared that the Japanese were so determined to get the fish, that they took the female sex into partnership in their efforts; but in Ireland many poor women during a great portion of last winter had to obtain sustenance for themselves and families from a kind of seaweed called *dilix*, which they found upon the rocks. He trusted that this glorious Exhibition, which had, by the friction of intellect, struck that spark which swept away many prejudices, would in the end bring all things to one common level of humanity throughout the world, and would then bring to his poor country some of the knowledge and some of the good results which must happen if only the present state of things in Japan was fairly considered. Many years ago, when he was in the Chinese seas, at the time England was guarded by wooden walls, it happened that a seventy-four ship was greatly infested with rats, and a grand rat-catching business took place, the rats were thrown overboard; but there was not a small boat within reach that did not cast off their anchors, and in a very short time the rats were devoured. Thousands of these Chinamen were now scattered all over the earth, so many were coming to some places that the law was stopping them. At that time he had never seen the Japanese; but in a very short time afterwards they saw that there was a necessity for them to learn of Western Europe, and at the same time it turned out that they had conferred great benefits upon Europe in their turn. The vote of thanks was carried unanimously, and briefly acknowledged by Mr. OKOSHI.

Mr. STUART LANE then moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman. He himself had had great personal relations with Japan, which made the country familiar and interesting to him, and he could assure them all that the more they studied it the more they would learn to admire it. There was great similarity between Japan and Great Britain, both countries being nearly in the same latitude, and having about the same acreage and population, and each country might learn a great deal from the other. The pleasure they had all experienced in listening to the lecturer must be one greatly enhanced by the fact of the meeting being presided over by a Japanese; probably it was the first time such a thing had happened, but he was sure it would not be the last, for when once the Japanese took a thing in hand they never left it until they made it successful. He had had the honour of knowing both the Chairman and the lecturer for some considerable time, but he might say that when he met the latter, four or five years ago, on his arrival from Japan, he could not speak one word of English.

Mr. BEADON seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding said they were all aware that Japan had adopted many branches of Western civilisation in addition to her own, which had existed for centuries, and that she had made of recent years very great progress. Since the present Government came to power it had been their earnest desire to promote, amongst other things, friendship with foreign nations, and with this object they had accredited their ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives to the various courts of the world; and when there was any undertaking of an international character, such as the present Exhibition, whether in Europe or in America, they never failed to take an active part in it. It was a source of great satisfaction to them that the courtesy and respect they had thus shown to foreign nations had been cordially reciprocated, and that they had received assurances of friendship in return; but there was one serious obstacle which had tended to check this friendship—he alluded to the great delay which had taken place in the negotiations for a revision of the treaties proposed by Japan some years ago. Those treaties were concluded between Japan and the foreign countries some twenty-five or thirty years ago under considerable external pressure, and when the Japanese negotia-

tors were totally ignorant of the commercial and other usages of Western countries. Treaties concluded under such circumstances naturally lacked that equitable character which was at all times so essential in any arrangement entered into between friendly powers. Japan in 1883 was very different to what she was thirty years ago, and the experience of thirty years amply showed that it was absolutely necessary to introduce certain modifications in the existing treaty arrangements. Those he was addressing might not attach much importance to this question, as it concerned a country so far distant, and no one not so thoroughly acquainted as he was with the general condition of Japan could properly estimate the serious difficulty occasioned by this disastrous delay in connection with the national finances and the attitude of the people towards foreigners. He sincerely hoped that the good feelings of the Western powers would induce them to recognise not only the necessity, but also the advantage of speedily bringing about a satisfactory conclusion of this question. In conclusion, he must say he regretted that Japan had not been able to take a more lively part in this Exhibition, but it so happened that they had a National Fisheries Exhibition in Japan this year, and naturally the Government had to give considerable attention and assistance to that, which had prevented their sending a larger quantity of specimens to England. Japan, as a great fish-eating country, had naturally done her utmost to develop the fishing industry, and he should not be exaggerating when he said that it had attained such an extent that 36,000,000 of people were to-day more or less dependent on fish as food; and had it not been for the coincident Exhibition held in Tokio, she would have been represented in the same grand manner as she had on previous occasions of a similar international character. At all events Japan had readily come forward to take part in this Exhibition, and had thus fulfilled her international obligations, at the same time showing her usual courtesy and respect to the British Government and British public.

APPENDIX A.

"93, TALBOT ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.,
"20th August, 1883.

"DEAR SIR,—In accordance with your request, I have much pleasure in furnishing you with a few notes on 'To-ami' (throwing-net), embracing a description of its mode of use, and an account of its construction. I also enclose herein a short Paper on 'Ahyu' and 'Namako,' fish which are much esteemed in our country. I beg to express the hope that these communications may be, in some way, serviceable to your purpose.—I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, K. NABESHIMA."

Among the many kinds of fishing appliances in Japan, the one called "To-ami" is probably the most novel to Europeans, and at the same time, the most interesting to the Japanese.

"To-ami," as above translated, is a throwing-net, and its structure may be thus described.

The net and size of its mesh varies in magnitude, according to the size and nature of the fish to be caught, and the locality where it may be used. Its length varies from 5 to 7 yards, and it is conical in shape, becoming larger and larger from the apex downwards to the foot; where, when fully extended, it measures from 7 to 9 yards in diameter.

To the top of this cone-shaped net is tied a "hand rope," about 6 or 8 yards, having at the other end a loop.

At the foot of the net is attached all round the extremity, a strong "foot-rope," or "ground-rope," to which numerous metal weights, as sinkers, of peculiar shape, named "iwa," are fastened.

These sinkers are made of a mixture of lead and tin. In shape they resemble the handle of an ordinary travelling trunk, having a hole at each end, through which the "foot-rope" is passed at intervals equal to their own length, generally from 2½ to 3 inches.

The edge of the foot of the net is then doubled or folded inwards upon itself—on the side opposite to that of the rope tied to the apex of the cone—to the extent of about one-tenth of the length, and is then fastened to the meshes all round, at intervals of from 20 to 30 meshes, according to the size of the net.

The effect of this is to make a kind of continuous sack or bag termed "Tana" all round the inside of the net. The *modus operandi* may be described as follows:—

The fisherman standing up in the bow of his boat first makes a running knot with the loop, which he secures round his left wrist.

With his right hand he then coils the rope into his left, until the upper portion of the net is drawn into his grasp, leaving about a yard or more hanging down. He then passes a part of the latter over the left elbow, maintaining it there by keeping his arm at right angles to his side, and so allowing the net to swing in a pendent form.

Then, gathering into the grasp of the right hand about half of the remainder, he swings the whole to and for, to give it impetus, and dexterously throws it some 8 or 10 yards in front of his boat, in such a manner that it is extended into a complete circle when it falls into the water, where it quickly sinks in its regular cone like shape to the bottom.

After it has remained there a few seconds, the line is pulled gently in different directions, so that the weighted portions trail along the ground and approach each other, until the net is gradually and finally closed (great care being observed that no outlet of escape is afforded between the ground and the sinkers). The fish which may be enveloped in the toils endeavour to escape, and as openings of the "Tana" appear to them to be loopholes for this purpose, they eagerly enter them, and are effectually confined. The net is then drawn up slowly from the ground, until it hangs perpendicularly: and as the sinkers now almost cling together, all egress from the sack is thoroughly barred. The fisherman gradually hauls it up, and as the "Tana" begins to approach the surface, he rapidly but gently swings it with its piscine contents into the boat.

The method of constructing this net presents some difficulty, as it must be cone-shaped. The knot which unites the meshes is not the "hitch-knot," which is prevalent in Europe, but the "reef-knot," which is particularly suited to nets of this description.

The process of netting is generally commenced from the lower part, or the "foot" of the net. The number of meshes in the first row varies from about four hundred to seven or eight hundred, and the size of each mesh varies inversely to its number. The greater the size of mesh, the less its number, and *vice versa*. For instance, to construct the "To-ami" for catching mullet, suppose the number of meshes in the first row to be 400, and the size of each mesh to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch square (using a flat spool of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width); well then, this row of 400 meshes must be continued successively 25 times; the 26th row must be lessened by 16 meshes, by attaching two meshes together at the intervals of every 25 meshes in that row.

Now there will remain 384 meshes, which, being netted again successively 15 times, must again be decreased by 19, by attaching 2 meshes together as before, at the intervals of every 20 meshes in that row. This process will be best shown in the following scheme.

THE SCHEME OF CALCULATION.

Part.	Number of Meshes.	Decrease of Meshes.	Number of Rows.	Size of Flat Spool.	Feet.	Inches.
1	400	16	25	$1\frac{1}{2}$	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$
2	384	19	15	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	$10\frac{1}{2}$
3	365	18	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	3
4	347	17	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	3
5	330	16	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
6	314	17	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
7	297	16	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
8	281	15	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
9	266	16	7	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$10\frac{1}{2}$
10	250	17	6	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	9
11	233	16	6	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	9
12	217	16	6	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	9
13	201	16	5	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$7\frac{1}{2}$
14	185	16	4	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	6
15	169	16	4	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	6
16	153	19	4	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	6
17	134	22	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$4\frac{1}{2}$
18	112	19	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$4\frac{1}{2}$
19	93	23	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$4\frac{1}{2}$
20	70	23	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	3
21	47	15	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	3
22	32	2	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	3
23	30	—	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Total	—	—	152	—	10	0

Nets in Japan are dipped in shibu (the juice of unripe persimon fruit). In my humble opinion they are by this process rendered, for several reasons, far superior to those which in Europe are subjected to that of tanning. For instance, the treatment with shibu produces a greater amount of stiffness in nets and prevents their tendency to swell when in the water, thereby ensuring a great rapidity of sinking. Moreover, as a preservative from decay and the bad effect of salt-water, this treatment is invaluable.

"AHYU."

The fish called "Ahyu" possesses some very peculiar characteristics. It varies in size from about 6 to 12 inches, and inhabits fresh and rapid streams, having a nature like that of the salmon in making its way up to the highest sources of the rivers in the spring, and betaking itself in the autumn to the estuaries to spawn. Strange to say, the parent fish, after depositing its ova, disappears, most probably dying. Hence it is sometimes called the "one-year-fish." When taken from the water, it does not at all emit a fish-like odour, but a smell remarkably resembling that of the cucumber. It is not tenacious of life when taken out of water; indeed, the slightest handling is immediately fatal to it. Its flesh is held in the highest estimation, and is considered the most delicately flavoured of all river fish. Its scales are

almost invisible, and the body resembles the European smelt. Its lips are somewhat thick, being either golden or silver in hue, those of the former colour being most esteemed. It rapidly deteriorates in flavour, and cannot be conveyed far in a fresh and proper state. Hence it is somewhat expensive.

Three modes of taking "Ahyu" are in vogue, which we may thus specify:

Firstly: the "To-ami" or "Throwing-net" (as above described) is most successfully practised.

Secondly: cormorants are used. This plan is too well known to need any explanation.

Thirdly: the fish are captured in a species of trap, termed "Yana," during the autumn, when they are migrating downwards in large numbers to the estuaries for spawning. This method will need some elucidation.

At a convenient place the river is dammed by two structures composed of fascines and stones, running from the banks at opposite points towards the middle, at an obtuse angle down the stream, without meeting, but leaving a space of 4 to 5 yards, through which the current is forced to run at a high speed. In this narrow passage is fixed a contrivance composed of a large number of bamboos, not bound together quite closely, but connected so as to fill this narrow space, diagonally tilted downward towards the stream in such a manner that, while it receives the rapid fall of water, it, at the same time, detains the fish, the water escaping through the interstices between the bamboos, which, however, are not large enough to allow the fish to pass through. In this manner enormous quantities are caught during the season.

"NAMAKO."—(BÊCHE DE MER).

Namako, in the French language termed "Bêche de mer," somewhat resembles in shape the half of a melon cut lengthwise. It is styled in the reports of the Japanese Customs "Kinko"—the name given to it when dried—and is exported to some

foreign countries. Its colour is greenish-gray, dotted with raised spots of light yellow, which colour also pervades underneath, where it attaches itself to the rocks or stones. It is eyeless, and boneless, its digestive organs being very small. It is found on various parts of the coasts, and is much sought for as an article of food. Its usual size, when quiescent and not extended, is 6 to 12 inches in length, its general breadth being about 2 to 4 inches. It is capable of elongating and contracting itself at pleasure. To ensure the capture of "Namako," calm weather and clear water are essential, so that the fisherman, as he slowly and quietly paddles here and there, may discern the object of his search at the bottom. Armed with a long bamboo rod from 18 to 24 feet long, which is tipped at the extremity with an iron-barbed spear-head, he leans over the gunwale of his boat, closely peering and prying down into the clear water with keen and practised eye. When he discovers the fish, he proceeds forthwith to spear and secure it. To assist his power of vision, he adopts a peculiar expedient. He has, in the boat, a tiny vessel containing oil, from which he takes, from time to time, a small quantity, and drops it on the surface of the sea. This arrangement enables him to see the bottom so clearly, that he has little difficulty in spying down with success, even when the water is somewhat deep. The fish is generally eaten uncooked, cut into thin slices, with vinegar. In a dry and prepared state it is conveyed into the interior or is exported.

This fish has an excessively strong antipathy to rice-straw, so much so that the fish actually dissolves into a liquid if it should come in close proximity to it, just as a piece of ice melts under the influence of the sun. Sometimes disagreeable effects are produced by too free an indulgence in partaking of "Namako," and to counteract these symptoms the liquor in which some rice-straw has been boiled proves an effectual antidote.

APPENDIX B.

TABLE SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF SEA-PRODUCE OF EACH PROVINCE OF THE JAPANESE EMPIRE FOR THE YEAR 1881.

NAME OF THE PROVINCES.	SALT.	KATSU BUSHI, OR HARD DR'g FISH.	DRIED FISH.	DRIED SARDINES.	DRIED SEA-EAR.	DRIED SHRIMPS.	CUTTLE-FISH.	BÊCHE DE MER.	COLLE VÉGÉTALE.
Izumi	—	—	224,750	15,000	—	—	—	—	—
Issé	2,338,864	71,344	84,127	498,500	—	281	285	2,490	15,710
Shima	—	56,710	561,920	3,244	3,010	91,324	—	170,179	521,862
Owari	419,663	—	8,605	—	—	20,790	—	8,888	—
Mikawa	14,207,038	—	323,800	2,265,152	—	1,123	—	3,984	—
Totomi	1,678,661	231,845	8,800	1,271,975	1,000	4,100	—	—	—
Suruga	1,222,322	43,353	80,046	13,750	492	—	—	—	—
Izu	—	135,516	335,720	5,320	639	—	28,360	—	491,950
Sagami	88,313	—	316,930	—	—	—	—	—	—
Musashi	1,068,503	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Awa	—	79,538	5,260,400	2,253,506	54,970	—	—	—	151,008
Kazusa	304,808	73,358	1,712,075	20,083,580	105,955	—	—	—	312,010
Shimosa	8,778,663	38,125	—	4,079,943	—	7,831	—	—	—
Hitachi	349,682	75,832	173,796	6,970,844	8,000	208,688	—	—	450
Omi	—	—	—	—	—	1,250	—	—	—
Shinano	—	—	—	—	—	4,958	—	—	—
Iwaki	4,586,977	108,365	144,000	331,261	14,140	50	128,372	29,956	430
Rikusen	15,597,394	538,380	89,840	5,141	99,981	—	89,688	1,500	4,270
Rikuchiu	5,743,578	23,307	86,397	4,000	52,437	—	28,211	4,354	—
Mutsu	—	—	—	—	49,627	—	—	—	263
Ouzen	—	—	—	32,600	—	—	—	—	10,018
Ougo	395,587	—	—	720,417	—	—	—	—	150
Wakasa	109,977	10,563	248,413	304,638	25,800	—	15,363	6,386	5,317
Echizen	565,201	—	49,688	10,938	—	12,063	45,850	395	—
Kaga	846,688	—	440,117	—	—	—	1,200	—	—
Noto	34,158,135	—	228,775	—	12,125	—	121,525	19,893	6,320
Echii	—	—	1,122,645	—	—	—	45,960	—	4,050
Echigo	662,128	400	2,071,883	2,619,706	2,086	19,350	8,240	—	—
Sado	164,883	50	194,864	49,929	5,036	136	—	876	—
Iwano	327,015	—	307,945	22,887	—	—	1,281	1,630	—
Inaba	69,023	—	—	1,875	—	—	659,400	—	6,655
Hoki	—	—	—	17,100	—	—	—	—	—
Izumo	2,909	75	210,893	48,061	—	23,225	4,258	82	3,691
Iwami	—	—	60,691	994,852	2,831	—	17,836	—	2,082
Sanuki	—	—	—	338,000	5,466	—	248,117	2,751	802
Harima	182,798,139	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bizen	65,694,628	—	412	—	—	81,260	—	3,880	—
Bichiu	6,303,294	—	500	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bingo	42,932,810	—	161,350	—	—	2,431,865	—	—	—
Aki	71,748,077	—	96,753	4,869	—	334,000	—	4,568	—
Suō	118,904,727	—	—	674,481	—	318	3,152	8,618	—
Nagato	19,066,579	—	—	142,420	10,495	55	41,608	2,935	694
Kii	1,190,756	503,190	3,131,842	6,560	80	—	8,248	—	257,100
Awa	38,880,313	77,591	—	—	—	—	—	555	—
Sanuki	106,662,071	—	19,901	60,000	—	—	—	2,205	—
Iyo	54,725,980	10,445	79,998	12,623,710	4,160	12,734	55,266	43,760	56,832
Tossa	3,655,381	1,536,954	—	258,425	13,045	—	19,733	53	43,129
Tikuzen	10,237,004	—	8,800	55,900	2,720	—	7,390	125	1,694
Buzen	7,129,972	—	2,250	13,500	—	12,720	—	945	—
Bungo	10,868,854	30,400	2,658,271	8,398,589	2,550	400	43,543	1,019	—
Hizen	7,112,175	374,239	131,005	3,369,487	20,601	30,700	299,104	17,558	24,643
Higo	50,195,827	27,000	—	320,000	1,900	74,384	50,110	—	—
Hi-ouga	157,481	189,481	2,128,500	394,495	80	—	850	—	2,255
Osumi	5,576,930	25,350	9,600	38,800	—	—	1,890	—	2,952
Satsuma	6,413,913	287,956	9,788	120,445	10	400	23,380	—	47,384
Iki	—	—	—	44,200	10,520	—	145,500	4,070	436
Tsushima	—	1,025	89,370	55,240	2,011	—	72,431	2,810	3,811
Hakodate—Ken	—	—	28,134,803	32,563,154	63,499	—	239,190	27,226	—
Sapporo—Ken	—	—	29,550,856	85,404,446	399,918	—	3,395	143,301	—
Nemuro—Ken	—	—	—	7,146,546	—	—	—	5,568	—
Total Cattles or Kin	910,331,833	4,550,422	80,561,944	194,657,489	976,684	3,373,999	2,458,586	522,066	1,699,058

N.B.—In case of three provinces of Yezo, viz.: Hakodate, Sapporo, and Nemuro, dried fish means Herrings, and under the head of Dried Sardines, Dried Herrings are included—a Catty or Kin is equal to 1.32377 lbs. English.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hongkong, January 19th.

The steamship *Hwai-yuen* has been lost at a place called Yuesan, on December 29th, together with over 200 Chinese and six or seven Europeans and fifty thousand dollars in specie. The vessel struck and sank so rapidly that only two lifeboats could be got out; one of these capsized. Only five Chinese were saved.

London, January 19th.

"CHINESE" GORDON FOR THE SOUDAN.

Major-General Charles George Gordon, C.B., has started for Egypt on a special mission, which he has accepted on the condition that he shall only be responsible to the British Government.

London, January 22nd.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Baker Pasha has held successful parleys with the Sheiks around Suakin, and several of them have come in.

London, January 23rd.

AFFAIRS IN MADAGASCAR.

At the coronation of the Queen of Madagascar, the Premier most explicitly declared that they would not yield an inch of territory to the French.

MORE REINFORCEMENTS FOR TONQUIN.

Further reinforcements are to start immediately for Tonquin.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Cairo, 13th January.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS IN EGYPT.

Colonel Moncrieff has been appointed Under Secretary to the Egyptian Minister of Public Works, replacing a Frenchman who held the appointment before.

[FROM THE "SAIGON INDEPENDANT."]

Paris, 8th January.

THE CAMBODIA CONVENTION.

The Cambodia Convention has been ratified by the President of the Republic.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Jan. 31st.
Kobe }
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Friday, Feb. 1st.*
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Feb. 11th.†
From America ... per P. M. Co. Thursday, Feb. 14th.‡

* *Khiwa* left Hongkong on January 24th. The *Benalder* (with English mail) left Hongkong on January 23rd. † *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 15th. ‡ *City of Tokio* left San Francisco on January 24th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 30th.
Nagasaki }
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Feb. 2nd.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Feb. 3rd.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Feb. 9th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

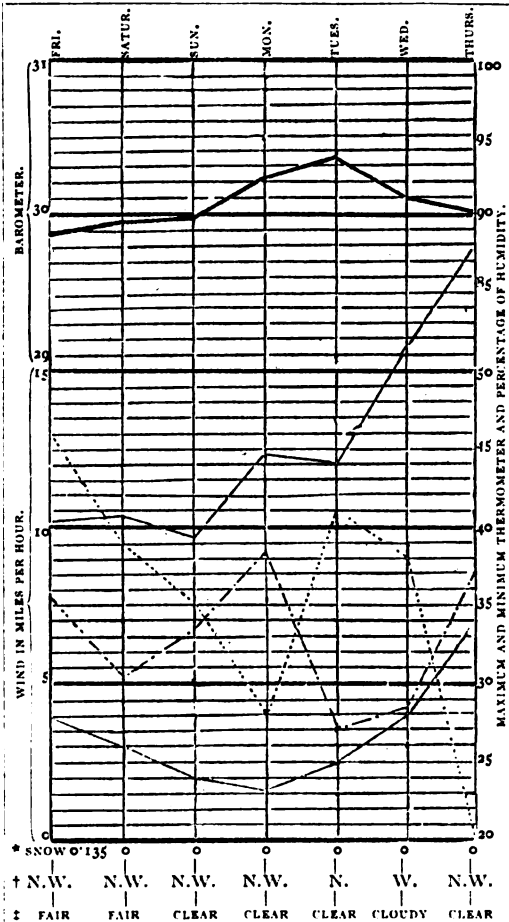
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 20.5 miles per hour on Thursday at 11 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.333 inches on Tuesday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.801 inches on Friday at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 58.0 on Thursday, and the lowest was 23.3 on Monday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 56.0 and 22.0 respectively.
The total amount of snow (melted) for the week was 0.135 inches, against 0.106 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.65; First-class, yen 1.58; Third-class, sen 79.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

TIME-GUN.

A time-gun is fired every Saturday from one of the Messageries Maritimes steamers at Noon.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

General Oyama will give a farewell banquet, at the *Rokumei-kwan*, to his colleagues and foreigners of distinction, on the 28th instant, prior to his departure for Europe.

Mr. Koike, Chief Paymaster of the Army; Majors Shimidzu, Kosaka, Murai, and Yabuki; and Lieutenant-Majors Nojima, Ichichi, and Harata, have been ordered to accompany General Oyama. They will leave for Europe about the middle of February next.

The law students of the Judicial Department who were about to graduate numbered one hundred at the outset. Owing to various causes, this number has decreased to thirty. Four of them, having developed a talent for legal science, will be sent to Europe in order to complete their education. 2,129 cases were tried during the course of last year at the *Koso Saibansho* (Court of Appeal). Twenty-one of these cases are still pending.

A quay is to be built in Shinagawa Bay, close to the second battery. The cost is estimated at 35,000 yen.

The *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun* will shortly reappear upon the journalistic stage, the plant and machinery having been put in thorough order.

General Oyama and suite will spend one year in Europe. The expenses are estimated at 30,000 yen.

The Government intends completing the Naka-sendo Railway within the space of four years.

The monthly meeting of the *Dai Nippon Shiritsu Yei-seikwai* (Private Sanitary Association of Japan) will take place at the Meiji Kwaido on the 26th inst.

A Chinese pedlar was arrested at Kanagawa for swindling a countryman. He was handed over to the Chinese Consulate for punishment.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

There are twenty-one thousand and two head of cattle in the Riukiu Islands. They are in excellent condition and yield rich milk. Many are employed for agricultural purposes. Prices range from 18 yen to 22 yen. The number of cows butchered annually averages 586, and meat costs about 13 sen per pound. The horses number 12,574, the majority being employed by farmers and husbandmen. Their prices range from 20 to 30 yen, but good, useful hacks fetch 50 to 200 yen. The goats number 33,405, their meat bringing 15 sen per pound. Besides these, there are 61,614 swine; about 20,000 are slaughtered annually, pork costing about 7 sen per pound.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

Mr. Mori, Minister to Great Britain, will return to Japan *via* Germany.

The nobility have forwarded a memorial to the authorities urging the construction of a national constitution on the basis of that of Great Britain.

An international botanical exhibition will be held in Russia. H.E. Hanabusa has communicated with the Government with regard to sending a special commission thither.

An American resident in Tsukiji subscribed 50 yen in aid of the sufferers from the fire at Kobiki-cho.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

The Sulphuric Acid Manufactory at Mita, Seishu, is doing a thriving business, having extended its exportations to Germany, China, and other foreign countries. The shareholders held a general meeting last week, in order to consider the establishment of branch offices and the further extension of the trade.—*Choya Shimbun*.

It is reported that some wealthy merchants in Washington, U.S.A., intend opening an international dendrological exhibition in that city, and will invite foreign Governments to exhibit. The Japanese Government is said to have already been asked to contribute.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Guiding Star, British bark, 312, H. Schnitger, 19th January,—Takao 2nd January, 7,400 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 21st January,—Kobe 18th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 21st January,—Handa 19th January, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 21st January,—Handa 18th January, General.—Handasha.

Ingo, German steamer, 678, Jesselsen, 21st January,—Nagasaki 18th January, Coals.—A. Center.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 22nd January,—Toba 18th January, General.—Yamamoto Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 22nd January,—Shimidzu 20th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,000, A. W. S. Thomson, 23rd January,—London 17th November and Hongkong 12th January, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 23rd January,—Kobe 22nd January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Benois, 23rd January,—Hongkong 16th January, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 23rd January,—Yokkaichi 21st January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 24th January,—Handa 21st January, General.—Handasha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 24th January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 24th January,—Kobe 22nd January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 25th January,—Yokkaichi 21st January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 25th January,—Hakodate 21st and Oginohama 23rd January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 648, Thomas, 25th January,—Hachinohe 23rd January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, J. Adair, 25th January,—Kobe 23rd January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 26th January,—Yokkaichi 23rd January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 26th January,—Kobe 24th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 26th January,—Shimidzu 23rd January, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsmoto, 26th January,—Yokkaichi 24th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Lord of the Isles, British steamer, 1,586, John E. Felgate, 19th January,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 27,87, W. G. Pearne, 19th January,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 20th January,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 20th January,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Dsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 21st January,—Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisan Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 21st January,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 21st January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 22nd January,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 22nd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, Hussey, 22nd January,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 23rd January,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 23rd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 23rd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ingo, German steamer, 678, Jesselsen, 23rd January,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 23rd January,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 23rd January,—Fukuda, General.—Handasha.

Seho Maru, Japanese steamer, 319, Yamamoto, 23rd January,—Nagoya, General.—Matsushima.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,200, J. E. Kilgour, 23rd January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, MacFarlane, 24rd January,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 24th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 24th January,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 666, Carrew, 24th January,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 25th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Cross Hill, British bark, 1,019, J. Smith, 25th January,—New York via Kobe, General.—H. MacArthur.

Iceberg, American ship, 1,135, A. L. Carver, 25th January,—Cebu (Philippines), General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 25th January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsusai Maru, Japanese steamer, 432, Toyama, 25th January,—Miyako, General.—Unsosha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 26th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 26th January,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Klemnoff and Popp in cabin; and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—1 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Handa:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Hakodate via Hachinohe:—General Nagayama and suite, and Mr. Sonoda in cabin; and 15 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Ingo*, from Nagasaki:—1 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seikai Maru*, from Toba:—10 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—4 Japanese in cabin; and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Retz and 2 children, Miss Shrock, Messrs. Richter, De la Hault, Lazareth de Hülfe, Haraki Heizayemon, and Chinn Yuen in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—14 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Lieutenant Field, U.S.N., Master Hachisuka, Captain Creighton, Messrs. M. Fitzgerald, E. M. Sang, H. MacGregor, Ishiwaru, Kurosaki, Kitabatake, Nose, Horiguchi, Arakawa, Hamada, Imai, Miyagi, Yamakawa, Yonechi, Betsugaku, and Ogata in cabin; and 1 European, 1 Chinese, and 147 Japanese in steerage.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, from Kobe:—6 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—13 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. Henderson and 10 Japanese in cabin; and 94 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hachinohe:—4 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—14 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Klien and 2 Japanese in cabin; and 62 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain Fletcher in cabin; and 25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Shimidzu:—2 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—94 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. J. Doyle and 3 children, Messrs. Jos. L. Mayer and T. Sameshima in cabin; and 4 Europeans and 84 Chinese in steerage. For New York:—Mr. John Middleton in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. Sakuragi and Midou in cabin; and 42 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, for Hakodate:—5 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Nakagawa, Colonel Kuroda, Colonel Ota, Colonel Makino, Messrs. E. Pope, Ichanger H. Kothari, M. Willett, R. Kirby, R. S. Schwabe, W. Yooman, E. Batabus, Sato, Watanabe, Niiyama, Gotsugi, Ayanokoji (2), Y. Hasegawa, Kawasaki, Nakaya, K. Watanabe, and Nagasaki in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—35 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamaura Maru*, for Oginohama:—9 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kamtchatka*, for Kobe:—8 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. Deryke and servant, Messrs. R. Mankin, W. Smith, L. Deistel, U.S.N., Sharffe, Frank, O. A. Kleinwort, and H. MacGregor in cabin; and 7 U.S. seamen, 12 Japanese, and 1 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	100	50	72	222
Nagasaki	—	—	123	123
Hiogo	632	766	1,502	2,900
Yokohama	840	2,515	1,971	5,326
Total	1,572	3,331	3,668	8,571

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	47	—	47
Hongkong	—	124	—	124
Yokohama	—	171	—	171
Total	—	342	—	342

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—4,162 packages.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for London, 73 bales; for France, 194 bales; for Italy, 29 bales; Total, 296 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 18th January, at 5.10 p.m. with fresh west wind and clear weather to Vries Islands; thence to port brisk north gale and occasional squalls. Passage 31½ hours. On the 19th January, passed the French Mail steamer *Volga*, 80 miles from Yokohama steering east.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The depressed feeling that prevailed in the Market for a considerable time prior to the end of last year, seems now to have passed away, and business has assumed a much more cheerful aspect in all branches of the trade; this, coupled with the advance in home prices of manufactures, has enabled holders to realize better prices for most articles.

COTTON YARN has, during the past fortnight, been steadily improving in demand; fair sales of 16/24s have been made at advancing prices, and quotations are fully 50 cents per picul higher; 28/32s, though to a less extent, are also higher, but 38/42s and 2-fold Yarns have not been affected. Bombays have been sold to a rather large extent, and prices for certain spinnings have advanced \$1 per picul.

GREY GOODS.—Transactions have been limited, but prices are firmer for all makes.

FANCY GOODS.—There has been a continued steady demand at full prices, and fair sales have been reported of Mousselines de Laine, Italians, Turkey Reds, and Velvets.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$25.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.75 to 29.75
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.50 to 33.00
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9½ lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.75 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER PICUL.
Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½ lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Business has improved in this staple during the past week, sales having amounted to 50,000 cases, and deliveries to 28,000 cases. Prices have advanced, and holders are firm for still higher rates. We quote:—

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.77
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.65

SUGAR.

But a small business doing in Sugar, and no alterations can be made in quotations. No revival in the trade can be looked for till after the Chinese New Year, by which time some of the new crop of Formosas will have probably come to hand.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was issued on the 17th instant, since which date we have had but a small business in this article, the recorded Settlements being not more than 250 piculs. Arrivals have again been small, some withdrawals from the Market have been shipped direct and the total Stock is in consequence reduced to 3,350 piculs as against 4,400 on the 31st December. Prices generally are unchanged: for *Hank* sorts they are strong, while

Filatures and *Kakedas* are rather more freely offered than they were a week ago. Telegraphic news from the States has slightly improved, and the Lyons Market would seem to be comparatively strong. *Hanks* occupy the first place in the scale of transactions. *Filatures* and *Re-reels* come next.

The M.M. steamer *Menzaleh*, which left this port on the morning of the 19th instant, carried 673 bales; of which, 18 were entered for England and 655 for the Continent of Europe. Japanese shippers being credited with 135 bales, or about one-fifth of the total quantity. The O. and O. steamer *Arabic*, which sailed at daylight on the 20th, took 221 bales (of which 40 were on native account) for the United States Markets. These shipments bring the total Export up to 25,518 bales, against 19,373 last year, and 11,348 at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—These have again been in favor, and have been enquired for at full rates, especially during the last few days. Prices, though nominally unchanged, are firm, and may even be said to show a turn against buyers. Among the recorded business we observe purchases of Good to Best *Shinshu* at \$500, with lower qualities at \$490, \$482½, and \$475. Some fairly large parcels of *Hachoji* have also changed hands at \$455.

Filatures.—No: very much doing in these, and principally for Europe. Good silks of even thread and fine size hold their own at from \$620 to \$600 according to grade. For the New York Market but little has been done, the prices realised being about on a par with recent quotations. Stock reduced to 800 piculs; of which about 120 are of the famed "Tokosha" *Filature*, and held for a fancy price.

Re-reels.—These have again been in some request, and some business has been done at rather irregular prices. The parcel "Fan" chop, mentioned in our last, is reported sold at \$597½, while a large lot of "Fan rejections"—refused by one hong at \$535—was at once weighed up by another buyer at \$540. In *Maibashi* "Turtle" chop is noted at \$590, with *Bushu* at \$570, and Common *Foshu* \$550.

Kakeda.—Dealers offer this class more freely, but do not speak of lower prices. There have been no purchases made by foreigners here during the week, but the "Direct shipments" comprise a few bales. We leave quotations unchanged—all more or less nominal in the absence of business.

Oshu.—Business recorded equals about 70 piculs, *Sendai* being done at \$495, and *Hamatsuki* at \$450. Stock reduced to 350 piculs.

Taysam sorts.—Nothing done, position unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nom. \$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	495 to 505
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	485 to 495
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3	455 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½	440 to 450
Filatures—Extra	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nom. 610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra	605
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3	520 to 530
Oshu <i>Sendai</i> —No. 2½	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 24th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALERS.	BALERS.	BALERS.
France and Italy	15,683	10,236	5,664
America	7,335	6,154	3,425
England	2,500	2,983	2,259
Total	25,518	19,373	11,348

WASTE SILK.

We have again to report more doing in this article, with Settlements reaching 500 piculs for the seven days. The business done has run chiefly on *Kibiso* and *Noshi*, the one lot of mixed *Cocoons* remaining on the Market has been taken into godown at a price not yet fixed, and *Mawata* has been neglected. Arrivals have been light, and Stocks show a marked diminution. Prices may be quoted without change, but at closing there is a slight tendency to ease in sympathy with a weakness in the native currency.

Pierced Cocoons.—The balance of the Stock on this Market has been sent into a foreign hong, but the quality is reported to be poor, and the price will doubtless be fixed accordingly.

Noshi-ito.—Settlements reach 150 piculs, on a basis of \$130 for Good *Filature* kinds. For a parcel *Tomiyoka* \$150 has been refused, and for the present there seems no prospect of the offer being

repeated. *Oshu*, a parcel of Medium, done at \$100 to \$120. *Shinshu* at \$110. *Foshu* \$87 to \$84, according to quality. Stock somewhat reduced, but holders seem disposed to be current.

Kibiso.—Fully half the Settlements for the week have been in this class, and all descriptions have shared in the demand from *Shinshu Filature* down to *Neri*. Prices may be quoted a shade off from the highest point, a few bales "Tokosha" having been done at \$120, against \$123 paid a week ago. Among other transactions we observe *Oshu* at \$80. *Foshu* at \$40, \$37, \$35, \$30, and \$20. *Neri* has been dealt in at \$13½ to \$12½ for Medium *Shinshu* and *Mino* kinds.

Mawata.—Nothing done; a few small arrivals give an increased Stock of 150 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	Nom. \$90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 92½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 17½
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 10
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 24th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	16,154	13,248	10,634
Pierced Cocoons	2,154	3,065	2,565
	18,308	16,313	13,199

Exchange has been fairly steady at somewhere near last week's rates:—London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 90; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72½. *Kinsatsu* have dropped, and after touching 112½, close at about 111 to 111½ for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 24th Jan., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,650	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	800	Noshi-ito	200
Kakeda	450	Kibiso	550
Sendai & Hamatsuki	350	Mawata	150
Taysam Kinds	100		
Total piculs	3,350	Total piculs	900

TEA.

The improvement noticed in our last Market Report has been well maintained during the past week, and buyers encouraged by telegraphic advices of a rather better feeling on the New York Market have operated pretty generally for all grades of Tea on offer. The total Settlements to report by this opportunity amount to 1,700 piculs, but still the total Settlements for the season to date show a decrease of 6,984 piculs in comparison with the preceding year. Prices have been somewhat irregular, an advance of quite one dollar per picul over previous quotations must be noted. The following are the various grades of Tea purchased during the interval:—Common 55, Good Common 325, Medium 845, Good Medium 345, Fine and Finest 25 piculs. Receipts have been comparatively small, and Stocks are now reduced to about 1,300 piculs, against 2,900 piculs at the corresponding date in 1883. The cargo of the O. & O. steamship *Arabic*, despatched on the 20th instant, took 320,105 lbs. Tea, and comprise as follows:—For New York, 170,203 lbs.; for Chicago, 42,332 lbs.; for California, 31,379 lbs.; and for Canada, 76,191 lbs.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	13 to 15
Medium	17 to 19
Good Medium	21 & up/ds

EXCHANGE.

The business transacted during the week has been on very a small scale, and rates have slightly declined. Closing quotations are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9
On Paris—Bank sight	4.63
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.73½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

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PERFUMERY,

celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained Nine Prize Medals, including London, Vienna, Philadelphia,

ONLY GOLD MEDAL-PARIS, 1878,
TWO SILVER MEDALS AND "FIRST ORDER OF MERIT,"
MELBOURNE, 1881.

ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
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White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet, and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S
GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE

is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than the German kinds.

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OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,

celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as heretofore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable in use.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR, a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

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FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,

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Corbet Court, London, E.C.

May 1st, 1883.



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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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INTERNATIONAL SANITARY EXHIBITION.

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No. 5, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1884.

DEATH.

At 83, Main-street, Yokohama, on the 28th instant, ALICE WILBY, eldest beloved daughter of George and Martha Hodges, aged 16.

At 258, Bluff, HERBERT JOHN, second son and sixth child of Arthur Thomas and Emma Jane Watson, aged 5½ years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A TOLERABLY heavy snow-fall took place at Kiyoto on the 20th ultimo.

THE loss of a steamer, the *Kono-hana Maru*, off the island of Genkai, is reported. The fate of her crew is not yet ascertained.

THE hull, sails, stores, &c., of the barque *Sattara* have been sold by auction, realizing a total of \$3,085.

AT midnight on Saturday, 25th inst., the house occupied by Ludwig and Co.'s banto in Koto-bukicho was destroyed by fire.

ON the night of the 1st instant a fire occurred in the village of Shirota, in the south-western suburb of Tokiyo. Four houses were destroyed.

A NAVAL DOCKYARD has been established at Ono-ga-hama, Kobe, and placed under the Control of the Marine Bureau.

THE railway bonds, of which an issue to the extent of five million *yên* was recently announced by the Finance Minister, have been taken up by

Japanese banks and capitalists with the exception of about six hundred thousand *yên*.

A CENSUS recently taken gives the number of houses in the Japanese settlement of Yokohama as 21,164, and the number of inhabitants as 54,479.

THE Government has decided to send the *Amaki Kan* and the *Fuso Kan* to China to protect Japanese merchantmen in the event of war between France and China.

THE accounts of the Ladies Charity Ball have been published. They show that the affair was singularly successful, the net balance available for charitable purposes being \$1,318.71.

AGRICULTURAL disturbances are reported from Fukushima prefecture. No loss of life or destruction of property had taken place up to the date of latest advices. The malcontents seem to be influenced by a vague idea that agitation must procure some royal remedy for poverty and distress.

SEVENTY-NINE Japanese living in the Foreign Settlement, Yokohama, without having complied with the regulations as to obtaining permission, have been arrested and punished by the Local Authorities.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Union Steam Navigation Company (*Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha*) was held in the Meiji Kwaido on the 28th instant. A dividend of 9 per cent. on the paid up capital is said to have been declared, and a sum of sixty-five thousand *yên* was carried to the reserve fund.

MR. JOHN WALTER, hitherto manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, left this Settlement on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, for Shanghai. Few residents of Yokohama have won such well deserved popularity, both in a business and private capacity, as Mr. Walter, and it would be difficult to say whether the bank he represented or the community was more indebted to him.

JUDGMENT was delivered on the morning of Thursday, the 31st instant, at the Swiss Consular General Court, in the case of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb, charged with embezzlement and obtaining money fraudulently from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The Court decided that the charge of embezzlement was not sustained, but found the prisoners guilty of obtaining money under false pretences and sentenced them to six months' imprisonment.

THE finding of the Criminal Court, Nagasaki, in the case of the detective charged with stabbing and killing a Chinaman, was pronounced on the 24th ultimo. It was proved that the story told by the Chinese witnesses at the inquest was incorrect. The deceased met his death, not in the house where his friend was arrested, but in the street, during a violent attempt to rescue the Chinese opium smokers whom the police were escorting. The Court nevertheless found that the circumstances did

not justify the use of weapons, and the detective was sentenced to five years' major confinement.

AN interesting case, illustrating the conscientious working of the Japanese Criminal Tribunals, was brought to a conclusion a few days ago in Tokiyo. A girl charged with incendiarism was arrested last October, but released the next day, there being no sufficient evidence. Subsequently fresh evidence was procured, and she was re-arrested, when she confessed her guilt. On appearing before the Higher Criminal Court for sentence, she stated that her previous confession had been made through fear, and after a careful sifting of the evidence, she was finally acquitted.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held on Thursday, the 31st instant, at Windsor House. The receipts from subscriptions showed a falling off of about \$330, as compared with last year, and the debt to the Treasurer amounted to \$760.50. On the whole, however, the affairs of the Club were considered to be in a satisfactory condition. The captaincy was resigned by Mr. H. Litchfield, who had held it for many years and whose services were enthusiastically acknowledged. Mr. G. Hamilton was elected in his place.

THE Annual Meeting of pew-renters and others interested in Christ Church was held on Monday, the 28th instant, in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms. The financial condition of the church was shown to be more favorable than had been anticipated, but there was still a deficit of \$425. A resolution was passed that the engagement with the Chaplain should continue indefinitely, subject to six months' notice on either side, provided no such notice should be given before the 1st of July next.

IN China the question of peace or war between France and the Middle Kingdom is considered to be fast approaching a definite answer. The first steps towards the assault of Bac-ninh will probably be taken within the course of a fortnight, and a well-informed section of public opinion is apparently tending to the belief that China has gone too far to draw back, even supposing she ever had any such intention. A line of telegraph is in course of erection from Canton to Kwangsi and Yunnan; preparations for the defence of the Pearl River are on foot; the foreign Consuls at Canton have been officially notified of an intention to build a permanent barrier in the direct channel of the stream, and the formation of volunteer corps is in active progress.

WEEKLY NOTES.

AN interesting trial of guns against masonry took place in the bay on Thursday. The primary object of the trial was to determine the resistance of granite and concrete walls to heavy artillery, with reference to the construction of coast-defence forts. The target principally experimented on had a total thickness of 6.60 metres. It was

faced with granite to a thickness of two metres, and had a retaining wall behind of half a metre. The space between the granite and the retaining wall was filled with concrete. The solid blocks, forming the granite facing, were arranged in a double tier above and below, so that the thickness of the granite in the middle of the target was little more than half the thickness of the upper and lower portions. The front dimensions of the target were 7.10 metres by 3 metres. The artillery engaged in the trial was of two natures, viz., breech-loading Krupp guns of 24 centimetres calibre; and 10-inch breechloading Armstrongs. The former were fired from H.I.J.M.S. *Fuso-Kan*, and the latter from H.I.J.M.S. *Tsukushi-Kan*. The Krupp gun was not of the newest pattern. It had a length of only 22 calibres. The weight of the shell was 160 kilogrammes (352 lbs. 12 oz.); the charge, 35 kil. (77 lbs. approximately), and the initial velocity 470 metres. The weight of the Armstrong shell was 400 lbs.; the charge 180 lbs. and the initial velocity 576 metres. The practice with the Krupp gun was excellent. The first shell struck the centre of the target, and pierced the granite to a depth of 1 metre. The second shell lodged in the same hole, and penetrated to a further depth of 1.20 metres. The latter effect would probably have been less had the concrete been better set. The remaining four rounds fired from this gun did not present any features of special interest. The practice with the Armstrong gun was most unfortunate. Of the six shells fired, not one struck the target, a result which, considering the dimensions of the target and the range (800 metres), seems difficult to explain. Two points, indeed, must be noted. First, that the advantage was with the larger vessel, the *Fuso-Kan*, in point of steadiness of platform; and secondly, that the detachment by which the Armstrong gun was manned was comparatively inexperienced. Still the failure to strike a target 22 x 10 feet at a distance of less than 900 yards, once in six rounds, is an event which will go far, we fear, to decide the relative merits of the English and German guns in Japanese eyes. We refer, of course, to the general public. Experienced artillerymen know that the varying conditions of such a trial divest its results of anything like a conclusive character. Complaints, well founded we believe, were formerly preferred against the quality of the Armstrong shells supplied to the Japanese navy. But that there rests with the Krupp gun an advantage, in point of accurate shooting, so marked as the record of last Thursday's practice would seem to imply, is a conclusion it would be manifestly unjust to admit. We need scarcely remind the naval and military authorities of this country that before pledging themselves to any faith in such a matter, experiments conducted in a really scientific manner and under conditions of perfect equality as between the two guns, are indispensable.

THERE appears to be a difference of opinion in Shanghai with regard to the falling off in the silk crop during the past four seasons. Some persons, among whom are the Chinese themselves, attribute it to climatic influences; while others hold that it has been caused by the disease *La Pebrine*, which formerly proved so fatal to the worms of France and Italy. The supporters of the former theory advance, in proof of their assertion, the facts that the eggs sent from China to Italy last season, gave there a most satisfac-

tory result, and that the proportion between best cocoons and inferior sorts has been the same as usual this season. On the other side, it is contended that "the question of the progress of disease in silkworms is too important to be settled by the out-turn of a few shipments in Europe," or by local observations which lack the support of scientific investigation. The method adopted in China to prevent the weakly eggs from hatching is to subject them to baths of salt and water, or lime and water, an operation which the healthy sorts alone are supposed to survive. In Europe the plan pursued is more troublesome, but, at the same time, more thorough. The seed is put under the microscope, when the healthy eggs can be immediately separated from those containing the corpuscle of disease. In France, of late years, much success has attended the device of establishing grainage establishments separate from those devoted to purposes of sericulture. On the whole, science has so far helped Europe to guard against the risks which hitherto attended this industry, that competition will be impossible for China unless she adopts similar precautions.

THE *Yeiiri Shimbun*—doubtful authority, it must be premised—says that General Kuroda, formerly chief of the colonization Bureau and now Imperial Councillor (*Naikaku Kōmon*), has presented a memorial in which he takes the line that the proposed increase in the standing army is an erroneous policy. The General thinks that the funds which will thus be absorbed, ought to be devoted to the construction of railways, and he bases his argument, not on any hypothesis of the country's immunity from danger, but on the principle that the efficiency of troops depends, in a great measure, on their rapidity of movement, and that if the Government possessed the means of transporting its soldiers, with the least possible delay, to any given point of the Empire, there would be no danger in effecting a corresponding diminution of their numbers. This suggestion, whether or no it has been made, seems more specious than practical. At all events, we fear that it will have little influence on the counsels of the Government.

THE nature of the resistance which the French are likely to encounter, should it be their fate to conduct naval operations on the coast-board of Kwantung, may be gathered from the proclamations of Admiral Pêng Yü-lin, recently published in the columns of the *North China Herald*. The Admiral finds, he says, on investigation, that among the population of several cities which he enumerates are numbers of fishermen, who, being able to "gather like the wind and water," can easily assemble to the extent of "a hundred and odd thousand," and who, being skilled "to form ambuscades in the water a whole day, may be able to perform marvellous deeds." Fishing in Kwantung must be something out of the common if it requires the formation of ambuscades for whole days in the water. But let that pass. Admiral Pêng is an eminently practical man, and it may be presumed that he understands what he is talking about. His idea of the important points to be observed in forming "naval corps of volunteers" is very succinct and simple. Anyone who captures or blows up an enemy's ship is to be rewarded; anyone who behaves treacherously is to be decapitated immediately. Should the French declare war, and "fight in

earnest," they will be "acting contrary to Treaty," the Admiral thinks, and must consequently be stoutly resisted. Having set forth these principles, and further informed the people of Kwantung that, so, far as the funds for these military preparations are concerned, they must find them as best they can, Pêng, together with Chang, President of the Board of War, and Yü, the Futai, appear to have lapsed into a mathematical mood; for they proceed to inform the rustics, who "are accustomed by nature to winds and tides, and are able to remain for days in the water," that "as volunteer brigades of fishermen are to volunteer brigades of villagers, so are battles on the water to battles on the land." This is, doubtless, a most inspiring statement, well calculated to excite the "heaven-born instinct" to which the Admiral and his colleagues appeal on behalf of the Emperor's throne and the homes of the people. But remembering how the unfortunate Annamites were shot down like rabbits as they gathered up their flowing garments and tried to dodge the French bullets at Hué, one cannot think that Admiral Pêng's fishermen, for all their skill in gathering like the wind and forming ambuscades for whole days in the water, will succeed in slaying many invaders or blowing up many gunboats.

THE *North China Herald* comments at some length on the fact that the position of Doyen of the Consular Body at Shanghai is not accessible by the English Consul. A Consul-General takes precedence of a Consul, and as there are several Consul-Generals, it results that the post of honour is always occupied by some one of them, to the exclusion of the official representing a nation whose annual trade with China amounts to more than 80 per cent. of that country's total foreign commerce. There can be little doubt that this is not as it ought to be, though some set-off is to be found in the fact that the actual Government of the Settlement is mainly in English hands. But it is not at all likely that Her Majesty's Government will change the title of the Consul at Shanghai for any such reason. The duties of a Consular Doyen, as distinguished from those of a simple Consul, are purely matters of convenience and arrangement. The easiest exit from the difficulty is that taken by the Consular Board in Yokohama, where a Chairman is selected without special reference to his rank. The point made by our Shanghai contemporary is only one of several interesting issues that depend upon the diversity of foreign interests in the Orient. None among them is more noteworthy than Great Britain's attitude with regard to the most-favoured-nation clause in her treaty with Japan. She insists upon making that clause unconditional, though it would be exceedingly difficult to discover any principle of logic or right justifying such a contention. It is much as though A. were to force upon B. an agreement, according to the provisions of which B. would be bound, in the event of his selling any portion of his property to C., to hand over an equal portion to A., gratis. An unconditional favoured-nation clause means, that whatever privilege Japan may grant to another Power, conditionally or unconditionally, she must grant unconditionally to Great Britain. Of course England would never consent to make such a clause reciprocal. Neither would she, or any other Western country, agree to be bound by it herself for a moment. Yet England's position in this matter

is difficult. Were she to permit the insertion of a conditional favoured-nation clause in her treaty with Japan, she would be, in a certain sense, at the mercy of Powers whose interests here are not a fraction of her own. Some one of the small European States might consent to the abolition of extritoriality, for example, in return for the removal of all restrictions on trade or travel so far as its subjects were concerned. English residents would thus be placed at a serious disadvantage, unless they too subscribed to the same terms in consideration of enjoying the same privileges. Great Britain does not propose that they shall ever be placed at such a disadvantage. She reserves to herself the right of determining what price she shall pay for the extension of any particular privilege. Nobody else is to have a voice in the matter. If another Power agrees to purchase a concession, England is to have that concession without purchasing it. That is the length and breadth of the matter, and, as we have already said, a more improper proceeding from a moral standpoint could not well be conceived. But charity begins at home. The world is not ruled at all by logic, and very little by right. So long as different Powers have different interests in Japan, the Power having the greatest interests will guard itself against possible injury by means to which, fortunately for themselves, other Powers need not resort. Probably most Englishmen feel sorry, from time to time, that their Government should be obliged to pursue such questionable courses. But what they have not yet discovered is that any other Government behaves better under similar circumstances. Not a very solid satisfaction that, to be sure, but still a satisfaction after its kind.

NOTES.

It is not quite clear why the "Diary of Richard Cocks, Cape-Merchant in the English Factory in Japan," should have been re-edited and reprinted under the auspices of the Hakluyt Society. The edition which the public already possessed seemed to answer all purposes sufficiently. It appears, however, that, for some unstated reason, the Diary has again made its appearance, for we find the London *Spectator* of November 24th, 1883, reviewing the book and telling us that it has been edited by Mr. G. M. Thompson, under date 1883. The reviewer in the *Spectator* sets out by a curious mistake, which effectually demonstrates his complete ignorance of the Japanese language. The worthy Cape-Merchant—"Cape," by the way, does not refer to a variety of wine, or to the South of Africa, but simply means head, or principal—never forgot, when returning from a journey, to bring back presents for his friends. To these gifts he applies the term "Nifon catangi," evidently an orthographical corruption of *Nihon Katagi*, which would be an orthodox method of designating a keep-sake. The writer in the *Spectator*, however, re-models "catange" into "katachi," and says that "Nifon catage" means *more Japonico*. He might as well speak of English customs as English shapes. Such a form of speech could never have been used by any Japanese. For the rest, he seems to have conceived a very just estimate of the lesson taught by Richard Cocks' published experiences; namely, that the foreigners who visited Japan in the seventeenth century were not precisely the sort of persons to win Oriental confidence and re-

spect. Of the Japanese merchants and artisans with whom he came in contact and with whom he lived on good terms, Cocks speaks somewhat unfavourably. They were a fickle, "brabbling," treacherous folk, he says, not over fond of paying their debts. But it soon transpires that Cocks could not think well of any folks except Protestant Englishmen, and not always of them. Even Will Adams, whose reputation for manly honesty will always survive in Japan, did not escape the suspicions of the Cape-Merchant. Cocks neither liked nor trusted Adams, and thought that he failed to utilize his opportunities to the best advantage in his countrymen's favour. In a word, the head of the Factory could not understand that a man might be a friend of the Japanese without being false to his own countrymen, a difficulty which still perplexes some vulgar minds. As for the Spaniards and Portuguese, he hated them with a sound unvarying hatred, and greeted with delight every symptom of their decaying influence at the Japanese Court. The Portuguese may not have been altogether so bad as they were painted, but certainly there is not much to be said in their favour. The Vice-Provincial, Father Cuello, himself admitted to Hideyoshi (Taiko), that, under the influence of holy zeal, the disciples of the missionaries destroyed the temples of the false Japanese gods and persecuted the priests; and Charlevoix, in his eulogy on François Civan, "King of Bungo," says that he overthrew no less than three thousand temples and houses of the Buddhists. The Taiko may not have relished this method of propagandism. It was entirely new to Japan, where, before the advent of Christianity, religious persecutions were unknown, and where Nobunaga, the Taiko's former chief, when prayed by the persecuted Buddhists to expel the Jesuits, answered that the strangers should be left in peace, since thirty-six sects might well be tolerated where thirty-five already existed. Father Cuello further admitted that the Portuguese traders were in the habit of carrying Japanese subjects as slaves to India, but avowed that this traffic in human flesh was in opposition to the missionaries' wishes. There were not wanting, therefore, grave counts of indictment against the Portuguese, and it is a noteworthy fact that the Taiko, who, while pronouncing an edict of banishment against European priests, took care to tell foreign traders that they were at liberty to remain in the country and pursue their usual avocations—it is a noteworthy fact that this Taiko, in reply to a remonstrance of the Viceroy of Goa, explained that "the priests from Europe had traversed the country accompanied by large bands of disorderly persons, to the destruction of peace and good order and in violation of the law"; that "they had endeavoured to seduce his subjects from their allegiance," and that "they made no secret of their design to effect the conquest of the country, as had been the case in the Philippines." The Taiko pertinently asked the Viceroy's envoy what he should do if the Buddhist priests were to visit Portugal and behave in a similar manner. European Governments might be puzzled to answer a question of like import were it propounded now concerning certain phases of Japan's foreign intercourse. The Portuguese, however, as we have said, had other enemies besides themselves. Honestly or dishonestly, the Dutch charged them with designs which no Government could condone. In 1837, the former laid before the Japanese authorities a correspondence, alleged to have been carried on

with Portugal, purporting to incite that power to send a military force to Japan, ostensibly for the purpose of aiding the native Christians, but really for the conquest of the Kingdom. This correspondence is pronounced a forgery by Charlevoix, but collateral evidence of its authenticity was produced at the time. Whether forged or genuine, it convinced the Japanese, and was the proximate cause of the promulgation of an edict closing the country to all Westerns except the Dutch. The true circumstances of this concluding episode are too often lost sight of. Cocks had left Japan fourteen years before it happened. Had he still been at Hirado, Englishmen might have been included in the exception, as they were, for the most part, allied with the Dutch against the Spaniards and Portuguese. A notable instance of the way this alliance worked was furnished by the case of a Japanese junk which the *Elizabeth* captured. There were two "padres," Zuniga and Flores, on board, and Cocks and his Dutch colleague, by means of forged letters, obtained the condemnation of these men, as Catholic missionaries. The "padres" were burned, the Japanese crew beheaded, and the junk was adjudged, as a prize, to its captors. "One can hardly wonder," says the writer in the *Spectator*, "at the Japanese massing all foreigners together under the title of Southern or Western barbarians. The conduct of the Dutch and English sailors was an equal reproach to either nation; they were eternally drinking and brawling with each other or the natives." People who care to know the import, to Japanese ears, of the term "Bataren" (padre),—the term by which all foreigners were designated in Japan previous to 1869—should read the correspondence of Will Adams, the history of Kämpfer, the writings of Charlevoix, and the Diary of Richard Cocks.

In the three hours' professional walking championship match at Lillie Bridge, J. W. Raby lowered the existing records at all distances from nine to fifteen miles. There were only three competitors—Raby, W. Franks, and H. Thatcher. Raby went off with the lead, which he maintained to the finish. Seven miles were covered in 52 min. 1½ sec., and eight miles in 59 min. 36 sec. Franks and Thatcher were a minute and a half and nearly five minutes behind respectively. Raby then, walking in splendid form, covered the next three miles in 7 min. 14 sec., 14 min. 45 sec., 50 min. 34 sec. over the hour respectively. Thatcher then retired, Franks being four minutes behind Raby. The latter completed his fifteenth mile in 1 hr. 55 min. 56 sec., all the above times being bests on record. The pace then fell off, and in the result the total distance covered was only 21 miles 290 yards. Thatcher had previously walked 22 miles in 2½ min. less than three hours. Franks finished 292 yards behind Raby. Raby first came into notice as an amateur in 1881, when in the seven miles amateur championship race he easily defeated the American, Merrill, in 54 min. 48 1-5 sec.

MR. GLADSTONE, it appears, includes among his numerous vocations that of a dealer in timber. We are not aware whether he entered voluntarily into the business, but all events an insight to it has been offered to the public. He was applied to by a Lambeth working-man who wanted to make some tables and chairs out of trees felled by the Premier. Mr. Gladstone replied that he would make known the subject of the Lambeth

workman's request to his son, "as he regulates matters of the nature referred to." About a month afterwards—a most unbusinesslike delay, we should imagine—Mr. W. H. Gladstone wrote to the workman in these terms:—"In reference to your letter, I beg to ask you how many feet you require. We have a beech of about sixteen feet available, but I fear the carriage to London would be heavy." The offer was accepted, but the beech turned out to be eighteen feet long, so that the stock-book of the firm has evidently not been very carefully kept. It is understood that, in the letter in which Mr. Gladstone handed over the conduct of the transaction to his son, he expressed some desponding sentiments with regard to this branch of the family business. Gladstonian timber has not been in great demand lately, the last transaction having taken place in Leeds in 1880.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE San Francisco *Alta* reviews a recent speech by General Butler on "American commerce and the carrying trade." The speaker called attention to a fact which must be very gratifying to Americans, namely that, while the shipping of the United States has gradually disappeared from the seas, American foreign commerce has rapidly increased. In 1860, when U.S. shipping was comparatively at the highest point, the export of agricultural products was \$108,605,713, or about \$3.60 each for thirty millions of people. In 1882 exports of the same products had reached the amount of \$619,269,449 or \$12.40 for each of fifty millions of people. The Republic now pays, \$60,000,000 a year for freight on exports and imports combined, but the General's theory is that it pays this because it can find employment more lucrative. The gallant speaker continues in the following comforting, if not congratulatory, strain:—"It is desirable certainly, to have ships to serve if for nothing else than a school for seamen, but from a purely industrial point of view it is a point in our favor that we can find more profitable occupation than carrying our own products to market. England now does the largest business in carrying products of any nation in the world. Does any one imagine that her fitness for this kind of business is especial and peculiar to herself? On the seas the American and the British compete on even terms. We throw aside in that contest our superiority in agricultural resources. The English cannot raise cotton, and, as they need a good deal of this staple, they buy it of us, and in part payment carry our products to market. She would raise cotton instead of carrying products to market if she had the land. . . . The American farmer has an advantage in cheap lands over his English competitor, but at sea they are on equal terms. Consequently the American does that which pays him best, and the Englishman does what he can. Of course it is flattering to an Englishman's pride to see the flag of his country in every port and on every sea. It looks as if the commerce of England had outstripped competition when ten English vessels are seen for one of any other nation. But in many cases the English are simply performing the duty of carriers for goods other nations produce. The profit does not generally lie so much in carrying goods as in producing them. This may not be the case when the carrier can establish a monopoly and charge his own price, but it is so when competition is free and close, as in the ocean carrying trade. We do not need to concern

ourselves greatly over the fact that England's necessities compel her to do a portion of our work while we find more profitable employment. We shall secure our portion of the carrying trade when through over-production or other cause we cannot find work that pays us better." General Butler omits to mention that the best means of reestablishing American shipping would be the abolition of protection duties upon ships and ship-building material. If England were selfish she would desist from counselling America to abandon her protective policy. Meanwhile "carrying" is not a bad business; as the fortunes made by the firm of Chaplin and Horne, for instance, and the dividends paid by carefully managed canal, steamer, and railway lines abundantly prove.

A BRUSSELS correspondent of a London paper wires on the 16th December:—A great fire has almost entirely destroyed the Houses of Parliament, or Palais de la Nation. At half-past 4 p.m., during the sitting, a thick smoke entered the hall. At the appearance of the fire an alarm was given by the journalists. The sitting was immediately concluded, in order that the members of the Chamber of Representatives might go safely away. Soon after the fire increased rapidly. All the firemen of Brussels hastened to the spot, but so great was the intensity of the fire that they could hardly cope with it. All the buildings seemed in flames. The famous library, full of rare books and important documents, is consumed. It was not until ten o'clock that the fire was practically mastered. The Chamber of Representatives, with all its outlying buildings, is a mass of ruins, but the fears at first entertained that the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Education had been greatly damaged proved to have been exaggerated, the buildings named having suffered little from the flames.

A FRENCH journal says that every soldier of the Republic sent to Tonquin costs the country 3,000 francs, so that to despatch an army of ten thousand men thither means an expenditure of thirty millions. This is an extraordinarily low estimate. One cannot help wondering how England would set to work if she were required to carry on a campaign involving the services of ten thousand men in China, and to keep her expenditure within a million and a quarter sterling.

THE ultimate destination of many articles in common use is often surrounded with mystery; but most people flatter themselves that they at least know the final goal of rags. It may surprise some to learn that in China cotton goods when reduced to rags, after a severe and lengthened course of wear and tear, are in great request for the soles of Chinese shoes, and this final bourne is kept steadily in view when new cloth is being purchased by the poorer classes. One important consequence to this country is that the trade in English cottons has remained stagnant, because the Chinese find that the native cloth is much more adapted for this purpose, besides being cheaper, stouter, and stronger. One of our Consuls declares that the poor complain of this deficiency, and that our cotton goods will not stand Chinese washing, that they wear out too quickly (in two years), that the thread of which they are composed is weak and will not endure frequent patching, and that they are hard, brittle, and stiff. The requisites demanded seem onerous, but if Eng-

lish manufacturers can meet them, the trade would inevitably increase.

A WORKING mason died last week at Chantenay, near Paris, who contributed almost as much, though in an indirect way, to the making of modern European history as Prince Bismarck himself. Jean-Michel Badinguet, the individual in question, was employed on some repairs at the fort of Ham when Prince Louis Napoleon was a prisoner there. He facilitated the Prince's escape by lending him his cap, blouse, canvas "pantalon," and his short black pipe. Thus disguised, and carrying a board on his shoulders, the future Emperor made his way out of Ham, unchallenged by a single one of the warders or sentries whom he had to pass. Badinguet was not so fortunate. He was arrested and kept for some time in prison. After the *coup d'état* he came to Paris, and the Emperor allowed him an annuity of 1,200 francs out of his privy purse. Napoleon III., as is well known, received the *sobriquet* of Badinguet, and the original bearer of the name prudently dropped it, as it was anything but popular with the class with which he associated. He assumed the surname of Rudot, by which alone he was subsequently known; and it was only at his death that his identity was discovered.—*St. James's Budget*.

A LETTER from Fusan, Korea, says:—Business is at a standstill, to the great distress of the Japanese residents. Several cases of suicide have been reported, as well as the desertion of infants. If no material change for the better takes place without loss of time, there is no telling what fearful consequences may ensue. The Japanese Consul is doing his utmost to suppress gambling houses and brothels. The proposal for the establishment of a mixed settlement of European and Japanese has given rise to vehement discussion. Many are in favour of the plan, as the value of houses will considerably increase if all foreigners live in a common settlement, much to the satisfaction of house-holders who are struggling with financial embarrassments. Another proposal, to assign a certain portion of the settlement to Europeans alone, has been seriously considered by the residents. Some suggest that the European settlement shall be in the eastern, others in the western, part of the town.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

THE system of selling bad champagne under good corks and good labels, of which we spoke lately as being common in Paris, is only one out of numerous frauds of the sort of which the French public have to complain. An evening paper states that there is a large sale of artificial sardines, made from coarse fish, and disguised under a coating of gelatine and colouring matter. Snails, one would think, are too cheap to invite fraud, yet artificial snails are made out of the lights of the calf, and with artistic seasoning taste exactly like the genuine article. Some of the American falsifications are, if possible, still more ingenious. Every one has heard of the fortunes that have been made by the sale of wooden nutmegs and coffee-berries. The latest thing in this way which we have seen noticed is the manufacture of artificial eggs. The yolk is compounded with phosphorous, the glare with albumen, and the shell is made with lime. As far as taste and appearance go, the imitation is said to be perfect. They only differ in one respect from genuine eggs—they are of no use for hatching purposes.—*St. James's Budget*.

At a recent *séance* of the Biological Society of Paris, the members had the pleasure of examining what is called "a precious Japanese scroll," delineating certain results of anatomical research in bygone times. Japanese scrolls do not always delineate subjects that might properly furnish a theme for scientific discussion, but the scroll in question seems to have interested the learned French biologists to an unusual degree. There was evidently some difficulty in deciphering the writing, and, judging from the very guarded encomiums passed upon the pictures, they, too, were occasionally puzzling even to expert eyes. Fortunately, however, an erudite member of the Japanese colony in Paris came to the assistance of the biologists, who were thus enabled to pass an entertaining afternoon. The scroll was more than thirty feet long. An idea of the graphic ability it displayed can be formed by those who have examined the anatomical plates in a Japanese encyclopædia, where, as a concession, perhaps, to conciseness, the two lungs of the human body are merged into a single organ, and the breath, entering by the larynx and the trachea, goes to the heart as well as to the unified lung, both alike constituting the terminus of the trachea. These biological vagaries have long ceased, however, to find believers outside the lower strata of Japanese society. Contact with Holland taught educated men a different lesson, but practical acquaintance with the details of the *corpus vile* were difficult of access, on account of a violent prejudice which existed against dissection. The same prejudice once obtained in the Occident. There the first persons whom history credits with having secretly dissected dead bodies are two doctors, who visited the courts of Seleucus and the Ptolemies. Two thousand years afterwards, Japanese surgeons turned their attention in the same direction. In 1795, a doctor living in Osaka, asked to have the body of a criminal handed over to him for purposes of dissection. This enlightened innovator was called Miyasaki. He was given the body of a man, aged thirty years, who had suffered capital punishment. It was not a very perfect corpse. The sword of the practiced executioner, after shearing through the muscular neck of the victim, had inflicted an enormous wound on the left thigh. Doctor Miyasaki, however, made the most of these mutilated remains. He divided them according to his lights, and made pictures of them under various aspects, devoting much attention to the navel, which he seems to have thought a peculiarly interesting object of study. His sketches look strange to-day, but he was undoubtedly a man before his time. Had his successors imitated his example, Japan's anatomical knowledge would have been in a much more forward condition than it was when the present Government began to found schools of medicine and surgery.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* has the following interesting paragraph:—The Japanese Commissioner to the Netherlands Exhibition at Amsterdam, and two exhibitors, Messrs. H. Muramatsu and S. Takagi, have received decorations of the third class from the King. The three gentlemen gave a most sumptuous banquet at the largest hotel in Amsterdam to their foreign colleagues. Two hundred and thirty persons responded to their invitation. Mr. Sakurada made an excellent speech, congratulating the Exhibition on its success, and was loudly applauded by his auditors.

A lottery concluded the entertainment, each guest receiving some article of value, the first prizes being worth from \$100 to \$200. The guests were delighted with this novel proceeding, and dispersed well pleased with their entertainment.

In 1865 the Italian laws relating to capital punishment were modified to such an extent that the infliction of the death penalty was virtually abolished. Statistics recently published with reference to this change, give the following figures:—

YEAR.	NUMBER SENTENCED TO DEATH.	NUMBER EXECUTED.
1866.....	81	0
1867.....	75	7
1868.....	72	7
1869.....	111	4
1870.....	102	1
1871.....	122	2
1872.....	41	2
1873.....	73	5
1874.....	87	3

During the succeeding year, though sentence of death was frequently passed, it was not carried out in a single instance, so that, since 1874, there has been no case of capital punishment in Italy.

An Italian writer, referring to these figures, says that they furnish an interesting comment on the progress of civilization. He takes his readers back to the seventeenth century, and shows them the *Place Navone* on a market day. Here and there may be observed the stages of mountebanks, magicians, dentists, and vendors of relics. At one end of the square a Jesuit, cross in hand, summons the people to repent. At the other, on a platform, three men are seated, tied to their seats, and having suspended from their necks a placard with their names and the nature of their crimes. The crowd surges forward to see the punishment inflicted, and the flogging of the criminals is just about to commence when suddenly the executioner cries, "halt!" and a trumpet sounds. At the other side of the square a grand cortège has just appeared. Alvise Tiepolo, Ambassador of the Most Serene Republic of Venice, is on his way to carry the compliments of the Doge Mocenigo to the College of Cardinals. The condemned men cry out for mercy, and at a sign from the Ambassador the executioner bows humbly. The men are pardoned. Such acts of grace were common. A Cardinal, meeting a man condemned to death, could cause him to be reprieved. It was thus that a haberdasher called Cencio, condemned to be hung, was already dangling at the end of the rope, and the executioner was about to jump on his shoulders, when a Cardinal, passing by, ordered the rope to be cut. Cencio was saved, but his neck never recovered its shape, and to the day of his natural death he was nicknamed *Storto*. By way of contrast to these instances of leniency, the case is mentioned of Mattio Triano, a *valet de chambre* who assassinated his master, an apostolic prelate. Triano was executed on the 3rd of July, 1703. When he mounted the scaffold, he could not stand, and it was necessary to prop him up while his wig was taken off and his eyes bandaged. Then the executioner felled him to the ground with a tremendous blow of a club, buried a knife in his throat, cut him open, and having decapitated him with the same knife, took out his heart and entrails, which were fastened to the side of the scaffold. After this his body was cut up, and the pieces hung upon hooks round the scaffold. In those times it was not an uncommon thing to see a churchman executed for some fault that would scarcely involve any penalty whatsoever to-day. Thus

the Abbé Rivarola was beheaded, in 1688, for having written satires and defamed dignitaries of the church. It was on this occasion that the executioner, whose ignorance of his craft resulted in the chopper of the guillotine entering the condemned man's shoulder, proceeded to saw off the Abbé's head with a big knife. The people were so horrified by this spectacle that they invaded the scaffold, and a terrible fight ensued between them and the sbirros who tried to protect the executioner. The next day the latter was publicly flogged and afterwards exiled. On the 5th February, 1720, the Abbé Volpini was beheaded for having published, in a journal of Vienna, some comments considered defamatory of Clement the Eleventh's private habits; and on the 27th January, 1800, Gennari was hung, drawn, and burned for sacrilege. What an immense interval seems to separate the times when these things happened from the world of to-day!

THERE is a rumour current among the tittle-tattlers of vernacular journalism that a certain foreign resident of Kobe proposes shortly to establish a line of steamers between Yokohama and Kobe. It is the intention of this bold speculator to run the Mitsu Bishi and Union Navigation Companies out of the field forthwith, by carrying freight and passengers at rates properly proportioned to the recent fall in the price of commodities. The manner in which this problem presented itself a few months ago to the mind of the Japanese working man was, that while in 1881 he could buy a passage to Kobe with about two-thirds of a *koku* of rice, in 1883 he had to pay more than a *koku* to be carried the same distance. This was an apparent hardship, and intellects untutored in political economy could not be expected to discover, that since the expenses of a steamship company consist mainly of fixed payments, its charges can not be very sensitive to such changes as the value of Japanese paper money has experienced during the past two years. Last Autumn, however, the Mitsu Bishi Company reduced their charges for steerage passengers more than twenty per cent., so that a ticket from Yokohama to Kobe, instead of costing seven *yen*, can now be purchased for five and a half. Possibly the competition of the Union Steamship Navigation Company had something to do with this reduction, but, at any rate, there is the fact, and one is puzzled to see that any serious grounds of complaint remain, or that demands for further cheapening can be urged with propriety. The foreign *deus ex machina*, who is to set everything right by ruining himself, will probably keep people waiting a long time before he makes his appearance.

A VERNACULAR journal says that there are 465 wrestlers, whom the citizens of Tokiyo support and whose periodical contests in the arena of sand and rice-bags are presided over by thirty-nine umpires. Wrestling in Japan is gradually drifting into the limbo of obsolete amusements, but the day of its final demise is obviously not yet at hand. We learn also, from the same source, that residents in the capital, who like to listen to stories of old times and facetiae of modern invention, are purveyed for by 210 *Koshakushi* and 380 *Hanashika*. The *Koshakushi* differs from the *Hanashika* chiefly in his selection of subjects. Both are gentlemen whose professional paraphernalia are limited to a small wooden table, a fan, and a paper rapper,

wherewith to add sound and substance to the point or peroration of a tale; and both earn their fees by reciting, or improvising, histories of the wars and loves of bygone days, or of the sayings and doings of celebrities still present in the flesh. These men are worthy of a high place among Japanese curiosities, but, unfortunately, their most interesting features are not appreciable by foreigners in general. There are, we are further told, 516 establishments in Tokiyo whose business is to deal in male and female servants, and 1,810 inns, at which, during the course of 1883, there sojourned a total of 307,241 wayfarers. Each inn, therefore, had an average of about 170 patrons, being at the rate of fourteen per month, or one every second day; a state of affairs that is not likely to attract capital and enterprise in the direction of inn-keeping.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* has the following:—On the night of the 25th inst., three armed thieves, their faces completely masked, forced an entrance into a farm-house at Tobe, Yokohama, and walked off with 10 yen. On leaving the premises, they called out to the inmates, "If you report this to the police before three hours have elapsed, we shall set the house on fire and kill every one of you." Terribly frightened at this alarming threat, the inmates of the farmhouse waited full three hours before reporting the matter to the police. The thieves have not been heard of since.

At midnight on Saturday, a fire broke out at Kotobukicho Sancho-me, in the Japanese town to the South of the Swamp Concession, but it was got under control by the Yokohama Fire Brigade No. 5 Shand and Mason Engine before any other pumps arrived. The house in which the fire originated, the residence of Messrs. Ludwig & Co.'s banto, was completely destroyed, and the adjoining house considerably damaged. Great credit is due to Mr. Morgan, the Superintendent of the Yokohama Fire Brigade hand-pumps, for the promptitude with which he turned out his men and got an engine with its thirty coolies to the scene of the fire. The members of the Volunteer Steam Fire Engine Companies assembled as usual for duty, but as there was no wind the fire was subdued without their assistance.

THE Nagasaki opium episode has terminated in the conviction and punishment of the detective policeman who caused the death of the Chinaman Wai Hin-no. As we explained in a recent article, the Administration, in the exercise of the power vested in it by the new Code of Criminal Procedure, ordered the trial to be conducted with closed doors. The same Code provides, however, that the judgment shall always be delivered in public, and this has accordingly been done. A translation of the indictment and the finding, as published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, will be found elsewhere. Our readers will see that the story told by the Chinese witnesses at the inquest was, in many important respects, a grave perversion of the truth. Wai Hin-no was not stabbed in the house of a Chinese friend, nor were his remonstrances against the illegal seizure of his money the sole cause of the murderous and unprovoked attack said to have been made on an unarmed lad of nineteen by four armed constables. He formed one of a mob of Chinese who attempted to rescue the opium smokers on their way to the

station. The detective, Mine Susumu, being "beaten and otherwise maltreated" in the act of resisting this attempt, lost control of himself, and snatching a sword from one of his comrades, attacked the crowd of would-be rescuers, killing Wai Hin-no, and wounding three other Chinese. For this he has been sentenced to five years' major confinement, in other words, imprisonment with labour. The sentence seems severe, but if it errs at all, it errs on the right side. A policeman's first duty is to keep his temper. If he gives way to passion, and makes unnecessary use of murderous weapons, he ceases to be a guardian, and becomes a disturber, of the peace. The crime is aggravated in the case of the Nagasaki detective by the fact that he did not carry a sword himself, and was consequently obliged to seize the weapon of a comrade before committing the assault. Great excuse is to be found in the rough treatment he had received at the hands of the mob, but, on the whole, public opinion will doubtless endorse the justice of his punishment. The conclusion of this affair suggests a humiliating comment on the intemperate and inaccurate utterances its early stages evoked from a section of the foreign local press.

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By way of sequel to the Nagasaki episode, and as showing how opium smokers are treated in the United States, the following telegram, dated New York, November 25th, is interesting:—

Last night the police raided an opium joint at 97, Crosby-street, and arrested the Chinese proprietor and twenty-six inmates, including a few women, who were either smoking or waiting their turn to secure a pipe of the drug. The men were evidently merchants of some standing, but all gave false names. The women were—Alice Wilkins, a variety actress; Ethel Carson, a dressmaker; Lizzie Dixon, an actress, and Bella Ellis, of Greenville, N.J., who, with her brother William, came to this city to have a smoke.

RUMOUR says that Tennyson's title is to be Baron Tennyson-D'Eyncourt of Aldworth. Referring to this, we read in the *New York Herald* of December 12th:—

The last section of the title assumed by the Poet Laureate on being "elevated" to the peerage is the name of an ancient Norman family, the D'Eyncourts, from which the Tennysons claim to be descended. The poet's uncle, Charles Tennyson, who was a somewhat noted member of Parliament in his day, in 1835 was made happy by a royal license which permitted him to add D'Eyncourt to his name. The poet has always prided himself on his ancient lineage. Reports as to his ability to support the dignity of a peerage are conflicting. A paragraph was recently published to the effect that his total income is only \$20,000, but as he was reputed to be worth \$1,000,000 a few years ago his income ought to be double the first named figures. In person he looks little enough like a poet. His face is strong and his eyes have a certain brightness, but he is seamed, rather than wrinkled, from forehead to chin; he appears to be puffy; he is partially bald; he stoops and shuffles; dresses ordinarily and carelessly, and has a generally rustic mien. His family consists of his wife and two sons, Hallam and Lionel, the last named having about four years ago assumed the surname of Turner to qualify himself to succeed to the Lincolnshire estate of his uncle, the Rev. Charles Turner, which is worth over \$5,000 a year. This brother of the poet, in his turn, had assumed the name of Turner on succeeding to the property, which had come into the family through his grandmother. The poet, who is now seventy-three years of age, has passed most of his life since his marriage at Farringford, on the Isle of Wight. About fifteen years ago he built himself a second residence, in a picturesque valley in Surrey, where he passes a part of each year for the sake of inland air and scenery. This residence is known as Aldworth, and its name is to be incorporated in the Laureate's title.

Of course those persons who profess to despise titles and other nominal distinctions, indulge in a great deal of unkind criticism at the Laureate's expense. *Truth* makes a compromise, for while admitting that Tennyson himself may properly receive the personal recognition and admiration of his countrymen, it ridicules, as an exquisite absurdity, the idea that his son and son's son

should be made a legislator. The *Pall Mall Gazette*, on the other hand, goes the whole length of ridicule and contempt, and publishes a bitter parody ending with the following verses:—

Alfred, Alfred Vere De Vere,
If time be heavy on your hands,
Are there no toilers in our streets
Nor any poor in all these lands?
Oh! teach the weak to strive and hope,
Or teach the great to help the low;
Pray Heaven for a noble heart,
And let the foolish title go.

THE wife of a gentleman who sells dried bonito in Shiba, Tokiyo, has presented her husband with three lusty children, two boys and a girl. The lady who performed this inconveniently prolific feat ought to have known better, being thirty-five years of age. Such, at any rate, is said to have been the opinion of her husband, who thought the event sufficiently unlucky to justify him in calling the boys Tortoise (*Kame*) and Stork (*Tsuru*), and the girl Plum (*Ume*). Say what one may, it is a comfortable thing to carry one's religious faith into the events of every-day life. People who cross themselves, and invoke the "Blessed Virgin," or the "Holy St. Peter" when anything shocking is presented to their senses, have a manifest advantage over people who employ no such reassuring formula. A Japanese, indeed, at seasons of mental perturbation, does not draw figures on his face or utter the name of some buried saint. His, or rather her, habit,—for such performances are almost confined to women—is to ejaculate "Stork and Tortoise" (*Tsuru-Kame*) whenever any words of ill-omen are spoken within hearing. It has not been explained precisely what species of divine sympathy this exclamation is supposed to enlist. We only know that among animate things the stork and tortoise, among inanimate, the plum, bamboo, and pine, are regarded as types of longevity. The stork-and-tortoise device seems, therefore, a little far-fetched, but there are occasions when a Japanese treats his deities in an honest, straight-forward way that deserves admiration. Watch him sneeze, for example. He immediately ejaculates "beast," and touches the tips of his shoulders with his left hand. At first sight the impression conveyed is that the prospect of catching cold, with all its evil contingencies, has betrayed him into a rashly frank estimate of his own character. But the fact is that the individual apostrophized as "beast" is, not the sneezer, but the causer of the sneeze; in other words, the god of catarrhs and influenzas. The Japanese does not pretend to conciliate that unpleasant deity. He opens hostilities with him at once, and so vigorous is the moral attitude of certain old-fashioned country folks that they go for the god with a broom-stick whenever he makes his presence plain in a snuffle or a cough. A Western, under similar circumstances, invokes a blessing on the sneezer's head. Which of the two customs is the more logical we cannot pretend to determine.

THE Hoihow correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, writing on the 18th inst., says:—"It will no doubt interest your readers to hear that five Chinese gunboats and the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Fu-shun* arrived here the other day with about 2,500 troops from Canton. The Chinese here seem to have the notion that Hainan will be taken by the French at the end of this month. The populace is in consequence a little excited, and the soldiery also do not make a very peaceable impression. However, up to the present time

no complaint can be made against them, and we are told that the largest portion of the troops will leave to-morrow for other places on the coast. The rumour that the French have been driven out of Sontay is also circulating in this port."

IN the event of a war between France and China, the British Channel, or at any rate the Baltic, may become the scene of a naval encounter between a French squadron and the Chinese vessels of war which have just been completed in the Vulcan Company's yard at Stettin. A very fine ironclad, the *Chen Yuen*, has recently been completely armoured in the dockyard, and is now ready for a commission which may prove a very eventful one. As at present arranged, she is to leave Stettin for China in the course of December, when she will be accompanied by four torpedo-boats, which have also been constructed for the Chinese Government. The meeting of this valuable addition to the already formidable navy of China with a French flotilla might form one of the opening scenes of the coming war, and would be additionally interesting if it could be arranged within sight of our own shores—say on a fine Saturday afternoon off Brighton, or within view of the visitors to Dover, Folkestone, or Eastbourne.—*Whitehall Review*.

THERE must be a certain intellectual luxury in frightening oneself out of one's wits, and the *Spectator* has abandoned itself entirely to the temptation. Last week it foresaw that the Mahdi's victory would arrest the French advance on Tonkin, and make Frenchmen fight for their lives from Tripoli to Morocco. Now, it imagines the Mahdi swimming across the Red Sea—at least it does not tell us how he is to cross without swimming—to Mecca, and then all India will explode like a dynamite bomb, and it will cost us £20,000,000 and 10,000 lives to put the pieces together again. This is very entertaining, no doubt; it makes the flesh creep and the hair stand on end, but all the while we are never really frightened, for every one knows it is so delightfully absurd. The Mahdi, according to a Constantinople telegram, has only 2,000 robbers as the nucleus of his forces; the rest of his warriors are savage tribes, who rally round any one to defeat an invader, and he is about as likely to explode India as he is to capture Windsor Castle. But then that only makes him all the more excellent a bogey for people who like to work themselves up into a terrible fright.—*Pall Mall Budget*.

CONSIDERABLE interest is created in London by the friendly rivalry between two American illustrated magazines, and the new enterprise set on foot by MacMillan & Co. The struggle for fame and profit is pursued with energy and spirit, and under more equal conditions than might appear at the first glance,—the cheapness of the latest applicant for public favor being relied upon as an off-set to the superiority in size and variety of the New York monthlies. The methods by which *Harper* and *The Century* were brought to their present high popularity in England would form a significant chapter in the history of periodical literature. Ten years ago, the first determined attempt to introduce *The Century*, then called *Scribner's Magazine*, to English notice, was made by the proprietors of that publication, who discerned an opportunity of occupying and holding a field where the powerful competition of *Harper* was unknown. They

saw the advantage of obtaining the support of two great communities, at a time when the addition of a few thousands to their subscription list was a matter of importance to them. The home circulation of *Harper* was at that date so enormous that the expediency of using any exertion to extend it, in another country, was not apparent. In 1873, then, a consignment of two thousand *Scribners* was sent to Frederick Warne & Co., at the owners' risk, and on terms allowing small chances of remuneration. The experiment was continued for a year, without much prospect of success. In fact, the monthly sales did not average one thousand copies, and the supply was therefore reduced by one half. In the second year, however, the merits of the magazine, and its exceptional quality as regards illustrations, began to be recognized, and the sales increased to an extent which induced Messrs. Warne & Co. to take the English business into their own hands, where it has remained ever since. In 1876, the importation rose to two thousand copies. In 1878, three thousand were required, and the increase thenceforth was rapid until 1880, when eleven thousand were sold. The undertaking having been up to that period tentative, the full American price had never been charged in London, but it was now changed from a shilling to one and fourpence. This, indeed, was a penny and a half less than the sum demanded of the retail purchaser in New York, and a halfpenny less than the cost of each number at yearly subscription. The addition to the price had no injurious effect upon the sale, which is said to average, at the present time, twenty-five thousand copies. It was not until the latter part of 1880 that Harper and Brothers entered the English market, where their success was immediate and vast. Their first consignment was an edition of thirteen thousand, and in 1881 more than thirty thousand were called for. The price was fixed at a shilling, and has always remained the same. A circumstance which we do not see mentioned in any account of the introduction of this magazine into England, is that the plan was strongly urged, and its benefits represented, a little before it was carried into operation, by Charles Reade—always a hearty ally of the American publishers. The London agents are Sampson Low & Co., and it is understood that nearly fifty thousand copies are distributed by them each month. The superior circulation of *Harper* to the *The Century* may probably be attributed to more than one cause. In the first place, the former is sold for three-quarters of the price of the latter. In the second place, *Harper* is modified and slightly altered for the English public, the distinctive American features of the editorial departments being omitted, and their place filled by new matter prepared in London by Mr. John Lillie. It is difficult to believe, however, that English readers can gain by anything substituted for Mr. Curtis's matchless "Easy Chair" essays. *The Century* is circulated abroad in precisely the same form as that presented to its home purchasers. It is certain that neither magazine has reason to regret the experiment of appealing to a new circle of supporters. Their success has had a marked effect upon British periodical literature. The prices of certain monthlies have been reduced one half, and a new candidate for favour has been started by MacMillan & Co., intended to satisfy the same tastes as the New York publications. It is finely illustrated, and well supplied with reading matter; and its price is

only sixpence. But it has only seventy-two pages, while its foreign competitors have each one hundred and sixty. The rivalry cannot fail to be advantageous to the reading world both in England and America. *The Century* and *Harper* have reached a degree of excellence which perhaps neither would have attained without the stimulus of the other; and unless the London publishers are willing to see the magazine market usurped by Americans, they must exhibit corresponding energy and enterprise.

A GREAT quantity of human hair has been recently exported to France and England from Russia; and, the suspicions of the police authorities of the province of Pskov having been aroused, a priest named Seraphin was a fortnight ago arrested on a charge of fraud. It was then discovered that this man last year founded a religious sect, every member of which on joining it had to sacrifice his or her hair as a symbol of obedience to the superior. Seraphin has a brother, a fashionable hair-dresser in St. Petersburg; and to this man the priest consigned the locks of the faithful. Seraphin is now in gaol; the new sect of the Seraphinovski has met with untimely extinction; and the shorn sheep are consoling themselves as best they may upon the money obtained from a sale of the effects of their too ingenious pastor.

MR. COMMISSIONER OSBORN, *The Times* correspondent at Durban, states that the chiefs had met in the Reserve at Ekowe, over 1,000 persons being present. The leading spokesman, Swiceelewele, ascribed all the agitation and bloodshed to the action of white men from outside, and expressed bewilderment at seeing Cetewayo brought among them to foment further discord. John Dunn concurred in these remarks, and predicted war in the Reserve if a settlement were deferred. One tribe there was, he said, already preparing for war. Other chiefs followed in the same strain. Mr. Osborn said, amid applause, that he understood they clamoured for the removal of Cetewayo from the Reserve. That question was then being considered by the Queen's Government. He commended the chiefs' frank statement of grievances, but urged the people to till the ground and sow the crops.

THE second part of Mr. Audsley's work on the Ornamental Arts of Japan has appeared almost simultaneously with the long promised *Art Japonais*, by M. Louis Gonse, editor of the *Gazette des Beaux Arts*. We have already spoken unfavorably of the first part of the former work, and the second is, if possible, more disappointing. The author has probably devoted some time to the study of his subject, but the impression his writing conveys is one of remarkable ignorance. This last product of his labour, elaborate, costly, and luxurious in all its details, contains not one word of solid information, if we except the contents of Mr. J. Quinn's essay on lacquer manufacture, which is reproduced with commendable fidelity. For the rest, the truest description applicable to Mr. Audsley's effort is that it is a scrap-book, filled with a number of very ill chosen specimens of modern Japanese art. The originals of the pictures are evidently badly conceived and crudely executed. Indeed, the author himself is cognizant of this, for he tells us, on more than one occasion, that the paintings he copies are the productions of "ordinary artists," and not the best examples of

Japanese skill. He might have added with truth that, from first to last, his book does not contain a representative specimen of good Japanese art. Under these circumstances, it may well be asked what special qualifications he possesses to justify him in undertaking the task he has set himself. If the efforts of the Japanese masters were inaccessible by him, why has he devoted so much time and money to the preparation and publication of an album the contents of which stand in about the same relation to Japanese art proper, as a lath-and-plaster national school-house in Tokiyo to the choicest examples of classic architecture? Any person of ordinary intelligence might have gone from one friend's collection to another, and selecting now a picture, now an embroidery, and again a lacquered panel, caused these things to be engraved, or chromo-lithographed, and then bound together, adding such descriptions as the details of the drawing or the information of occasional essayists supplied. This is what Mr. Audsley has done. Sometimes, like a writer of doggerel who borrows his ideas from his rhymes, he appears to have reproduced a picture for no better reason than that some accident had familiarized him with the subject. On no other supposition can we explain the fact that selections from a scroll representing the tortures of the Inferno find a prominent place in the first section of his work. These pictures have not one redeeming feature. In point of execution they are inferior to the illustrations in a third-rate book of fairy tales—indeed, a portion of the last in the series might have been copied from the doings of the Genius of the Lamp, as depicted in cheap editions of the *Arabian Nights*—while, artistically regarded, they are execrable. But it happened that a writer in the *Theological Magazine* had given to the world some details of the Buddhist Hades, and so Mr. Audsley copies this scroll with all its sanguinary, absurdly drawn, details, and appends a description three times as long as that accompanying any other plate in his book. In the collection of a Parisian firm he found some good specimens of metal work, in the shape of knife handles. Twenty-four of these are depicted in Plate VII., without any attempt to explain the subjects, or any reference to the names of the artists. And, will it be credited, Mr. Audsley here makes it plain that, while undertaking to write about Japanese metal work, he knows nothing of that beautiful composition *Shakudo*. He speaks of it as “an intensely black metal, probably platina or steel, so treated as to present a jet black surface”! This is an excellent example of his airy ignorance. His album may perhaps help to popularize the present spurious phase of Japanese art industry, but as a contribution to sound knowledge the value of the first two parts is absolutely nothing.

* * *

The work of M. Louis Gonse sets out by declaring that “Japanese art, by which we understand, the antique art, the art of the good epochs, is completely unknown by the public:” that “the origin and the history of the art of Nippon are still a sealed book;” and that “the works which occupy themselves with the subject contain nothing but vague indications, and hazardous assertions.” We have seen how true this is of Mr. Audsley's effort. Let us now see whether it applies also to that of M. Louis Gonse. That gentleman seems to have relied, mainly, if not altogether, on the assistance of a Japanese, Mr. Tadamasha (?) Hayashii, by whose

coöperation he has been enabled to decipher marks, and to draw upon written records, which, however, he speaks of as few, confused, and vague. His project, as announced by himself, is “to determine the general lines of the art's history, to establish its chronology upon bases as exact as possible; to place in relief the artists who have left a trace in their works, and, in the case of the greatest, the most renowned, to present the essential facts and dates of their biographies.” This is a wide programme, and when we observe that, in carrying it out, the only special advantage possessed by M. Gonse, apart from his own artistic education, is the aid of a most obliging and clever translator,” who, however, has never made the subject a particular study, we feel more than doubtful of the result. The book itself, though published last October, is not yet to hand, but judging from the specimen prospectus, the illustrations are executed with the utmost skill, and their subjects well chosen. It is a bad presage that Hokusai should be spoken of as “the most original and extraordinary artist Japan has ever produced, but also the most wrapped in obscurity.” We never knew that there was anything obscure about Hokusai, and as to his being “the Rembrandt of the Far East,” that, with all due deference to M. Louis Gonse, is mere bathos. *L'Art Japonais* will probably prove almost as disappointing as Mr. Audsley's work in point of trustworthy information. But, then, it will be marked by the incomparable taste and graceful fancy which French authors generally bring to bear upon such a subject.

“ATLAS,” in the *World*, says:—All who wish to see what the art of Japan really is—what it is *not*—our own shops must have shown pretty clearly by this time—should go to the Japanese Fine Art Gallery, at 14, Grafton Street. A prettier or more genuine collection has rarely, I should imagine, been seen in London. Ivory carvings, bronzes, lacquered and enamel work, trays, cabinets—no one who has got his ideas from the flimsy trash so long current among us has any notion what such things are till he goes to this little gallery, and, to use our critics' favourite phrase, “sees the object as it really is.” The collection has also other advantages. It is not so large as to fatigue the visitor; he is charged nothing for admission; and he is not pestered to buy things.

For the first time in the history of the British army one of its subalterns is in the position of owning the first favourite for the Derby. The owner is Sir John Willoughby, Bart., lieutenant in the Royal Horse Guards, and the animal, that magnificent Adelaide filly with which all good judges fell in love at the Newmarket July meeting. As winner of the “July” and the Dewhurst Plate, she has secured, as a two-year-old, close upon 3,000*l.* in stakes, and has apparently the brightest of futures before her. In common with our contemporaries, we have our own particular “Mahdi” on this paper, and shall decline to allow him to meddle with predictions as to the future of this aforesaid filly, whose career will be so closely watched by plungers in general and the Household Cavalry in particular.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE *Ceylon Observer* says:—Sir Walter Medhurst, the son of a well known China Missionary, and himself long in the Consular Service in China, went out about a year ago to urge

Chinese immigration into North Borneo. He has now finally said farewell to China and goes “home” in the *Peshawur*. The reason why the Chinese do not crowd Colombo as they have done Singapore, Penang, and Batavia, is to him and to us an insoluble problem. Our idea is they cannot compete with the tambies as pedlars, or with the Sinhalese and Tamils as cultivators of vegetables. Sir Walter is now convinced that the Chinese are of little good for purely tropical agriculture. They are first-rate vegetable gardeners, but they cannot tackle forest, which is very heavy in North Borneo. Mr. Dent's Company should, through Mr. Gibbon, get the services of some of our Sinhalese. They could, we should think, be had for the axeing!

SECOND-RATE novelists are no longer tolerated by modern reviewers. Biting sarcasm is the mildest punishment of unfortunate novel writers who are caught tripping, and woe betide the unlucky wight who misquotes foreign tongues, or attempts any of that ponderous humor which was, a century ago, so frequently to be found in works of fiction. “A Bartered Honour,” by R. H. Sherard, has just undergone the operation of a scathing review at the hands of the London press, and all we wonder at is that no news has as yet reached us of the sudden demise of the author. “Dear Herbert, I am a d—d cad,” telegraphed Charles Hawberk, the hero of this curious novel, to his friend Herbert Lovell; and that is exactly what he was, and so, more or less, are all the characters in Mr. Sherard's story. It is called “A Bartered Honour,” but why this title was chosen it is difficult, after a most careful perusal, to decide. Nobody in the book gives any signs of possessing any honour to barter, unless it be the hero, who from believing himself a nobody's child, comes to find himself an earl and heir to a goodly income, which he wishes to waive his right to, merely, as far as the reader can gather, because an imbecile old woman declares to him that she once loved his father! Again, Mr. Sherard's idea of how a man under certain circumstances should behave, may be conveyed by the following, which the hero gives vent to when the family lawyer greets him for the first time as “my lord.” Although he was at the moment in a room at the Grosvenor Hotel “he threw up the window, and shouted down the street:—‘I am the Earl of Brookshire, and ye are fools and knaves. I have now the right to scorn and disdain ye, and insult, and ignore, and condemn ye.’”

IN the U.S. Consular Court yesterday, two colored men named R. C. Ellis and Frank Howard were charged with assaulting Mrs. Weightman, stabbing her in the thigh, and doing damage to property of the value of \$25.00. She stated that the prisoner Howard had followed her to the U.S. Consulate and slapped her in the face; afterwards in her house he stabbed her. The other prisoner, Ellis, only broke in the door and windows. Howard acknowledged that under great provocation he slapped her face. He denied all knowledge of the stabbing and throwing of stones. Ellis said he was walking home from the Seaman's Reading room when he saw Weightman threaten Howard with a hatchet, and Mrs. Weightman struck him first with a champagne bottle and afterwards with a soda-water bottle. He (Ellis) did not touch the door or break the windows. The prisoners called three witnesses for the defence, who swore that

the prosecutor was intoxicated and assaulted the prisoner Howard, and that the prisoner Ellis did not do anything. E. Valentine said that he saw Howard slap Mr. Weightman in the face; he did not hear any of the conversation. R. McCance, deputy marshal, said he saw Mrs. Weightman at the Consulate a little after 5 o'clock. She wanted him to arrest Howard who was with her, but he told her to take him to the Police Station. She used very abusive language to Howard, who wanted \$2.00 from her. He walked to the gate with them, she still calling the prisoner bad names, and when they got to the gate he shut it and walked in again. He did not see the slapping. He thought she was under the influence of liquor. His Honour acquitted the prisoner Ellis, and said as he was disposed to think that Howard was liable to be troublesome he should lock him up for 3 days.

At H.B.M. Court yesterday, before Judge Hannen, a case was heard in which Tanaka Fukutaro sued the proprietors of the *Japan Gazette* for a month's wages, \$25. After some discussion between the Bench and Mr. Litchfield, who represented the defendants in the case, relative to a counter claim by them, which claim was ultimately abandoned, it was proved by several witnesses that the plaintiff had neglected his own work, prevented other men in the employ from doing their work, and had gone to the office drunk and created a disturbance there. After this evidence had been given, Mr. Litchfield rose to address the Court, but His Honour said there was no necessity for his doing so. His Honour was satisfied that the plaintiff had been drunk and disobedient, and he would therefore make no order upon the defendants for the claim.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 25th ult., says:—The steamer *Greyhound*, from Hoihow, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon, and brings intelligence that the attitude of the Chinese there towards foreigners has been particularly hostile since the arrival of the troops sent down from Canton to guard against a possible French invasion. Europeans are constantly insulted and menaced by the Chinese, and one gentleman was recently mobbed and stoned, while another gentleman has been put in such terror for his life that he has abandoned his house and fled to a more secure position, leaving his effects behind him.

THERE is a millionaire now in New York who has a habit which probably the daughters of some of our wealthy English merchants will think might very well be imitated on this side of the Atlantic. This American millionaire is exceedingly fond, like most of his countrymen who make much money, of diamonds, and he has bought so many in his time that he has come to be regarded as one of the diamond amateurs in the United States. But his chief pleasure in buying diamonds is that he may give them to his daughters, though his manner of making the gift is a little peculiar. When he has made any especially happy selection of diamonds, he gets all his daughters, married or single, about him, takes the diamonds in his hand, and counts "One, two, three," tosses the precious stones into the air, and as they fall the daughters scramble for them, on the good old principle of "the quickest gets the most." The girls like this scramble.

THE *Pall Mall Budget* of November 30th, writing on Irving's visit to America, says:—Mr.

Irving's season at New York closed on Saturday evening. He appeared in the first act of "Richard III." and "The Belle's Stratagem." He then recited "Eugene Aram." The theatre was densely crowded with an audience which manifested its enthusiasm by almost continuous applause. Mr. Irving and Miss Terry were called forward no less than fifteen times during the evening. A beautiful laurel wreath was presented to Mr. Irving. The total receipts for Mr. Irving's performances for the month were 75,687 dols., which are 13,874 dols. above Mrs. Langtry's, and 23,253 dols. below those of Mdme. Bernhardt. Bitter complaints are made about the purchase of the seats wholesale by speculators. It is believed that the first audience paid 17,000 dols., although only 3,000 dols. was received at the box-office. There has been some discussion on the subject between Mr. Irving and Mr. Abbey, with the result that Mr. Irving intends to be his own manager next season. Mr. Henry Irving began an engagement in the Chestnut-street Opera House, at Philadelphia, on Monday night, in "Louis XI."

GREAT quantities of volcanic scorix have been cast by the waves upon the ocean beach in Los Angeles county. Whether this flotsam was the product of the late eruption in the Arctic regions, or whether it was first belched out of the earth during the Javan disturbance and after being carried up the eastern coast of Asia by the Kuro Siwo, was floated down by the ocean current that washes our coast, of course no man can say. It is one of the mysteries of nature. But this much is known: That the Java eruption threw vast quantities of scorix into the sea, for navigators who were in the vicinity soon after, have reported meeting the material floating on the waves in such quantities as to considerably impede the passage of their ships.—*Alta*.

REFERRING to the new opera by Gilbert and Sullivan, shortly to be produced by Mr. D'Oyley Carte, the *Whitehall Review* says:—The management of the Savoy Theatre has done a very wise thing in engaging Miss Lillian Russell to play the lead in the new comic opera which it has now in rehearsal. When Miss Lillian Russell first appeared in England we unhesitatingly pronounced her to be both a finished vocalist and a cultured actress. We feel sure that these qualifications will appear in full force during her engagement at the Savoy. The character she is to take is that of the Princess in the new work of that name. It is the leading soprano part, and requires to be treated with more than ordinary dramatic and vocal skill. Some of the music, we understand, has been especially composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan to suit Miss Lillian Russell. Arrangements had been entered into with Mr. Alexander Henderson for Miss Russell to create the part of Nell Gwynne—and right well she would have interpreted so romantic a character—but the engagement to the Savoy Theatre has superseded this. The salary to be paid to Miss Lillian Russell is the largest that has yet been paid in London to any comic-opera artist.

"I HAVE," says a correspondent of *St. James's Budget*, "now for many years followed a practice, in regard to such bonds and other securities payable to bearer as I possess, which practically insures me against loss either by fire or fraud. It is simply to cut off all the coupons

attached to the bond. These I deposit at my bank for safe custody and collection. The bond itself I keep in my safe at home. It is obvious that unless both bank and private house be burned the same night, I am safe against fire, for with either bond or coupons in my possession I could doubtless make good my claim to a reissue of the missing portion from the Government or company concerned. And the same may be said of theft. If the bank is robbed, I retain my bond; if my house is robbed, I retain my coupons, and no thief could find a buyer for either portion without the other. I wonder that this simple plan is not more widely adopted. It was recommended to me more than twelve years ago by Judge Longfield, of Dublin, and I have followed it ever since."

SAMPSON FOX, the great English manufacturer, who also owns works at Essen, Prussia, and proposes to establish another branch at Philadelphia, tells an interviewer that before long steamships will be built which will make the trip across the Atlantic in four days. Steamers which can do this will, he expressively remarks, "be all engines and passengers," making no pretence of carrying freight. In ocean travelling, as well as land travelling, economy and, to some extent, safety must be sacrificed when speed is made the prime object.—*Alta*.

THE fire at Homoko, which we referred to on Saturday, broke out at a quarter-past eight o'clock on Friday night at the further end of Homoko, near the ladies' bathing place, but was confined to the compound in which it commenced by the exertions of the villagers assisted by volunteers from the "Relief" steam Fire Engine Company who brought with them the Yokohama Fire Brigade Engine from the station at 130, Bluff.

WE reproduced a report from the *Fiji Shimpo* yesterday to the effect that some sixty sailors had deserted from the *Tsukuba-Kan*. This report has been officially contradicted by the *Kampo* (*Government Gazette*).

WE read in a vernacular paper that His Majesty the Mikado intends to promote Mr. Yanagihara, the President of the Decoration Bureau, to be Second Minister of State in place of the late H.E. Iwakura.

THE *Fiyu Shimbun* reports that Mr. Takei, Chief Secretary of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, has been appointed commissioner to the International Forestry Exhibition, which will shortly be held in London.

THE condition of the anchorage with regard to foreign sailing bottoms is such as has never before been seen by the oldest foreign resident. There is at present not a single sailing ship in the harbour from American or European ports, the sailing vessels consisting of the otter-hunting fleet of schooners belonging to the port.

THE wreck of the British bark *Sattara*, submitted to the hammer yesterday by Messrs. Cope & Co., realised the following sums:—The hull of the vessel, purchased by Messrs. Kildoyle and Robertson, was knocked down for \$1,750; sails, \$610; sundry stores in godown, \$135; gunny bags \$590. The last three lots were bought by Mr. J. J. Gray.

DIRECT TRADE.

THE Agricultural and Commercial Department under its present chief, General SAIGO, displays a commendable activity in its endeavours to promote improved agricultural and manufacturing methods throughout the country. Next year the public is promised an exhibition, at Uyeno, of everything pertaining to the production and preparation of silk, and already steps have been taken to convey information of the fact to the chief producing districts, as well as to make preparations for forwarding exhibits. It is also announced that the officials charged with this business are to take the opportunity of observing the methods practiced in the different provinces, and to report upon any points that may appear worthy of comment or in need of correction. Messrs. GRIFFIN & Co., in their exhaustive circular, recently published, say that "beyond question the production of raw silk in Japan is capable of much greater extension," and the figures they quote show that the elasticity of the trade is exhibiting itself in a very marked manner. Looking back at the returns for the past eight years, it appears that, omitting the altogether exceptional seasons 1876 and 1877, the export of silk may be said to have doubled in 1883. Even including those two seasons, the statement will not be far astray, for whereas the average export for the second half of each year, up to 1882 inclusive, was only 14,300 bales approximately, the export for the same period of 1883 was 23,704 bales. It will probably be right, however, to regard 1883, also, as an exceptional season. In 1876, when the semi-annual export reached 18,434 bales, the origin of the stimulus was to be sought in circumstances outside Japan; but we need not go beyond the country to find the cause of the increased activity in 1883. Of the 23,704 bales exported, no less than 5,654 were shipped directly by Japanese, against 2,006 similarly shipped in 1882. Referring to these so called "direct shipments," the circular from which we quote speaks of an "alarmist view that Japanese have determined to do their own business without foreigners' intervention." There is nothing in any sense novel about this idea. Beyond question the Japanese want to do as much of their business as possible without foreign aid. But after all, the object of doing business is to make money, and, up to the present, direct shipments have not been found sufficiently profitable to encourage a general departure from old fashioned grooves. On the other hand, it will be urged that direct trade was on trial long before 1883, and that its large increase in that year must be regarded as an evidence that the people have reconciled themselves to its risks and difficulties. We do not, however, share this view. During 1883, Japanese shippers enjoyed peculiar financial facilities. They obtained advances on easy terms, not only as regards rates

of interest and so forth, but also in respect to the manner of meeting their obligations and effecting their sales. We pointed out, in the spring of last year, that this would probably be the case. Apart from a foreign loan, the only plan within Japan's reach to accumulate a specie reserve against her fiat notes was to exchange her paper for silver at home or abroad. To carry out the exchange at home, would have been to reproduce those rapid fluctuations which had already proved so fatal to trade, as well as to incur the almost certain danger of inducing fresh depreciation. She chose, therefore, and we cannot but think that she chose wisely, to effect the exchange abroad; or in other words, to send her paper to Europe and America in the form of commodities. The result is shown in the above figures, and we may say that, so long as this policy is thought necessary, direct shipments will be abnormally stimulated. That they will receive, at the same time, a permanent stimulus, seems likely enough, for beyond question something of the experience gained under these exceptional conditions will remain and be utilized. To those, however, who discern alarming features in this prospect, it may be well to point out that, in point of fact, the policy here referred to can not be justly charged with having diverted any appreciable portion of the silk trade from foreign hands. If the direct shipments be subtracted from the total export during the latter half of 1883, it will be found that the number of bales shipped by foreign merchants was 18,050, that is to say, only 400 bales less than the number shipped during the corresponding period of that very exceptional year, 1876, and about 4,000 bales in excess of the average for the past seven years. Thus the effect of the financial operations to which, in our opinion, much of the direct export in 1883 is referable, has been largely to increase the bulk of the silk trade, and one consequence of this development has been to swell the specie balance in the Treasury vaults, and thus to give stability and quality to the fiat currency. We are aware that many side issues present themselves for discussion in this context, but the broad facts do not seem to leave much room for uncertainty.

A POLICY INCORRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

A CORRESPONDENT, whose letter will be found elsewhere, addresses us on the subject of the policy attributed to the Japanese Government by a local contemporary. Briefly, that policy is described as a return to the strict letter of the treaties, should it be found impossible to obtain their revision in a liberal sense. The effect of the change would be three-fold, according to the article from which our correspondent quotes. First, travel in the interior would

no longer be permitted; secondly, the propagation of Christianity would be interdicted; and thirdly, the bodies of foreigners dying outside the treaty limits might not be interred in Japanese cemeteries. "Englishman" is perhaps right when he says that the open attribution of such intentions to the Japanese Government ought not to pass unnoticed. There are, however, some mischiefs which the gentlest treatment cannot fail to aggravate; and, as a rule, to trust the correction of manifest misstatements to public intelligence seems wiser than by contradiction to provoke fresh exhibitions of national prejudice. The question which has to be solved sooner or later, and upon whose solution depend the development of Japan's foreign trade as well as the prosperity of the foreign residents, is whether this country shall be completely opened to Western intercourse, or whether that intercourse shall continue to be circumscribed by the narrow limits appointed twenty-eight years ago. There ought to be no difficulty in discussing such a problem dispassionately and amicably. Both sides are equally concerned in coming to an understanding, and both sides ought to be equally anxious not to misinterpret each other's motives, or to drift away into angry and irrelevant polemics.

As for the policy attributed to the Japanese Government, we are uncertain whether to regard it with amusement or surprise. The notion that the present Cabinet of Japan would "express its determination" to interdict the propagation of Christianity under any circumstances whatsoever, is scarcely less ludicrous than the pretence that, unless the treaties are made terminable, sepulture in Japanese cemeteries will be denied to foreigners. A great deal of credulity is needed to believe that these assertions are serious. Their very sequence betrays their absurdity. For, in the first place, all exit beyond treaty limits is to be stopped: in the second, sepulture outside treaty limits is to be forbidden; and in the third, missionaries found outside treaty limits "without passports" are to be arrested. We fail to comprehend how missionaries are to be arrested for not having passports when the issue of all passports is stopped; or how foreigners strictly confined within treaty limits, are to die outside them. We have no difficulty, however, in conceiving that there may be persons who, reading the words quoted by our correspondent, and not pausing to discover their manifest contradictions, will hastily accredit the Japanese with a spirit of grotesque pettifoggery, and conclude that the Government's liberal attitude towards Christianity is the outcome, not of earnest conviction, but of crafty policy. These are cruel aspersions, calculated to bring grave discredit on Japan and to deprive her of all title to foreign confidence. It is very conceivable that, in time, there may be aroused among a small section of the Japanese public some reflection of the

bitterly hostile spirit displayed towards this country by writers in the English local press. But such a sentiment will never extend to the intelligent and influential classes of the nation. Were utterances similar to those quoted by "Englishman" published in France of the French, or in Germany of the Germans, by an English journal, however insignificant, some indignation would surely be aroused. We cannot suppose that a corresponding effect is absolutely nil in Japan; and just to that extent it is correct to say that a feeling of anger against foreign illiberality exists. But the progress of the nation is happily independent of these petty influences. No Government could set itself to oppose that progress and live. As for the present Government, however strongly its influence and aid may ultimately be thrown into the scale on Christianity's behalf, they will never be found in the other side of the balance.

That the outlook would be hopeless if the facts were such as those referred to by our correspondent, admits of little doubt. But they are not so. The Japanese Government—we speak after inquiry and with authority—has never expressed itself, directly or indirectly, in the sense implied. The course ascribed to it is too obviously absurd to justify detailed denial. We may remind our readers that what the Government seeks to accomplish is the complete removal of all restrictions upon foreign trade and travel. Its object is to increase, not to curtail, the privileges conferred by the present treaties. Reasonable men will ask themselves whether a declared wish to throw the whole country open can be reconciled with a feeling of "antipathy to foreigners lurking under cover of a simulated friendship." By those only who know that they have laboured to produce such a feeling can its existence be credible.

KINSATSU AND COMMERCE.

I.

IT has hitherto been our custom at the beginning of a year to comment briefly on the leading events of the previous twelve months. This season, however, we have broken through the habit, not because 1883 was, in any sense, uneventful, but because we are unwilling to perpetuate the memory of an era which proved so disastrous to the pockets of this community. In the spring of 1881, we called down upon our heads many expressions of derisive dissent by declaring that the import trade of Japan had seen its best days, and that in the immediate future the tendency would be towards contraction rather than expansion. Our forecast, however, was based on a very easily deciphered series of facts, and its justice has been amply established by the event. We could wish that it had been otherwise, but wishing will not mend matters, and the only consolation we can find, at the opening of 1884, is that the causes which of late years tended to paralyse Japan's trade have probably passed their climax. It is scarcely necessary to remark

that at the head and front of those causes stands a fluctuating medium of exchange. The experiences of other countries in connection with fiat notes have been reproduced, phase by phase, in Japan. Here, as elsewhere, an inflated volume of circulating media imparted a temporary impulse and a fictitious air of prosperity to industry and trade, and here, as elsewhere, the reaction has been painfully apparent in every branch of enterprise. Of the processes by which these results have been brought about, and of the devices employed by the Government to contract the bulk of its paper issues, as well as to collect a specie reserve, with a view to ultimate resumption, it is unnecessary to speak now. Probably by this time the foreign community has ceased to suspect that the recent steady appreciation of *Kinsatsu*, and corresponding depreciation of commodities, are entirely due to some necromantic method of "bulling and bearing" contrivable only by Japanese financiers. The Government, by its vacillating and tentative schemes in former years, forfeited the confidence of the public, and has little reason to complain of the scanty credit even its sound and honest proceedings subsequently received. There are still, indeed, many persons who hold that currency contraction has been carried on with unwise rapidity; and, judging by events, the criticism appears just. But the most that can be truly said on the subject is, that Japan has fared no better than England and America fared under similar circumstances. Her sufferings have been the counterpart of theirs, with only this difference, that she has borne them more quietly. Had it been possible for her financiers to foresee that a moderate contraction of the bulk of their fiat paper, supplemented by the accumulation of a comparatively small specie reserve, would produce such marked effects as the past two years have witnessed, they ought certainly to have exercised greater deliberation. But finance is an exceedingly delicate affair. If but a fraction of what has been written on the subject in Yokohama were true, the extreme sensitiveness which *Kinsatsu* have shown was the last thing to be looked for. There was a time, not so long ago either, when scarcely a day passed without some censure, direct or indirect, being publicly levelled at the Government, because it took no steps to contract its excessive issues or to provide for a return to specie payments. Measures were then advocated whose one aim was to drive the currency up to par in the shortest possible period, and all the resources of a not too circumspect vocabulary were employed to assail the reputation of financiers who neglected to follow these various counsels. True, amid the outcry, one or two voices were raised on behalf of moderation, but the general clamour was for speedy and decisive action, and arithmetical calculations were published to show that,

by raising a foreign loan and devoting it to resumption, the Government might bring about an appreciation of twenty or thirty per cent. in the value of its fiat notes, and increase the purchasing power of its own revenue by nearly as many millions, in a few months. The formulators of these schemes did not consider, or perhaps were not in a position to understand, the consequences of the course they advocated. They forgot that every sensible appreciation of *Kinsatsu* signified a corresponding addition to the obligations of the debtor classes and to the burthen of fixed payments; neither did they observe the lesson taught by the experience of all countries similarly situated, namely, that the unsound commercial conditions brought about by the fluctuations of an inflated currency are as nothing compared with the paralysis which industry and trade suffer at a time of rapid currency appreciation. The Government, however, did not allow itself to be committed to any heroic action. Two simple courses were accessible, and these it set itself to follow steadily. The first was to contract the bulk of its fiat notes; the second, to accumulate a specie reserve. Included in the former was the withdrawal of note-issuing privileges from the national banks—a withdrawal which followed in the ordinary course of events, the bank's issues having reached their legal limit—as well as the elaboration of a scheme for the gradual redemption of the notes already issued; and, included in the latter was entire abstention from spasmodic efforts to "bull" *Kinsatsu* by throwing quantities of specie on the market at uncertain intervals. To these measures the currency has responded with remarkable rapidity. In 1882, its average depreciation was about thirty per cent.; in 1883, only thirteen. But in the meanwhile all the various evils of contraction have been inflicted on a trade already feeble, and we may truly say that, so far as the foreign community is concerned, a worse year than 1883 never visited Japan. All that can be hoped is that the currency has done the utmost mischief of which it was capable. It is now brought within measurable distance of resumption, and there is no apparent reason to anticipate any recurrence of disastrous fluctuations. The cost of labour has not yet fully adjusted itself to the altered value of the circulating medium, and during the current year many complaints will probably be heard in connection with this process, but the revival of trade and industry can only be a question of time, and it will be a revival far sounder, though of smaller dimensions, than the unreal stimulus imparted by inflation in the past.

II.

THERE is, it must be confessed, a certain air of mockery about the words, the revival of trade and industry, when used in Yokohama. A revival of any sort implies the existence of previous vitality,

and certainly Japan's foreign trade, comparatively speaking, has long been in a moribund condition. The source from which its development must eventually come is not far to seek, but for the moment we desire to speak less of this wider prospect, than of the circumstances which are immediately before our eyes in Yokohama. The subject is a little hackneyed, perhaps, yet, to our thinking, its interest increases year by year, since year by year the root of the mischief becomes more apparent. Each period of twelve months, struggled through with difficulty and consigned to the limbo of an unattractive past, finds the foreign community more painfully sensible of the pressure of the iron band that cramps its energies and sets narrow limits to its opportunities. It would be difficult to conceive a body of intelligent, enterprising men more cruelly circumstanced than the residents of Yokohama. Imagine the case of a stranger establishing himself on the outskirts of a city, the ways and the language of whose inhabitants are virtually unknown to him. Imagine, further, that his object in coming there is to make a livelihood by selling his own goods to the people of the city and buying theirs for export, but that in conducting these transactions he is forbidden to go beyond the bounds of his compound. Imagine, again, that he is a person of exclusive and haughty habits, who lives in a style altogether above the fashion of the country, and who declines to submit to any laws not of his own making and administration. Imagine, yet again, that he has the reputation of being an exceedingly shrewd, crafty individual, thoroughly versed in all the intricacies of his trade—a trade, for the rest, comparatively strange to the people of the country—and that, in order to obtain redress for any wrong suffered at his hands, it is necessary to have recourse to tribunals presided over by his own nationals, not to be approached except at great expense after compliance with unfamiliar technicalities, and administering laws so delicate and complicated as to be intelligible only by specialists. Imagine all these conditions, and then say what must be their inevitable outcome. Would there not gradually gravitate to the neighbourhood of this isolated stranger a number of natives of the adventurer class, ready to take every possible advantage of him, and not over-scrupulous of the methods they employed to balance his superior attainments and experience? Would not these men, little by little, combine to form a cordon about him, with the double object of preventing competition from their own side, and of compelling his compliance with whatever terms they agreed to offer? Would not each year that passed render their position more impregnable, through their recognized familiarity with the stranger's ways, and through their prescriptive right to a monopoly of transactions with him? All these

things have happened in Yokohama. For every practical purpose the settlement is as much isolated from Japan and the Japanese as though it were an island fortress, accessible only by one gate, the keys of which are in the keeping of men whose worldly prosperity depends upon preventing any communication between the garrison and the outer world. It is easy to understand how intolerably irksome such a position must ultimately become for the prisoners in the fortress, and how they must chafe to escape from their confinement. But the wonder is that, being practical men, they content themselves with empty complaints. They inveigh against guilds and monopolies fatal to the development of trade: against a band of agents who are delegated by the monopolists to manipulate the market, and to keep all legitimate competition at arm's length: against an everlasting repetition of tricky expedients by means of which the settlement is virtually blockaded and every operation of commerce subserved to the monopolists' interests. But what possible purpose can be served by these complaints? Is it to be supposed for a moment that the Government can interfere to correct a state of affairs which is the perfectly natural outcome of the situation? Men talk loosely of "treaties and conventions, entitling foreigners to perfect freedom of intercourse with the whole body of the Japanese people," but no such treaties or conventions exist. Foreigners possess no right of intercourse, whether social or commercial, with Japanese outside the treaty limits. It is their position under the treaties which renders them an easy prey for combinations and associations, and we unhesitatingly assert that there is no country in the world where similar advantage would not be taken of similar disabilities. There may be some consolation in ventilating vague charges against the Government of Japan. It is an old and time-honoured propensity, that of laying everything upon official shoulders. But there is, fortunately, little chance that the Government will be persuaded to meddle with matters which do not concern it, and which could only be aggravated by its interference. Familiar and frequent as are these complaints about guilds, monopolies, *saitori*, and so forth, we have never heard a practical suggestion as to the course the Government is required to adopt for their abolition. True, a great many sounding denunciations have been hurled at the Machigaisho, as if that substantial building were, in some occult fashion, responsible for everything that happens within sight of its clock-tower. But suppose the Machigaisho were levelled to the ground to-morrow, would its fall break up the corporation (*Chokwai*) which uses it as a place of meeting, and which just as law-abiding an association as the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce? Or

supposing the corporation were dissolved by an arbitrary and illegal exercise of power, would merchants come flocking from the interior to deal directly with foreigners of whom they know nothing, except that they are men not to be unwarily approached, and prone to invoke official aid in every inconvenient conjuncture? It is marvellous, indeed, to hear such unpractical vapouring indulged in by persons in other respects eminently practical. The plain truth is that the present condition of affairs is the unavoidable result of the partial intercourse permitted by the treaties. To speak of the Government's illiberality is unjust. The Government would open the whole country to-morrow, were foreigners willing to consent to the only arrangement under which the mixed residence of aliens and natives is possible. But foreigners will not consent. Their present condition, with all its disadvantages, is preferred by them to complete and unrestricted intercourse. Their position is almost analogous with that assumed twenty-five years ago by the leading members of the *Foi* faction in Japan, who, while admitting the material advantages their country might reap from an extended commerce, were yet resolved to perpetuate her isolation because they distrusted everything not Japanese. Having regard to all this, it must be confessed that to speak of the revival of industry and commerce is little more than a figure of speech. There can be no revival of commerce or industry worthy of the name until the blockade of the open ports is raised; and that can never be so long as the present treaties render a commerce of investment more profitable than any other to the Japanese that carry it on. These facts were never more emphasized than by the unprecedented depression of 1883, and their importance will constitute our excuse for recurring to them here.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

A CURIOUS incident of the political situation in the United States is the election of Mr. CARLISLE, as Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, appears to be received with more satisfaction by the Republicans than by their opponents. Not, of course, that the former would not prefer a presiding officer of their own party, if they could have one; but, being in a minority in that branch of the national legislature, they recognize a particular advantage in the choice of Mr. CARLISLE over his friendly competitors. There can hardly be a doubt that the success of the Virginia politician places the Democrats in an awkward dilemma. One of the professed principles of their body is Free Trade; but, while theoretically advocated by such of

the leaders as are free from commercial trammels, this doctrine is openly opposed by all whom the question touches in a business or in a political sense. No Democrat in a manufacturing State ventures to lift his voice in favor of a direct application of Free Trade measures. Thus, Mr. RANDALL of Pennsylvania, who has already been Speaker, and who was Mr. CARLISLE'S principal rival in the recent contest, is a Democrat, body and soul, but at the same time is a thorough Protectionist. Mr. CARLISLE, belonging to a section where manufacturing industries are not active, and having personally no reason for refusing to proclaim Free Trade to the fullest extent, has always advocated the abolition of customs duties, except for purposes of revenue. His election would therefore appear to be a distinct triumph for the anti-Protectionists; and so it is, to some extent. But it is necessary to consider that the Democratic Protectionists are very much in earnest and full of activity in their cause,—believing with the Republicans, wrongly or rightly, that their own and the nation's prosperity depends upon the maintenance of a high tariff; while the Free Traders, with a few notable exceptions, are either ignorant upon all economic subjects, or are apathetic in bringing them forward. The party is thus dangerously divided against itself, and to such an extent that the practical leaders are strongly averse to any agitation of the topic. The consequence is that Mr. CARLISLE, though nominated and carried to victory under the flag of Free Trade, has been persuaded by his sagacious elders to quietly furl the emblem, and keep it packed away out of sight. His first speech after election contained an unconditional surrender of the position he has hitherto constantly occupied. He said, in effect, that while adhering to the abstract principle he has ever supported, he is convinced that the interests of the Republic would be imperilled by any immediate change in the tariff. The necessity which dictated this avowal was a choice of evils. The Democrats plainly see that they cannot face the country on a Free Trade platform, and Mr. CARLISLE is instructed to declare himself contented with the existing state of affairs. But his renunciation of faith is an afflicting confession of weakness. It means that his associates cannot stand by the only vital policy which they have proclaimed distinctively as their own. The gratification of the Republicans at Mr. CARLISLE'S election may, therefore, be easily understood. If Mr. RANDALL had been called to the Speakership, no expression of opinion as to the tariff would have been needed. That gentleman has already held the same office, and his sentiments are well known. But Mr. CARLISLE came forward as the exponent of a different order of things. In his new official capacity, it was inevitable that he should say something on the theme which has so long engaged his

energy and so often kindled his eloquence. What he might say was a matter of minor consequence. However framed, his utterance must be beneficial to his adversaries and embarrassing to his friends. In fact, a directly opposite development was expected by the Republicans. It was generally supposed, among them, that he would boldly assert his favorite doctrine, and steer himself and his companions, hereafter, by a straight Free Trade course. This would have suited the Republicans almost equally well, for they do not believe that the mass of the Democrats can be rallied, for the presidential struggle of this year, in support of a professed non-tariff policy, and are convinced that if Mr. CARLISLE had led off in this direction, a "split" would have been inevitable. But that the hitherto unswerving representative of a great political cause should drop it and virtually discredit it at the most successful moment of his life, under pressure of the conviction that his party must otherwise fail in the coming struggle, was almost beyond their hope. As the matter stands now, the Republicans are firm and unbroken on the tariff question,—which has always been the strong feature of their policy,—the malcontents, if any, being kept out of sight and hearing. The Democrats, on the other hand, see the only sound plank of their platform thrown aside by the man whom they have just raised to a high position solely on account of his life long devotion to that very "plank." They might have found some plausible excuse for dropping their rallying cry, if Mr. RANDALL or anybody of less pronounced convictions than Mr. CARLISLE, had been made Speaker; but they rashly gathered all their strength to put the Free Trade champion into the most powerful office, next to the Presidency, attainable by an American citizen, and having got him there, they find they have made a blunder which nothing can repair, and which can be only partially expiated by requiring their standard-bearer to forswear himself, renounce the aims of his whole career, and confess the impracticability of executing any of the projects for the furtherance of which he was elected. It is difficult to conceive of a more awkward, not to say irretrievable, predicament.

If the Democrats were guided by intelligence and principle, it might perhaps be really irretrievable. The party might shrink from carrying through a contest without a definite plan, and with no purpose of combined action except that of obtaining power for the sake of the spoils. But the legion of the democracy,—that portion which controls elections in certain powerful States,—is the refuse of the American people. It follows the instructions of its immediate masters with blind, unquestioning obedience. It will vote as it is ordered, without wasting thought on sentiment or morality,—of which shallow vanities, indeed, it has no comprehension whatever.

The leaders, therefore, have little fear of desertion or insubordination on the part of their followers, no matter what folly or indiscretion may be committed. But they do not feel themselves powerful enough to carry the great November election without reinforcements from the Republican ranks. To secure these, is the eager desire of all sensible Democrats. Such hopes as they cherish have hitherto been based upon Republican dissensions, rather than upon any enticements they are themselves able to offer. No doubt the Republican organization has been demoralized by its long period of unchecked rule. Its misdeeds became so flagrant, a year ago, that hundreds of thousands of mature Republicans in several States were impelled to vote the Democratic ticket, as a warning to their foolhardy chiefs. That temporary success was too much for Democratic sobriety,—supposing such a quality to exist. The Republicans, in vast numbers, had done a thing which no "square" Democrat would dream of doing;—they had rejected party dictation, because of the discreditable conduct of the party managers. It was certainly a great Democratic opportunity. A little prudence and moderation, a little care in concealing greed for plunder, might have secured to them, for a year or two at least, some of the advantages which fortune had thrown in their way. But they could not hide the cloven hoof. They lost their heads before the recurrence of the next ensuing local elections, and so recklessly betrayed themselves that a large proportion of the errant Republicans returned forthwith to their old allegiance. Governor CLEVELAND of New York, who, though a Democrat, owed his elevation to the Republican defection referred to, and who took a judicious view of the circumstances, wisely warned his followers what was in store for them. He told them, in so many words, that the party which behaved most respectably until November, 1884, would win the presidential fight. The Republicans took the lesson deeply to heart, and have certainly put their best foot foremost ever since. The Democrats have acted like a gambler who, having won a great stake through the inadvertence of his adversary, risks it all on the same defective cards, playing the same ruinous game, and totally unconscious that he is now confronted by a skill born of experience and by a stronger hand than he can possibly get out of the pack. It is not to be supposed that the higher Democratic authorities are unaware of their false position, nor that they would not bring order out of the chaos beneath them, if they could; but in dealing with the voting multitude they are obliged to rely upon and cooperate with a set of the most brutish and brainless beings that nature ever forced into premature development from a gorilla ancestry. Without the Kellys of the democracy, the Tildens or the Bayards can do nothing; and it is the Kellys who persistently bring

ridicule upon the "reform" pretences, and disgrace upon every semblance of decency or dignity which the more clear-headed elders contrive to patch up. The Republican leaders may have as keen an eye to power and profit as their antagonists, but they are willing to study the temper of the nation and be controlled by it. If they make mistakes, they at least endeavor to atone for them. If they find that political reforms are demanded, they at least take practical steps in that direction. The Democrats, never.

Three quarters of a year must pass, however, before the test can be applied, and events may occur in that interval which will change the prospect in many particulars. There is absolutely no indication, thus far on either side, as to who the nominees will be. It does not seem probable that the selection of candidates will count for much in the campaign. No name excites enthusiasm, or carries particular weight. The Republicans will trust largely to their platform; the Democrats, chiefly to party discipline, and considerably to internal distrust and dissatisfaction among their enemies. The Republicans will declare a continued confidence in protection to native industries; the Democrats, will presumably, have nothing to say about the tariff, beyond offering a possible plea for modified revenue reform. On behalf of reform in general their protestations will be loud and lofty. The fighting will be hard on both sides, and altogether fair on neither. If the election is not disfigured by more unsavoury incidents than the average of its recent predecessors, reputable Americans will have cause to congratulate themselves. But the outlook, in this respect, is far from reassuring.

TRUE PROTECTION.

"True Protectionist," whose letter will be found in our correspondence columns, propounds an interesting problem and discusses it skilfully. But, to our thinking, he might almost as well have signed himself "Free-trader," for it is quite plain that the leading principles of free-trade receive complete recognition at his hands. The particular case he adduces is, as he justly observes, of a somewhat exceptional nature. A tax levied upon the public at large for the purpose of fostering an industry to which neither its prosecutors nor their circumstances are specially adapted, presents, economically, an appearance very different from that of a tax similarly levied with the object of developing natural sources of wealth, which would otherwise lie dormant. But this difference is more apparent than real. It ceases to exist when we remember that all commodities are originally obtained from the earth, and that industry, whether it be exercised in the form of mining, husbandry, or manufacture, has for its ultimate aim the production of commodities. Economic principles might, therefore, be equally violated whether the workers of a lithographic-stone quarry or the promoters of a cotton-spinning factory be protected at

public expense. If, by imposing protective duties, the prices of lithographic stone and cotton hose be permanently raised for American consumers in order that American producers may work a quarry or run a mill, then it would be better for America to leave her lithographic stone in the bowels of the earth and let her cotton go elsewhere to be spun. Our correspondent recognizes this when he says, that if the cost of producing an article in America were just so high as to permit its sale, with a reasonable profit, at precisely the same rate as that paid for the same article imported, then the "true protectionist" would advocate no duty whatever. We have here the whole principle of free trade, namely, that the consumer should always be at liberty to buy in the cheapest market.

"True Protectionist," however, does not stop there. He propounds an alternative case, which somewhat resembles an excursion into the domain of protection, as the term is generally understood. If the home producer's skill and experience are not yet sufficient to compete successfully with foreign operators, then "True Protectionist" would impose "a temporary nominal tax" until competition becomes possible on equal terms. His measure is purely one of education, and we confess that in this respect he seems to us to tread the *via media* which the riders of both free trade and protectionist hobbies over-step in their zeal. Every civilized nation consents to be taxed for the education of its people. The Governments of England and America alike devote large sums every year to this purpose. Now what, after all, is the purpose of education? Is it not the development of faculties which enable their possessor to occupy a higher place in the social scale, and to compete successfully with the industrial intelligence of his fellows? How, then, can we logically pretend, that though the public funds may be wisely and properly devoted to foster theoretical ability, they can not be devoted to foster practical ability, except at the expense of sound economy? There is something in these two propositions that appears very difficult to reconcile. Take the case of a country which has hitherto remained secluded from the rest of the world, and whose inhabitants, with few wants and fewer aspirations, have never been spared to develop the resources nature has placed within their reach. Such a country, on being admitted to the comity of nations, becomes conscious of a thousand new needs, and, aiming at a higher scale of living, aims, also, at greater industrial activity. Let us suppose, then, to fix our ideas, that among its sources of wealth are deposits of coal and iron, not more accessible, naturally, than those of England; while, also, among its new requirements these two products occupy an important place. Everybody will agree that the Government of such a country ought to lose no time in establishing a school of mines where the people might acquire practical skill sufficient to enable them to extract the metal and the mineral with the same facility as English experts. Such a school would not be regarded as part of a system of protection, though unquestionably it would be an institution maintained at the public expense, for the purpose of developing a particular industrial ability. Now let us go a step farther, and suppose that, as the result of these wise educational measures, it becomes possible

as to compete successfully with the imported articles, but that the process of manufacturing the iron into useful forms is still beyond native ability. The Government, it will be at once said, ought to have foreseen this contingency, and combined with the school of mines a school of practical mechanics. Very true. The *raison d'être* of this latter institution is just as solid as that of the former. Nevertheless, the public is still further taxed with the object of developing a particular industrial ability. Let us advance yet another step, and suppose that the men trained in these colleges are subsequently employed at foundries and workshops established by native capitalists. It were obviously hopeless to expect that the articles they manufacture will be, from the outset, as economical and attractive as goods imported from the hands of workmen skilled, by long experience, in every device of their trade. The native manufactures, therefore, must either be sold at a loss, driven out of the market, or protected until they can compete on equal terms with the foreign. Here, however, the free trader interposes his veto. He is willing to tax everybody for the theoretical education of industrial ability, but that the public should continue its assistance until the results of its initial expenditure are practically realized, he denounces as an economical blunder. The two propositions look strange, side by side, nor have they ever been satisfactorily reconciled by any writer. It seems extravagant to suggest that Dick should be obliged to pay a high price for his coats in order that Tom may become proficient in tailoring; but it seems equally extravagant to deny that a society of persons may be acting wisely when they consent to a temporary outlay for the purpose of developing industrial abilities destined to confer permanent profit on themselves, as well as to increase the producing power of the world, and therefore to contribute to its welfare. The grand difficulty is to define the legitimate limits of public co-operation; to determine at what point of its development an industry may be left to take care of itself. So insolvable is this problem, and so serious are the abuses consequent upon the failure to solve it, that we cannot wonder at the preference many of our greatest thinkers avow for free trade. The risks of even such a modified form of protection as our correspondent advocates, are not to be lightly encountered. Nevertheless, as a point of logic, we cannot question the soundness of his general proposition, though we dissent from some of his corollaries. It has come to be a habit with Englishmen to treat as an intellectual inferior everyone that declines to follow them to the extreme of their free trade principles, but the wisdom of the world has never yet developed an economical system applicable in its entirety to all sorts and conditions of men.

NOTIFICATION NO. 126 OF THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that a Naval Dockyard has been established at Ono-ga-hama, Kobe, and placed under the control of the Marine Bureau.

KAWAMURA SUMIYOSHI,
Minister of Marine.

January 25th, 1884.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TRUE PROTECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have recently copied an article from a San Francisco newspaper, which professes to state the position of the "true protectionist" with respect to the discovery in California of a new quarry of lithographic stone. As a rule, the "true protectionist" is never better contented than when the average free trader emerges from his chaos of generalities, and attempts to argue, as in the present instance, upon particular facts. With your permission, I will endeavour to show how the "true protectionist" really would and does regard a development of mineral wealth like the deposit in question, and to demonstrate, by a few of the simplest axioms in economic science, the fallacy of the California journalist's assumptions.

I will assume that the several details recited by him are trustworthy;—that a bed of lithographic stone has been found in his State, identical in quality with the famous product of Solenhofen, in Bavaria, which latter yields annually 13,000 cubic yards, at a cost of \$1,000,000, and upon which the owners obtain a profit of 900 per cent.; and that the new American quarry promises to be extensive, and easily worked. Upon the basis of these items it is alleged that, instead of welcoming the prospect of a reduction in the cost of an article hitherto sold by monopolists at extortionate rates, "your true protectionist" thinks only of "how the owner of the new quarry may be given a local monopoly and enabled to charge more for its goods than the Bavarian monopoly, which makes 900 per cent. profit." Upon this premise, the writer builds a ponderous fabric of free trade sophistry, the character of which can easily be imagined by all who are familiar with that species of dissertation. The briefest reference to any recognized work on Protection would, however, prove the falseness of the premise. "True protection" has no more to do with monopolies than it has with "stock-watering" or with "corners" in railway shares. Its purpose is to assist in promoting domestic industries and, as a natural consequence, to encourage native labour. In this case of the stone quarry, the "true protectionist's" first study would be to ascertain the relative cost of production of the American and the European articles. The American might be higher, it might be lower, than the other. Let us suppose, for the sake of illustration, that it would prove to be just so high as to enable the proprietors to sell their wares, with a reasonable profit, at precisely the same rates now demanded by the Bavarian exporters to the United States. Under these conditions, the "true protectionist" would either advocate no duty whatever, or propose the imposition of a temporary nominal tax, until such time as the home producers should gain equal skill and facility with the foreign operators. Let us furthermore suppose that the United States have hitherto consumed annually, \$4,000,000, worth of the Bavarian stone. With the appearance of the domestic article, at an identical, or possibly a somewhat reduced, price, the imported ware would be driven out of the market. As to the profits of the California owners, the "true protectionist" would not concern himself. He would contemplate only two important results: first that the \$4,000,000 previously sent out of the country, in payment for a foreign ware, would remain and continue to circulate at home; and next, that a large body of American labourers and artisans would begin to be actively occupied in the production and preparation of an article upon which a similar body of Bavarian mechanics had until then been employed, at American expense.

It might be suggested that the Bavarians could

easily afford to make a great reduction in their prices to American purchasers, having their immense profit of 900 per cent. to fall back upon. But in taking that step, they would be obliged to reckon upon a similar reduction everywhere; because, if they undertook to retain the old scale in Europe their stone would inevitably be re-exported from America, and sold in direct opposition to their own presumed monopoly. It would of course be open to them to try the expedient, long familiar to free-traders, of underselling the Americans on American ground in the hope of crushing out the infant industry, and afterward returning to their original high prices. In such event, it would be the duty of the "true protectionist" to examine the question with a view to future probabilities; to calculate whether in process of time the American stone could be produced at a sufficiently low cost to warrant additional fostering by the Government. In this investigation it would be necessary to consider not alone the actual market price to be ultimately attained. If the Americans could eventually undersell the Europeans, so much the better; but that would not be the sole point of inquiry, by any means. There would still remain the necessity of considering whether the country at large would gain or lose by the continuance of the American product, even if it could never be supplied to buyers at so low a rate as that fixed by the European exporters. The fact that the nation might gain, materially, notwithstanding the burden of an extra charge upon individual purchasers, is one to which free-traders seem determined to blind themselves forever; and to show that it is a fact, I ask attention to a single plain demonstration. Suppose, first, that \$4,000,000 worth of lithographic stone now imported into the United States from Bavaria could be supplied at the same price by American producers, the latter being encouraged by a protective tariff, to develop their quarry. "What is the use of such encouragement?" say the free traders; "we shall only have a lot of cumbersome legislation for the benefit of a band of monopolist conspirators, and the American people, to say the least, will be, as they were before, having to pay just the same for their lithographic stone." Let us look into this, say I, as a "true protectionist." At present, \$4,000,000 leaves the country forever, and goes to Bavaria, for which we obtain in return \$4,000,000 worth of valuable, but perishable, stone. But if the American product is stimulated, we keep our \$4,000,000 to circulate and breed among our own people, and also call into existence \$4,000,000 worth of stone which otherwise would not have been added to the world's working stock. Can any one doubt which is the more advantageous course for America? Now, suppose that the needed quantity of stone would cost \$5,000,000 if supplied by the Californians, and that the purchasers were allowed to take their choice. They naturally buy from Bavaria, paying \$4,000,000. The country then gains \$1,000,000 on one side of the transaction, and gets the stone; but it permanently loses the \$4,000,000, and also the power of creating, as it were, the vast store of new material, not to speak of the privilege of expending, in the support of native workmen, so many millions which have gone to the support of European laborers. The calculation may be varied and extended; and I do not understand how any candid man can dispute that America must gain by fostering the new industry,—unless it be proved that the difficulties of development are too great to allow a hope that the stone can ever be offered as cheap, or nearly as cheap, as the Bavarian article. "Keep the business in the family," is the maxim of those great accumulators of wealth whose name stands at the head of European finance. Nobody, I presume, will deny the benefits of commercial exchange, soundly conducted, to both parties interested. When American and European merchants deal with one another, both reap a profit; part of it goes to one country, part to the other. But if the dealers

on each side are Americans,—if the exchange is between Americans in the West and Americans in the Eastern States,—will anybody, in that event, stultify himself by disputing that *all* the profit and benefit cling to America? No one, I imagine, who has thought it worth while to study and make himself familiar with the teachings of the man whom Englishmen recognize as the founder and master of economic philosophy. On this point Adam Smith, who first formulated many of the maxims upon which "true protectionists" rely, is peculiarly emphatic. "A capital," he says, "employed in the home trade will sometimes make twelve operations, or be sent out" (not out of the country, be it understood) "and returned twelve times, before a capital employed in the foreign trade of consumption has made one. If the capitals are equal, therefore, the one will give four and twenty times more encouragement and support to the industry of the country than the other."

The case of this lithographic stone discovery does not afford the fairest opportunity for the illustration of economic theories, the product being so exceptional and extraordinary. Only two quarries are said to exist in the world, and no legislation, under such circumstances, could entirely check the evils of monopoly. For a thorough application of the laws of social science, less abnormal conditions are required. There are few mineral deposits of which it can be said that only a single specimen exists in an entire country, and that the whole world (so far as known) contains but two. As a general rule, the multiplicity of identical and competing industries keeps prices at a reasonable figure; but when nature has created a monopoly, it is hard fighting against her. Since, however, the free trade writer in San Francisco finds, in the recent discovery, nothing but omens and portents of protectionist evils, I need not hesitate to use it as an exemplification, necessarily limited, of the good results of Protection, even when applied to unpromising subjects. Under its influence, if the quarry can be worked without immoderate or extravagant cost, America will receive the benefits above described. Bavaria will suffer, it is true, but I am discussing the question from the standpoint of American interests. It is obvious that the system of free trade, which the little European kingdom has greatly enjoyed while she alone was supplying the world with lithographic stone, will play the mischief with her prospects if the American article can be more cheaply produced than her own; for in that case America would rapidly fill the principal European markets, and nothing could keep the San Francisco export out of Bavaria's proper territory even, but the immediate imposition of a protective duty on this very product. She might be prevented from taking this step by the preponderating power of Germany, but the injustice of such a prevention is rightly characterized by Adam Smith, who says that "to prohibit a people from making all they can of every part of their own produce, or from employing their stock and industry in the way that they judge most advantageous to themselves, is a manifest violation of the most sacred rights of mankind."

Nothing can be more absurd than the attempts of guerrilla free traders in the United States to saddle the protective theory with the responsibility of evils growing out of selfish monopolies. True protection aims precisely at the extirpation of those evils. There is not an honest protectionist alive who would not repudiate the notion of propping a doubtful enterprise by legislative action. But that legitimate enterprises may thus be fostered, to the indisputable advantage of the community, we have overwhelming evidence, not only in the vast industrial development of the United States under twenty years of protection, but in the commercial supremacy which in Great Britain reached its culminating point two or three decades ago, by virtue of the most rigid and uncompromising system of protection ever practised by a nation. The consequences of a partial abandonment of that

system (partial, I say, because England never has and never can entirely abandon it) are shown in the fact that numerous foreign wares are already sold more cheaply in English markets than their domestic equivalents, the home manufactures being thus threatened with destruction; in the unprecedented excess of imports over exports during the past few years, and in the general anxiety which has replaced the haughty confidence once characteristic of British trade. To attain a commercial eminence equal to that enjoyed by England a score of years since, and not to sacrifice it at the moment of triumph in the pursuit of an illusion which never can be realized until civilization has advanced far beyond its present crude condition, is, in America, the broad purpose and the high ambition of every

TRUE PROTECTIONIST.

Tokio, January 20th, 1884.

AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There appeared recently in the columns of one of your local contemporaries an article which has created much astonishment among readers of the local press. The writer sets out by saying that he possesses "sources of information which are beyond all question reliable," and from these sources he proceeds to describe the policy contemplated by the Japanese Government should its efforts to obtain more liberal treaties prove unsuccessful. The Government, he says, has "expressed its determination to probably bring to an end three privileges at present enjoyed by foreigners" but not provided for in the treaties. These privileges are (1) Travel in the interior beyond treaty limits, (2) The preaching of the Christian Gospel, and (3) Sepulture in Japanese Cemeteries in cases where a foreigner dies outside the treaty limits. Your contemporary paints the withdrawal of these privileges in very dark colours. Referring to the second, he says:—"The native heathen shall be suffered to remain in ignorance of the teachings of Christianity, and any Missionary who shall dare to travel beyond treaty limits to spread the gospel, will be liable to be arrested like any ordinary malefactor, and be brought in police custody to any of the nearest treaty ports, and prosecuted for being found beyond treaty limits, without being in possession of a passport"; and of the third he speaks thus:—"But these convincing exhibitions of Japanese friendliness are not to end even with life, for in cases where death supervenes, the body of the foreign outcast shall be denied sepulture in a Japanese cemetery, if the authorities choose so to order." Finally, the inference he draws from the policy of the Japanese is, we are told, as follows:—"So, then, it appears that under cover of a simulated friendship, there still lurks concealed that antipathy to foreigners which from the days of Decima to our own time, has, like the smouldering fires lingering in the ashes of a volcano, never in reality, been extinct. Policy, may perhaps for a time have suggested concealment, and lack of power and timidity have alike contributed to that end, but it is only the ignorant or the superficial, that could possibly have fallen into the error of believing otherwise."

I cannot for a moment permit myself to suppose that an English journal would publish such statements as the above without the very highest authority. I refrain from commenting on the tone of the language in which they are set forth, further than to say that it is calculated to excite the strongest feelings of race antipathy. Most unfortunately for the interests of foreigners and Japanese alike, there is constantly imported into newspaper discussions on treaty revision a spirit of recrimination and asperity which obscures the real issue and carries the question quite beyond the domain of reason. It is not my wish to say one word which might exacerbate that spirit, but I do think that such utterances as those I have quoted ought not to pass unnoticed. If it be true that the Japanese Government has "expressed a determination" to pursue the plan described by your contemporary, I fear the outlook is very hopeless.

Yours, &c., ENGLISHMAN.
Tokio, 25th January, 1884.

CHRIST CHURCH.

The annual meeting of pew-renters and others interested in Christ Church was held yesterday afternoon (by kind permission) in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, No. 60. The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. Russell Robertson (in the Chair), Bryan Durant (Hon. Treasurer), H. Litchfield, J. Rickett, E. J. Moss, T. Thomas, F. A. Cope, A. J. Wilkin, C. H. Dallas, F. W. Eastlake, W. B. Walter, Fraser, Brearley, Mollison, and Dr. E. Wheeler.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

Yokohama, January 24th 1884.

The Committee of the British Episcopal Church Establishment at Yokohama beg to submit their accounts and report for the year ended December 31st, 1883. The accounts show an actual balance due the Treasurer on that date of \$320.32, with the dependency to debit of \$160.00, a financial condition much less gloomy than was anticipated a few months back. The entries on the credit side show two small items for pew-rents dating back from 1881 and 1882, and there is still for pew-rents in arrear a dependency to credit of \$130.00. A very distinct promise has been given that a large proportion of this outstanding amount will shortly be paid. The pew-rents in 1883 amounted to \$2,118.50, a falling off as compared with 1882, when the receipts under this heading were \$2,366.25. The donations, however, attain to a good figure, and it is indeed owing to the liberality with which appeals have been met that the Church finances present at the moment that comparatively fair prospect they do, nor should mention be omitted of the Christmas Day collection of \$251.00 as helping material to reduce the balance due the Treasurer. A glance at the debit side will show that the heaviest disbursement has been an item of \$640 for repairs, but it is hoped unless something very unforeseen should happen that no further outlay to any great extent for repairs is likely to be incurred for the next two years. The total disbursements amount to \$4,106.02, of which sum, in addition to the item for repairs already mentioned, an amount of \$626.20 is for balance due the treasurer at the close of 1882. There is a dependency to debit of \$100, due for organ tuning and \$60 being six months' interest due on loan. The Committee are anxious to submit to the subscribers the question of the tenure of the Chaplaincy as affecting the present incumbent. By an arrangement between the Committee and the Rev. Mr. Irwine the position is that from next month that gentleman's services are terminable by three months notice on either side, but it is felt that such an arrangement, while perhaps to be justified by the outlook of finances at the time it was made, is one that the Committee is of opinion in justice to our Chaplain should no longer be binding, and your sanction is therefore requested to what was proposed at a recent meeting of the Committee, namely, that so far as the current year is concerned Mr. Irwine's position should be one of certainty. Your Committee desire in closing this brief report especially to record their grateful sense of the services of Mr. Griffin, and to express their sincere thanks to all who have assisted in the work of the choir throughout the year under review.

(Signed) RUSSELL ROBERTSON.

(Signed) A. J. WILKIN.

(Signed) JOHN WALTER.

(Signed) MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD.

(Signed) E. WHITTALL.

(Signed) EDWIN WHEELER.

THE TREASURER OF CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA, IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE TRUSTEES.

DR.

From 1st January to December 31st, 1883.	
To received for Pew Rents for 1881	\$ 40.00
To received for Pew Rents for 1882	60.00
To received for Pew Rents for 1883	2,118.50
To received for Donations for 1882	892.50
To received for Donations for 1883	125.00
To received for Sunday offertories	248.70
To received for Christmas Collection	251.00
Collected	50.00
Balance due Treasurer, carried down	320.32
	\$4,106.02

Dependency at Debit.

Due for 1 year's tuning organ	\$ 100.00
Due for 6 month's interest on loan to 31st Dec., 1883, say \$1,500 at 8 per cent. per annum	60.00
	\$ 160.00

CR.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1883.	
To Amount due Treasurer 31st Dec., 1882	\$ 626.20
To Chaplain's Stipend for 12 months	2,100.00
To Coolie Wages and Sundries for 12 months	105.38
To Advertising	18.00
To Interest on Loan \$1,500 to 30th June, 8 per cent. per annum	60.00
To Ground Rent	180.19
To Fire Insurance	192.00
To Coals Supplied	39.00
To Pew Opener's salary for 12 months	60.00
To Repairs to Church and Parsonage	640.00
To Bill Collector	30.00
To New Matting	7.25
To Decorating Church at Christmas	48.00
	\$4,106.02

1883.—December 31st, by Balance due Treasurer \$ 320.32
Dependency at Credit.

Pew Rents uncollected 1881, 1882, 1883, \$40.00, \$40.00, \$50.00	\$ 130.00
E. & O. E.	(Signed) E. WHITTALL,

Treasurer, Christ Church.

Yokohama, 31st December, 1883.

The CHAIRMAN opened the meeting by reading the Report of the Committee and the Accounts. He went on to say that he did not wish to gloss over matters, it had been brought to his notice a few minutes before the meeting had assembled that there was an unpaid account which would materially alter the balance-sheet. This was for the

repairs to the organ. The repairs were made when he was absent from Yokohama, but he had been given to understand that there had been a subscription list started to defray this expense. Through this means \$200.00 had been raised, but this amount did not cover the whole of the outlay. They had to thank Mr. Kiel for his numerous kindnesses in this matter, and also for reducing his account for tuning from \$100 to \$80, wishing the balance to be considered as a donation to the Church. There was still an amount of \$125.00 owing under this head, which did not appear in the accounts.

Mr. MOLLISON proposed, and Mr. RICKETT seconded, that the report and accounts be passed, which was carried unanimously.

In answer to Mr. RICKETT, the CHAIRMAN stated that the Rev. Mr. Irwine had tendered his resignation, principally on the ground, he believed, that the financial position of the Church was so bad. He had interviewed Mr. Irwine on the subject, who wanted a formal answer from the Committee. The Committee had discussed the matter carefully, and had offered the Rev. Irwine another year's tenure of office. He asked the meeting to confirm the action of the Committee in this matter.

Mr. RICKETT said that at the meeting last year Mr. Thomas had brought forward a proposition touching this subject.

After reference to the minutes it was found that the proposition had not been published, one gentleman remarking that he remembered the occasion and that the reporters were requested not to publish the discussion.

In answer to some further questions, the CHAIRMAN said that the Chaplain's engagement ended in January, 1882, after which it had been guaranteed for one year more, but there had been no formal agreement. His present position was that there was an agreement of three months' notice on either side.

Mr. WILKIN wished the minutes of the last annual meeting to be read.

These minutes showed that the Chaplain's agreement had been extended for one year, at the expiration of which term a three months' notice was to be given by either party.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know whether the pew-renters would confirm the action of the committee in guaranteeing the stipend for one year.

Mr. DALLAS said he thought that this was an unsatisfactory arrangement, as the question would be brought up year after year. He thought it was undignified, and that it left the Chaplain in a state of uncertainty which ought to be avoided. The better plan would be to appoint the Chaplain on a six months' notice.

Mr. THOMAS said that by the action of the Committee he would be secure for 12 months, and before the time expired they would no doubt be enabled to inform him whether there were funds sufficient to enable them to retain his services or not.

The CHAIRMAN thought the year to year principle was the best.

After some further conversation, Mr. DALLAS formally proposed:—"That to obviate the recurrence of discussions as to the Chaplain's tenure of office, and to make his position as permanent as possible, it is moved that the engagement with the Reverend E. Champneys Irwine continue indefinitely, subject to six months' notice on either side, provided that no such notice be given before the 1st of July next."

Mr. BREARLEY said there was no danger of the Chaplain having to go through lack of funds. He thought they were strong enough to bear the burden of the Church. The public were always generous when a crisis came and such a question ought never to have been discussed. Funds were sure to be forthcoming, and if the deficit for the present year were calculated, or even for two years to come, they could find guarantors for the amount.

Mr. WALTER said he thought it would be better to have an indefinite six months' agreement with the CHAPLAIN, as with a one year's engagement the time gradually dwindles down and sufficient notice might not be given. He should, therefore, second Mr. Dallas's amendment.

This was put to the meeting and carried by 10 to 2.

Mr. BREARLEY suggested that the gentlemen who pledged themselves as guarantors of the amount due to the Treasurer at the last meeting should pay up, and that the Hon. Secretary prepare a budget for the current year showing the probable deficit, as he had no doubt they could easily get the amount guaranteed.

Mr. FRASER said the guarantors had not gone round to solicit people to join them, as the late Treasurer was very sanguine as to the state of the finances, but Mr. Durant had kindly furnished him with a statement of the accounts and they were going round shortly.

Mr. WALTER said he was of the opinion that the

guarantee system was not a good one, although it had been adopted in this instance. He would suggest to the Committee, who would no doubt talk over matters with the Chaplain, that he might in some way associate himself more closely with his parishioners. In many places in England where the parochial work was heavier than here, the clergyman added to his income by taking an interest in educational matters. There were plenty of youths growing up in the Settlement who required instruction, and by taking them in hand it would bring the Chaplain into closer relationship with the community and perhaps open their pockets. He had no doubt but that Mr. Irwine would acquiesce in the idea.

Mr. BREARLEY proposed that the guarantee list be so supplemented as to cover the deficit for 1884. This proposition, not finding a seconder, fell to the ground.

Mr. FRASER proposed that the following gentlemen be asked to act on the Committee, the term of office of the old Committee having expired, and at the same time would propose a vote of thanks to the retiring members, especially Mr. E. Whittall. He then proposed Messrs. Russell Robertson, M. Kirkwood, A. J. Wilkin, B. Durant, J. Melhuish, and Dr. E. Wheeler, as the Committee for the ensuing year.

Mr. THOMAS seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

This ending the business before the meeting, which was then adjourned.

CRIMINAL COURT, NAGASAKI.

January 14th, 1884.—Before Mr. Justice NISHIOKA.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The judicial inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of a Chinaman named Wai Hin-no, killed in an opium affray, was concluded on the 24th inst., the accused constable being sentenced to five years' major confinement. The following is a report of the case:—

On opening the Court at 9.45 a.m., His Honour Judge Nishioka made the usual inquiries as to the age, birth-place, &c. of the accused, Mine Susumu.

The prisoner replied that he was a *heimin* of the Kumamoto Prefecture, aged thirty-five years and nine months; and that he was registered at No. 43, U'eki-cho, Yamamoto-gori, Kumamoto.

His Honour thereupon called the following persons as witnesses:—a fellow constable of the accused, named Okazaki Kenjiro; two Chinamen, one Chang Tak-shin and another; Murakami Sokaku, and two others. They were ordered to wait outside the court room.

His Honour, upon resuming his enquiry, asked: Have you ever been punished by law?

Prisoner—No.

His Honour—How many members are there in your family?

Prisoner—Six, not including myself.

His Honour hereupon ordered the indictment to be read, which was as follows:—Mine Susumu, the defendant, a *heimin*, registered under No. 43, U'eki-cho, Yamamoto-gori, Higo, Kumamoto Prefecture, detective and special constable, attached to the Shinchi Police Station in the Prefecture of Nagasaki, aged thirty-five years and nine months. On the 15th of September, 16th year of Meiji (1883), the accused, while patrolling the district under the supervision of the Shinchi Station, being on special duty as detective, found two Chinese smoking opium, and reported the matter to Inatsugu Masa-ashi, Assistant Police Inspector and Chief officer of the Shinchi Station. Acting upon the instructions of his superior, the accused, accompanied by the other constables, proceeded to the *Seitaigo* (a Chinese firm) in the foreign Settlement, and arrested the opium smokers. On the way to the station at Shinchi, a crowd of Chinese assailed the constables in charge of the two prisoners, and attempted to rescue them. The accused assisted his comrades in driving back the crowd, and was beaten and otherwise maltreated by the would-be rescuers. Provoked at this, he

snatched the sword of Okazaki Kenjiro, one of the constables, charged the crowd, and inflicted two severe wounds, on one Wai Hinno, on the left breast and on the back, these wounds resulting in his death. He also wounded another Chinaman in the left arm, disabling him for upwards of twenty days. Another Chinese—was wounded on the lower jaw, and still another man had the little finger of his left hand badly hurt, both being disabled for twenty days in consequence. The evidence adduced in the preliminary examination is:—1.—The statements of Matsugu Masaashi, Chief of the Police Station and Assistant Police Inspector, Yeguchi Minekichi, Yamanaka Kumajiro, Miyatsu Gohachi, Okazaki Kenjiro, Shigematsu Saburo, and Ogawa Shojiro. 2.—Statements of Murakami Sokaku, Kuroda Riujiro, Sakuragi Zenkichi, Yokose Miyataro, and Sonota Ushijiro. 3.—Medical certificates from Kofumi Yokijiro, surgeon of the Nagasaki Hospital. 4.—Sword of Okazaki Kenjiro used by the defendant.

The express provisions of the law respecting this, are:—

Art. 209 of the Criminal Code.—Voluntary blows, wounds, or assaults, which have occasioned death, shall be punished by major confinement.

Art. 301.—If the violence has only occasioned illness or incapacity for labour for the space of twenty days or upward, the penalty shall be imprisonment with hard labour of from one to three years.

The imprisonment shall be from one month to one year, if the illness or incapacity for work has lasted less than twenty days.

Art. 100 (Clause 1).—When an individual is declared guilty, in the same suit, of several offences for which he has not yet been condemned, the most severe penalty alone shall be inflicted.

Art. 309.—Murder, voluntary blows, wounds, or violence, are excusable when they have taken place in a fit of passion, directly provoked by serious violence against the person of the offender, &c.

Art. 313.—In the cases set out in the preceding articles, the penalties incurred for murder, blows, or wounds according to the distinctions made in the preceding sections, shall be lowered from two to three degrees.

Art. 67.—The ordinary criminal penalties are lowered in the following order:—1. Death. 2. Penal servitude for life. 3. Penal servitude for a time. 4. Major confinement. 5. Minor confinement.

Art. 69.—When the penalties of minor confinement or of minor detention be lowered one or more degrees, the tribunals shall pronounce, as the first degree of abatement, imprisonment with hard labour in the case of confinement, and simple imprisonment in the case of detention, during from two to five years.

Art. 70.—In all cases in which correctional imprisonment and correctional fines shall be gradually lowered or raised, the calculation shall be made in the proportion of a quarter to one degree greater or less on the minimum and maximum of each of the two penalties such as they are fixed by law.

The following is the Finding of the Court:—

In the case of Mine Susumu, who was tried on the 22nd of December, 1883, the Court finds that on the 15th of September, 1883, he found, while on duty as special detective, two Chinese smoking opium in a room about the size of three mats on the premises of the Seitai Company. He reported the matter to the police station, and, according to the instruction of Inatsugu, Assistant Police Inspector and Chief of the Station, proceeded to the place, accompanied by Yeguchi Hidekichi and three other officers, to arrest the smokers. On arriving upon the spot, the party found them still smoking opium and tried to take them into custody after seizing the smoking apparatus. The smokers resisted capture; while a crowd of Chinese assailed the officers to rescue the prisoners. The defendant, Mine Susumu, was wounded by the mob; whereupon he snatched the sword belonging to Okazaki Kenjiro and charged at the assailants, wounding five of them. One of them, Wai Hinno died on the spot. Therefore, the defendant is liable to Articles 301 and 299 of the Penal Code, and ought to be punished according to Article 100, having the penalty lowered by two or three degrees according to the provisions of Articles 309 and 313.

KONO TSURIN,

Commissary, Nagasaki Criminal Court.

To Nishioka Yumei, President of the Nagasaki High Criminal Court.

December 27th, 1883.

January 24th, 1884.

In the case before the Nagasaki Criminal Court regarding the prosecution of Mine Susumu, a detective of the Shinchi police station, for causing

the death of a Chinaman named Wai Hinno, the following final judgment was delivered:—

JUDGMENT.

The Defendant, Mine Susumu, aged thirty-five years and nine months, *heimin* (commoner) is a detective of the Shinchi police station, Nagasaki, and registered under No. 43 U'eki-cho, Yamamoto-gori, Higo, Kumamoto Prefecture.

The Court, in considering upon the finding at the preliminary investigation, held at the Court of First Instance Nagasaki in which the defendant was charged with assault and wounding, decides as follows:—The Court read the affidavits taken at the Court of Kono Tsurin, Commissary, and of the following witnesses:—Inatsugu Masaashi, Yamanaka Kumajiro, Miyatsu Gohachi, Yeguchi Minekichi, Ogawa Shojiro, Murakami Sokaku, Kuroda Kinjiro, Sakuragi Zenkichi, Sonoda Ushichiro, Kofumi Yokichiro, a surgeon of the Nagasaki Hospital, Matsuwo Shime, and Dr. Renwick; and the depositions of Chintoku-sho, Chintoku-gioku, Chin-tenso, Lin-ritetsu, Koko-tei and Waiho-tei; also reports of investigations made upon the premises (a Chinese house, where the affray is alleged to have taken place); a report also of the Chinese constable Kiokichi; the medical reports of Dr. Renwick and the Nagasaki Hospital; and received the statements of Yamamiya Kenjiro, Shigematsu Saburo, Yokose Tomitaro, a Chinese Shukuchoboku, in defence of the accused, and heard the speech of the Counsel, and finally examined the sword produced. At 7.30 p.m. on the 15th of September, 16th year of Meiji (1883), when the defendant was patrolling the district under the supervision of his station as special detective, he found two Chinese smoking opium at the house of one Chintoku-sho, No. 24 Shinchi, Foreign settlement, Nagasaki. He reported the matter to his superior Assistant Police Inspector Inatsugu Masaashi, who ordered him, with Yeguchi Minekichi and three other constables, to arrest the smokers.

The accused conducted his fellow constables to the place, arrested the Chinese, and seized the smoking apparatus. On the way to the station, the prisoners resisted the constables. The day was the *Akidzuki Matsuri* (Autumnal Moon Festival) and there was a large crowd of Chinese strolling through the streets who came to the assistance of the prisoners. Then ensued an affray in which the accused was maltreated. He snatched the sword belonging to Yamamiya Kenjiro and wounded Wai Hinno in his left breast and back, which wounds resulted in his death. He also wounded another Chinese, Chin-tenso, in the left arm, disabling him for upwards of twenty days. Another Chinese, Kokotei, was wounded on the lower jaw, and another man, Jiuri-tetsu, had the little finger of his left hand badly hurt, both being disabled for twenty days in consequence. The accused and his counsel insisted that the police performed their legitimate duty in arresting the opium smokers and that, as the accused's life was in peril owing to the violence of the Chinese, he drew the sword in self-defence. Although the police were fulfilling their legitimate instructions in arresting the opium-smokers, there is no evidence to prove that the Chinese so imperilled the lives of the constables as to justify the accused in drawing a sword. The Chinese had no other intention than to rescue their countrymen, and there is no reason why they should have assailed the accused in such a manner as to endanger his life; especially as he was not in charge of the prisoners. Therefore, the Court cannot admit that the accused had reason to draw a weapon in self defence. According to the medical certificate of the Nagasaki Hospital, the statements of Murakami Sokaku, and the fact that the prisoners were rescued, it is proved that the wounds on the accused were not intentionally inflicted. The accused, acting under the impression that his life was in danger, as the rescuers far outnumbered the police, and provoked by the ill-treatment he received, drew the sword. Owing to the foregoing reasons, the accused is sentenced to major confinement for five years, having the penalty lowered by two degrees according to Articles 299 and 309. The sword will be returned to its owner according to Article 44; and the defendant will pay the costs and expenses according to Article 45.

The above sentence is pronounced in presence of the Commissary Kono Tsurin.

Court of Major Crime, Nagasaki.

NISHIOKA YUMEI, Presiding Judge.

TAKENO BINKO, Judge.

MATSUSHITA NAWOZANE, Judge.

MIYAGUCHI TEI, Clerk.

YOROGI SHIGENORI, Clerk.

January 24th, 1883.

RACING NOTES.

The subscription griffin movement inaugurated by the Kiyodo Keiba Kwaisha (Union Race Club) for the forthcoming meeting at Toyama, is, from all I can gather, likely to be a great success, and will probably give a fillip to racing in Japan such as the sport has never before received. The racing will extend over three days, and the fixture has been made for Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, the 26th, 27th, and 28th of April. I have been favoured with a perusal of the programme, which will shortly be ready for publication, and the Committee are certainly to be congratulated upon the liberal bill of fare therein displayed, no less than *yen* 1,800 having been set apart in six races for the subscription griffins alone, the first race on the opening day, the Criterion Stakes, being a prize of *yen* 500, including money for the placed horses. The terms upon which the griffins can be obtained place ownership easily within the reach of all sufficiently interested in the sport, as not only may one owner take several ponies, but several owners may jointly run one animal; added to this, the Committee offer to recommend, to those who may not be possessed of training facilities, trustworthy and reputable persons to take charge of animals and prepare them for the post. The griffins will be drawn for by lottery shortly after the closing of the list, which is fixed for the 15th of February, and the ponies, costing not more than *yen* 60 each, will be selected from a mob of 300 now being collected in the Oku-wo and Nambu districts. None will be taken less than 13.2 in height, their ages will be between five and seven years, and all will have passed a veterinary examination. The ponies will be paid for when the drawing takes place, and the compulsory entries, amounting in the total to *yen* 90, will have to be paid at the same time; but, should forfeit be declared one week before the races, half the entrance money will be returned. The number of ponies already subscribed for by Japanese and foreign members of the Union Race Club is over twenty, and the first batch of griffins, about forty, have already come to hand. When the entire mob shall have arrived, they will be "powed," and Colonel Matsumura and Mr. Okochi will pick about 50 of the most promising and send them to the Kudan Racecourse, after which a Committee, consisting of three Japanese and three foreign members of the Club, will make the final selection of the number that have been subscribed for. The griffins that have arrived are in rather poor condition, and, as a matter of course, don't look much like flyers with their shaggy coats and hairy heels; but, although the time between the drawing and the racing is none too long, a good deal can be done between the physic and the first saddling bell. In nearly all the races where griffins meet the old ponies, the former have a 7lb. allowance, and it is just on the cards, looking to the large number of subscription ponies likely to see the post, that one or two may be found to hold their own at even weights with the victors at Toyama and Negishi.

With seven races on each day's card, the programme is a most attractive one. On the first day there are races worth *yen* 500 and *yen* 200, besides valuable presentation prizes, the Diplomatic Cup, the Princes' Cup, the War Office Cup, and the Foreign Office Cup. The second day opens with the Nursery Stakes, *yen* 300, and includes a presentation prize by the merchants of Tokio, the Noblemen's Cup, and a cup presented by the Mitsu Bishi Company. But the most interesting item in the second day's programme is the Ladies' Purse, the first event of the kind ever introduced into the race meetings of the Capital. I hear that, independently of the sentiment attached to winning a Ladies' Purse, he will be a lucky horseman who carries off this trophy and will find himself much richer at the finish than at the start, as the Japanese ladies who are getting up the prize are piling up the doubloons at an astonishing rate. The Ladies' Purse is the fourth race on the second day, half-a-mile, gentlemen riders. The third day's sport will include four handicaps, and of the five principal races one is for *yen* 400, three for *yen* 250 each, and one for *yen* 200. I understand that some alteration in the top end of the course is contemplated, and that great attention will be paid to the track in the interval between this and the meeting. Given fine weather and good going, the best race meeting ever held at Toyama may be confidently looked forward to.

CHIRON.

IN THE CONSULATE-GENERAL FOR SWITZERLAND.

MONDAY, 28th January, 1884.—Before A. WOLFF Esq., Consul-General; and C. ZIEGLER, F. ABEGG, T. SCHLATTER, and F. STRÄHLER, Assessors.

ALLEGED EXTENSIVE FRAUDS.

Hermann Ludwig and Rudolf Trüb were brought up at the Swiss Consular Court yesterday, charged with having fraudulently obtained advances from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to the amount of \$193,438.19 against fictitious certificates of deposits of silk and waste silk; and further that they, without the knowledge and consent of the Bank, unlawfully disposed of goods which they held on the Bank's account.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the Bank.

The charge was read over to the prisoners, who stated that they had a defence, but wished to make it after the witnesses had been heard.

Mr. Walter, late Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at this port, sworn, stated that on the evening of the 15th inst., about six o'clock, he received a letter from Mr. Ludwig asking him to call. He did so, and saw both Mr. Ludwig and Mr. Trüb. Mr. Ludwig then said that he had a very unpleasant communication to make. He (Mr. Walter) asked the nature of it. Mr. Ludwig then told him that the godown orders on which the Bank had advanced money to his firm were to a great extent fraudulent. He then asked what amount of property there was which was represented by the godown orders. Mr. Ludwig replied that there was very little security at all, and said he hoped the Bank would have mercy on them, that they had a first-rate business and good friends in Europe, and that if the Bank would only give them time it would get off without loss. Witness told him that the Bank would never condone an offence of the kind, they would rather lose the whole amount. In the course of the conversation, he asked Mr. Trüb, whom he had always looked upon him as an honest man, if he knew anything of these frauds. Trüb replied that he had been cognizant of them all through, and was equally guilty with Mr. Ludwig. He then requested Mr. Trüb to go to the office and bring him any securities of value they had there in the shape of documents. He came to his (Mr. Walter's) house, No. 119 Bluff, at a little after nine o'clock, and handed him some books, also some Japanese documents and title-deeds, which he said represented claims upon Japanese amounting to \$80,000. On the following day, the 16th instant, he made a formal demand on Ludwig & Co. for the amount of their indebtedness to the Bank. They sent the Bank a letter saying they were unable to pay, but handed over all their possessions to the Bank. In the course of the forenoon of the 16th Messrs. Trüb and Orth came to No. 62. Mr. Trüb was then shown his godown orders, and said, in reply to a question from Mr. Morris, that there was nothing to represent them, and that the whole thing was a fraud. The nature of the Bank's business with Ludwig & Co., was that they were allowed to cash cheques for the purchase of silk and waste silk, such cheques being marked silk or waste silk according to the description of the produce bought, on the understanding that they were to hold the silk to the Bank's order and to keep them fully covered at all times. As early as possible after the end of each month they furnished the Bank with godown orders, giving a detailed description of the silk and waste silk hypothecated to the Bank. All of these showed the Bank to be fully, more than fully, covered, the receipt dated 1st November showing silk and waste silk to the value of \$254,500 held to the Bank's order. On the 16th instant, after the disclosures made by Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb, Mr. Broadbent made an examination of Ludwig & Co.'s godown, and found silk and waste silk roughly estimated to be worth only from \$10,000 to \$15,000, a portion of which is claimed by Japanese. Mr. Walter also said that Mr. Ludwig informed him on the 15th inst. that these frauds commenced in 1879, and that as the fraud had been carried on for so many years and business of the kind could not be carried on without confidence, such as the Bank had given Ludwig & Co., the Bank therefore did not recommend the accused to any consideration whatever. Mr. Walter further stated that the documents handed into court were in the handwriting of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb. He had compared them with others in his possession.

The Court read over Mr. Walter's evidence, which he acknowledged to be correct.

Mr. Ludwig stated that he had never disputed the amount due to the Bank. He objected to the following points in Mr. Walter's evidence. He had not said that the godown orders were fraudulent, but that they were inexact. With regard to the

date when the irregularities first commenced, he had not said that it was in 1879, but said it was either in 1879 or 1880, which he could not say without looking at the books, and that from the amount of the storage receipts for November, \$254,500, the shipments would have to be deducted.

Mr. Trüb said he did not remember having told Mr. Morris that it was a fraud, but said that they would have to bear the consequences of a judicial enquiry.

Mr. Walter said that since the 1st instant, when the amount of indebtedness was \$193,438.19, only about \$10,000 worth of silk had been delivered with the Bank's consent.

In reply to the Court, Mr. Walter said that since 1879 the Bank had never examined the godowns, as they were full of silk which was continually going out and coming in, and only an expert could have checked it. He had every confidence in Ludwig & Co. It was Mr. Ludwig's own statement that the frauds commenced in 1879. The Bank did not hold the godown keys. In the case of advances on tea and silk it was not customary for the Bank to hold the keys, as it would interfere with their customers' business, and they would lose several working hours a day. The Bank only held the storage notes; there were no letters of hypothecation. A storage note is considered the most complete security, as it is made out to the Bank's order. Ludwig and Co. told him that they were doing a commission business only, and were running no risks. He thought he remembered having seen an account showing that they were doing a good business. He had enquired about the firm, and had always heard well of them. He had written to them frequently saying the amount of the advance must be reduced, and that was done. Some time ago the amount was much larger than at present. Mr. Ludwig had repeatedly told him that he did nothing on his own account; it was all on order. The Bank had a right to demand the keys at any time and to take the goods away if they pleased, but if they held the keys Messrs. Ludwig & Co. could only have obtained them at 10 a.m. and would have had to return them at 4 p.m., thus losing several hours every day.

Edward Morris, Manager of the Hongkong Bank, sworn, stated that he was present at an interview between Mr. Walter, Mr. Trüb, and Mr. Orth on the forenoon of the 16th inst. A statement dated 1st January was handed to him, which statement contained a list of certain goods in Messrs. Ludwig & Co.'s godown under lien to the Bank. He asked Mr. Trüb if it was in his handwriting, to which he replied "yes." He then asked him if he knew that the goods were not in the godown when he made out the statement, and Trüb replied "yes." He then told him he had committed a fraud, to which he again replied "yes."

Mr. Trüb objected to Mr. Morris' statement that he replied "yes" to the question of having committed a fraud. What he remembered saying was that they would have to undergo a legal examination.

J. F. Broadbent, accountant, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, stated that on about the 14th of this month he received an account of the goods held on account of the Bank by Messrs. Ludwig & Co. against their overdraft. He asked Messrs. Ludwig & Co. to let him know how they made it out and by what margin the Bank was covered. He was told that the price of the silk and waste and the money advanced upon it would leave a margin over the Bank's advance of 15 per cent. He afterwards sent a gentleman from the Bank to inspect the godown. That gentleman came back saying he had seen Mr. Trüb, who said he was busy and asked him to come next day. The following day he went himself, and made a list of the goods he found (list handed into Court). He returned to No. 62, and reported in what state he had found the godown. Afterwards Mr. Trüb came to the Bank, and during the interview he was asked how he came to make such a statement when he knew the goods were not in the godown. He replied that that was their great wrong, their great fault, and admitted that it was a fraud.

Mr. Trüb said he did not believe he had said it was a fraud, but admitted saying that the godown receipts were incorrect.

Mr. Broadbent, in answer to the Court, said he had never taken stock or checked the receipts at Messrs. Ludwig & Co.'s. He had been here nearly two years. The reason of the inspection was on account of the change of managership in the bank, and besides he had not felt satisfied with the statements as rendered month by month, and so thought it advisable to check them. The manager had it in his power to order the accountant to check godown receipts, but as a rule the accountant does so as a part of his duty.

The Court then adjourned till 2 p.m.

On resuming, H. Orth, sworn, stated that he was in the employ of Messrs. Ludwig & Co. He had no interest in the business, and was present at an interview between Messrs. Walter, Broadbent, Morriss, and Trüb on the 16th instant. He stood a little apart from them, and did not hear all that was said. He did not remember hearing Mr. Morriss' say to Mr. Trüb "then you have committed fraud in fact." He did not take any part in the conversation, and could not remember what was said.

The prisoners' defence, which was in French, was then read.

The following is a translation:—

M. LE CONSUL GENERAL, Messieurs the JUDGES, Assessors.

1.—In presenting to you in my name, and as much as a friend as the Counsel of Messrs Ludwig and Trüb, the following articles on their behalf, I do not, perhaps, comply with the practice followed by this Consulate; custom, perhaps, would have demanded that they should have conducted their defence themselves.

But I have thought that you would permit me to give them this testimony of sympathy before you, moreover they themselves—if they could as well as myself dispute and refute before you the accusation made against them from a legal standpoint—could not nor would they give due weight, as I can and must as a friend, to their blameless past, their laborious and honourable lives, which is the first reply that I shall make to the accusation of fraud preferred against them. With this I shall commence.

2.—In all matters appertaining to criminal jurisdiction, still more than in civil proceedings, it is of the utmost importance that the judges should know the moral standing of the accused, their past, their habits; be it that the incriminated fact is to be proved thereby, or that, if the fact is known, as in this case, their intentions or their morality are to be considered.

If Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb had been accused of assault and battery, and that the fact itself were disputable, we should ascertain whether they were of violent and impulsive character, whether they were of intemperate habits that might exclude moderation in presence of a contradiction or evil intention: if the fact, on the other hand, were confessed by them, or proved, and they, for their justification, alleged extreme provocation of which they had been the object, or a danger from which they could only escape through violence, their peaceable character, their natural urbanity, would be sufficient to convince us of their innocence.

The matter under our present consideration is an accusation of their having illegally disposed of merchandise which they held on account of others. The case does not rest upon the existence or non-existence of contested commercial facts: the facts themselves, the exterior facts, are known, and the point upon which the matter turns is the intentional character of those facts, is their morality; it is a question, then, of good or bad faith, and it is for this reason that I ask the Court to consider, first of all, the moral standing of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb up to to-day.

We shall then examine the value of the prosecution from a legal standpoint, and it will be easy for me to demonstrate that neither of the passages of the law quoted against my clients applies to them, and would not be applicable even if their good faith did not exist.

3.—It is, truly, an easy task for me, gentlemen, to thoroughly demonstrate the probity, loyalty, and the motive of the conduct of my clients and friends. You know them as well and better than myself; for a long time they have lived in the midst of you, you have always seen them laborious, orderly, modest, and enjoying universal respect. Before they established a business on their own account in 1878, they had both been employed in old established firms and had acquired the so very difficult knowledge of that beautiful but dangerous commodity "silk." Their reputation for honesty and business capacity was already so well accepted that in the first year of their establishment Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb obtained from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank a credit of \$30,000, which in the second year was extended to \$100,000. The importance of their business and their commercial honesty were the guarantee of the Bank, as much, and more still, than the receipts of which we shall presently speak.

4.—A first modification, without doubt, more or less necessitated by the general state of business, which was not a happy one, was then introduced into their business by the partners, viz., to obtain orders of real and continued importance they saw themselves obliged to interest themselves to the extent of one-third, and sometimes one-half, in the shipments they made.

A little later, the Japanese having commenced to produce filatures in European style, which met with great success, the house of Ludwig & Co. occupied

itself with this branch of the business on its own account, and this fact forced them to have recourse to a more extended credit, which was granted. If, during the years which followed, Japanese foreign trade had at least remained normal, the merchandise bought with the money loaned by the bank would have been resold with a considerable profit, and the regular returns from Europe would have sufficiently covered the advances made by the bank.

But the house of Ludwig, as well as several others, found itself severely tried. Purchases made in the interior, on which heavy advances had been given, were not delivered, and goods shipped to Europe had been resold at a loss, and so the security of the Bank progressively diminished as the debt increased under these difficulties, and at an interest of 8 per cent.

The bank, during a period of prolonged crisis, could not ignore the situation in which the firm must needs find itself, with the evidence of an increasing debt and the drafts which had been sold to it with a margin up to 20 per cent. on the amounts of the invoices.

5.—Nevertheless, in order to conform to its statutes, the bank demanded, yet only since 1880, a monthly statement of the goods in stock, and its debtors in compliance with this demand rendered such statements. We shall now return to these receipts and their alleged criminal character, for the case rests on this alone.

These gentlemen had to their credit in Japan a sum nearly equal to half their indebtedness to the bank, which, was, moreover, their chief and almost only creditor. A forcible execution would have done away with their only means of action against their debtors, whilst by continuing to deal gently with the latter they were convinced of their ability, in course of time, to return the larger part of the sums due, and to cover, little by little, the deficit in their account with the bank, and, in fact, during the last six months their situation had brilliantly improved.

6.—I have spoken of their successive losses and their outstandings to be recovered. The money owing them and assets amount to \$90,700, and their justified losses to \$118,900 in round numbers. This already exceeds the \$184,00 due to the bank, with which it cannot be said my clients enriched themselves to the detriment of the bank.

The second sum is lost to them without hope of recovery; the first, by right, belongs to the creditors, of whom the bank, so to speak, is the only one. The actual loss of the bank, will then be reduced by the sums to be recovered on the above-mentioned \$90,700. In regard to this we cannot at present specify an amount: the result will depend much upon the manner in which the debtors are proceeded against.

7.—The point on which we wish to lay the utmost stress is that if our clients have caused the bank to lose an important sum, they have not retained anything of it themselves; their discretion, their cleverness, have been gravely at fault, but their hands have remained clean.

8.—We would wish it to be noted that the amount to the credit of the bank does not represent the loss of so much actual capital; for in fact during the five years in which those advances were made, it has, in current account, written to its credit the sum of \$59,500 interest: yes, gentlemen, \$59,500 interest paid. Whatever may be the legitimate profits which the banks have, and necessarily must have, on their capital, one cannot any more in their case than in that of private individuals assimilate the loss of interest with that of capital, and all the less as, in their case, there is necessarily compound interest, that is, interest on interest.

9.—In the preceding articles I have shown what were the beginnings of the affairs of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb, and how the results have not corresponded with their efforts.

I have also shown that in their operations there has been only one reprehensible fact, that is that in the rendering of inexact receipts they were wanting in sincerity. I say a fact, and yet I myself do not wish to be inaccurate. It is true that there have been many inexact receipts, for they have been made monthly since 1880, but there is a sort of logical connexion between them. Each of these declarations forcibly drew the other after it, that is the logic of the fault, that is the gearing of the wheels. You see, gentlemen of the Court, that I do not fear to qualify the acts of my clients and friends with a certain rudeness. But between the error of him, who, fearing a danger for himself, exposes another to be dragged into it with himself, and the fault of him who would despoil another to enrich himself to that other's detriment, there is an abyss which my friends have never overstepped.

10.—After having thus enumerated the facts, as they have developed themselves, and after having shown that Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb have been

wanting in discretion, in good sense, in sagacity, but not in honesty, I will take up the two chief points of the accusation, and show that neither of them is applicable to my clients and friends. The valuation of their acts from a moral standpoint will have its place, but first of all let us examine them from a legal and judicial point of view.

11.—I begin by saying that the two accusations are incompatible and irreconcilable.

If the facts were of less uniform a nature, less connected a character, if the transactions of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had been of a different nature, one could conceive that the one presented the character of the crime mentioned in Article 246, and the other of that mentioned in Article 263—that there was, on the one hand, a withdrawal and embezzlement of the goods pledged, and, on the other hand, fraud and deceit tending to obtain objects of value to the detriment of another. But the transactions which my clients have had with the bank were only of one description—they made use of an open credit under promise of security, first by establishing such credit and afterwards on different occasions, by promising even (*pro forma*) not to dispose of the security without the Bank's authorisation.

Our opponents might bring this fact under Art. 263 (we shall, however, contest that), but it does not at all enter into Article 246. The law has not provided, nor could it provide twice, for the same crime, especially when different punishments have to be inflicted; it has provided for two very distinct crimes.

The first (Art. 246) is the gravest; it is embezzlement (*Unterschlagung*) of the property of another which previously has been entrusted to one's possession by the proprietor, that is what the French law calls *abus de confiance*, as would be the case with an unfaithful trustee, a lessee of furniture, or a creditor holding security.

The second crime (Article 263) is deceit (*Betrug*) the only one discussible here.

As to the first, it seems that our opponents have not taken the trouble to read the very law which they call into requisition against us.

Indeed, to make it appropriation (*soustraction*) and embezzlement of the property of another, it would have been necessary that the ownership of the silk and silk waste which was in our godowns had devolved upon the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Now, those silks successively entering our godowns, to leave them again after examination and classification, were the security of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but they were not its property, they were legally ours, and if they had been stolen it is we, and not bank, who would have had to take action against the thieves; if they had been destroyed from a cause not covered by the fire insurance, the loss would have devolved upon us alone, and we would not have ceased to be the debtors of the bank for its advances; if they had acquired a higher value instead of falling off, as has been the case, we would have had the benefit, just as the depreciation in value has been our loss.

You see, gentlemen (and it is more with regard to our opponents than our Judges that we have insisted upon this), Article 246 of the German Penal Code does not in any manner apply to a debtor who has furnished a pledge, and it will perhaps be difficult, even with a new law, to protect creditors so little covered as they are here.

We have not appropriated moveable objects belonging to the Hongkong Bank; the objects belonged to us. But our opponents renouncing henceforth the assertion of being pledge-creditors are going to bring our receipts, our declarations, against us. In admitting that we have on storage a certain quantity of silk, we have signed a document saying that this storage was on account of the Hongkong Bank, and that it was deliverable only by its order. We will not wrangle over the fact that this part of our obligation was printed. No: this double mention stands alone, it is in large characters, comes last of all, and we have certainly seen it in signing our receipts.

But we have believed, and in very good faith, that the condition of authorisation was a mere form, a style, and for this we had a very good reason. Never during the five years in which we kept an account with the bank, has it reminded us of the observance of this condition, which has never been fulfilled; it did not, then, hold good.

When we gave the bank drafts for shipments of silk it could have let us know that we had failed in our duty in shipping the goods without its authorisation. It has never done so.

This would, nevertheless, have been the case had our shipments seemed to have been made under disadvantageous conditions.

How could we believe in the reality of such an obligation? It was evidently a fictitious and purely nominal one. And even had the obligation been a real one, which could be enforced by the

bank and would be binding upon us, the fact of having failed in it would only render us civilly, and not criminally, responsible, and the Bank would still have had to prove that we sold at rates lower than those which it had sanctioned. But that responsibility would neither change the nature nor the total amount of our debt to it, and especially it could not place us under Art. 246, which does not provide for an offence of such a nature.

Not being guilty of the embezzlement of the property of another, let us see, then, whether we are guilty of fraud or deception (*Betrug*). We have no doubt alleged a fact which we knew to be inexact, that is, the presence in our godowns of a quantity of goods larger than the actual amount. But, have we by so doing, abetted or maintained a criminal course to obtain for ourselves an unlawful advantage?

No! most we emphatically deny that accusation.

We could at the most have caused an ill-founded confidence, a confidence which the future was not to justify: but we have not done that either; at that time our business promised to prosper, we had yet more confidence in ourselves and in the future than the lenders could have had; we had the firm intention of giving the promised pledge, and for a long time we have done so and maintained it at the necessary figure.

It was in the sequel that those receipts did not show the same exactness.

We have already said it is on this that the whole case turns, and we must, without any circumlocution, confess our only wrong.

But is that placing ourselves under provisions of Art. 263? We shall show that such is not the case. It was impossible that the bank was ignorant of our losses; it certainly knew of them, as we have already proved; it evidently closed its eyes to a situation which it hoped, as we did, would more or less promptly and quietly improve and regulate itself. Admitting even that the bank really was in error on the subject of the reality of its security, this error is not provided for by the Penal Law, much less would it come under the civil or commercial law. If the law is to come to the assistance of the victim of an error through a criminal act against him who caused that error, it is necessary that that error should have been unavoidable, and that there were no means of preventing it. That is not the error of the bank, which could easily have avoided it; we are not even in presence of a plausible error (the *probabilis error*), the only one with which juriconsults have ever occupied themselves.

Our opponents finally have no legal grounds on which to base the last clause of their imputation.

It would be necessary that the error which we are accused of having caused and carried out had unlawful gain as its ultimate object. Except that we tried to avoid a threatening loss, to escape the catastrophe which has now come to pass, and not to obtain an unlawful gain, the continued confidence of the bank would not enrich us, but it would above all enable us to repay the bank itself.

If the times had once become and remained prosperous, we, in our turn, would have been able to recover our personal losses, but our immediate and direct purpose was to release ourselves from the obligations to those who now accuse us of having intended to rob them.

We have not tried to appropriate the property of another, but to preserve the credit which the bank had granted us. We also intended preserving the debts due to us, well knowing that a stoppage in our business would be an encouragement to those who are indebted to us, and who were not men of good faith.

Juriconsults would say that "we struggled to avoid a loss, and not to secure a gain." It is a long time, indeed, since the laws and their interpreters established material differences between those "*qui cecidit de damno vitando*" and those "*qui cecidit de lucro vitando*."

We have neither abetted nor maintained a crime, which was certainly impossible with those who, having followed us with their eyes during five years, knew as well as ourselves the losses suffered in these years of crises.

Finally, if our acts have been prejudicial to another, it has not been done in the pursuit of unlawful gain, but in trying to avoid our own ruin.

Mr. Consul General:

Gentlemen of the Court:

I have shown that Art. 263 no longer applies to my unfortunate clients and friends, and neither does Art. 246; consequently my task as Counsel would be finished, and I should only confidently have to await the decision which your sense of equity and your wisdom will dictate to you. But these proceedings will be published abroad on account of the interests which are at stake, and the persons between whom they have arisen.

When you have acquitted my clients and friends,

there must be no question about their honour; and you may, without exceeding your powers, contribute to that end in deciding upon the case, such as it has been put before you, and such as we trust to have established.

In conclusion, I propose giving you the last proofs of the continuation of their good faith, their sincerity, and their honesty. During the five years in which the facts that now occupy us have transpired, Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb have each twice made voyages to Europe and America to superintend the progress of their interests. Mr. Ludwig went last; he has returned, and he has not thought for a single moment of not returning.

If they had had the intention of defrauding their creditor, the Hongkong Bank, would it not have been easy for them not to return to Japan, but to settle in foreign countries and to commission the first-comer to declare the truth. But no! such an idea never entered their heads; their zeal to fulfil their obligations has not relaxed, and during the last six months that hope grew stronger daily.

Even in these last days after they had exposed their true position to the bank, and could not foresee with what rigour it would proceed against them, Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb gave up to the Bank all they possessed, thus having no intention to keep anything for themselves.

Is it not a cruel irony to impute an unlawful gain to those who, to satisfy the bank, stripped themselves of all that belonged to them? Gentlemen, Judges, if I have adhered to demonstrating the absence of all legal basis in the prosecution, it was not that a long demonstration was necessary to you, but it is to our opponents that I addressed myself.

If, on the other hand, I try to make you share my full conviction of the good faith and the honesty that make up for the misfortune of my clients, it is to you especially that I address myself, not that you may reinstate them in your esteem, which you had not withdrawn from them before entering upon the case, but that you may preserve it, to be a consolation to them in their misfortune.

CONCLUSIONS.

On the 1st point, Art. 246:—

May it please the Consular Court:—Whereas the acts imputed to Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb by the manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, do not come under the provisions of Art. 246 of the German Penal code, which punishes the embezzlement of the property of another, the security not being the property of the creditor holding security, but only a claim on the guarantee of the goods, remains the property of the debtor.

On the 2nd point, Art. 263:—

Whereas the said acts, although not being blameless from an exact point of view, lose all criminal character from the want of intention to injure on the part of the accused, and from the facilities the Hongkong Bank had to verify, at any moment, the receipts that were furnished to it.

Whereas the bank never having made that verification, the accused must have believed in a tolerance on the part of the bank with regard to the insufficiency of the pledge.

Whereas the bank never reminded the accused of the observance of the condition "not to dispose without its authorisation."

It follows:—

That they have not abetted nor maintained a criminal act against their creditor in order to procure to themselves an unlawful gain—a necessary condition for the application of Article 263.

For those reasons:—

Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb should be acquitted of the accusation brought against them before you. Yokohama, 28th January 1884.

Mr. Walter then said most emphatically that there was no truth in Mr. Ludwig's statement that the persons in the Bank knew of their position, that they were losing money, and that the Bank was not deceived by their monthly statements. The Bank advanced the money on the strength of Messrs. Ludwig & Co.'s statements, having perfect faith in Ludwig & Co., who repeatedly told him that they did not speculate on their own account but that all their business was done on commission. There were other firms who had advances in the same way, but their confidence had never been abused as it had been by Messrs. Ludwig & Co.

Judgment was reserved.

On Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, the following judgment was delivered:—

In the matter of the merchant Herrman Ludwig from Wiedikon, and the merchant Rudolf Trüb from Dübendorf, accused of fraud and embezzlement, a meeting of the Court was held on the 31st January, 1884; the Court being composed of the following gentlemen:—A Wolff, Consul-General; Ch. Ziegler, Merchant; F. Abegg, Merchant; Th. Schlatter, Merchant; Fr. Straehler, Merchant, Judges. A Dumelin, Clerk of the Court.

The accused are found guilty, and sentenced each to six months' imprisonment.

REASONS.

The accused claim that they are not guilty of fraud, having had no intention to commit a wrong; because, further, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank never had examined the goods in the godowns of the accused, receipts of which had been given, they concluded that the Bank was aware of the insufficient character of these receipts; and, finally, because the Bank never enforced the clause that the "goods should not be sold without the authorisation of the Bank."

Furthermore, the accused claim that they never attempted to abet or maintain a criminal act against their creditors, with the intention of securing to themselves an unlawful advantage.

The force of the term 'fraud' lies in the damage done to the property of another by means of deception with intent of unlawful profit.

By means of the false receipts, the accused abetted and maintained a wrong against the Bank, inventing, as they did, the existence of goods in their godowns which did not at all, or only, in important quantities, exist.

By thus doing intentional wrong to the Bank's right of property (*Vermögensvortheil*), they procured for themselves unlawful profit, and this was the profit they wished for. Whether they intended to cover their indebtedness to the Bank at some future date, or whether they actually intended to do detriment to the Bank, are not questions to be considered.

The illegal condition of their right of property (*Vermögensvortheil*) is due to the fact that they obtained certain objects, the property of the Bank, objects to which they had no claim.

Although the Court admits, and takes into consideration in behalf of the accused, that the Bank could hardly have lost so large a sum had they been more careful in the examination of the receipts, yet this does not by any means prove that the Bank was aware of the insufficiency of the securities given them; and the fact that the Bank during several years never enforced the clause "that the goods should not be disposed of without its authorisation," does not at all free the accused from the observation of this condition. A condition which, was repeated on every monthly receipt, and which was signed every month by the accused.

The accusation of embezzlement is not recognized by the Court, as embezzlement only includes the appropriation of property belonging to another, and the goods certified in the receipts given to the Bank were only pledged to the Bank, but not its property.

(Signed) A. WOLFF.

(Signed) CH. ZIEGLER.

(Signed) F. ABEGG.

(Signed) TH. SCHLATTER.

(Signed) FR. STRAEHLER.

This judgment will be forwarded to the high authorities of the Swiss Republic.

A. WOLFF, Consul-General.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1884.

A JAPANESE CHRISTIAN WEDDING

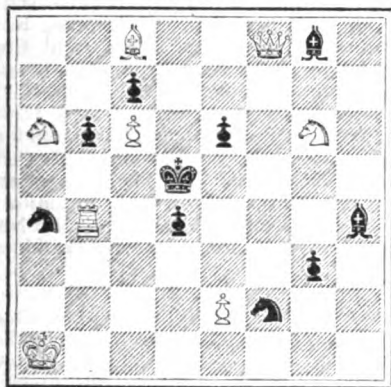
We have been requested by a witness of the Japanese Christian wedding that took place at the Union Church 3 p.m. 29th inst., to give insertion to the following account of the ceremony:—

The bridegroom was a Mr. Kawamura, a teacher of mathematics in the Ferris Seminary for Japanese Young Ladies at this place, and the bride a Miss Tsuji, formerly a pupil of the Graham Seminary for Young Ladies, at No. 42, Tsukiji, Tokyo. The bride's mother, and the bridegroom's brother, the latter a surgeon on board of H.I.M.'s *Fuso Kan*, were present, with numerous guests and friends from Tokyo. Before the arrival of these parties the Church was quite filled with the teachers and pupils of the Ladies' Schools of this place, and other Yokohama guests. Proceedings were commenced by singing a Native Christian Hymn, a Japanese young lady presiding at the organ, on the conclusion of which the bridal party entered the Church from a side door and took their places in front of the native pastor, the Rev. Inagaki Akira, who prefaced the ceremony by announcing the names of the parties to be joined in marriage and calling upon any present who could show cause why they might not be lawfully joined in marriage to do so now, or hereafter for ever keep silence. He then stated that marriage was an holy and an honorable estate instituted in Eden before the fall of man, and was everywhere approved of in Scripture. He also cited at length a quotation from the Chinese Sages to the same effect, then read from Scripture the duties of husband and

wife, and put the usual questions and pronounced them husband and wife. This he followed with a prayer, imploring God's benediction upon the newly married couple, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, in which he was joined by all present. The singing of the Doxology, and the pronouncing of the Benediction concluded the ceremony, on which their numerous friends, and the teachers and pupils of the school, proceeded to extend to them their congratulations. Tea and refreshments were provided for all, and a happy half-hour was spent in the enjoyment and interchange of friendly sentiments. This latter part of the ceremony did much to relieve the feeling of restraint that naturally is felt by newly married parties and their friends. On the withdrawal of the bridal party the invited guests repaired to a native banquet given in honor of the occasion at one of the best places of entertainment in Yokohama. As the long line of jinrikishas moved away, and the happy bands of brightly and beautifully dressed girls returned from the Church, the contributor of the present notice was asked to furnish some report of this pleasant ceremony for the information of those of our foreign residents as seldom witness such events, and practically know little of the leavening influence Christianity is silently but effectively working, socially as well as intellectually and spiritually, in Japan.

CHESS.

FROM THE CHESS PLAYER'S CHRONICLE.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

The Nippon Railway Company held a General Meeting on the 28th ult. at the Meiji Kwaido, sixty shareholders being present. One of them, Mr. Hoshi, proposed, that shareholders holding less than one hundred shares should form into bodies representing more than one hundred shares, having power of attorney, and thus holding the privilege of voting, etc. This proposal was rejected by a large majority, on the grounds that if the company were not prospering it would be necessary to extend the right of voting, in order to restore confidence, but that so long as the finances were in a flourishing condition such a step was unnecessary.

The impression seems to prevail that, should the Franco-Chinese difficulty be amicably settled, China will reopen the Riukiu question. This, combined with the return of Admiral Venomoto from China, has given rise to a feeling that the relations between China and Japan are unusually strained. The fact of the near departure of the *Amaki Kan*, under Rear-Admiral Matsumura, for China and Annam, has given new force to the rumour.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

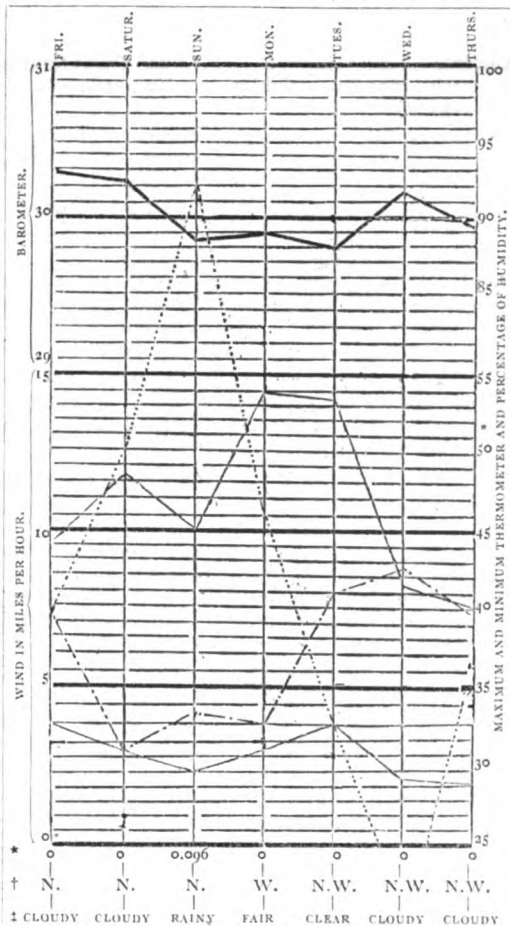
Nakasendo Railway Bonds have been taken up by the banks of Tokiyo and Yokohama to the amount of 4,310,000 yen. The two largest banks in Tokiyo have taken one million yen each; the Specie Bank, 500,000; Mitsui Bank, 300,000; Second National Bank, 250,000; Third National Bank and Yasuda Bank, 150,000 each; One Hundredth National Bank 50,000; the rest by private merchants. The remaining bonds, amounting to 690,000 yen will soon be disposed of.—*Fiji Shimbun*.

The silk producers of the Ashikaga and Kiriu districts have applied to the Nippon Railway Company, requesting them to extend the line to Ashikaga, Sano, and Tochigi, instead of running it direct to Utsunomiya via Satta and Furukawa. They have subscribed 540,000 yen amongst themselves, and will contribute this sum to the capital of the Company in case it agrees to their request.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 25.5 miles per hour on Tuesday at 6½ p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.326 inches on Friday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.949 inches on Tuesday at 11 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 54.2 on Monday, and the lowest was 29.1 on Thursday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 52.0 and 25.4 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.096 inches, against 1.474 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Thursday, Feb. 7th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, Feb. 7th.
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Feb. 11th.†
From America ... per P. M. Co. Thursday, Feb. 14th.‡

* *Menzaleh* (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 31st. † *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 15th. ‡ *City of Tokio* left San Francisco on January 24th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Sunday, Feb. 3rd.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Feb. 3rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Feb. 6th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Feb. 9th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Feb. 16th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 27th.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Lord Derby has rejected the counter proposal submitted by Kruger in reference to a new frontier for the Transvaal.

London, January 28th.

OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE NILE.

The expedition sent to remove the obstruction in the Nile has returned to Khartoum unsuccessful.

London, January 30th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Baker Pasha, with 4,000 men, is expected to advance to the relief of Lakar. It is stated that 20,000 Arabs are making preparations to oppose Baker's advance.

London, February 1st.

Mid. Upland Cotton, 6d. per lb.; Cotton Yarn, ¼ higher; Shirtings unaltered, but firm. Silk Market quiet.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Vienna, 21st January.

RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.

Monsieur Giers, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has arrived here from St. Petersburg and had an audience with the Emperor.

London, 23rd January.

GENERAL GORDON'S MISSION.

In a speech made by Sir Charles Dilke at Chelsea yesterday he said that a part of General Gordon's Mission to Egypt would be to carry out the policy of evacuation and that he will act under the orders of Sir Evelyn Baring.

Sir Charles Dilke further said that possession of the coast line of the Red Sea would be retained.

London, 18th January.

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE MAHDI.

Latest advices from Cairo state that a telegraphic despatch has been received by the Egyptian Government from the Governor-General of the Soudan, stating that the Mahdi and his followers have cut off the retreat of the garrisons in the province of Sennaar and rendered the river Nile impassable a little below Duam.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsuri, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.65; First-class, yen 1.58; Third-class, sen 79.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Helena, British schooner, 52, Judd, 26th January, —Wreck of British bark *Sattara*, 23rd January, Officers, Crew, and Effects.—Captain.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 26th January, —Shimidzu 24th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 28th January, —Handa 24th January, General.—Handasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 28th January, —Toba 25th January, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 29th January, —Fukuda 26th January, General.—Handasha.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 925, Spiegelthal, 29th January, —Oginohama 19th January, Rice and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 29th January, —Yokkaichi 27th January, General.—Kowyekisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 29th January, —Yokkaichi 27th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,070, James, 29th January, —Hakodate 27th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 30th January, —Hakodate 27th and Oginohama 29th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 30th January, —Kobe 28th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,400, James Ross, 30th January, —London 23rd November and Hongkong 23rd January, Mails and General.—Maurilyan, Heimann & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 28th January, —Yokkaichi 28th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 30th January, —Kobe 28th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 31st January, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 31st January, —Shimidzu 29th January, General.—Seiriusha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 31st January, —Yokkaichi 29th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 1st February, —Handa 29th January, General.—Handasha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 1st February, —Kobe 29th January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 1st February, —Hongkong 26th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Velocity, British bark, 684, R. Martin, 1st February, —Takao 16th January, 12,000 bags Sugar, J. E. Collyer & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 2nd February, —Yokkaichi 30th January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 2nd February, —Hongkong 24th January via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hakodate Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Inouye, 26th January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Jennie Harkness, American bark, 1,373, E. Amesbury, 26th January, —Takao or Taiwanfoo, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 26th January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 26th January, —Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 25th January, —Oginohama via Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Guiding Star, British bark, 312, H. Schnitger, 27th January, —Amoy, Wheat.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 27th January, —Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 27th January, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Dzukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 28th January, —Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisei Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 28th January, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 28th January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,000, A. W. S. Thomson, 29th January, —Kobe, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 29th January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 29th January, —Hakodate, Anton, and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 29th January, —Toba, General.—Yamamoto & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,200, Kilgour, 30th January, —Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 30th January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 31st January, —Handa, General.—Handasha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 30th January, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 31st January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 31st January, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 31st January, —Fukuda, General.—Riohasha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 1st February, —Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 1st February, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 1st February, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,254, James, 1st February, —Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Benois, 2nd February, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—24 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—7 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—35 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Kobe: 11 Japanese in cabin; and 49 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. G. H. Wilson, Watanabe, Nakajima, Hirata, Kokura, and Yamao in cabin; and 68 Japanese in steerage.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, from Kobe:—8 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—60 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—The Hon. Louis Greville, Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Raum, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Lines and 2 children, Miss Annie Stone, Miss Nakazawa, Messrs. J. F. Twombly, Chas. E. Hill, C. Baker, Okamoto, Matsuoka, Yoshida, Tsuda, Nakazato, Inouye, Iwase, Ishii, Nishimura, Kaga, and Watanabe in cabin; and 5 Chinese and 134 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—24 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Gilbert in cabin; and 36 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Captain and Mrs. Call in cabin; 4 Europeans and 53 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. Jennings, infant, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Gullick, child, and servant, Rev. H. Lee, Captain E. Haswell, Dr. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Yoke Thin and infant, Mr. Spencer and servant, Messrs. Bailey, Stracey, Ferguson, and O. Kosliff in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 2 children, and 9 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Governor Yoshikawa, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lines and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Griffin, Messrs. M. Nishikawa, K. Tomoda, and Kato in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Oginohama:—Mr. and Mrs. Segawa in cabin. For Hakodate: Messrs. J. Noda, S. Isshiku, S. Uchi, M. Morichi, and Yanagita in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—37 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—H. I. H. Yamashina-no-Miya, Mr. and Mrs. Hasegawa, Messrs. M. Fitzgerald, R. Cass, C. H. Porrett, Max Voswald, Voight, J. Walter, A. Eckstrand, F. H. Bull, Sekigawa, Yamakawa, Yanagawa, Kitamura, Hamada (2), Ishibashi, Awoyagi, and Kong Ah Moon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Kobe:—Governor Nishimura, Messrs. Shoten (late Loo Choo King), M. Iwamura, M. Kawano, K. Goto, S. Suyeshiro, Y. Ishimaru, Seiyei, and Choki in cabin; and 70 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—50 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Count Raphaël, Mr. and Mrs. Ilies, 4 children and European servant, Mrs. H. Meir, infant, and servant, Mrs. Shiroku, Messrs. J. Jouslain, F. de la Hault, F. Vivanti, John Dower, N. Neis, M. Laudan, P. Hyer, Kuroda, and N. Hashiguchi in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$7,000.00; for America, \$14,200.00.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk for France, 174 bales.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—447 bales Yarn, 106 bales Cotton, 104 bales Twist, 178 casks Beer, 7,255 bags Sugar, and 487 packages Sundries; Total 8,577.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 27th January, at 6 a.m., and arrived at Oginohama on the 28th, at 6.20 a.m.; left the latter on the 29th at 6 a.m. with moderate N.E. breeze; thence to port brisk N.W. winds and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 30th January, at 7.55 a.m.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 24th January, at 0.20 p.m. with moderate monsoon and foggy weather along the China Coast; thence to Ose Saki light N.W. and W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Nagasaki on the 29th January, at 3.25 a.m. and left on the same day, at 3.30 p.m. with moderate to fresh easterly winds and clear weather in the Inland Sea. Arrived at Kobe on the 31st January, at 7 a.m., and left on the same day, at 3.55 p.m.; in the Kii Channel fresh N.W. winds and fine weather; from Oo-sima fresh to strong winds from N.W. to W. and clear weather. Passed Rock Island on the 1st February, at 4 p.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,330, James Ross, 30th January, —London 23rd November and Hongkong 23rd January, Mails and General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 31st January, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October, —Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 2nd February, —Hongkong 24th January via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December, —Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week, Chinese holidays have interfered with business generally, few country orders have been received, and dealers have not been visiting the Market regularly.

COTTON YARN.—Prices are very firm, and buyers have reluctantly been compelled to pay a further slight advance. Sales amount to about 1,000 bales, including a reported contract of 500 bales Reverse to arrive during the next six months.

GREY GOODS.—Shirtings have been quiet, but the firmness of holders has enabled them to obtain rather higher prices. T-Cloths have been in fair demand, and fair sales are also reported of Bombay Goods.

FANCIES.—Velvets have again advanced in value in consequence of diminished supply and a fair demand. Turkey Reds have been taken at full rates, and the same may be said of Mousseline de Laine and Italian Cloths. There have also been fair sales of Victoria Lawns and Prints.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$25.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.75 to 29.75
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.50 to 33.00
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

The improvement in our Oil Market has continued, sales having amounted to 60,000 cases during the week, and deliveries to 25,000 cases. Prices have still further advanced, and close firm at quotations. Stocks are about 605,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.81
Comet	1.75
Stella	1.70

SUGAR.

The small business last reported still continues, and no alteration in prices has to be noted. Arrivals exceeding the demand, Stocks are on the increase, and this state of the trade will be shortly accentuated by the early delivery of floating cargoes of the new crop.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 24th ultimo, since which date a fair business has been done, transac-

tions reaching fully 400 piculs. Arrivals have been scanty, and the Stock is yet further reduced to 3,050 piculs as per table at foot hereof. Prices generally are unchanged, especially for good silks; at the same time a favorable Market for *Kinsatsu* has made some holders more inclined to sell at current rates. Telegraphic news is reported to be again better, and buyers who have been out of the Market for some time past have re-entered on basis of present quotations. The bulk of Settlements noted has been *Filatures*, although *Hanks* and *Oshu* sorts have also had their turn.

The P. & O. steamer *Kashgar*, which sailed at daylight on the 26th January, carried 296 bales; of which total 73 only were entered for England and 223 for Continental ports. These shipments bring the Export for all countries to date up to a grand total of 25,814 bales, against 19,687 last year, and 11,554 at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—This class has been in fair demand at late rates, the enquiry running on best kinds which are well and firmly held. Nothing recorded in the lower grades, whether in *Foshu* or *Bushu* sorts. Among the daily Settlements are reported purchases of *Shinshu* at \$505, \$492½, and \$485, according to quality; with *Shimonita* and *Tomi-yoka* at \$495.

Filatures.—Business in this class has revived, and transactions have been plentiful, reducing the present available Stock to 600 piculs, *Re-reels* included. There has been some demand for the U.S. Markets, and some rather extensive parcels of *Koshu* district (which have hung fire for some time) have found buyers at about \$595. These run 12/14, 13/15 deniers, and really fine size silks have also been taken at \$620 down, according to quality. In true 14/16 but little has been done: a small parcel "Nikoshu" at \$615, with other *Shinshu* kinds at \$605, \$590, and \$580. We note also *Yechu*, at \$590; *Koshu*, \$575; *Hikone*, \$550, with a few bales fil. *Nihonmatsu* at \$635.

Re-reels.—We have nothing to chronicle beyond one or two small purchases in Medium *Bushu* at \$530. None of the recognised chops in *Shinshu* or *Foshu* sorts have been dealt in, but prices remain without quotable change.

Kakeda.—Some little has been done in silk grading about 1½ at \$575 per picul, with a parcel of Common at \$515. Beyond these transactions, there is nothing to note, and Stock remains about the same as last advised.

Oshu.—Considerable purchases of *Hamatsuki* at \$475 for 1 and 2, with \$450 for average 2½. In other kinds no business reported.

Taysam Sorts.—No movement of any description; everything remains *in statu quo*.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	\$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	495 to 505
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	485 to 495
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3	455 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½	440 to 450
Filatures—Extra.	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra.	605
Kakedas—No. 1.	Nom. 585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2.	540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3.	520 to 530
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 1st Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	15,906	10,244	5,694
America	7,335	6,419	3,425
England	2,573	3,024	2,435
Total	25,814	19,687	11,554

WASTE SILK.

We have but a small business to report in this department, Settlements for the week returned as 150 piculs. Arrivals have been rather more plentiful, the total Stock being now estimated at 1,020 piculs. The enquiry is better for some favorite kinds of Waste, but these are just the sorts which are unrepresented in the Stock-list. The last P. & O. steamer took 151 bales, bringing total Export of Waste and *Cocoons* up to 18,749 piculs, against 16,390 piculs in 1883, and 13,255 piculs in 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—No transactions during the week, although one small parcel has arrived from

the country, and and is now offered upon the Market.

Noshi-ito.—The business done in this description is equal to about half the total Settlements for the week under review. Desirable kinds are by no means plentiful, and some holders are inclined to be conservative in their ideas. *Oshu*, Good to Best, has been done at \$145, with Good Medium *Foshu* at from \$85 to \$87½. *Filature* sorts enquired for in small lots at former prices.

Kibiso.—Some little business done in these on basis of *Sendai* at \$91, *Yonezawa* \$86, *Foshu* at \$60 for Good, and \$35 for Common. *Shinshu* are wanted, and "Filatures" are scarce and dear. Nothing done in *Neri*, but Stocks are plentiful, and there is some talk of business pending at quotations. Common *Foshu* and *Hachoji* are enquired for at hardening rates.

Mawata.—No transactions, and the position remains unchanged since last week.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair...	Nom. \$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 92½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	Nom. 65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 20
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 1st Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	16,584	13,325	10,690
Pierced Cocoons	2,165	3,065	2,565
	18,749	16,390	13,255

Exchange.—The Banks have been closed for three days at the Chinese New Year, and quotations re-open much as last advised, but looking weak. London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 90; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72½. *Kinsatsu* have steadily declined to yen 113 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 1st Feb., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,600	Pierced Cocoons	15
Filature & Re-reels	600	Noshi-ito	200
Kakeda	450	Kibiso	650
Sendai & Hamatsuki	300	Mawata	155
Taysam Kinds	100		
Total piculs	3,050	Total piculs	1,020

TEA.

Transactions for the week, ending to the 1st instant, show little change in the extent of business as compared with the previous one. Total Settlements aggregate to about 1,100 piculs, and consist principally of Medium and Good Medium kinds at fully former quotations. Receipts from the country only foot up to 436 piculs during the interval, making a total for the year of about 156,115 piculs, as compared with the previous year 165,145 piculs. It is not expected that future receipts from the country for Yokohama Market will exceed 3,000 piculs, and if this proves to be the case, the total supply for the season will be considerably short of the previous year's. Tea in Stock is roughly estimated at about 800 piculs. The bark *Cross Hill* sailed on the 25th ultimo for New York, via Kobe, took 22,538 lbs. Tea for New York.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	13 to 15
Medium	17 to 19
Good Medium	21 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

Owing to Chinese New Year Holidays, there has been little business transacted. Rates have again slightly declined, and close as follows:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.62
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.72½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ °. dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90

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in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

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Dec. 29th, 1883.

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FLEAS,
MOTHS,
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THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

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A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEET-MEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

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YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1884.

BIRTH.

At West Park, Knottingley, December 14th, 1883, the wife of J. LEE THOMPSON of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SEVERAL daring burglaries have been perpetrated in Tokiyo and Yokohama.

THREE persons have been arrested in Tokiyo on a charge of counterfeiting *Kinsatsu*. They are said to have confessed the crime.

It is stated that the Government contemplates forming a corps of woodrangers for the purpose of enforcing the forestry regulations.

A COURSE of six weekly lectures by well known missionaries is to commence at the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, on the 16th instant. The lectures will be in Japanese.

A JAPANESE scientist, Mr. H. Tanaka, is said to have invented a new species of torpedo, with which experiments will soon be made in the Sumida River.

THE Nagasaki detective who was recently sentenced to five years' major confinement for stabbing a Chinaman during a riot, has appealed against the sentence.

AN ex-corporal of the Japanese army has attempted to revive the old custom of emphasizing a petition by suicide. He chose one of entrances to the Imperial Palace as the scene of his exploit, and was arrested by the guard. It

appears that the corporal is a violent agitator for the immediate establishment of a national assembly.

ANOTHER section of the Tokiyo-Takasaki line has been completed, and will be opened on the 20th instant. Kuragaya in Joshiu, will then be within two hours' ride of Tokiyo.

It is announced that during the absence of General Oyama in Europe, General Saigo will combine the duties of Minister of War with those of his present office.

It is announced that the Government will grant an appropriation of ten thousand *yen* towards the expenses of forwarding exhibits to a projected international exhibition at St. Petersburg.

THE prospect of a good harbour being formed in the Bay of Shinagawa is discussed by the vernacular press, and an opinion is expressed that, when the work is carried out, Yokohama will cease to be an important tradal centre.

NOTIFICATIONS referring to the issue of railway bonds and bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* were published, on the 4th and 5th instant, in the English local press, but were discontinued, as the greater part of the former loan had been already taken up by Japanese Capitalists.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Fiji Shimpō*, writing from Korea, says there is no intention of carrying out the tradal regulations recently concluded by that country with England and Germany. He also states that the Government at Sōul is pecuniarily embarrassed, having spent all the money borrowed last year from China.

It is stated that an Austrian officer has been engaged by the Government of this country in connection with a proposed development of the Japanese cavalry. Little attention has hitherto been bestowed on that arm of the service, as its utility seemed doubtful, having regard to the topography of Japan. A new departure in this respect is now announced.

Two *jinrikisha* coolies were frozen to death at Nihonbashi, in Tokiyo, during the recent snow fall. The men had returned from a run to Shinbashi, and, being alone upon the stand, their condition did not attract attention. They dropped off to sleep and were found dead. Four deaths from cold are also reported from Gifu prefecture.

At the last general meeting of the shareholders of the Tokiyo Rice Exchange a dividend of one *yen* is said to have been declared. The sense of the meeting seemed to be in favour of petitioning the Government for a reduction of the tax, as this is supposed to be the chief cause of the inaction which has come upon this class of enterprise.

A HEAVY fall of snow occurred in Tokiyo and Yokohama on the afternoon and in the night of the 5th instant. In Tokiyo a depth of thirteen inches was measured on the morning of the 6th. The climate this year has been almost a facsimile

of last season's. Both in 1883 and 1884 a long spell of beautiful weather was broken up, in the former year on the 7th, in the latter on the 5th, of February by a snow storm of unusual severity.

A NAGASAKI journal states that a species of gambling saloon has been opened by a foreigner in the main street of that Settlement, and that the place is crowded every day by Japanese and Chinese. The proprietors of the concern recently attempted to carry on a similar establishment in Shanghai, but as their trade was in contravention of the municipal regulations, they were soon obliged to decamp. In the foreign Settlements of Japan, however, exterritoriality, as interpreted by European Powers, permits these abuses to flourish unimpeded.

NOTES.

IN the course of Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb's trial on a charge of obtaining advances from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank under false pretences, it was stated that they had assets in Japan to a very large amount, but that they could only hope to recover them by dealing gently with their debtors, and that "the result would depend much upon the manner in which those debtors were proceeded against." There is more mystery about this assertion than the simple relation of debtor and creditor seems to demand. It is reported, indeed, though with how much truth we are unable to determine, that a great portion of the assets in question are in the form of money advanced to Japanese agents for the purpose of trading in the interior. Under what other circumstances a foreign silk firm, doing business in Yokohama, should have eighty or ninety thousand dollars owing to it by Japanese, we are at a loss to conceive. In the silk trade, as ordinarily conducted in Japan, the trust is generally on the side of the Japanese. He brings his silk and leaves it in the foreigner's godown, perhaps for a week, perhaps for a fortnight, until the inspection which determines its purchase or rejection is completed. Silk deposited in the godown of Messrs. Ludwig, and Trüb under these very conditions, was actually seized by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and though, doubtless, it was, or will be ultimately, returned to its Japanese owners, the latter were for a time deprived of their property. It is scarcely possible that transactions of this sort should result in a large Japanese indebtedness to a foreign firm. Messrs. Ludwig and Trüb's assets are probably in the hands of native agents, who may or may not regard the incarceration of their principals as a good opportunity to defer the rendering of accounts. This is another illustration of the unfortunate conditions under which foreign trade is conducted in Japan. Merchants are obliged to violate the treaties in order to elude the monopolists that invest the settlements. For certainly to employ Japanese agents outside the treaty limits is to violate treaties which provide that trade shall only be carried on within those limits. As a point of morality this method of whipping the devil round the post is not very

heinous. The foreign merchant takes all the risk, and a very serious risk it is, considering that a Japanese could not be held legally accountable for money entrusted to him under such conditions. But the trouble is that these dodges should be necessary at all. The only redeeming feature of the affair is that, after all, foreign confidence in Japanese honesty must be considerably larger than is generally admitted. There are not many parts of the world where commercial confidence goes the length of trusting round sums to men against whom no legal claim could be established if they chose to default.

We learn with much pleasure that after the course of lectures delivered in the Meiji Kwaïdo last spring by the Rev. C. S. Eby and other gentlemen, the Council of the Evangelical Alliance—in which are representatives from every Protestant Church in Japan—feeling that a right note had been struck, and learning that enquiries, sufficient to form the staple of another course, had come in requested Mr. Eby to make arrangements for a second series of lectures, and undertook to supply the necessary funds. The preliminary steps are now completed, and the course will commence on the 16th instant in the Meiji Kwaïdo, at 3 o'clock p.m. The lectures on this occasion will be delivered in Japanese only, one every seven days for six weeks. Should a demand arise, however, it is in contemplation to print the series subsequently in English. The course will be as follows:—

- 1.—*The Basis of Morality*, by the Rev. Mr. Knox, February 16th.
- 2.—*Pantheism and Christianity*, by the Rev. Dr. Verbeck, February 22nd.
- 3.—*The Insufficiencies of Buddhism*, by the Rev. Dr. Gordon, February 29th.
- 4.—*Confucianism and Christianity*, by the Rev. Mr. Waddell, March 7th.
- 5.—*Christianity, its essentials*, by the Rev. Mr. Eby, March 14th.
- 6.—*Christianity as a Social and Political Factor*, by the Rev. Mr. Eby, March 22nd.

It will be seen, both from the subjects chosen and from the names of the gentlemen who have promised to discuss them, that a most interesting intellectual treat is in store for the people of Tokiyo. There can be no question that this method of familiarizing the better classes of Japanese with the science of Christian morality possesses marked advantages.

A GREAT deal of indignation has been roused, from time to time, among the sporting section of the foreign community, by rumours of contracts made with London firms for the delivery of so many hundreds, or thousands, of pheasant skins, and the consequent wholesale slaughter of birds outside treaty limits, in and out of season. The gentlemen whose names are associated with this peculiar business may be credited with a certain amount of indifference to the wrath of their fellows. They probably think that every way of making money is fair, and it must be confessed that to abstain from slaughtering and exporting pheasants simply because the next generation of foreign residents may suffer from a scarcity of game, would be an exercise of philanthropy not quite consistent with the recognized spirit of commerce. At the same time, it is permitted to wish that the police would exhibit a little more vigilance with regard to these mercenary poachers, and compel them to respect the terms of their licenses, however little they may trouble themselves about their neighbours' privileges. More difficult to deal with is another variety of "*la chasse*," said to be largely indulged in, at present, by Chinese residents of the open ports.

These eminently practical persons go about purchasing throats—or nightingales, as some people call the Japanese *uguisu*—which they ship off to foreign lands in considerable numbers. The price of the beautiful little songster is said to vary from ten cents to five *yen*, and when landed safely at the place of his destination, he is supposed to be worth from fifteen to thirty dollars. But, on the other hand, fifty or sixty per cent. die on the voyage. This sort of trade does not commend itself. Japan has allowed herself to be stripped of her works of art until it has become necessary to go to Europe or the United States to see the efforts of her old masters. Is she also to lose her only really melodious bird? The *uguisu* is comparatively a *rara avis*. Such a sweet-voiced little creature could not possibly be abundant. Did we hear its notes constantly, we should begin to wonder, with Isaak Walton, what sort of music is provided for the saints in heaven, when sinners upon earth can listen to such melody. If the story of the ruthless Chinese pedlars be true, the neighbourhood of the foreign settlements may easily be denuded of *uguisu*, and then the summer mornings will be robbed of half their beauty. It is a villainous prospect, and a little official despotism would come in most usefully.

We wonder whether the difficulty of disposing of ordinary imports in these hard times has induced anybody to traffic in the class of goods that attracted Demosthenes to Cornith. On no other hypothesis can we explain a cartoon in the last number of the *Maru Maru Chimbun*. In the foreground of a landscape, unmistakably intended to represent Yokohama, a huge clam shell is emerging from the sea, and sending out a number of smaller clams, which, on reaching the shore, exert themselves with great success to capture sundry Japanese wayfarers dressed in Western costume. The picture is headed "importation of clams," and in the letter press we read:—"There is talk of an importation of foreign white clams which far surpass the native-bred article. They may possibly be destined for foreign consumption only, but they are very dangerous food, especially when new. Gentlemen of Japan, beware!" Not the least comical point in the cartoon is the phonetic method of spelling "gentlemen." It is written *Zeni-torumen*, which literally signifies "money-grabbers." Is that the Japanese idea of an imported gentleman, we should like to know.

LETTERS received in England from Kobe, says a home paper, state that H.M.S. *Curaçoa* recently encountered a terrific typhoon, which broke over the northern part of China, and she was for some hours entirely at the mercy of wind and waves. She was on her way from Yokohama to Nagasaki, and was sailing under double-reef topsails, when at nine o'clock in the evening the storm suddenly broke upon her with tremendous force and bore her down to an alarming degree. It took two hours to get in the sails, and another hour to get up steam; but wind and sea were so strong that steam was found to be almost useless, and it was with great difficulty the ship could be kept under control. Several boats were carried away one after the other. The mizzen top-gallant-mast went over with a crash, and sails were blown bodily from the yards. The typhoon continued with unabated fury until six o'clock the next morning, and the *Curaçoa's* decks then presented a scene of great disorder; ropes, handspikes,

and other articles were scattered about in all directions, broken and useless. The hatches being battened down, very little water found its way below; but the ship rolled tremendously, and wind and sea continuously bore her down to the gunwale. In making her way to Kobe the *Curaçoa* picked up nine Japanese sailors, who had been wrecked in the storm and were clinging to pieces of wreck.

THE Kana Reform Society is said to be daily growing in strength and influence. Its last meeting, held on the 27th instant in the principal hall of the Imperial Engineering College, was in many respects a remarkable gathering. It was under the Presidency of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, who was supported by the President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Yoshiwara. Their Excellencies Takaki, Matsugata, Sasaki, Mr. Nabeshima, Admiral Nakamuta, and a large number of well known officials and private gentlemen were on the platform. Not the least noteworthy feature of the affair was the presence of many ladies, who seemed to take a keen interest in the proceedings. We have no hesitation in saying that the work upon which this Society is engaged deserves the grateful support of the whole nation. Opinions may differ as to questions of detail, but no thinking man can doubt that until the youths of Japan are relieved from the necessity of devoting years of study to the acquisition of caligraphy, this country cannot hope to compete successfully in the scientific race of the world.

A RESIDENT of Akidzuki, in Chikuzen, is said to have devoted much time and patience to studying the habits of the *uguisu* (nightingale), and to have succeeded in persuading the bird, though caged, to sing with all its usual sweetness. The *uguisu*, like many other *chef d'œuvres* of nature, does not love confinement. It quickly pines away when deprived of liberty, and those reared in captivity seldom develop the rich mellow notes that add so much to the charms of a Japanese spring. Tetsu-saburo, for so the practical naturalist of Chikuzen is called, has overcome these obstacles. He shares his cottage with thirty or forty *uguisu*, so that the whole neighbourhood is said to be constantly delighted by a flood of melody. Among the songsters there is one to which its owner has given the name of *Yama-goshi* (mountain-traverser). Its voice is declared to be inconceivably sweet; so much so, indeed, that its reputation has spread throughout the whole province, and people, not content with coming to listen to its singing, have made many attempts to purchase it from its owner, as much as a thousand *yen* having been offered by more than one visitor. But Tetsu-saburo, refusing all proposals, has taken *Yama-goshi's* cage in his hand, and is now carrying the little melodist by easy stages to Tokiyo, where he proposes to present it to the young Prince Haru, the Emperor's only surviving child.

A REMARKABLE case of hereditary longevity is reported from the village of Kwanshōji, in the Kiyoto district. There is living there a farmer, by name Noritane, who has reached his eighty-seventh year, and who declares that so long as he can remember, he has never taken a dose of medicine. His wife is sixty. She married at sixteen, and had her first son at seventeen, from which time until her 44th year she continued bearing children pretty regularly, until her sons

numbered nine and her daughters twelve. The whole twenty-one are living and in excellent health. They have made Noritane the grand father of 30 children, among whom, also, not one casualty has taken place. Noritane can trace his family back to the Tempio era (730 A.D.), when his first ancestor died at the age of 120. Since then no representative of the family has failed to reach a century, and Noritane himself does not seem likely to alter the record.

M. DE LESSERS has been interviewed by the editor of the *Voltaire*, and, amongst other expressions of opinion, the great engineer is said to have delivered himself as follows with regard to affairs in the Soudan:—"I have never ceased to regard the expedition to the Soudan as a veritable folly. The Ethiopians, under the leadership of the False Prophet, would never have passed, and will never pass, the first cataract. If there is to be an invasion, it will take place little by little, slowly and without attracting attention. The English, who, indeed, stand in no need of advice in this matter, have an immediate interest in abandoning the country. They were guilty of a grave imprudence in going there. To remain there would be a crime against humanity. It would expose to certain death a crowd of brave European soldiers. From the outset, the presence of the *giaours* would only tend to excite the fanaticism of the people, and, consequently, to swell the number of Mohamed-Ahmed's followers. You know the tactics of the Mahdi. He appears, with an immense escort, before towns and villages. The people are alarmed. They follow him through fear; and it is only necessary that this latter sentiment should be converted into enthusiasm. And then, why did the English count on the Egyptian troops? I do not doubt the courage of the Circassians in the service of the Khedive. But the natives, the Fellahs! Their case is different. I should not be astonished if a large number of them were found in the ranks of El Mahdi. Finally, the English had to struggle with the climate, which is terrible. Fifty years ago, when I was Consul at Cairo, Westerns did not venture much into Egypt, and they were right. To-day, however, people have no fear of anything, and their presumption may often cost them dear. If you want to know something about the climate of Southern Egypt and the Soudan, I will tell you a story. I once visited Khartoum with the Viceroy Ismaël. We were escorted by 67 Circassians. At the end of three days, 37 of these unfortunates had perished. Khartoum! why it is a place that can never be permanently held. It is situated at the confluence of the White and Blue Niles. The district about it is low, marshy, pestilential. Fatal fevers, resembling cholera, hold perpetual sway there. Damietta is similarly situated, and is equally a nest of fever and cholera. The cruel experiences of Europeans in Damietta ought to dissuade them from trusting themselves at Khartoum. Such is the situation. It is because I have been painfully moved by the disaster which has befallen a friendly people that I give expression to fears founded on experience."

MUSICAL instruments after European models are among the last things we should have expected Japanese to think of manufacturing. The demand for such articles in this country must be very limited, and many evident difficulties beset the undertaking. We learn, how-

ever, that the attempt has been made with entire success. Some workmen of Awaji, in the prefecture of Hiyogo recently forwarded samples of wind and string instruments to the office of the local officials, and these, having been sent to Tokiyo for inspection, are pronounced in no respect inferior to instruments of foreign make. It is added that they will be used henceforth by the military and naval bands.

THE old custom of bestowing public rewards upon women who have distinguished themselves by the patient practice of feminine virtues, is still observed in Japan. The vernacular press tells of a farmer's wife, who has been thus honoured. O Roku, as she is called, lives in the village of Shimohoya, Saitama Prefecture. Thirty years ago her husband fell sick, and shortly afterwards lost the use of both his eyes. Ever since then he has remained an invalid, unable to contribute anything towards his own support, or that of his aged mother, herself a cripple. The duty of nursing both her husband and her mother-in-law, as well as of providing for their sustenance, consequently devolved upon O Roku alone, and by the exercise of industry that did not flag either by day or by night, she managed to perform the task. At the fall of last year the woman's fame reached the ears of the local officials, and a handsome grant of money with a certificate of commendation were bestowed upon her.

WE read in a vernacular newspaper that the building recently erected within the enclosure of His Excellency Ito's residence, Nagatacho, Tokiyo, is to be used as an office for the conduct of matters connected with the Constitution. The name of the office will be the *Kempō-torishirabe-shikiyoku*, or more briefly, the *Kempō-shikiyoku*. It is said that business has already commenced there, and that the officials concerned are working industriously. There will be need of more than ordinary assiduity to prepare all the preliminaries for constitutional institutions in the space of five years.

THE mines at Ani, in Ugo, are said to be turning out an unusual quantity of ore this winter. The three smelting furnaces, two for iron and one for copper, are constantly at work, and their output is reported to be seven thousand pounds per diem. The consequence is that people are flocking from all quarters to assist the work, and although the snow is piled on the neighbouring country to a depth of seven or eight feet, the mines present a scene of changeless bustle and activity. Living must be tolerably cheap in Ugo. We read that the miners only pay 3.10 *yen* for a *koku* of rice, and that a three-year-old bullock can be bought for 3 *yen*. Such conditions do not often exist in mining districts.

IN the times of the Tokugawa Government there was a company of a thousand men, known as the *Sennin-dōshin*, whose special business was to protect the shrines at Nikkwo against fires. They were all men of exceptional muscle and courage, and many stories are told of their doughty deeds in the good old days. How it has fared with them since the feudal system fell, no record tells, but the vernacular press says that the recent proclamation of the new conscription laws re-awakened their spirit of loyalty, and that three hundred of them have volunteered to join the Colours for life. They must be more than

youngsters by this time, but perhaps their enthusiasm has made them oblivious of the flight of time. At any rate they are represented as desirous of repaying a small fraction of the benefits they have received at their country's hands, and the aspiration does them credit. It is pleasant to find that conscription is not distasteful to everyone.

THE people of Japan sometimes give evidence of very remarkable practicality. A case in point is a meeting of inn-keepers, which took place a short time ago. The meeting was attended by no less than eighteen hundred persons, who came together with the object of arranging a new tariff of charges to suit the altered prices of commodities. During the past two years rice and all the necessities of life have gradually fallen in price, and the inn-keepers throughout the country concluded that the time had come for them to adopt a new scale. After mature discussion the meeting decided that a reduction of twenty per cent. all round would meet the requirements of the case, and a resolution was adopted to that effect. This quiet and resolute way of doing business is very commendable. The inn-keepers, at any rate, do not regard the appreciation of the fiat currency as a bogus affair brought about solely by official legerdemain.

THE Nippon Railway Company was established on the 11th November, 1881, with the full sanction of the Government. The construction of the line, cars, etc., was entrusted to the Railway Bureau of the Public Works Department. The work was commenced in the middle of May, 1882, and completed as far as Kumagaye on the 28th July, 1883; 38 miles of rail laid in fourteen months. The line was thereupon opened for traffic. On the 21st of November, the line was finished as far as Honjo (51½ miles), and by the 27th of the same month as far as Shinmachi (56½ miles). Traffic increased with amazing rapidity, so that in the five months since the opening of the line the receipts amounted to 121,414 *yen* 81.8 *sen*, which, being divided by 157 working days, gives a daily average of 773 *yen* 34.2 *sen*. Sundry other items amounting to 2,733 *yen* 34.3 *sen*, give a grand total of 124,148 *yen* 36.1 *sen*. The expenditures during the same period amounted to 41,200 *yen* 55.9 *sen*, which, being deducted from the income, leaves a net profit of 82,947 *yen* 80.2 *sen*. The annual percentage on the paid-up capital amounts to 12.537 *yen* up to the end of November last. At the outset, the authorities guaranteed a profit of 8 per cent., but as the Company is in such a flourishing condition no further pecuniary assistance is required.

THE *Observer*, in language which implies very little doubt, states that China has made overtures to Japan with the object of inducing the latter to form an offensive and defensive alliance in the event of a war with France. Japan is said to have rejected these overtures, but to have pledged herself, in such an event, not to allow French ships to coal in Japanese ports. The *Observer* may be right so far as the alleged Chinese proposals are concerned, though no intelligence confirmatory of its assertions has been published by any journal in Japan. It is exceedingly difficult to forecast the direction Chinese policy will take in any particular conjuncture, but we may safely say that there is

nothing in her recent relations with this country which could justify such action as that attributed to her by our contemporary. Still less reason is there to suppose that Japan has made a promise at variance with the most recent interpretations of international law. The general principle applying to the entry of belligerent cruisers into neutral harbours, is that they shall only come for purposes identical with those that would bring the merchant vessels of either belligerent there. Phillimore states that coal may, under peculiar circumstances, regard being had to its quantity and destination, become liable to seizure as contraband, and the English regulations of January 31st, 1862, define those circumstances. Thus, it is now recognized that ships-of-war or privateers of either belligerent shall be furnished with only so much coal as may suffice to carry them to the nearest port of their country, or to some nearer destination; and that no coal ought to be again supplied to any such ship-of-war or privateer in the same or any other port under the same jurisdiction, without special permission, until after the expiration of three months from the time of the previous supply. Thus far, we may be sure, Japan will not refuse the hospitality of her ports to the vessels of any belligerent. Her obligations are already defined with sufficient clearness to render superfluous any assurance of the nature she is said to have given, as well as to forbid any deviation from them.

It is stated in an Italian journal that there have been going on for some time, between the Governments of Italy and Japan, negotiations having for their object the despatch of an Italian artillerist to Japan to take charge of a cannon-foundry there, and that the appointment has been conferred on Captain Pompeo Grillo, who is at present attached to the foundry at Genoa. It is added that Captain Grillo will be accompanied by another expert in artillery manufacture. Japan is apparently resolved to be cosmopolitan in her method of employing foreign assistance.

THE opinions of the French press with regard to the vote by which the Chamber, by a majority of 109, declared its confidence in the policy of the Ferry Cabinet in Tonquin, are unusually unanimous. The *Parlement* says that the Chamber has now openly proclaimed that it will not shrink from the task of driving the Chinese out of Tonquin. The *Paix* is of opinion that the vote will tend to facilitate a pacific and honorable solution of the negotiations with China, and that, in that sense, it will be accepted with satisfaction by the great majority of the people. The *République Française* applauds the political spirit, the energy, and the *sang-froid* of the Republican majority. The *Journal des Débats* approves the vote, and says that it is a verdict of indemnity for the past and of *carte blanche* for the future. The *XIX.^e Siècle* says that the Cabinet comes out of the struggle victorious, and with a majority which would not have been so large had the Government's assailants been more careful to hide the fact that their attacks were directed less against the Tonquin expedition than against M. Jules Ferry personally. The *Nationale* thinks that after a vote so explicit, the Government will be at its ease, not only to negotiate authoritatively, but to ask fearlessly for fresh credits when necessary. The Ministers know now that the Tonquin question is for the Chamber a question of national honour and that the majority will not haggle over expenditure. The *Voltaire* declares

that the vote will have the effect not only of exorcising the phantom of a Ministerial crisis, but also of hastening a solution of the Franco-Chinese conflict. The majority will soon reap the benefit of its coolness and resolution. The *Justice* says that what the Chamber has voted is war. The *Vérité* is of the same opinion. The *Intransigant* goes further; it considers the vote simply a crime. The *Figaro*, though not a friend of M. Ferry, feels obliged to confess that the President of the Council is really "a man of governing ability, since he is able to group about him a compact and unshaken majority." This virtual unanimity of opinion must go far to disabuse China's mind of any hopes she may have based upon the probable unwillingness of the French nation to support a Cabinet with an avowedly belligerent policy. A secret conviction that M. Ferry's position depended on his ability to steer clear of an open collision with China, has probably influenced the attitude of Chinese diplomatists more than is generally supposed.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* has received the following intelligence from Korea:—The Japanese students, sent from the General Staff Office to study the Korean language, left Pusan last year for Sōul. They speak the language as fluently as the natives themselves, without any foreign accent. They are under the immediate supervision of Major Isobayashi. Ma Kiēn-tang is suffering from inflammation of the lungs, and has not yet left for China. Five hundred recruits have recently been enrolled, and are to be drilled in the Japanese style. As the stock of arms and accoutrements has fallen short, a further supply has been ordered from a Japanese merchant. The recent Vice-Minister to the United States of America, Kiyoyei-sik, has been speaking lately a great deal about the wealth and power of America. He does not appear, however, to have much had success in his observations, and has become rather conservative. Important political changes will take place after the return of H.E. Min. An office called Ten-ken Kiyoku has been recently established, in order to superintend the minting of small coins. It is believed that, by circulating coins of one *mon* value, the fluctuation in the price of commodities, due to the issue of copper 5 *sen* pieces, will cease. The loan of 200,000 taels, contracted by Mr. von Möllendorff in China, has been entirely used up in the establishment of a Customs' Service. The Foreign Office is financially embarrassed, and the popularity of the above-mentioned gentleman is on the wane. There is evidently something behind all this. Although the Korean Government signed treaties with Great Britain and Germany, there is no intention of these treaties being carried out. Indeed, it is intended to cancel the trade regulations with China, as well as those with Great Britain and Germany. When H.E. Takezoye, Minister to Korea, was proceeding to the palace in order to bid the King farewell, a Chinese soldier ran through the *corlège* just as it reached the palace gate. The man was arrested by the Japanese police. Altogether, the Koreans thoroughly condemn the insulting deportment of the Chinese. Mr. Shimamura, who has taken charge of the Legation, is spoken of in high terms in Korean official circles. His opinion on all sorts of matters is constantly being asked, as he is credited with a great knowledge of European affairs. The Chinese traders in Sōul number

200 already, and are rapidly increasing. They do a thriving business.

VICTOR Hugo has just been singularly reminded of an event that, for his country's sake and his own alike, he would probably be glad to consign to oblivion. The expert, Charavaz, submitted to the poet a catalogue of autographs prepared for publication. Among them were letters relating to the *coup d'état* of 1851, and to the sentence of six months' imprisonment pronounced upon Victor's son Charles for publishing a pamphlet arguing against capital punishment. Writing upon this subject, the Count d'Orsay says:—"I can conceive a President of the Republic becoming brutalized by power. I can conceive Ministers becoming renegades. But what I cannot conceive is that, in this nineteenth century, there should be found jurymen to condemn your son." Among the letters there is, also, one from the well-known representative of the people, Babaud-Larivière, referring to the same event. "What have we come to, then," he writes, "that the infamous barbarism of capital punishment can be thus defended in open court. The conscience of humanity protests against such a disgrace. They might have condemned your son to death, but they would not have legalized this savagery of our penal code. His prosecution, despite its deplorable result, will remain, I am convinced, a striking proof of the necessity of abolishing the scaffold." It is not amiss, perhaps, to be reminded how few years separate us from the time when an inhabitant of one of the most civilized countries in the world could be sentenced to six months' imprisonment for venturing to question the advisability of capital punishment.

WE observe that another armoured frigate was launched at Stettin on December 1st for the Chinese Government, in the presence of members of the Chinese Legation and of a numerous company. The new vessel is a sister ship to the *Ting-Fuen*, which is now lying at Swinemunde. She is 98 mètres long, 18.30 mètres in beam, and is armoured to the water line. Her turrets also are armoured. She will carry four Krupp guns, of 30.5 centimètres, in her turrets, and two 25 centimètre pivot guns amidships. She will also have four torpedo tubes. It is not expected that she will be ready for service before the summer of 1885.

BILLIARD balls made of potatoes are the latest invention of science. The processes of manufacture are, on the whole, simple. Sound, well developed tubercles are chosen, and peeled with the utmost care, pains being taken to remove all discoloured or non-homogeneous parts. The potatoes are then steeped for some time in pure water, afterwards in a solution of sulphuric acid. Subsequently they are boiled in the same acid, with certain precautions known only to the inventor of the process. Thus treated, the potato gradually hardens and loses its permeability. Ultimately it is washed, first in hot, and then in cold, water, when it assumes the appearance of a yellowish white ivory, hard, elastic, evenly grained, easily worked, and possessing all the essential properties of a billiard ball. Needless to say that it is very cheap.

LACQUER, says the *Fiyu Shimbun*, forms one of the most notable and important industries of Japan. That foreigners greatly admire the

ware, is due to the wonderful skill attained by artisans in lacquer during a long period of years. But the superiority of Japanese lacquer has itself been the secret of its success. The lacquer tree was, in ancient times, protected, and its cultivation enforced, by law. Each family of the upper classes was obliged to rear 100 trees, the middle classes 70, and the lower classes 40 trees. The cultivation of lacquer was in this respect similar to that of the mulberry. Since these laws were abolished, the cultivation of lacquer has rapidly declined, as the people soon neglected their former obligations. The trees themselves were left to the mercy of woodcutters, so that they have become exceedingly scarce, while the price of lacquer has enormously increased. It is feared that this goes far towards crippling a once renowned industry.

We have received, from a gentleman signing himself "*Der Stier von Uri*," a letter commenting in very strong terms on two advertisements, the one signed "Helvetia," and the other "P. Kilgour Thompson," which appeared recently in the columns of our local contemporaries. Our correspondent thinks that the explanation offered in the latter advertisement is insufficient to efface the insult contained in the former, and expresses indignation at the attempt that has been made to discredit the justice and integrity of the Swiss Republic. We cannot think that any good purpose would be served by opening a discussion of this nature. There are some things which need no vindication, and among them everybody will agree to place the character of the Swiss Republic. "Helvetia's" joke was neither humorous nor graceful, to our thinking, but his apology was straightforward and unequivocal, and we have yet to learn that it is a habit with Swiss gentlemen to refuse an *amende* honestly and openly offered.

A FRENCH explorer is supposed to have been murdered on the frontier of Cambodia and Laos. M. Bruel, formerly the engineer of the Cambodia Gold Company, was sent by the Government on an exploring expedition. He was to ascend the Cambodia river as far as Bassar, whence he was to attempt to discover the route by which this great inland trading centre is connected with Hué. An important trade is known to be carried on between the two places, and in view of the position France is now taking up in Indo-China it is considered important that all commercial outlets should be known. He was informed that in consequence of the events transpiring in Tonquin he might find on the high plateaux complications which would render the execution of his mission difficult and even dangerous, in which case he was to return without exposing his life. The first part of the voyage was accomplished without any incident of moment happening. On leaving Sombor he received from the mandarin governing the province an escort of fifteen men commanded by a mandarin, which was to accompany him as far as Stungtreng, on the other side of the Siamese-Cambodian frontier. As to what happened after this there is no clear account, but the mandarin in charge of the escort and his men, three of whom were wounded, returned in all haste to Cratieh and reported that M. Bruel had been murdered. Some say that the upper provinces of Cambodia are in a state of insurrection, others that the attack was made by piratical partizans of Sivota,

a pretender to the Cambodian crown, while others accuse the escort of having themselves committed the murder. On the news being received a small force was at once sent to the scene of the tragedy to endeavour to recover the body and punish the attacking party if possible. One of the Saigon papers thinks there is a hope that M. Bruel may be still alive, as the Cambodians who were with him did not see him struck, and by the latest accounts no trace of his body had been found.—*Hongkong Daily Press*.

THE *Pioneer* says that the Home Government are gravely considering the appointment of Lord Ripon's successor. A contemporary's London correspondent told us recently that Mr. Goschen, M.P., was regarded as the coming man. "Great pressure," the *Pioneer* hears, "is being put upon Mr. Goschen to consent, whilst the Court party, of course, would like to saddle India with the Marquis of Lorne." The Allahabad paper adds:—"Lord Dufferin, who was popularly supposed to have the appointment in his pocket, is no longer mentioned in this connection, though there is good reason to believe that it is still an object of his ambition." Lord Ripon's term of office as Governor-General of India does not expire until June 8, 1885, but, says a London paper, it would not be at all surprising if he should leave India at the close of the current year. There is no reason to suppose that Lord Ripon has yet expressed any desire that a successor should be appointed, but it is thought in well-informed quarters that he may desire to forward that request when the autumn session of the Legislative Council is at an end. In that case, it is believed the position would be again offered to Mr. Goschen, together with a peerage. Mr. Goschen has, it is considered, taken a more irreconcilable attitude on the Parliamentary reform question than was expected from him, and with the prospect of, at least, four or five years of a struggle over that question, there is probably, if he remains in Parliament, a long departure from official co-operation with other Liberal statesmen.

THE public has doubtless heard enough of the squabbles of newspapers and newspaper agencies; but the revelations hitherto made have by no means been exhaustive. In the action brought by the Central News against the Press Association, a lively "scene," which was in active rehearsal, was cut short in the nick of time by the sudden collapse of the proceedings. A good deal of evidence was given, but the public may as well be put in possession of the facts, which were that the Reuter's telegram over which the quarrel arose was obtained on behalf of the *Edinburgh Courier* from a London newspaper office; that it was telegraphed from a "proof," and was headed "Reuter's telegram"; that a message to this effect, "This is a Reuter's telegram—you will know what to do with it," was sent to the *Courant*; and that the telegram, which had been wrongfully obtained, was wrongfully appropriated by the *Courant* by being incorporated into the "expanded" telegrams it received from another source. In so far as the *Edinburgh Courier* alleges that it used Reuter's information in innocence and ignorance, its allegation is simply not true. The fact that the news was Reuter's was distinctly made known to the *Edinburgh* editor by his London agent; and the *Edinburgh* editor nevertheless appropriated intelligence which a little reflection would

have shown him must have been improperly obtained. Mr. Lawson, the *Edinburgh* editor in question, has published in his own paper a letter addressed by him to the manager of the Press Association. It does not seem clear whether the letter is intended to be an apology or an explanation; but happily this obscurity spares us the necessity of characterising the letter in any specific manner. It certainly makes a most ungenerous reference to the London agent who so zealously supplemented Mr. Lawson's attenuated supply of foreign news. There is in the first place a suggestion that he was a stranger to the *Edinburgh* editor, and consequently a person for whose acts it would be unwise to assume responsibility. Then Mr. Lawson goes on:—"It is unfortunately true that in a moment of over-anxiety he did make use of one item—the supposed number of persons killed—which he had seen in a Reuter's telegram." He did nothing of the kind—he sent Mr. Lawson the whole telegram, told him it was a "Reuter," and left the treatment of it wholly in Mr. Lawson's hands. It was the *Edinburgh* editor, or his deputy, who "unfortunately, in a moment of over-anxiety," made use of an item that was Reuter's exclusive property. The facts, then, stand thus. The London agent of the *Edinburgh Courier*, when in possession of the telegram, did not deal with it in any way except to send it on to *Edinburgh* precisely as he had received it; and the responsibility of the *Edinburgh* editor began when he found himself in possession of an item of news which he had not paid for, which presumably he did not intend to pay for, to which, therefore, he had no right whatever, but which was nevertheless published in the *Edinburgh Courier* next morning.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE discussion in the Chamber, of December 14th, with regard to the Tongking credits, ended in a vote of confidence in the Ministry, after a remarkable speech had been made by the President of the Ministerial Council. The Chamber expressed its entire concurrence in the plans of the Government, and stated that it was fully believed that the rights and honour of France in Tongking were being energetically upheld. The vote was passed by 308 against 201. M. Jules Ferry asked the Chamber to state most clearly and distinctly whether or not full confidence was placed in the Ministry. He made this demand as much for the sake of the French troops fighting in Tongking as because of the still pending diplomatic relations with China. "To-day as formerly the French troops still find themselves face to face with the Black Flags, Annamese soldiers, and a few Chinese regulars. To-day as formerly, France stands facing China, yet neither in an attitude of peace nor of war." Though the soldiers of the two nations have met in the field, diplomatic relations with China have not been violently interrupted; Marquis Tseng is still in Paris, as is the French Ambassador in Peking, and nothing has yet occurred to disturb a continuation of negotiations. Will the present state of affairs result in an open rupture with China, and the declaration of war? Many persons in France seem to think so, and not a little uneasiness is felt. But as for our wisest politicians, their opinion is that the French Government will not declare war; let once Son-tai and Bac-ninh fall into our hands and the onward march of the troops will be discontinued. All that France desires is to

obtain certain hostages for the tranquil possession of Tongking, in accordance with the treaty of 1874; territory to which, whatever may be urged to the contrary, China has no claim. If the Peking Government thereafter wishes to conclude a treaty markedly in China's favour, France will show a conciliatory spirit, and meet their demands half-way. If not, the troops under Admiral Courbet will still retain possession of the strongholds of Tongking, mindful of the old saying *beati possidentes*. We doubt very much if China intends declaring war even should both fortresses be captured; she knows quite well that her army and navy are incapable of coping successfully with the forces of France: she can hope for nothing in an open war. But as for the present we can do nothing but await the slow development of events. Nevertheless, it may be certainly expected that China will wisely prefer a fair peace to fruitless hostilities; hostilities injurious to herself and to the interests of the nations at large.—*Gazette Diplomatique*.

An Indian paper says that news received from Persia points to a renewed activity, on the part of the Russians, who seem bent upon gaining a thorough knowledge of the country between Merv and Khorasan. A flying column over a thousand strong made up of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, is said to have left the Russian outpost of Baba Durmaz, and to be now exploring the Tejend Valley.

THE NEW CONSCRIPTION REGULATIONS.

SINCE the Autumn of 1882, it has been generally understood that Japan finds herself in view of some contingency demanding increased armaments. What that contingency is, public opinion does not pretend to doubt. The mood which China has displayed towards this country, on more than one occasion, shows plainly enough that peace and good fellowship are not paramount objects with the Cabinet at Peking. One instance alone suffices to establish this fact. In 1880, China had an opportunity of definitely closing the Riukiu account on terms proposed by herself and embodied by her own plenipotentiaries in a Convention which had received Japan's assent. But in the interval between the drafting and the signature of this document, the Middle Kingdom emerged from the shadow of a Russian invasion; and, being no longer under the necessity of circumspection, the Emperor's advisers did not hesitate to choose an open breach of faith rather than reconciliation with Japan. A moderately prudent government could not close its eyes to the significance of that election. It is quite certain that the sentiments of this empire towards its neighbour would not be satisfied by the commonplace conditions of international amity. No bond of fellowship with China could be too close for Japan's wishes, provided it did not involve any return to the conservative route from which the former seems so firmly resolved not to wander. But unfortunately this goodwill does not appear to be reci-

procal. Whether China's mood is one of active hostility or aimless umbrage, it is a mood which Japan thinks she cannot afford to ignore, and we do not imagine that any European State similarly circumstanced would be more careless.

These things are, of course, matters of conjecture. We do not profess to interpret the exact motives which impel Japan to embark in a policy that has proved, and is proving, so ruinous to Western prosperity. But from whatever direction, other than that of China, we consider her position, no necessity for military preparation is discernible, and the plain inference is that her neighbour's disposition alone prompts her to get ready for emergencies. It has been urged that no country in the world has less reason to fear aggression than Japan; that her tranquillity is doubly assured by the goodwill she has earned, and by the consensus of Powers which have a common interest in her welfare. Considerations of this nature, unfortunately, do not receive practical recognition at the hands of any State to-day. The world has evidently made up its mind that nothing is strong but strength, and that to be prepared for war is the only way to avoid it. We cannot be surprised if Japan subscribes to this universal doctrine, however we may question her wisdom, or regret her resolve.

At present the standing army, exclusive of the Guards, consists nominally of 40,432 of all arms. The force actually with the Colours is about 2,000 short of this total. It is distributed into six divisions, which have their head-quarters at Tokiyo, Sendai, Nagoya, Osaka, Hiroshima, and Kumamoto, as shown in the following table:—

FIRST TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-ichi Gunkwan</i>).		
	MEN.	TOTAL STRENGTH.
Tokiyo Garrison (<i>Tokiyo Chintai</i>)	3,510	8,202
Sakura Corps (<i>Sakura Yeisho</i>)	2,346	
Takasaki Corps (<i>Takasaki Yeisho</i>)	2,346	
SECOND TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-ni Gunkwan</i>).		
Sendai Garrison	3,832	6,178
Awomori Corps	2,346	
THIRD TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-san Gunkwan</i>).		
Nagoya Garrison	2,891	5,237
Kanazawa Corps	2,346	
FOURTH TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-go Gunkwan</i>).		
Osaka Garrison	3,351	8,043
Otsu Corps	2,346	
Himeji	2,346	
FIFTH TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-shi Gunkwan</i>).		
Hiroshima Garrison	2,891	5,237
Marugame Corps	2,346	
SIXTH TERRITORIAL DIVISION (<i>Dai-roku Gunkwan</i>).		
Kumamoto Garrison	3,351	5,697
Kokura Corps	2,346	
Grand Total		38,594
DETAIL.		
Commanding Officers (<i>Fochokwan</i>)	79	
Officers (<i>Shikwan</i>)	1,366	
Non-Com. Officers (<i>Kashikwan</i>)	5,759	
Privates (<i>Hei</i>)	31,390	

On a war footing the above total would be increased to 55,742. To this must be added the Corps of Imperial Guards, whose total strength, on a peace and a war footing alike, is 3,994 of all ranks. The following table shows the composition and force of

the Standing Army according to the system inaugurated in 1875:—

ARM OF SERVICE.	NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS.	NUMBER OF MEN.			
		Peace Footing	War Footing	Peace Footing	War Footing
Infantry	14 Regiments or 42 Battalions	779	1,099	32,858	46,298
Cavalry	2 Regiments	159	189	318	378
Artillery	15 Brigades or 30 Companies	306	386	4,590	5,790
Engineers	14 Companies	154	189	2,156	2,646
Control	6 Companies	85	105	510	630
Corps of Imperial Guards (as detailed elsewhere)				3,994	3,994
Grand Total				44,426	59,736

It is not accurately known to what extent these numbers will be increased by the new system. Information upon this point is carefully withheld for the present. Rumour states the proposed changes as follows:—

INCREASE DURING THE YEAR				
1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
1 Company	3 Battalions	2 Companies	3 Battalions	.....
1 Company	3 Battalions	2 Companies	3 Battalions	.....
2 Companies	.....	4 Battalions	.....	5 Battalions
2 Companies	.....	4 Battalions	2 Companies	5 Battalions
.....	1 Company	2 Companies	.....	.....
.....	1 Company	2 Battalions	3 Battalions	.....
Total increase—32 Battalions and 16 Companies, or 36 Battalions in all.				

Assuming this estimate to be correct, though, for the moment, it can only be regarded as an approximation, we may say that the effect of the new system will be to increase the Standing Army by six-sevenths of its present strength; and that, by the end of 1887, its peace and war establishments will be 82,506 and 110,938 respectively.

Before proceeding to consider the new system, it may be well to complete this part of our subject by detailing the composition of the various arms of the service:

COMPOSITION OF A BATTALION OF INFANTRY (*Dai-tai*), ON A PEACE FOOTING.

Commanding Officer	1	779 of all ranks; and 3 horses.
Officers	21	
Non-Com. Officers	115	
Privates	640	
Non-Combatant Officers	2	

COMPOSITION OF A COMPANY OF INFANTRY (*Chiu-tai*), FOUR OF WHICH GO TO A BATTALION.

Officers	5	192 of all ranks.
Non-Com. Officers	27	
Privates	160	

COMPOSITION OF A REGIMENT OF INFANTRY (*Ren-tai*), CONSISTING OF THREE BATTALIONS.

Commanding Officers	4	2,347 of all ranks; and 12 horses.
Officers	65	
Non-Com. Officers	349	
Privates	1,920	
Non-Combatant Officers	9	

On a War footing each Company is increased by eighty privates of the First Class, making the total number of privates in a Battalion 960, and in a Regiment, 2,880.

COMPOSITION OF A BATTALION OF CAVALRY ON A PEACE FOOTING.

Officers	5	159 of all ranks; and 135 horses.
Non-Com. Officers	31	
Troopers	120	
Non-Combatant Officers	3	

On a War footing the number of Troopers is increased to 150, making the strength of the Battalion 189 men, and 170 horses.

COMPOSITION OF A BRIGADE OF MOUNTAIN ARTILLERY (*Sampō-tai*), ON A PEACE FOOTING, CONSISTING OF TWO COMPANIES.

Commanding Officer	1	306 of all ranks; and 104 horses.
Officers	11	
Non-Com. Officers	51	
Gunners	240	
Non-Combatant Officers	3	

On a War footing the number of Gunners is increased to 320, making the total of all ranks 386, and 238 horses.

COMPOSITION OF A COMPANY OF ARTILLERY
(Field or Mountain) ON A PEACE FOOTING.

	Active	Reserve	TOTAL.
Officers	4	1	5
Non-Com. Officers	13	10	23
Gunners	51	69	120
	Active 68	Reserve 80	148

COMPOSITION OF A BRIGADE OF FIELD ARTILLERY (*Yahō-tai*) ON A PEACE FOOTING.

Commanding Officer	1
Officers	11
Non-Com. Officers	51
Gunners	240
Non-Combatant Officers	3
	306 of all ranks; and 180 horses.

On a War footing the number of Gunners is increased to 260, making the total of all ranks 326, and 258 horses.

COMPOSITION OF A COMPANY OF ENGINEERS ON A PEACE FOOTING.

Officers	5
Non-Com. Officers	26
Privates	120
Non-Combatant Officers	3
	154 of all ranks; and 20 horses.

On a War footing the number of the Non-Com. Officers is increased by 5, and that of the privates by 30, making 189 of all ranks and 21 horses.

COMPOSITION OF A BATTALION OF CONTROL, OR INTENDANCE (*Shichō-hei*), ON A PEACE FOOTING.

Officers	4
Non-Com. Officers	18
Privates	60
Non-Combatant Officers	3
	85 of all ranks; and 85 horses.

On a War footing the number of the Non-Com. Officers is increased by 10, and that of the privates by 20, making 105 of all ranks and 106 horses.

COMPOSITION OF THE CORPS OF IMPERIAL GUARDS (*Konoye-tai*), WHETHER ON A PEACE OR A WAR FOOTING.

	OF ALL RANKS.	TOTAL.
Infantry..... Two Regiments.....	3,262	
Cavalry..... One Battalion	189	
Artillery..... One Brigade	326	
Engineers... One Company	184	
Non-Combatants	33	3,994

The above total includes:—

Commanding Officers	9
Officers	128
Non-Com. Officers	576
Privates	3,248
Non-Combatants	33

By the new law the whole country is parcelled out, for purposes of conscription and mobilization, into seven Military Divisions. Of these the seventh is not yet completely included in the scheme, but the first six are formed into twelve Districts, and these, again, into 185 Sections. The following table gives a geographical idea of this part of the system:—

FIRST DIVISION.

1st District ...	{ 33 Sections, in the province of Musashi; and the provinces of Sagami, Kai, Idzu, and Kotsuke.
2nd District ...	{ 9 Sections, in the province of Shinano; 6 in Musashi; and the provinces of Awa, Kadzusa, Shimosa, Hitachi, and Shimotsuke.

SECOND DIVISION.

3rd District ...	{ 3 Sections, in the province of Rikuzen; the provinces of Iwaki, Iwashiro, Uzen, Yechigo, and the island of Sado.
4th District ...	{ 12 Sections, in the province of Rikuzen; and the provinces of Rikuchiu, Mutsu, and Ugo.

THIRD DIVISION.

5th District ...	{ 7 Sections, in the province of Owari; 7 in Shinano; and the provinces of Mikawa, Totomi, Suruga, Isé, and Shima.
6th District ...	{ 2 Sections, in the province of Kai; 3 in Owari; and the provinces of Mino, Kaga, Noto, Yetchiu, Hida, and Yechizen.

FOURTH DIVISION.

7th District ...	{ 6 Sections, in the province of Setsu; 9 in Kai; and the provinces of Yamashiro, Yamato, Mikawa, Idzumi, Omi, and Iga.
8th District ...	{ 11 Sections, in the province of Setsu; and the provinces of Harima, Awaji, Wakasa, Tamba, Tango, Tajima, Mimasaku, Bizen, Hoki, and Inaba.

FIFTH DIVISION.

9th District ...	{ The provinces of Aki, Bingo, Bitchiu, Idzumo, Iwami, Oki, Suwo, and Nagato.
10th District ...	{ The provinces of Awa, Sanuki, Iyo, and Toki.

SIXTH DIVISION.

11th District ...	{ The provinces of Higo, Hiuga, Osumi, Satsuma, and Okinawa.
12th District ...	{ The provinces of Buzen, Bungo, Chikuzen, Chikugo, Hizen, Iki, and Tsushima.

SEVENTH DIVISION.

Oshima, Shiribeshi, Ishikari, Teshima, Kitami, Iburi, Hidaka, Togachi, Kushiro, Nemuro, and Chishima.

NOTE.—The Seventh Division, or Hokkaido district, is placed, for the present, under the military administration of the Second Division. Conscription, however, will be carried on in Hakodate, Yesashi, and Fukushima only.

Throughout these Divisions every male, between the ages of 17 and 40, is liable to service. The military force of the Empire is divided into the Standing Army, the Reserve Army, and the Territorial Army. Youths are not enrolled for service with the Standing Army, except at their own request, before the age of twenty. Up to that age they are included in the Territorial Army. The periods of service are as follows:—

Three years with the Colours.
Four years with the Reserve of the Standing Army.
Five years with the Reserve Army.
Eleven years with the Territorial Army.

It will be seen that Japan, following France's example, and shunning the error into which England has fallen, does not commence the active training of her conscripts before they attain the age of twenty. On the other hand, she holds with Germany, and against France, that it is possible to make a soldier in three years. This we believe to be an error. The German cannot safely be taken as a type. His early inculcated habits of restraint and national spirit of obedience are exceptional elements in his favour. Judging from the evidences that have been before us since Japan's army was formed on an European model, we are inclined to regard five years as a minimum period of service with the Colours. There is much to be mended in her military practice. Her men are badly set up, and betray, to a considerable extent, that *abandon* and slovenliness which were once admired in the French army, but which are now acknowledged to be quite inconsistent with the individuality required by recent modifications in tactics. Rigid discipline and steadiness in the ranks are more than ever needed in the battles of to-day, and military critics have observed with regret an apparent lack of these qualities in the Japanese soldier. Of recent years, indeed, great improvement in these respects has been noticeable, but we doubt very much whether the peculiar habits of life of a Japanese youth permit a fair hope that he can be licked into serviceable soldier-like shape in three years.

The Reserves of the Standing Army and the Reserve Army are to be called out once a year for a period of not more than sixty days; but the Territorial Army will only be called out in time of war or other emergency. Thus the total period of liability to service may be reckoned as twelve

years, during nine of which the conscript is only required to serve two months annually.

Statistics show that the number of youths annually arriving at the age for conscription throughout the Empire is 210,000, approximately; and it is calculated that this total will be reduced by about two-thirds, owing to the working of the scheme of exemptions. There will thus come forward every year, to be passed through the ranks, seventy thousand conscripts. It is obvious that such a number could not possibly be absorbed by an army of eighty-two thousand men. Indeed this problem of keeping the Army with the Colours at its fixed maximum, and at the same time imparting military instruction to the whole body of non-exempted conscripts, is one of the most puzzling that present themselves in connection with compulsory service. Japan has met the difficulty after a novel fashion. In addition to the Standing, Reserve, and Territorial Armies, she is to have a force of Supernumeraries numbering not less than two-fifths of the Army with the Colours. Casual vacancies occurring in the ranks of the Army with the Colours are to be filled up from the Supernumeraries, and, at the end of a year, such of the latter as have not been drafted into the former, are passed into the Reserves of the Standing Army. A simple arithmetical calculation, therefore, shows that the least number of conscripts annually required will be eleven-fifteenths of eighty-two thousand (assuming the latter number as the strength of the Army with the Colours), that is to say, about sixty-one thousand. The seventy thousand conscripts yearly coming forward are thus disposed of, as the strength of the Supernumerary corps is elastic, its minimum only being fixed.

The scheme of exemptions (enumerated in the Conscription Regulations, of which a translation is appended) is very accurate and comprehensive. The hatred with which compulsory service is regarded by every people in the universe, has always been intensified in the direct proportion of the number of exemptions. In the great military nations of Europe, where exemptions reach to forty, and sometimes fifty, per cent. of the conscripts, mothers have been known to thank God for inflicting on their sons a deformity incapacitating them for military service. Japan is badly circumstanced in this respect. The comparatively small numbers of her Standing Army oblige her to extend her system of exemptions so as to embrace 66 per cent. of those liable to conscription, and we may expect that military service will be correspondingly unpopular. Of the exemptions themselves, the only one that seems open to criticism, from a general point of view, is the privilege accorded to students at public, that is to say Government, schools and colleges. The consequence of this exemption will probably be disastrous to private educational enterprise. It will be observed (*vide* Article 11) that special facilities are offered to persons who possess certificates

of graduation from public educational institutions, and who are prepared to defray the cost of their maintenance themselves. This is, doubtless, a good regulation, and the same may be said of the exemption extended to persons living abroad for purposes of scientific study. But no account appears to have been taken of men engaged in commercial pursuits in foreign countries. With the experience of France before them, the Japanese authorities ought not to have made this omission.

The method (*vide* Art. 12) of offering early retirement as a reward for educational and military proficiency, is open to objection. The effect of such a system is to deprive the army of the very men who are likely to make the best non-commissioned officers, and thus to throw these important posts open to persons of inferior attainments, not possessing the powers of command generated by habits of scholastic obedience. The value of an army depends largely on the quality of its non-commissioned officers, and this fact has long been recognized in Europe, where, as a rule, special measures are taken to attract good men to non-commissioned posts. The rates of pay—ranging from four to nine *yen* per mensem, exclusive of subsistence—of non-commissioned officers in the Japanese army do not appear sufficient to retain the better classes of soldiers with the colours.

There can be no doubt that when this new system of military organization has matured, Japan will possess a force formidable enough to defy invasion. The Japanese has all the elements of an excellent soldier,—pluck, activity, intelligence, and endurance,—and what he lacks in weight is made up by his skill as a marksman. The day seems far distant when he will be called on to measure himself by a foreign foe, but in the meanwhile it is not surprising, all things considered, that the Government of this country has partially subscribed to the doctrine preached by the *Jiyutō* and practised by the whole of Europe, that right is but an empty term where might is wanting to enforce it.

We append to this article a schedule of the pay and subsistence of the Japanese Army, as well as a translation of the recently issued Conscription Regulations:—

PAY PER ANNUM.

OFFICERS (*Futō-shikwan*).

	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.
General (<i>Taishō</i>)	4,800			
Lieutenant-General (<i>Chinshō</i>)	4,200			
Major-General (<i>Shōshō</i>)	3,000			
		ARTILLERY	CAVALRY	IN-
		(Hōhei), & (Kihai) &	(Hōhei), & (Kihai) &	FA-NTY
		(Kōhei).	(Shichōhei).	(Hōhei).
Colonel (<i>Taisa</i>)	2,400	2,340	2,280	2,244
Lieut.-Colonel (<i>Chiusa</i>)	1,800	1,740	1,680	1,644
Lieutenant-Colonel of				
Guards	1,800	1,740	1,704	
Major (<i>Shōsa</i>)	1,200	1,140	1,080	1,044
Major of Guards	1,200	1,140	1,104	
Captain (<i>Tai-i</i>)				
1st class	840	780	720	624
2nd class	810	750	672	576
Lieutenant (<i>Chiu-i</i>)				
1st class	600	540	480	384
2nd class	600	540	432	336
Ensign (<i>Shō-i</i>)				
Guards	420	420	420	324

NON-COM. OFFICERS (<i>Katō-shikwan</i>).				
Sergeant-Major (<i>Suchō</i>).	1st class	112.78.5	103.29.5	93.80.5
	2nd class	96.36	88.33	80.30
Sergeant (<i>Gunsō</i>).	1st class	119.72	109.86.5	99.64.5
	2nd class	110.78.5	103.29.5	94.17
Corporal (<i>Gochō</i>).	1st class	77.15	70.81	64.24
	2nd class	69.35	63.51	57.67
Privates (<i>Heisotsu</i>).	1st class	84.31.5	77.38	77.47.5
	2nd class	78.48.5	72.27	66.79.5
Drivers (<i>Giyōsha</i>).	1st class	46.35.5	42.34	38.69
	2nd class	41.61	38.32.5	34.67.5
Farriers (<i>Kakisotsu</i>).	1st class	60.95.5	55.84.5	51.10
	2nd class	55.21	51.83	47.45

ANNUAL SUBSISTENCE (<i>Shōku-riyō</i>).				
		KOKU OF RICE.	YEN.	
Infantry, 1 Battalion		1,653.45	18,187.95	
Cavalry, 1 Battalion		330.69	3,637.59	
Artillery, 1 Brigade		634.29	7,010.19	
Engineers, 1 Company		319.74	3,517.14	
Control, 1 Company		170.82	1,879.02	

ANNUAL CLOTHING AND NECESSARIES (<i>Hifuku-Sōgu</i>).				
		YEN.		
Cavalry, 1 Battalion		7,113.98.0		
Artillery, 1 Brigade		12,836.73.6		
Infantry, 1 Brigade		20,962.04.4		
Engineers, 1 Company		4,896.96.1		
Control, 1 Company		3,325.36.7		
Guards				
Infantry, 1 Battalion		36,351.53.0		
Cavalry, 1 Battalion		20,976.68.0		
Artillery, 1 Brigade		16,518.63.3		
Engineers, 1 Company		7,491.81.5		

LODGING ALLOWANCES (<i>Takuriyo</i>).				
		YEN.		
Colonel, per mensem		10.00		
Major, per mensem		7.50		
Captain, per mensem		3.75		
Lieutenant, per mensem		3.00		
Ensign, per mensem		2.50		

In addition to the above are Contingencies (*Shōgōhin*), Barrack Furniture, Travelling Allowances, &c., which are determined with exceeding accuracy of detail, but are too complicated to be recorded here.

GRAND TOTAL, PAY, SUBSISTENCE AND ALL ALLOWANCES ANNUALLY.

	YEN.
Infantry, 1 Battalion	70,789.48.4
Cavalry, 1 Battalion	22,021.05.2
Artillery, 1 Brigade	43,302.48.0
Engineers, 1 Company	10,295.64.0
Control, 1 Company	12,941.24.4
Guards	
Infantry, 1 Battalion	88,017.88.4
Cavalry, 1 Battalion	29,620.74.0
Artillery, 1 Brigade	12,520.71.5
Engineers, 1 Company	25,218.95.2

NOTIFICATION NO. 46 OF THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

It is hereby notified that the Conscription Regulations have been revised as follows:—

SECTION I.—GENERAL RULES.

Art. 1.—Every male inhabitant of the country will be subject to military service from seventeen to forty years of age.

Art. 2.—Military Service will be with the Standing Army (*Yōbi-hei*), the Reserve Army (*Gōbi-hei*), and the Territorial Army (*Koku-mim-pe*).

Art. 3.—Service in the Standing Army will be divided into service with the Colours (*Gen-yeki*), and service with the Reserve of the Standing Army (*Yōbi-hei*). Service with the Colours will be for a period of three years, commencing from the age of twenty. Service with the Reserve of the Standing Army will be for a period of four years, commencing from the expiration of the term of Service with the Colours.

Art. 4.—Service in the Reserve Army will be for a period of five years, commencing from the expiration of the term of Service in the Standing Army.

Art. 5.—The Territorial Army comprises all males between seventeen and forty years of age who are not serving in either the Standing Army or the Reserve Army.

Art. 6.—Even though the terms in all the services have been completed, they may be prolonged in case of war or other emergency, or for special manoeuvres, reviews, or during voyages in foreign seas, or whilst stationed in foreign lands.

Art. 7.—Those who have undergone a criminal penalty are disqualified for Service.

SECTION II.—ENLISTMENT.

Art. 8.—The ranks of the Army with the Colours will, according to the number of men yearly required, be filled by means of drafts from among the conscripts into the infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, transport, miscellaneous corps, and mechanics, according to their personal capacity, accomplishments, and training.

The Active Force of the Navy will, according to the number of men required yearly, be filled by means of drafts from among the people of the coasts and islands, upon whom the lot has fallen, into the ranks of the sailors, firemen, mechanics, etc., according to their training. Those, however, who serve in accordance with the Regulations for Naval Volunteers (*Shigwan-pe*), are not subject to this rule.

Art. 9.—The terms of Service in the various Armies may be shortened according to the nature of the service performed. Provided that, the whole period of Service with the Standing Army shall not be shortened.

Art. 10.—Those who, though not fully twenty years, are above seventeen years, of age, may volunteer for service with the Standing Army.

Art. 11.—Men between seventeen and twenty-seven years of age, possessing certificates of graduation from public schools or colleges (normal schools excepted) in Cities or Prefectures, and who are prepared to defray the expenses of clothing and maintenance themselves, may, on application, be admitted to serve in the ranks of the Standing Army for a period of one year at a time. Should they acquire rapid proficiency, they may be allowed to quit the ranks after a few months. Provided that, the whole period of Service with the Standing Army shall not be shortened.

Art. 12.—Those who distinguish themselves by proficiency in military exercises and by good conduct during their Service with the Standing Army, and those who obtain diplomas of proficiency in infantry exercises from public schools or colleges (normal schools excepted), may be temporarily relieved from service before the expiration of their term.

Art. 13.—In time of war, or other emergency, the Reserves of the Standing Army may be called out, and drafted into the ranks of the Standing Army, or formed into supernumerary corps. In ordinary times these Reserves will be called out once a year, for a period of not more than sixty days, for purposes of exercise and muster. The Reserve Force of the Navy will not be thus called out.

Art. 14.—In time of war, or other emergency, the Reserve Army may be called out, and drafted into the Supernumerary Corps of the Standing Army Reserves. In ordinary times the Reserve Army will be called out in the same way and for the same purposes as the Standing Army Reserves.

Art. 15.—The Territorial Army will only be called out, when in time of war or other emergency, the Reserve Army having been called out, there is still need of troops. It will then be formed into corps for service.

SECTION III.—EXEMPTIONS, PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY.

Art. 16.—Only those who are incapacitated for Military Service on account of being deformed or maimed, will be permanently exempt.

Art. 17.—The undermentioned will be temporarily exempted. They will, however, be liable to be called upon in time of war or other emergency when there is need of men:—

1.—One of two brothers who are simultaneously called on, or the brother (younger or elder) of a man already serving with the Colours.

2.—One brother (younger or elder) of a man who has died while serving with the Colours, or who has been permanently exempted on account of injuries sustained, or illness contracted, in the discharge of his duty.

3.—Heirs of heads of families aged above sixty years of age, and those next in the direct line of succession.

4.—Heirs of heads of families who cannot pursue their callings on account of being deformed or maimed, and those next in the direct line.

5.—Heads of families.

Art. 18.—Those mentioned below shall be exempt during such time as circumstances may permit:—

1.—Those who occupy the office of *Kiyosei* (priestly office).

2.—Teachers in public schools or colleges of Cities or Prefectures (normal schools excepted), who possess teachers' certificates issued by a public school or college.

3.—Students engaged in the regular course of

studies at public schools or colleges, or educational institutions of equal grade.

4.—Military and Naval Cadets and mechanics in the Navy.

5.—Those who have not yet attained the regulation height.

6.—Those who cannot serve on account of being sick or convalescent.

7.—Those who are in foreign countries for purposes of scientific study.

8.—Those who are defendants in criminal cases involving a penalty of major seclusion and upwards, and upon whom no decision has yet been pronounced.

Art. 18.—Those whose civil rights have been suspended.

Art. 19.—Students who have completed a course of one year or more in the public schools (normal school excepted) in Cities and Prefectures will be temporarily exempted for a period not exceeding six years.

Art. 20.—Those enumerated below shall not be called out whether they are in the Reserve of the standing Army or in the Reserve Army. In time of war or other emergency, however, they may be called out with the sanction of the Council of State.

1.—Officers above the *Hannin* grade and chiefs of ward offices.

2.—*Kiyodo-shoku* (priests), with the exception of Acolytes.

3.—Professors in the public schools and colleges.

4.—Members of the City and Prefectural Assemblies.

5.—Those who are practising medicine and in possession of diplomas from the public Medical Colleges in Cities and Prefectures.

Art. 21.—Those who are serving in Departments, or Bureaux, in Cities and Prefectures, in offices which cannot be performed by others, will be temporarily exempted with the sanction of the Council of State.

Art. 22.—Those enumerated below will not fall under the provisions of Article 17, as to temporary exemption:—

1.—Heads of families who are registered in other families, their heirs and the latter's heirs in the direct line.

2.—Heirs, and those next in the direct line, who are not incapacitated from pursuing their callings by illness or deformity, and who have not incurred a criminal penalty; and heirs, and their heirs in the direct line, in whose favour heirs have surrendered their right of succession.

3.—Heirs (and those next in the direct line) of heads of families who, being less than sixty years old, and not being disabled by illness or deformity from supporting their households, and not having incurred a criminal penalty, surrender their position (as heads of families); and the next of kin of heirs in whose favour heads of families of sixty years of age, and upwards, have surrendered their position.

4.—Heads of branch houses (*bunke*), and heads of houses (together with their heirs and the latter's heirs in the direct line) that have been re-established after having become extinct.*

5.—Heirs (and those next in the direct line) of heads of families, the successors of heirs (and their next of kin) who have absconded, when the act of succession has taken place within five years of the time of absconding.

6.—Heirs, as enumerated in clause 2, 3, and 4 of this Article, who, although actually occupying the position of heads of families, have obtained that position through its voluntary abdication by a person not incapacitated, by illness or deformity, from pursuing his profession, and not having incurred a criminal penalty.

7.—Heirs who, although actually occupying the position of heads of families, have obtained that position through its voluntary abdication by a person less than sixty years of age, not incapacitated, by illness or deformity, from pursuing his profession, and not having incurred a criminal penalty.

8.—Persons who, although actually occupying the position of heads of families, have obtained that position in the room of heirs (or next of kin) who not being incapacitated by illness or deformity, and not having incurred a criminal penalty, have, nevertheless, failed to take up the succession either on the death or voluntary surrender of the head of the family.

9.—Persons who, although actually occupying the position of heads of families, have succeeded to

that position within five years after it became vacant by the head of the family absconding.

Art. 23.—Persons who, failing to comply with the provisions of Article 35, do not report themselves for military service before September 16th, will not be eligible for temporary exemption during that year, even though they belong to the classes set forth in Clauses 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Article 18, and in Articles 19 and 21. Military and naval cadets, however, are excepted from this rule.

SECTION IV.—MILITARY DISTRICTS, AND DRAWING FOR CONSCRIPTS.

Art. 24.—For purposes of Conscription the Empire will be parcelled out into Military Divisions (*Gunkan*), Military Districts (*Shikan*), and Military Sections (*Ku* or *Kori*). In cases where the same urban or rural division forms part of two different Districts, a Military Section shall be formed in each. A list of the various Divisions, Districts, and Sections accompanies these Regulations.

Art. 25.—The infantry of each company (*Chintai*) will be raised in the Military District where it serves; the other arms (cavalry, artillery, &c.) may be raised anywhere in the Division to which the Corps belongs. But when the necessary number of men for the Standing Army or Supernumerary Corps cannot be thus obtained, recourse may be had to other districts for infantry Conscripts, and to other Divisions for troops of other Arms. Recruits for the Navy and Imperial Guards may be raised from any Division or District throughout the Empire.

Art. 26.—Drawings for Conscripts will take place in urban and prefectural Military Sections. The conscripts from each Section will be chosen by lot after having undergone the prescribed medical examination, and after it has been determined, according to their qualifications and acquirements, to which branch of the service they shall belong.

Art. 27.—Each Section will send not less than one and not more than three representatives, chosen by vote, to draw lots for the Section.

Art. 28.—In drawing for Conscripts, the arm of the service and a number determined in accordance with the number of men required, will be written on a ticket, and these tickets having been deposited in a box placed before the officials in charge of the drawing, the names on the list of persons eligible will be called in order, and the representatives will draw lots for them. The officers in charge of the drawing, having verified the numbers, will cause them to be proclaimed. They will then place on record the names and numbers as drawn, and will hand the tickets to the representatives.

Art. 29.—The conscription tickets will be considered as for service with the Colours until the vacancies are filled, after which the tickets will be for Supernumeraries.

SECTION V.—SUPERNUMERARIES AND STANDING ARMY RESERVES.

Art. 30.—Those who have drawn Supernumerary tickets will serve for a year in the Supernumerary ranks. During that time they will be liable to be drafted, in the order of their tickets, into the ranks serving with the Colours, should vacancies occur, or in the event of war or other contingency. The total number of Supernumeraries will not be less than two-fifths of the total number of the Army with the Colours.

Art. 31.—Supernumeraries who have not been drafted into the Army with the Colours during the fixed period (one year), and students, as described in the 3rd clause of Article 17, who have completed a course of two years service and upwards, will be assigned to the First Reserve of the Standing Army until they have attained the age of 27.

Art. 32.—Those who, as enumerated in Article 17, have not been called on to serve at the usual time, and those who, under Articles 18 and 21, are exempted from serving for seven years, and those who have completed the term of service with the First Reserve of the Standing Army, will be assigned to the Second Reserve till they attain the age of thirty-two. Those, enumerated in Article 17, who forfeit their privileges of exemption within six years after their assignment to the Second Reserve, will be enrolled in the Army with the Colours.

Art. 33.—The Reserves of the Standing Army will be called out in time of war or of any other emergency, when troops are required. The Second Reserve will not be called out unless the Reserve Army is also called out.

SECTION VI.—MISCELLANEOUS RULES.

Art. 34.—Those who arrive at the age of 17 at any time between January and December, shall report in writing their names, social position, place of registration, date of birth, and their professions (personally if they are heads of families, and if not, then through the heads of their families)

between the 1st of September and the 15th of the same month, to the chief ward officer of the place of their permanent registration.

Art. 35.—Those who arrive at the age of twenty at any time between January and December, shall report the fact in writing (directly if heads of families and if not through the heads of their families) from the 1st of September to the 15th of the same month, at the chief ward office of the district in which they are permanently registered. Should any changes occur in these details after reporting them till the 10th of April of the following year, they shall be reported in writing, within three days, to the chief ward officer of the place of the person's permanent registration. Those who are already in the service when attaining the age of twenty need not report.

Art. 36.—Should those enumerated in Article 17 forfeit their privileges, or should the conditions conferring exemption under Articles 18, 19, and 21, come to an end, or should there occur any change in the condition referred to in the last clause of Article 32, the particulars must be reported (personally, if heads of families, and if not, through the heads of their families), from the 1st of September to the 15th of the same month, to the chief ward officer of the place of their permanent registration. Those who come under this Article on and after the 16th of September up to the 10th of April, must report the fact within three days.

Art. 37.—Should those who are temporarily registered in other Cities and Prefectures desire to be enlisted elsewhere, they shall apply to the Local Authorities of the place where they desire to serve, before the month of August, with a guarantee from the head of a family living in the place where the applicant resides. The report described in Article 35 must, however, be made to the chief ward officer of the place of temporary registration.

Art. 38.—A fixed daily allowance of money, food, and clothing, will be granted to all those serving in the Army and Navy.

Art. 39.—In case of conscripts being prevented from entering the service owing to illness or criminal prosecution, they shall report the fact to the chief ward officer without loss of time. Those who are ill must send a medical certificate.

Art. 40.—In the case of those enumerated in Article 39, whose condition has not altered before the 1st of September, they shall be kept over until the next year, and shall be enrolled after due examination, the following year, before the new conscripts. In case of war or other emergency, when troops are required, they shall be enrolled without waiting for the conscription period.

Art. 41.—Those who injure themselves, feign sickness, or adopt other fraudulent means to avoid service, or who desert or conceal themselves; those who do not attend at the examination without due cause, and those who neglect to report as laid down in Articles 35 and 36, shall be liable to immediate service, without recourse to drawing, or shall be examined next year and enrolled in advance of those enumerated in Article 40, without recourse to drawing.

Art. 42.—The term of service with the Colours shall be reckoned from the 20th April of the year in which a Conscript enters the service, but those enumerated in Article 41 shall have their term counted from the day on which they enter the service. The term of the Reserves of the Standing Army and of the Reserve Army shall be reckoned from the 20th of April of the year in which a Conscript enters those services. But the number of days during which men have been sentenced to major detention, or police surveillance, or have been absent without leave, shall not be included.

Art. 43.—Those who neglect to report, as laid down in Articles 34, 35, 36, and 39, and those who do not attend, without due cause, the medical examination after having received due notice, shall be punished with a fine of not less than *yen* 3 or more than *yen* 30.

Art. 44.—Those who conceal themselves, malingering, or resort to other fraudulent devices, to escape conscription, shall be punished with major detention for not less than one month and not more than one year, with a fine of *yen* 3 to *yen* 30.

Art. 45.—The Rules required for the enforcement of this Notification shall be notified separately.

By Imperial Order,

(Signed)

SANJO SANEYOSHI,
First Minister of State.

(Signed)

OYAMA IWAWO,
Minister of War.

(Signed)

KAWAMURA SUMIYOSHI,
Minister of Marine.

28th December, 1883.

* This includes both *Zekke* and *Haika*, i.e., families of which the name only remains, and families of which the name and estate both remain.

THE NEW JAPANESE LOANS.

THE Minister of Finance has advertised in the foreign local press an issue of railway bonds to the amount of five million *yen*, being the first instalment of the capital required for constructing the Nakasendo Railway. In one respect this step may be regarded with unmixed satisfaction. Of the various industrial and commercial schemes hitherto inaugurated or assisted by the Government, the Nakasendo Railway is the first to which foreigners are admitted on equal terms with Japanese. In a majority of cases there has been valid reason for this exclusiveness, but it is none the less permissible to consider the present policy as a new departure in a wise direction. Every fresh removal of existing distinctions between aliens and natives cannot fail to hasten the advent of the time when there will be brought within reach of industry and enterprise some worthier field than the paltry commerce of circumvallation to which foreigners are now restricted.

Almost simultaneously with the appearance of this advertisement in English newspapers, the vernacular press tells us that more than four millions of the loan have been already taken up by Japanese banks. This result will probably be regarded with complaisance in certain quarters. It will be counted a proof that capital is easily available within the country, and that Japan can build her own railways without going abroad for aid. A moment's reflection will show that inferences of this nature are erroneous and misleading.

In the first place, such an application of banking capital is wholly improper. It is hardly necessary to observe that the chief function of a bank is to become a receptacle into which unemployed capital is collected for the purpose of distribution to those that want it. As Lord OVERSTONE has well said, "the whole principle of banking is to transfer capital from the inactive accumulator to the active and energetic person who needs it." There is good reason to doubt whether Japanese banks—we speak of the national banks, since, up to the present, they must be considered the representatives of banking in this country—there is good reason to doubt, we say, whether these banks have ever understood that they have any duty other than that of employing their own capital, or whether they have ever appreciated the fact that their real advantage only commences when they begin to employ the capital of others. It does not surprise us, therefore, to see them now hastening to invest in railway scrip millions which their proper function is to bring within reach of private industry and enterprise. Established on principles which, from the outset, deprived them of all inducement to act as media between lenders and borrowers, their last performance is a striking example of the persistently false

routes they have always trodden, and will always tread, until the conditions of their existence are entirely changed.

It will, perhaps, be urged that if the banks have money lying idle, there is no reason why they should not purchase railway bonds in default of more legitimate investments. This is in a measure true; but the very fact that they are so situated, constitutes one of the circumstances which, in our opinion, render an internal loan for railway purposes specially unwise at the present juncture. An invariable consequence of currency appreciation is that capital is diverted from the ordinary channels of industrial and commercial enterprise and attracted towards Government securities. This tendency has been very distinct in the Japanese money market during the past two years, and it doubtless affects the banks no less than other capitalists. If, therefore, any argument is to be founded on the fact that the banks have idle capital to invest in railway scrip, it is plainly not an argument in favour of offering them fresh facilities and inducements to fix that capital, thus rendering it unavailable to meet the demand that will certainly spring up with the revival of trade and industry.

The particular objection to such an employment of banking funds, applies generally, and with not less force, to the case of all Japanese money. "In poor countries," says JOHN STUART MILL, "the capital of the country requires the legislator's sedulous care; he is bound to be most careful of encroaching upon it, and should favour to the utmost its accumulation at home, and its introduction from abroad." Japan is essentially a poor country at present. During the past seven years she has been sending her specie abroad and replacing it by an inflated currency, which she is now again engaged in contracting. For the moment, what she feels is not the want of capital, but the difficulty of employing it profitably. So soon, however, as prices have completely adjusted themselves to the altered value of *Kinsatsu*, there will follow an industrial and commercial revival, vigorous and fruitful in proportion as the means to feed it are available. Capital is the means, and we cannot but regard with extreme anxiety the large increase of fixed capital at the expense of circulating that must take place if the Nakasendo railway is to be built with Japanese money.

Turning from the serious, we had almost said disastrous, consequences that must flow from so unwise a drain upon resources already inadequate, we may note the less important, but more evident, difference in the cost of money procured in Japan and in Europe. When this country undertakes to build railways with its own funds, it is behaving like a merchant who deliberately elects to borrow capital for his business at a rate of interest twice as high as necessary. There are

countries to which, in consequence of great annual savings and low profits, the emigration of capital becomes an object of just as great importance as its immigration or retention is to countries where capital accumulates slowly and the rates of profit and interest are high. Countries of the former class are naturally suited to be the latter's bankers. Speaking of this, MILL says:—"The railway operations of the various nations of the world may be looked upon as a sort of competition for the overflowing capital of the countries where profit is low and capital abundant." Japan's credit in Europe is so excellent that she could readily borrow money for productive enterprises at easy rates, whereas she can only procure it from her own people at very high rates, and, moreover, with the certainty of abstracting it directly from the wages fund, thus curtailing the subsistence of the people and the employment of labour, and temporarily diminishing the gross annual produce of the country. It is difficult to discover in this any evidence of practical sagacity.

There is yet another point which, though in some degree hypothetical, cannot be left unnoticed here. It is the loss which may accrue to this country by borrowing in a depreciated currency. The Finance Minister sells his railway bonds at 90, thus receiving $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions of paper, or four millions of silver, for five millions worth of stock. There can be no reasonable doubt that before the annual redemptions commence, five years hence, *Kinsatsu* will be circulating at par with silver. The loss owing to this cause will therefore amount to five hundred thousand dollars; or to four times that sum, if the whole twenty millions be similarly obtained. Not only might this be avoided by borrowing abroad, but a still further gain might be secured should silver itself appreciate, as compared with gold, during the course of the next ten or twenty years. That such a result is probable, seems to be clearly indicated by the constantly growing agitation in favour of a bimetallic standard. Let us suppose, then, this loan of twenty millions placed in England at 90, the rate of interest being six per cent.; and that in 1890, when the repayment commences, the proposed ratio between silver and gold has been established. The money in which Japan discharges her liability would, under these circumstances, cost her from five to ten per cent. less than its present value, and her gain under this heading might amount to fully two millions in the total. Thus the net result of borrowing abroad might be a saving of four millions, or twenty five per cent., in the principal, and of two per cent., at least, in the rate of interest, while the dangers of fixing a large quantity of circulating capital would be avoided. We cannot discover that the plan of borrowing at home has anything to balance these advantages, except, perhaps, some political considerations, which, though highly commendable from a sentimental point of view, will never contribute much to Japan's material prosperity.

THE CASE OF MESSRS. LUDWIG AND TRÜB.

FIFTEEN years ago, Lord OVERSTONE, when examined before a Parliamentary Committee, described a banker as a go-between, who receives deposits on the one side, and on the other applies those deposits, entrusting them in the form of capital to active energetic persons, who, he thinks, will make a good use of it. He went on to explain that, in many instances, the persons receiving these facilities have no security to give; and, "in all cases, can offer no security equal to the amount advanced to them, except that best form of security, their character, their energy, and their prudence." McCULLOCH endorses this view of bankers' functions, and says that "they are often more influenced in making loans by their knowledge of the conduct, the intelligence, and the pursuits of the parties seeking such accommodation, than by anything else."

In the practice of every day life it seldom happens that a banker is sufficiently liberal and far-seeing to apply these principles in their entirety. In almost every case he is tramelled by responsibilities, which, even if they fail to invest with a personal character the many risks of so large-minded a system, must necessarily impede a conscientious official's use of the property entrusted to his care. When, therefore, there occurs the rare and happy conjuncture of a bank manager so sensible of his highest functions, and a board of directors so unsparing of the latitude they allow their *employés*, as to permit the conduct of a bank on these highly intelligent principles, it naturally becomes at once the interest and the duty of the community to contribute, as much as possible, to the permanence and stability of such an institution. On these general grounds the sentence recently passed on Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB, in the Swiss Consular-General Court, seems very regrettable. It is true that, having regard to the social position these persons occupied and to the reputation they enjoyed prior to the discovery of their fraudulent dealings, the fact that they were criminally punished at all will generally seem of far greater importance than the amount of their punishment. But there is a fallacy underlying this view of the case; the fallacy of assuming that because a man's circumstances are of a nature to deter fraud, they are also to be considered as mitigating its consequences. If any inference may be drawn from a reputable merchant's descent to disreputable practices, it is the inference that he has appreciated the contingencies of his lapse, and his punishment ought to be in proportion to the knowledge with which he incurred it. As a penalty for a crime of such magnitude as that committed by Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB, six months' imprisonment is quite inadequate. Their counsel, addressing the

judges-assessors, said:—"You know my clients as well and better than myself, gentlemen. For a long time they have lived in the midst of you. You have always seen them laborious, orderly, modest, and enjoying universal respect." This appeal, if it was calculated to increase the embarrassment of the judges by reminding them that they were required to pronounce sentence on their some-time friends and fellow workers, ought also to have reminded them that they owed something to their own reputation, as well as to the institution whose wise liberality is so generally beneficial and had been so grossly abused. The standard of commercial probity in this settlement will not be raised, nor will the facilities offered by banking institutions be enlarged, by the finding of the Swiss Consular-General Court.

From the evidence given at the trial it appears that up to 1878, Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB were the servants of a firm which, though it has not escaped the general disasters of recent years, enjoys the credit of being managed with exceptional skill. They then set up on their own account, and at once obtained from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank a credit of \$30,000 which, in the second year, was extended to \$100,000, and subsequently reached a figure considerably larger than twice the latter amount. At the time of the trial they owed the Bank \$193,438.19, and their relations with it rested entirely on a basis of confidence. They were allowed to cash cheques for the purchase of silk, and they undertook to keep these advances fully covered at all times. The Bank, on its side, relied wholly on this engagement. It never took any direct steps to ascertain whether its advances were actually covered. Such steps would have interfered with the facile conduct of its clients' business, and would have substituted for the security of honorable trust the imperfect guarantee of a difficult surveillance. Every month, however, Messrs. LUDWIG & Co. were required to furnish storage notes, giving a detailed description of the silk held to the Bank's order, and nothing but the falsification of these notes could have seriously imperilled the transaction. Such was the general situation, a situation which also represented the relations between other firms and the Bank, and which, while it did much credit to the latter's conception of its functions, had happily never been abused before. In January, however, Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB confessed that the documents they had furnished were incorrect; that there was little, if any, property to represent the entries in the storage accounts, and that a system of deceit had been practised towards the Bank since 1879 or 1880. Ultimately it transpired that, during the five years of its existence, the firm had lost \$118,900, and that its assets in Japan amounted to \$90,700, the greater part of which, however, was owed by Japanese, and of doubtful availability.

Brought to trial before the Swiss Consular-General Court on a charge of embezzlement and obtaining advances against fictitious certificates, Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB's cause was pleaded in writing by a gentleman of the very highest legal attainments. The defence set up was eloquent and elaborate. Briefly it amounted to this:—that the charge of embezzlement could not be sustained because the goods in question were not the property of the Bank, but only its security; and that the crime of obtaining advances against fictitious certificates was condoned, first by the Bank's hypothetical knowledge of the true nature of the certificates, and secondly, by the fact that the advances were obtained with the object, not of securing an unlawful advantage for Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB, but of recovering ability to discharge their indebtedness to the Bank. The first plea was admitted by the Court. This seems to have been unavoidable. A man cannot embezzle his own property, and though the silk was nominally held to the Bank's order, the fulfillment of this condition had never been enforced during the firm's five years' dealings with the Bank. But the second plea was plainly inadmissible. To infer that, despite Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB's declarations, and despite their monthly certificates, the Bank knew they were losing money simply because the silk trade was generally unprosperous, is wholly to misinterpret the terms upon which the business was conducted. Those terms rested essentially on a basis of confidence—confidence which depended, not on the nature of the times, but on the character of the men. Honesty, not fair-weather honesty, but honesty that is always honest, was the Bank's security. The last plea, that an illegal gain was not sought, is a plea which, if pushed to its logical conclusion, means simply that one wrong justifies another. To repeat a fraud with the hope of obtaining means to indemnify the defrauded, is a curious, but not a commendable, device. More valid were the pleas, urged with great eloquence and insistence, that Messrs. LUDWIG and TRÜB had never tried to abscond; that they had themselves confessed their wrong, and that they had given up the whole of their assets to the Bank. Possibly the Court took these things into consideration. If so, it would have done well to set forth the fact. What it did was to find the accused guilty of perpetrating a series of frauds extending over a series of years and amounting in the aggregate to nearly two hundred thousand dollars, and then to sentence them to the strangely inadequate penalty of six months' imprisonment. If this be a proper estimate of the punishment meet for such a transaction, it is plain that narrower limits will have to be set to the facilities which banks can extend to men having only their character and ability to offer as security.

THE IMMEDIATE CHRISTIANIZATION OF JAPAN—PROSPECTS, PLANS, RESULTS.

A Paper read at the Tokiyo Missionary Conference, Feb. 5, 1884, by C. S. Eav, and published by the request of the Conference.

I.—INTRODUCTORY.

The days in which we live are unique in the world's history. Forces which formerly were confined within narrow limits now burst every barrier, and the wide, wide world opens its gates to the energetic touch of modern enterprise. These are days which inherit all the results of a chequered past, and possess the power and the skill to assimilate the knowledge accumulated by the centuries, to transform it, and with it open up a still wider future. This is an age that will be great in history; great in invention, in the furtherance of all the arts of peace; great in the outspread of commerce, on whose ever widening streams there floats a subtle power for weal or woe for both the trader and his newer customer. Great is the age in science and research, sounding the death-knell of hoary myths and musty superstitions, but opening a way for low born, newly decked materialism. Great is the century in breaking down barriers between nations, binding by telegraph and steam the uttermost ends of the earth, and making it possible that the brotherhood of man should become, not some indefinite sentiment only partially realized, but a living universal fact. Great the work that lies at the door of the Christian Church if she will but rise to the majestic possibilities of the hour, cease trifling with her mission, and lay hold in true earnest of her great calling to disciple the world for Christ, the Prince of Peace and Truth.

This is the sublimest work of the hour, to carry forward our Saviour's plans, to advance the loving purposes of God for the human race, purposes the realization of which has been left in human hands, with the accomplished work of redemption in Christ Jesus, and with the promise of the Spirit. It is in the mission field, opening now so grandly in every quarter of the globe, that the gospel is to look for its most striking successes, efforts for which cannot but react in blessing on home lands. Success, if accomplished, will only breed an ardent desire for greater results still. And for plans for the success of mission work, no one can speak so well to the point as missionaries themselves, whose hands and hearts are in the work. Plans and commands from home churches might prove fetters rather than means of success, and our loyalty to our church may sometimes lead us to disobey the letter of her orders so as to carry out the spirit all the better. As in the case of Dr. Duff, who insisted on going out unfettered by minute orders, and went to India with only one injunction from his society. The first thing he did was to cast that injunction to the winds and do the very opposite, and would have deserved blame if he had not. Churches at home have already learned much from mission fields and have much more to learn. Men and women who are sent to mission fields ought to be persons whose sense and judgment are above suspicion, and then they should be trusted. And there is no place in the world where this is more necessary than in Japan, a land in which the light of all the centuries is being focussed, open to every influence—good or ill—of every civilized land, a land whose fundamental character has been formed on the basis of the oldest civilization now existing, with a temperament ready to accept the results of the newest and best. A land which, if really won for Christ, with all the warmth of her first love, with all her inherited advantages in her connection with China and Corea and her knowledge of the religions of the east, might and should become the key to all the lands of the Orient. I think the missionary in Japan ought to feel that he is honoured with an honour which rarely falls to the lot of the human being. We stand here inheritors of all the riches of the ages of thought, of all the benign influences of the

beloved lands in which we were born, we live in an age when the Church is feeling her way back to her original head, and beginning to put forth some little evidence of pristine power. A new day is dawning, and we stand here on the very outside edge of the Orient, where clasps the crystal cordon that now girdles the world, as representatives of this mighty awakening force. We stand amazed at the opening and progress of this land, and tremble at the possibilities of a very few years in the future of this mercurial people. Upon us depends much of the future of this land. If we are true to Christ and our calling, Japan will emerge elevated and morally great; if we fail, Japan now trembles on an abyss of anarchy and decay. There is only one other spot under heaven to be compared with our possibilities and our responsibilities in Japan, and that place is India. India won for Christ and the world might soon be won. Japan won for Christ, and the Orient will soon be won. Hence our subject to-day.

II.—COURSE OF CHRISTIANITY UNTIL TO-DAY.

It must require all the infinite patience of God to endure the stubbornness of man to accept the marvellous revelation of his love, the unfaithfulness of recusant man to be true to his high commission, to bring the boon of redemption to his fellow man. One would almost be tempted to think that the trinity of world, the flesh, and the devil, were stronger than the combined powers of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. But we have to bear in mind that the former powers of ill are on their native heather; the latter work through feeble man, and can never stoop to conquer by means that are foul, but work to regain a lost world while not destroying its remnant of freedom. Think of the vastness of the Divine thought as expounded by "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son. God sent not his son into world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him." Long were the ages of preparation before that could be made plain to humanity by the actual appearing of the God-man. And see the divine vastness of the plan of Him who was called the son of the carpenter. See him in the darkest hour of anguish, an hour which to any ordinary human teacher would have been an hour of despair. He prays, "Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word, that they may all be one. Even as thou Father art in me and I in thee, that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that thou didst send me." And then afterwards when surrounded by his fishermen, publican, and kindred followers, all unlearned, unhonored, unsalaried—a mere troop of despised disciples, see the grandeur of his commission. A commission the meaning of which we have yet fully to learn; "All power is given unto me * * go ye therefore and disciple all the nations."

See that little band after that the Holy Spirit has descended upon them. How boldly they speak, what triumphs they win. What splendid success in a few years! Inside of sixty years they have produced a literature which is the soul of all that is noble in the literature of later ages, they have introduced new ideas of God and man; set sociology and politics on a new track; have churches from Palestine and Babylon to Egypt and Rome and beyond, with mighty centres of evangelism in between, with believers from the lowest up to Cæsar's household. Then they grow amid persecution-fires and rivers of martyr's blood, until proud pagan Rome dies at the foot of the cross. And wherein lay this marvellous strength of the primitive church?—and this is a matter of prime importance in our present enquiry. Certainly not in ceremonial and priesthood, for they had none at all. Nothing could be more simple than the visit of an apostolic missionary, preaching the gospel and then before passing on to another place, appointing one of the converts as an overseer to look after the rest and see that they all kept true. He would then leave them, perhaps never see them again, or at least not for a long time, and in the meantime he would comfort them with a letter. That church was the soul of simplicity, and

indeed from that day to this, the amount of priestly pretensions and the multiplication of ritual, may be taken as the measure of a church's distance from Christ and the apostolic idea. Their power lay not in refinements of modern theology, for the doctrinal teaching of Christ and his apostles was very simple. God manifest in the flesh to take away human sin; man through Christ to become an heir of heaven, a subject of the Kingdom of God on earth; some simple rules about the Kingdom, how to enter, how to act in it, how to extend it, that and little more. And as we extend our Theology into hair-splitting dogmas, into hard and fast lines not laid down in the New Testament,—so far as we make human teachings and theological forms an essential part of our faith, so far do we leave the simplicity of Christ and his apostles, so far do we dim the light, instead of spreading it, and lose hold of one of the secrets of apostolic success. They preached Christ and him crucified, and little more. Moreover, the secret of their success lay not in their ecclesiastical machinery, for they had very little of it for many a long year. But to be short, the grand underlying secret of all besides the spiritual power of their message as a divine revelation, was the fact of their unifying love, a love which linked them by a living tie to the Saviour who bled for them and for all, a love which bound brother man to brother man the world over, a love which grew boundless as God's love for humanity, and flamed into a passion to save mankind in every clime, arousing a holy ambition to conquer the world from the devil for Christ, an ambition before which the mistaken fanaticism of the Crusades pales, and beside which Napoleon's dreams or Alexander's plans are child's play. And when we rise to conquer for Christ it must be on the same line; with the same glorious gospel, hearts all aglow with unifying love, in the light of which non-essential differences die forever, and in their place an absorbing passion for the salvation of men, for the unselfish benefit of the world. But a saddening, sickening sight, a hideous half-triumph of hell divides us of these times from those old days of marvels and of power, from the trammels of which even we are not yet wholly free. "But thou shalt bruise his heel" was sadly true here; Christ conquered pagan Rome, but the spirit of pagan Rome conquered the Church of Christ. Rome's idea of empire seized the Church and her passion became, not to save, but to rule, the world. The loving Father was banished and the cross was transformed into a crucifix. "Love gave place to power. Apostolic simplicity was exchanged for the splendour of baptized heathenism. The spirit that dug up a statue of Jupiter, dubbed it St. Peter, and put it into St. Peter's Church that the pious might kiss its toe, imported a thousand other absurdities from the worship of pagan religions." The wedding of Greek philosophy with gospel truths mystified the teachings of Christ and his Apostles, and for 1,000 years the so-called Church of Christ walked in darkness, with but here and there a meteor light to relieve the gloom. But the hidden seed grew in darkness, and when men could endure it no longer, Christ spoke through Luther and his compeers. A splendid Reformation resulted and paved the way for a still better and broader one. Intellectually men were freed in a measure. The pulpit was freed but not the pew. And amid the wrangling of doctors in dogmatic strife, and the din of war in blades and blood, the spiritual power of Protestantism waned, her new energy turned to apathy when the victory was but half accomplished. And the fact remains that in Europe Protestant and Popish boundaries to-day are essentially as they were at the close of the 30 years war. But the age of the Reformation opened the way for a return to the apostolic ideal.

The Puritan movement gives us a fine example of stern and sturdy faith, when granite hearts were needed to become the foundation stones of a new nation. And well were they laid by old Plymouth rock. But these stern men had too much of the old covenant, too little of the new; too much of the old law of the Lord, too little of the gospel of Christ. But they had given birth in old England and in the New to a higher type of

freedom of conscience; individual freedom was born again, and with the more peaceful days of the last century, men awoke as never before to the needs of personal spiritual life. Wesley, Whitfield, Edwards, and others of different dogmatic creeds cried as did John the Baptist, "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand," and as after his short ministry the Christ appeared, so in a little while after the "Holy Club" of Oxford had been termed Methodists in derision, a new and Christlike spirit came over all the churches, and such a spiritual revival took place as had not been seen since the days of Constantine. A revival proceeding not from ecclesiastical strife and political upheavings as the Reformation of Luther, not from dogmatic contentions as in Puritan days, but from the pressure of souls burdened with a sense of sin, yearning for salvation and conscious purity of heart and life. Luther said that a revival never lasted over 40 years, but that revival is going on yet in every church. It brought us back and up to Christ, and what was the result? It opened the way for a still grander reformation, a more positive realization of practical Christianity than has been seen since the days of the apostles, and on a wider scale than the world has ever seen—a movement that is only just begun, I mean the missionary revival. Bible societies date from that time and have given millions of copies of the word of God to every land. Tract societies followed, flooding every clime with tens of millions of pages of Christian literature. Missionary societies arose, and have sent agents to every quarter, and as a result Christianity has already won more in the last 80 years than in 1800 before. We boast of the conversion of island nations; of the Sandwich Islands, Fiji, Friendly Islands, and Madagascar; we count converts in some parts of India by the tens of thousands; in China and Japan by the thousand, and in looking over the record some of our good lazy churches at home, are almost inclined to think the problem solved, and like Alexander in their ignorance almost begin to think about weeping because there are no more pagan worlds to conquer!

But hold! let us look this matter in the face. If I did not look upon the work already done as preparatory and full of promise for greater things, I should scorn the church for her apathy, and despair of her accomplishing her mission. Think of it! There are more heathens in the world to-day than there were when the apostles preached! We boast of 6,000 converts in Japan, but heathenism in Japan has increased by more than 600,000 while those 6,000 were being laboriously gathered for Christ. We boast of idols overthrown and religions cast aside, but remember the church has not overcome a single great religion, since the splay-footed paganism of Rome fell (and that had already been riddled by philosophy), and the Scandinavian mythology of northern Europe vanished. We have come to savage tribes who were easily made to see that their ridiculous fetichism was no religion; or to places such as the Sandwich Islands, where they had already thrown away their idols as useless lumber, before ever the missionary came. But not a single powerful old religion has fallen or been visibly affected in these later days. Moreover Mohammedanism, which rose 600 years later than Christ, numbers more followers to-day than Christianity; Moslem propagandism is spreading more rapidly than Christianity; and the false prophet supports more missionaries to-day than all the church of Christ. The missions have wrought hard in India and not in vain, but Western infidelity has ten converts to one led to Christ, while Brahminism and Mohammedanism in India are scarcely affected; only an individual here and there. And here in Japan and China Confucianism and Buddhism are simply untouched, so far as their strength is concerned; while here the converts to Western materialism are one hundred to our one for the gospel of Christ. Of course the fact of the *quality* of Christian work and of Christian civilization is a sufficient answer for Christianity as such, but the *quantity* of the opposite shows the state of the problem before Christian men and missionaries at the present hour. The real problem

has not yet been touched, and unless the Church rise into a clearer sense of the stupendous interests at stake ages will be lost again, and the glorious light of the Gospel will go down in gloom.

III.—LARGER TACTICS NEEDED.

But thank God it need not be so. It shall not be so; the Church now partly aroused shall rise in power, and the partial return to the Apostolic spirit, the partial uplift into the Christ ideal shall be made real; this last topstone of the Reformation shall be brought on with rejoicing, and the world shall yet be won. If we compare the Church and the world of to-day with that of the Apostolic age, we find many points of similarity, but more of difference; suggesting, indeed, a difference of tactics, but a holding to the same vital principles which gave the secret of their power. They began with the passionate warmth of a new born love, we go forth with the rejuvenescence of the Church kindled anew from the perennial fountain of life. They had miraculous gifts to a certain extent to serve as an evidence of the truth of their message; we have the teeming evidence of history, of experience, and of a powerful civilization. They were mighty men of prayer and were rich in the inheritance of inspiring promises; to us the way is open to the same throne of grace, upon us falls the benediction of every promise that they could claim. Their world seems to us a very narrow one. Their Africa was but the northern shore, their Asia scarcely extended to India, their Europe reached hardly beyond Rome. Britain was barbarian. France, Germany, Russia were savage lands; China, Thibet, Korea, Siberia, Japan, America, Australia, and all the myriad islands of the oceans and four-fifths of Africa were to them as non-existent. To us who stand on higher heights, there spreads out a larger humanity; a bigger world to conquer, a vaster problem to solve. They had a solid Roman world in which one law was supreme, and one Greek culture moulded the people. Paul dealt with people whose language he knew, whose literature was his own. Dr. Crawford says he would have failed if he had come to China. But we of to-day have to go to China, and to a hundred other places, whose language, laws, customs, literature, all differ from ours. And before we can preach the Gospel to effect, these have to be mastered, to some extent at least. All these notions, which until a few years ago were sealed against Christianity, are now opened or rapidly opening. In this respect the prayer of the Christian Church has been answered; and now the question is, the world is open for you, what are you going to do about it? To the apostles were given extraordinary powers for their work; to us are given extraordinary means. As divine nature and human nature are still the same, and the underlying principle of our problem is still the same as the apostles, to make men partakers of the divine nature, to bring man to God and unite humanity in a divine brotherhood, we must conserve the same underlying principles of evangelism, by which they accomplished their marvels of success, viz., simplicity in teaching, simplicity in form, intensity of unifying love. Our great work is not with hordes of untamed savages, but with peoples whose civilization was old before ours was born, a people whose thinkings have run the whole gamut of thought and need from us but little of the human to perfect their humanity; they need only the message divine to elevate their manhood to nobler things.

But as the field of operations differs, so must our tactics differ from those of apostolic times. As the fields open before us are immeasurably greater, so much the greater is our responsibility. As our numbers, our wealth, our learning, our means are ten thousand fold greater than theirs, so must the glad outpouring of means and of men be commensurate with the larger responsibility. And as we live in a time when progress is measured, not by the leisurely tread of olden centuries, but by the rush of steam and telegraph and science and commerce and a thousand other forces which combine to make the world advance in a short decade farther than our ancestors did in a century, the triumphs of the loving Evangel must be commensurately vast and

rapid. The time has come when "a nation shall be born in a day." We must lead and mould the progress of the world or be untrue to our mission, untrue to our God who has given such power to man. The Church must change her tactics and move on broader lines.

II.—JAPAN AS A STRATEGIC POINT.

(1) But I must not dwell too long on these generalities, important as they are in throwing light on the greatness of the work at each strategic point. As I said before, I look upon India as the grandest vantage ground in the mission field to-day, calling for the greatest efforts, promising the largest results. But next to India in importance as an outpost of other nations, a vantage ground from which to sway the Orient, I place Japan. I consider the problem in Japan to be one of interest, not only to us who are here on the field, not only to the churches that have sent us here as their representatives, but to the whole Christian civilized world.

The manner in which these principles of enlarged tactics should be practically carried out, must differ of course with the country and the people for whose benefit we plan. I think a great deal of harm has been done, or at least a large amount of good has been lost, by attempting to deal with semi-civilized races, as with savage tribes. India will need one kind of tactics, China a very different sort, and Japan must be met in a way peculiarly suited to her temperament and position. To understand, then the plans necessary, we must first look at the circumstances, and find "the lay of land." And to do this we need to have such a knowledge of the language and the people, such a sympathy with their heart's feelings, as to enable us to see with their eyes as well as with our own. I may say just here that the plans I am about to propose are not the mushroom growth of an ephemeral enthusiasm, but the steady growth and outcome of seven years of careful observation and thought, quickened, it is true, by later developments; developments of the country making it more open to the gospel; developments in our churches and workers here on the field, rendering it more easy to apply apostolic plans; developments at home which lead me to think that the churches of Christendom are ripening for united and larger effort. But more of this anon. Let us now try to take in the state of affairs in Japan.

(2) A little more than three centuries ago the Jesuits brought their message to the Far East. They found in China an Empire, vast, self-contained, and philosophic. True to the instincts and ideals of their order, they took the garb of literati, became astronomers royal, taught science, and tried to found their church. As the church they founded came to public notice it was persecuted and almost obliterated, but the scientific astronomical fathers still held on, giving a wonderful example of patience and skill; and there they are to-day doing good philosophical scientific work. But what have they done for Christianity? and for Christian civilization and morality, what? About the same time they came to Japan, and they found here a place and a state of affairs, peculiarly suited to their tactics. Japan wanted trade, and the Jesuits gave them trade. Jesuits delight in moving princes and working among the brainless poor, a middle intelligent class they cannot endure. Japan was at that time a land of petty princes and low-lived masses, without a middle class, the Samurai being but appendices of their lords. Trade gave the Jesuit missionary the friendship and protection of certain daimios, gradually they won the friendship of other little lords, and had then, not only free access to their people, but the positive influence of their chiefs' example. The central government was powerless to control the movement, for they could not control their nobles, the enmity of some of the daimios was no great harm, for their enemies were sure to become the friends of those whom they hated. Thus it came to pass that in A.D. 1610, 60 years after the arrival of the first missionaries, there were said to be 2,000,000 of Christians in Japan, and 200 foreign missionaries. Charlevoix eulogizes François Civan, "King of Bungo," for having overthrown 3,000 Buddhist temples and houses. And

Father Cuello admitted that the disciples of the missionaries destroyed the temples of the false gods of the Japanese and persecuted the priests. This style of propagandism was not new to Japan, for long before this the Abbots of the *Shin* sect, driven from Kioto by the monks of *Hiyei-san*, had made forcible conquest of Kaga, where they reigned as lords for one hundred years; and Nobunaga himself for ten years waged unsuccessful war against these warrior priests in Osaka. And Nichiren, too, learned by persecution the tender mercies of Buddhism in the 13th century. But the disciples of Christ should have shown a better spirit. Protestants traders came also in those days, and disgraced the Reformation to an almost equal extent; their religious zeal found vent only in hatred of Rome and deception; their lives were a libel to their better light, and they often bartered their conscience, if they had any, for the mere sake of gain. But the orders of the Roman Church had the work of propagandism in hand, the Protestants, to the shame of the Reformation be it said, sent no missionaries. But it is, perhaps, just as well that they did not. The Jesuits and Franciscans and other orders quarrelled and betrayed each other, their powerful aristocratic friends had either died or deserted them, the central power of the Government of the Shōgun was becoming national; charges against the Roman missionaries, against the Spaniards and Portuguese were made, and, whether true or not, were believed by the Japanese Court. They had other avenues of trade now, and needed the Padres no more, and so in 1614 the decree went forth, that Japan should be freed from every stain, every trace of Christianity. Then came days of flight, days of recantation, days of blood, ceaseless, relentless, unrelieved. Shōguns swore to extirpate Christianity as a staple article in their political creed. Buddhist priests became a ubiquitous inquisition and dragged forth every suspected person; prices were paid for Christian heads, increasing in rate as the game became scarce; year after year injunctions went forth and even up to the present century one would almost suppose that the chief calling of the Government was to hunt the accursed Christian and rid the land of the gods from the pestilence of foreign devils. All books were prohibited which contained the word Christian, or the word foreign¹. Thus the work of hundreds of missionaries and the influence of 2,000,000 believers vanished as a dream, leaving scarcely a trace behind!

But Japan was saved for better things. In these days, what a transformation! If our eyes did not behold the facts we could scarcely credit the story. You all know the facts too well to need a repetition of them here. Just a word or two to bring some of the salient points in review, which will show us how completely the whole nation is changed, so as to become the most suitable ground possible for the propagation of true Christianity, which seeks not to intrigue with the ruler and make him a tool, which aims not at turning the low-lived masses from one idolatry to become the equally ignorant devotees of another, but works in broad daylight, aiming at convincing the intellect and ennobling the heart.

Scarce 25 years have passed since this land was unwillingly forced to open her ports to foreign intercourse and enter into Treaty relations with the outer world. But what do we see to-day? The Shōgunate with all its anomalies has passed away, mediæval feudalism with all its glamour and petty tyranny has gone forever, a compact of clans has given place to a consolidated empire under its rightful sovereign, who has been raised to greater power than his forefathers ever dreamed of; he rules an empire which is as truly a unit as the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or the United States of America, and its subjects are equally amenable to laws emanating from the central throne and administered by one executive. The acts of this present emperor are so finely summarized in the published dispatches sent by the U.S. Minister from Japan to the Cabinet at Washington, that I cannot do better than quote from a letter

dated July, 1880—nearly four years ago—"aided by his enlightened advisors he (the Emperor) has labored effectively for the promotion of the general welfare, and to this end has, within his short reign of 12 years abolished the feudal system, emancipated four-fifths of his subjects from feudal vassalage, and made them possessors of the soil, disarmed a feudal soldiery numbering probably 600,000 men trained to arms; recognised the order of society; established and equipped an army 40,000 strong, and also a navy equal in number and appointments to our own; assured the freedom of conscience; introduced the press, the telegraph, the railway, steam navigation, a general postage and savings system, and, above all, ordained a free system of compulsory education for the instruction of all the children of the Empire, thereby in effect declaring the equality of all before the law, and the right of each to the equal protection of the law. It may be said that seldom, if ever, in the history of civil administration, has any other ruler done so much within so brief a period for the reformation and well-being of a people numbering five and thirty millions." And this list by no means exhausts the whole story. Look at the reform of criminal and civil law, the marvellous reformation of prisons, etc., and particularly within these later years, provincial parliaments elected by the people have been inaugurated as precursors of the promised constitution and parliament which are to be given the people within the next coming five years. Moreover, the whole system of justice has been revolutionized, and instead of an Oriental jurisprudence based on suspicion and amenable to the caprice of an irresponsible bureaucracy, we have the ripened jurisprudence of civilization administered by jurists who display remarkable tact, and who need only a longer experience to give them necessary ripeness. The whole code of law, the whole mode of criminal procedure, &c., have been completely and effectively revolutionized. In fact in these externals Japan has become a Christian nation. For 20 years she has striven to become worthy of a place side by side with the civilized lands of the west, and so well has she succeeded that when she asks for recognition of that fact by the restoration into her hands of a beginning of the right to a complete control of her native soil, by the gradual removal of extraterritoriality under sufficient safeguards, one is astonished that the world does not gladly acquiesce in the response of the President of the United States, whose late message declares a readiness to accede to these proposals of Japan. But the fact is there, and the difficulty is that persons even here, who move in a narrow rut and have but little intercourse with the people beyond a degenerate few, are blind to the real progress of the land.

All this and much more the Japanese have inherited from the past ages of struggle and advance of Christian lands. But let it be understood that Japan has always had the elements of law abiding citizenship, by which all these elements could be appropriated and speedily assimilated. No more law abiding peasantry ever existed than those who toiled all through those ages in paddy fields and under burdens which only oxen should have borne, and in no veins of chivalric age or of modern patriotism ever ran truer blood than that which bound the Samurai to his lord, no philosophic or scientific students ever sought knowledge more eagerly and patiently than those same Samurai who loved letters as they loved their sword. These elements needed but the inspiration of a higher light, the moulding of a broader sympathy to make them honor the name of man and lift their nation into higher things and emulate the best. Let it be also remarked that neither Iyeyasu nor Nobunaga of those olden days, was essentially anti-foreign. They wished for foreign intercourse, and encouraged it, and it was only when they felt that their trust was betrayed and that their country was in danger, that they forbade foreign intercourse and banished Christianity. Moreover if 2,000,000 Christians, in those days when the population could not have been so great as now, had not the backbone in them to completely reform this nation and forestal persecution and not allow themselves to be rooted out,

they were a mighty poor type of Christian, and deserve but little sympathy.

But now, how about modern Christianity in Japan. I leave out of count Roman Catholic propagandism of these days; it must be very considerable, though it never courts the light; so also the Greek Church, whose agents are multiplying and whose numbers are formidable. They are doing some good work probably in breaking stones for a purer Christianity, if a purer type grows strong and fills the land before their errors are too hard baked to be removed by light brought to bear on the intelligence of the people. I deal here simply with Protestantism.

Protestant missionaries began work, or rather came to Japan in 1859; for a good while they had but little opportunity to work and a good deal of difficulty in acquiring the language. But, little by little, they won the confidence of the people, and the Government ceased to suspect them. One of the early missionaries gave us the only Japanese English Dictionary in existence, an invaluable help to all after-comers. Others, in conjunction with members of the English civil service, have from time to time produced books useful for the acquisition of the language. A piece of work untouched by the Greek and so far as I know with one small exception, untouched by the R. C. Missionaries. Another of our pioneers was for years a trusted adviser of the powers that be, an instructor of many who now rule the Empire, and yet I have never heard it whispered that the slightest effort was ever made to obtain special privileges for Protestants or to influence the ruler in any other way than by simply giving instruction and information when such was asked for. Gradually the people became inclined to hear, and the number of the missionaries increased year by year until we have now 100 (?) missionaries, representing 20 (?) societies, and the tabulated results are given in the statistics, published by the Evangelical Alliance. (The latest statistics have not been published, but the following is an approximation. Members of churches, or baptized converts 6,500. Contributions of natives for the year 16,000 yen. Bibles, testaments and portions of scripture now in circulation 200,000, tracts, books, some of them quite large, 500,000. Serials sent to 5,000 subscribers.) In order to appreciate these statistics it must be borne in mind that these members of churches, counted as converts, do not indicate the number of persons who actually believe in Christianity. Each one is supposed to have been carefully examined and found to be morally and spiritually renewed. Those who prove untrue are cut off. The effort is to count only those that are good and true. Each one of these would represent 3 or 4 persons who are as much Christian as the average non-church member of Christian lands, several theological schools are training pastors and teachers, many of whom are now doing efficient work. Seminaries are giving hundreds of boys and young men the elements of an education under Christian influences, fitting them for practical life or for higher institutions of learning. Ladies' schools are preparing hundreds of girls and young women for teaching, or who may become, as many of them have already become, wives of Christian men, Christian mothers for a better generation. Common schools gather hundreds of the poor of the children. Hospitals reach and ameliorate the bodily ills of thousands, and other modes of operation too numerous to give in detail are preparing the way for the actual and speedy evangelization of Japan on a national scale. Moreover these things are seen by men in power, and appreciated by the intelligent everywhere. They know full well the difference between the propagation of the Gospel by protestants and the Jesuit propagandism of Rome. They have learned to discriminate between Christian men, and a race of beings, outside of respectable foreigners at the outposts, who disgrace the lands from which they came, and import a new vileness to render indigenous licentiousness still more foul, blighting the moral atmosphere of their surroundings. The government has long ceased all opposition to Christianity, and indifference is actually giving place to a desire to have the land protestantized,

¹ See a fine summary of these facts in a paper by J. H. Gubbins, Esq., in Transactions of Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. VI, pt. 1.

for it is beginning to be evident that the fruits of Christian civilization cannot become permanent and pervading without the vitality which produced them, i.e. Christianity itself. Their object in now encouraging Christian work is political, you say. Very well and what if it is? That is perfectly legitimate. If political aims and struggles for freedom and advance open the way to the free preaching of the Gospel, it is for us to thank God and take courage, and go forward expecting that the political aim shall be reached in the only legitimate way, by the elevation of the spiritual and moral life of the people. In a very short time present disabilities will be removed, in a few years, I trust the land will be thrown completely open as England or America. And shall these splendid opportunities be neglected? Shall we attempt to meet these stupendous possibilities by means which in face thereof are merest child's play, by tactics suited to ignorant savages? Nay, for this new wine fermenting, seething, we want new bottles—for these new responsibilities enlarged plans and nobler enterprise.

(3) Now in looking over the past and present with an eye to the future development of Christianity in Japan, one very serious problem arises. And that is what about these manifold and ever multiplying denominationalisms imported from the West, with shades of difference or with no difference at all, that have the slightest meaning for the people in Japan? I am not going to propose any wild utopian scheme that is at present entirely out of the question, and yet I think I see a solution of a very serious problem. A problem which many of us perhaps have not seriously contemplated. I will state my position and then try to make my meaning clear, then I will try to show the practical and only practicable way out, whereby every apparent disadvantage shall be turned to the greatest advantage, and finally I will give my plans for advance. My first position is that difference of denominationalism has been thus far a great advantage to Japan; my second position is that if we don't now cry halt, and begin to solidify our phalanxes, it will become a disadvantage, an intolerable burden for Japan, under which she will groan and pray as did a good man long ago "O Lord, save me from my friends."

I am no friend of uniformity. Men's minds are cast in various moulds, and various modes of operation must be free for individual choice. Every attempt to force on the church absolute organic unity has thus far wrought evil and only evil. Such concentration without rivalry breeds formality, carelessness, tyranny and internal discord. Look at the wrangles and endless strife within the pales of the old Roman Catholic Church, where order fought with order as no sectarians outside ever did, and to-day their internal differences are as great as in protestantism. And even to-day within the bounds of one national Church, with all its glorious goodness, we have differences as pronounced as amongst dissenters; low church and high church, broad church, or in other words, as a wag has put it, latitudinarians, platitudinarians, and attitudinarians, and so forth. Differences which I mention here not to reprehend by any means, but to show that external oneness cannot render men's minds uniform or hinder diverse developments of action. Men are born to be free and the grandest security for truth and righteousness is to be sure you are right in your own thinkings, and then agree to think and let others freely think. "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity." The freedom won for the mind of man by the Reformation could not but give rise to diversity, and mistaken were the efforts to prevent it. But you have in Germany, Lutherans, old and new and the Reformed church, besides smaller divisions. Then you have the same or similar divisions in Switzerland, Holland, Sweden, and other countries of the Continent besides Mennonites, Moravians, Swedenborgians, &c. Then in Great Britain, where since the Reformation two great religious upheavals have taken place, we have Episcopalianism, Presbyterianism Scotch, Irish, and English. In Scotland that land of Presbyterianism, we have the Auld Kirk and the Free Kirk and the United Presbyterians

and several more I believe. Then we have the Independents and the Baptists, and finally the Methodists, a prolific family—the Wesleyans, Free, Primitive, New Connexion, Bible Christian, Calvinistic Methodists, and others too numerous to mention besides the Salvation Army. Now we cross the high seas to Protestant America, peopled from almost every nation under heaven, and you have the sects of Germany, of Switzerland, of Holland, of Sweden, of Great Britain, nearly all reproduced in the United States, besides a few splits in nearly every branch and others of indigenous production, until the number baffles all enumeration. And then what do you think of Canada, the land from which I am proud to hail, which was supplied with denominations from the United States, from Britain, and from the Continent of Europe, and which has shown itself capable of producing some home-made denominations too. And now we leap across the high seas once more to Japan, and we find Europe pouring in denominations from one side and U.S. and Canada from the other, and every year they keep coming. We have now of Episcopalians, two English societies, and one American; we have Scotch and American Presbyterians, the Reformed Church of Holland as it comes through America, also the Reformed Church of Germany in United States garb, and soon we shall probably have Canadian Presbyterians, and there are Cumberland Presbyterians, and isn't there already an independent Japanese Presbyterian Church? thus giving five or six Presbyterian bodies. And then there are American and English Baptists; Methodist Episcopal, Canadian Methodists, Evangelical Association, and Protestant Methodists with more to follow. Then besides the congregational friends there are still some others. And now the question is, whereunto shall this thing grow? Several churches that have never had a foreign mission at all have pitched on Japan to begin with; as Japan becomes more widely known others will come, and the serious question arises, what is to be done about it? Are we going to plant our "isms" here or are we going to win the country for Christ? Now the obvious advantage thus far, while the native church is not yet really born, is this, that it has brought to Japan a great number and a great variety of workers, more work has been done and of a more varied kind than could otherwise have been accomplished. But surely no one is blind enough not to see that to perpetuate these different denominations, divided by home nationality or local ideas, would be a most lamentable thing for the real health of the Church of Christ in Japan. There is a possibility of having too much of a good thing, as old King Solomon found when he carried one of his theories too far. He tells us and tells us truly that he that findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and it is very true that a wife introduces a very useful and pleasant variety into a household, but when he carried the theory so far as to get a thousand wives he found that it was all "vanity and vexation of spirit." Too much of a good thing you see. But if this hand were deprived of these five different fingers or all were to be united in one, it would be of no advantage but a loss; this five-fold division giving manifoldness of use, uniting delicacy with power, producing marvellous perfectness of mechanism. But if each finger were divided and subdivided, and subdivided, the hand might eventually emulate a centipede or a paint brush, but would cease to be a hand, and so with these meaningless divisions in the hand of God in Japan. Thank God the spirit of union is abroad in our home churches, the newest countries leading the way. In Canada, Presbyterianism began by consolidating her ranks, and polyglott Methodism has at last become one in the whole Dominion. And now here in Japan we have an opportunity to teach the whole world a lesson of lofty faith working by a unifying love, that shall not only save Japan Christianity from an undeserved burden, but help to lift our home churches to a higher unitedness.

Outsiders imagine that with all this diversity there are still wars and fightings amongst us, that we spend our strength in mutual denunciation, whereas, as you are all aware, the great guns of controversy have long been silent every-

where; we have settled down to think and let think and have long ago found out that we are one in the most essential points and differ only in non-essentials. In Christian countries where the field is large, there is ample room for great diversity to live in harmony. More than anywhere else is this spirit of oneness evident in the mission field, and above every other field in the wide world, pre-eminently so in Japan. Our whole history is one of mutual sympathy and growing love, by which our efforts blend in laying the strong unseen foundation of the church of a new nation. It is wonderful how soon the atmosphere of the mission work in Japan modifies old prejudices and widens one's sympathies; in face of this stupendous national problem our little "isms" die. People who come here still capable of growth soon wonderfully change. There is for instance Bro. — who came to this country about the same time that I did, fresh from the spheres in which we moved. Whenever his keen eye and emphatic nose appeared, he always seemed to me to be a perfect incarnation of the Synod of Dort, and all my Armenian quilts stood porcupine-like on end ready for a fray. Not a word was spoken, only once we approached very near the border land, when his lips suggested knife blades. But that soon passed away, eyes and nose and lips and the whole bearing of the man spoke forth another spirit, perhaps there is some difference in the eyes with which I see, but he is a totally different man to me; I could now for years embrace him as a brother beloved; and I believe that he and I could travel through the length and breadth of this land evangelizing, as did Paul and Barnabas, and then turn round and do it again, without quarrelling over it as did those dear old saints one unfortunately cantankerous day. What we have to do for Japan is to Evangelize it, win it for Christ, and I for one care not a rush what church polity is chosen, if only the church be true to her living head, and preserve the soul of charity, the inspiration of loving faith. Ecclesiastical form, philosophical statement of doctrine, etc., differ with every race. Whatever the future church of Japan may be, its Christianity will be a Christianity in Japanese mould, and any effort of ours to put the stamp of a hundred "isms" upon it, would be childish and futile. Japan Christianity may show a different type from that of any other country, and may be none the worse for it, but only add a new richness to the trophies of Him upon whose head are many crowns. But an unselfish effort on our part to win Japan for Christ speedily on higher lines than local "isms" will do much to hasten on that day of God when we shall all see eye to eye. Our starting point must be an absorbing purpose aiming at the complete evangelization of Japan, looking at it from the standpoint of "Japan for Christ," and not for our denomination. If we work for this great aim so far as possible on the lines of our denominationalism, so far as they can serve as a means to an end, well and good, but so soon as we reverse the thing, and work for the glory of our little branch, so soon do we prove recreant to our higher commission. Let us look upon our commission from each of our boards as sub-commissions simply of that proclaimed by our common King, and join hands in winning Japan for God, and our home churches will haste to applaud while angels and men will rejoice again in "Glory to God in the highest peace on Earth, goodwill to men."

IV.—BUT HOW IS TO BE DONE?

I will simply lay down three fundamental lines of work, a trinity of first principles which each individual mission and missionary may apply to the actual circumstances of the case, and carry out as is found best and most practicable, and then will give my plans.

I.—First of all let us remember our responsibility as the apostles of this land, we are ensamples to the incipient Christianity of Japan. Our spiritual and moral life will set bounds to the endeavors of the native church. They will rise no higher than we show them how. Let us then give them the high-water mark of Christ and his first apostles. Let our teaching be as direct and as pure.

II. The second axiomatic principle I would lay down is to aim at organic consolidation within all possible bounds. Our Episcopalian friends have acted together and present themselves as one church assisted by several societies. Presbyterians are leading the way amongst the rest of churches; the American Presbyterians, the Scotch Presbyterians, and the Reformed Church of America have wrought together for sometime and now aim at a consolidation of the native church. I do not see why all churches of Presbyterian theology and of nearly the same polity should not unite in one. Why should not the Reformed Church of the United States (Ger.) also form into line? The Congregationalists are as much one I presume as elsewhere, and now we Methodists are looking forward to a closer union, which I hope will culminate in uniting all who are Arminian in doctrine and who can agree to a common polity. And my opinion is that we need not break our bones over the polity of the churches; for the future Japanese Church will by and by put that into shape to suit themselves, perhaps better than we can. And why should not the whole of the Baptists range themselves under one native organization? That would give the hand its five fingers, and would not be too many denominations in a land of 37 millions of people, and the work would be better done than by any single church organization which would consist of heterogeneous and unassimilated elements. If the future church in Japan wished to carry on the work of union further, they could easily do so when the proper time comes, but in the mean time that is as far as it would be wise for us to go. Under one of these five heads every Christian in Japan should enrol himself. Around these five points should gather the sympathies of the Christian world, and into this five fingered hand would come a power and inspiration from God. But you say the churches at home will have no sympathy with that general kind of work, they want something that they can call their own. I believe if the thing were properly represented to the churches at home, they would see the reasonableness of it, the immense saving it would make of men and means, and the immense impulse it would give to the work of God, and every large denomination at least would not only bid the movement God-speed but their sympathy and their help would be manifolded.

III.—The third fundamental principle I would lay down is to aim at making our churches speedily self-supporting, and as they become self-supporting, self-controlling, and eventually independent. Let it be distinctly understood that we look upon ourselves as necessarily a proportionately diminishing factor, while our native brethren become an increasing factor, that as they increase we decrease, until we vanish from the field altogether. And this should not be looked at as a something undesirable, to be put off as long as possible, but as an event to be devoutly desired. To this end we should put on Japanese shoulders every responsibility that they become capable of bearing. In my experience I find that as our young men are trusted they show themselves worthy of trust. The more we develop their self-respect, the more they appreciate our presence and deprecate the speedy withdrawal of our counsel and help. We should not look upon the ambition of the native church in this respect with suspicion, should rather stimulate it, but also render it safe by conditioning perfect independence on perfect self-support.

Thus far you see I have proposed no radical, no impossible change. The latter principle must take time for its culmination, the second cannot be consummated in a day, but if we aim at it honestly, its benefits will at once appear; the first is of course always open to us. None of these proposals need affect the relation of the various home churches to each other or to the work in Japan, they refer merely to the manner in which their agents carry on their work in the mission field, and yet in a short time these principles would work a revolution. And now that I come to some more definite proposals, I wish to say first of all that these will come as no disturbing element in the present mode of opera-

tions, nor necessarily entail a very heavy extra outlay on the part of home boards. I would have all schools carried on as now or more efficiently if possible, and new ones established. I would have each united denomination maintain its own divinity hall, and retain in the pastoral work as a sort of conseller and guide, a selection of our most experienced men to aid the native pastors in organizing and consolidating their several churches. In fact, the whole machinery should be kept running pretty much as now, only preparing to garner in the sheaves by the thousands, and to branch out indefinitely.

And now for my principles of advance. In the first place I would have every church set apart as many capable men as could be spared from watching by the stuff, to the work of evangelists. Let those evangelists form one body apostolic for Japan, dropping "isms" and human dogmatisms; let them take the New Testament in hand, and go through and through this land evangelizing, with nothing to do but to preach the gospel. Let the ingathering of converts be left to the churches under native pastors. The native pastors will have all they can possibly do with ingathering, and very few can be spared for this work. The evangelists for more reasons than I can now stop to enumerate must for a time be foreigners. How would it work, if three or four of us, representatives of different denominations, should start say in April and visit every church of every denomination between here and Kioto or even on to Nagasaki, leaving the churches to gather the spoils? Can you conceive of any but the most blessed results? I propose that the thing be started at once informally and tested. But to carry out the idea thoroughly we must appeal to the home churches for one hundred evangelists immediately. Young men and young ladies. It is doubtless wise in the inception of a work in a field like this to send out middle aged or elderly men whose experience would keep them from hasty mistakes. But for the army of attack and advance let it be once for all understood that only *young* men of more than ordinary ability can so learn this language as to become really efficient preachers and evangelists. And I would have these evangelists come from any and every evangelical church that could produce suitable men and would send them and keep them in the sinews of war. We want no ranting swashbucklers of boasted non-denominational freedom, a class of people who generally turn out to be the most sectarian of all sects—we want no men who would contract the whole mind of God into some pet doctrine or who consider the Kingdom of Heaven to consist in some little hobby that they ride to death. We want men loyal to their church, whom their brethren can endorse and trust, men picked from the best and most promising graduates of colleges, who are entering upon or have had a short experience in the work of the ministry. I would have them come out unmarried and on trial for say from three to five years, for not every clever man can be a successful evangelist in Japan. Those who proved unsuccessful in learning the language might find work in some other department more congenial or more suitable to their genius, or they could return home and begin life there while still young, with no opportunity lost and with the advantage of having seen the world.

And now for the trial and training of these men and women, I would have a mission institute here on the soil, a school of the prophets under the control of one or more of the oldest and wisest missionaries in the field. This institute would aim at giving the new comer thorough and systematic instruction and drill in mission tactics and above all in the Japanese language. I am sure you will all say amen, when I affirm that years and years of wasted lives have been sacrificed to the lack of system, to the unguided floundering of new comers in efforts to acquire this language, and I have no doubt that some absolute failures might have been avoided by judicious training. With the advantage of such a training school any young man of push ought to preach with ease inside of two years, and as soon as possible he should go out in connection with some older evangelist to learn further by practice,

and get into full work as soon as possible. Then take a furlough, bring back a wife and settle down for a second term of work; by the end of which time he might perhaps be no longer needed in Japan. Each evangelist would be amenable to his own denomination as to moral character; his work would be fixed by a council of the evangelistic force, assisted by representatives of the pastorate, or by some other arrangement. But where would you get your 100 evangelists? You say. Well, I reply, we could muster a good beginning of them now in Japan. We could then ask the boards to send out a few more. I expect two or more from our church before a great while and with a little arousement every society might do a little more. Then ask some wealthy men to send out one each at their own expense; arouse powerful congregations to send out one each as a separate contribution. Ask the churches of a village to unite in sending and supporting a man. Ask the students of colleges to send a picked man. And instead of a hundred we should have before long to exclaim as Macbeth to Macduff, "hold 'tis enough." With this army how long will it take to Christianize the masses? A hundred men good and true, who could pour out of their soul's fire upon the people, who feared nothing but sin, would soon move the nation.

That brings us partially out of our old groove, but wrenches no staple or bolt in the whole machinery as now existing. I now rise a step higher, where denominational lines vanish, and propose a something in which every evangelical church may have a brick and be proud of it. We want to appeal to the intellectual activity of the land. In all the world a new phase of apologetical struggle is going on, and above all is this true of such a place as Japan, where Christianity is on its trial with no prejudice in its favour, where old philosophies have moulded a ripened phase of civilization, where western materialistic infidelity has the start of western religious thought, where the university is absolutely agnostic, where the learned believe in Spencer & Co. as we believe in Christ and his apostles, where out into the tiniest hamlet has penetrated the scientific enquiries and the scientific doubts of the day. We must go through a phase of apologetics in Japan. But it is not necessary that each church should expend her energies in such a work as this. It can be done a thousand fold more effectually by concentration in an institute that could be used for other purposes as well. I propose therefore that we have one central Apologetical Institute or Lectureship of Christian Philosophy, which should be housed in an imposing building, of solid construction, containing a hall capable of seating from 1,000 to 5,000 people, and a library of choice apologetic and other literature in English, German, Chinese and Japanese. The soul of this institute should be some one man or two men upon whom could fall the mantle of the confidence of the whole church, and around whom the churches could all gather at times for a great demonstration; a course of lectures, similar to that about to be held in the Meiji Kuaido under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance, could be an annual fact, and celebrated men of power could occasionally be invited from abroad to make a still larger impression by such efforts as have moved the west. The man in charge should be an outlook upon the intellectual ebb and flow of the land, to meet issues as they arise by a perennial use of pen and platform. In the same institution there should be a printing and publishing establishment, with a magazine of apologetical and exegetical literature, and a Christian newspaper of general news. I would not like to say a word against the useful little publications now issued by our native brethren but they are child's play in comparison with, what they ought to be, in face of this national problem. We should have about \$100,000 to do this thing properly. And where will you get the money? "Ask and it shall be given." I believe the Tract and Bible societies would gladly take over the printing and publishing part and save thousands of dollars now annually spent in giving printing houses great profits, and the rest would be a bagatelle to some of our men at home in England or America if they

only became interested in the question. Two years of work of these evangelistic forces, and of this apologetic cannonade would arouse an element that must be caught and trained and moulded so as to conserve the whole into a permanent success. And that leads me to the last but not least item in my programme.

For this purpose we must have a national Christian University, which shall not only offer better advantages than the Imperial University of Tokio, but vie with the best universities in our home lands. This university would be fed by all the Christian schools in the country, not of course to the exclusion of others, and teach the whole range of science and philosophy; sending back theological students to their own divinity halls. The instruction should be through the English language, which would become the classic tongue as Latin to the old universities of Europe. Chinese and Japanese literature should be cultivated; the former to raise up an army of attack on China, the latter of course for their own country's sake. There should be at least 12 or 15 foreign professors, not missionaries if you please, but thoroughly equipped professors, such as would grace any university in the world. Supported not on the precarious salary of a missionary, nor with the fancy prices and uncertain tenure of employees in the Government schools, but with the prospect of a life's successful career and such a salary as would enable them after an ordinary working life to settle down at a respectable distance from poverty's reach. A something that will stimulate to highest endeavour a selection of the best talent that can be obtained, consecrated and elevated by the love of Christ and the love of man. The only stipulation I would make with regard to the professors would be, besides a thorough fitness for the position and enthusiasm in teaching, a spotless moral character and a loyalty to the gospel of Christ. The object of the institution would be, not to teach Christianity but to impart a thoroughly sound education under Christian influences, and from a Christian stand-point. Thus fitting men to be teachers, professors, lawyers, doctors, statesmen, and above all Christian gentlemen. For this purpose I would ask say in round numbers \$1,000,000 to start the institution with grounds, buildings, appliances, residences, and the expenses of importation of the foreign faculties. And then another \$1,000,000 as an endowment, on the proceeds of which the strength of the institution would be kept up, and be beyond the possibility of collapse from a lack of interest in gathering annual funds or other contingencies. A million dollars in Japanese Government bonds,—as safe as any investment under the sun—would yield from \$70,000 to \$80,000 annually. That with economy would keep a good institution efficient, and then any additional endowment, for special professorial chairs would add to that efficiency.

But where's the money? you say. In the treasury of the Lord, entrusted to Christian men, I reply. I need not give reasons why the Christian world ought to give this university to Japan, sufficient surely for the Christian Church and for Christian men, that it is *needed* in Japan to carry out the Saviour's command to disciple this nation. We are debtors to Japan in the same sense that Paul was a debtor to Rome, to Greeks and barbarians. And above that we as Christians are debtors to Japan, owing to this people a something that shall counteract the bane of prolific infidelity, of rampant vice, of oppressive treaty provisions. In a word we owe it to Japan to undo all the evil that Western nations have done her, for Japan has never done us any harm. But you say the civilization imported to Japan would more than repay all the evils we have done. I am not so sure about that, and I am sure of the contrary unless the Christian Church import the counteracting moral and spiritual and intellectual correctives. Without these the present rise of Japan will be a rocket flash for a moment and then the good will go out in darkness. Tell me do we not owe it to Japan to do our work thoroughly and on a large scale?

I believe it would be easy to raise \$2,000,000

for a University in Japan if we unitedly ask for it and give our reasons. Be certain of one thing if we ask for small things, small things will be given, if we ask large things, we may expect some royal giving. "Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it" says He in whose hand lie the hearts and the gold of Christian lands. "According to your faith it shall be done unto you." Only a little while ago a Christian man gave \$1,000,000 to a missionary society. You read constantly of men giving by the hundreds of thousands to local institutions, and now let us but bring before the Christian world a plan that will commend itself to their judgment, while it arouses their heart's sympathy, and every cent that is needed will be forth-coming. And they may as well begin at once to become familiar with giving by the million, for when the time is ripe they must give by the tens of millions. Old England alone when awakened from her guilty blindness towards the iniquity of the opium traffic, must disgorge those unrighteous scores of millions gained by a national wrong, to carry a commensurate Evangel to China, or if there is a just God in heaven her national sin will be punished by a national calamity; better pay back the national debt with treasure and with love than with the other alternatives, with treasure and with blood.

But to return to Japan, an institution such as I speak of would be sure to obtain special favour from the present Government of Japan, and wealthy Japanese would soon vie with each other in enlarging its endowment, in adding buildings and professorships, and foreigners living in a free and open Japan would hail an institution where their sons could be thoroughly educated without sending them home, and would also aid in its support.

And now you have my plans. A central university as a permanent fountain of pure intellectual light, which shall be national in its scope and a credit to the Christian world. A well equipped institute of apologetics, armed with the press and the platform, to meet the immediate exigencies of the times. A force of one hundred or more evangelists who shall have nothing to do but to preach as in apostolic days, (and what are one hundred evangelists to 37,000,000 of people?) and then thoroughly organized native churches working in harmony to gather in the fruits and build for all time. And all this without a revolution, conserving every advantage thus far gained, obviating difficulties looming up in the near future, adding new elements of operations which will speedily make this conquest of love complete, and enable as to beat to arms for China and Corea, which by that time will be ripe for larger effort.

But how is it to be brought about for I am of a practical bent of mind, and I have no idea of concocting a pleasant scheme and then letting it lie to mould. Let us have action. If these plans should be modified, let us modify them. I have no hard and fast pet scheme to work out; let us unite our thoughts and experience upon it. And then let us—I mean the whole mission body in Japan or as many as can do so—present it to the Christian world, asking each board to do its best for the work now in hand, not asking them us such to pay for the larger efforts, but leave these to their own merits, to sink or swim as they recommend themselves to the judgment of individual men and churches.

Brethren, I trust you will believe me, when I assure you that what I am now about to say does not flow from an egotistic confidence in my powers of persuasion or any other personal advantage, but from my confidence in the influence of a united appeal from the Church of Christ in Japan; from my faith in these plans as being well adjusted to the time and the demand of the land and the people; from my faith in the Christianity of our home churches, and above all from my faith in our Triune God, and his royal commission. I believe, if you were to give me (or any man amongst as with enthusiasm for the work) the united indorsement of the mission body in Japan, a letter from each individual mission to its home board, and with the consent of my home society, let me loose on the Christian west, I believe I should be

back inside of two years with the whole of their part an accomplished fact, leaving it with wiser heads, to carry out the minutiae to perfectness. And then inside of ten years you could move on to China, while I would start for India,—and our Japanese friends would fall heirs to the institutions here.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.
On such a full sea are we now afloat;
And we must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE KIYODO UNYU KWAISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am directed by the Directors of this Company to call your attention to the article in your yesterday's issue, said to be a reproduction from the *Fiyu Shimbun*, in which article it is asserted that at the General Meeting of this Company, "Mr. Komuro proposed that the balance be carried forward to next year's account, and that no dividend be declared at present, a proposal which caused a serious discussion."

This is entirely contradictory to the fact. Mr. Komuro did declare a dividend of 9 per cent. per annum, and not a single objection was raised.

Further, in looking over the *Fiyu Shimbun*, we find an article on the General Meeting in its issue of last Wednesday, stating, however, that a dividend of 9 per cent. was declared, &c., &c. But we find nothing like your alleged translation.

Please rectify, therefore, the above mentioned error and oblige.

Your obedient Servant,

T. UYENO, Foreign Secretary.

Tokyo, February 1st, 1884.

[We regret that the above error should have occurred. We can scarcely call it an error of translation, as it appears that the translator did not have the *Fiyu Shimbun* before him when he wrote. The main facts of our correspondent's letter have already been published in our Weekly issue. Elsewhere will be found a translation of what really appeared in the *Fiyu Shimbun*.—Ed. J.M.]

THE ALLEGED VENALITY OF THE PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The character which English journalism is gradually receiving at the hands of its representatives in Japan must be regarded with considerable astonishment by the Japanese. Against the *Fapan Mail* charges of venal motives have been, and are still, persistently urged. The *Fapan Gazette* is now included in the same denunciation. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is said to "have it in his left hand," and the journal is described as "effusively and gushingly complimentary to its profitable patron." Men are not infallible. You and your contemporary may have fallen from the pedestal of independence, though I think you may rest assured that the public acquits you of any such descent. It would, indeed, be a sorry business that two English journals out of three should hold their pens at the bidding of a dollar. But let that pass. The point I desire to make is that even such a dual lapse might still be considered exceptional. It would not seriously affect the reputation which English journalism has deservedly acquired.

Recently, however, Japan received a visit from Mr. Henry W. Lucy, political editor of the London *Daily News*. Readers of the London Press at the time when this gentleman's novel "Gideon Fleyce," was published, will remember the remarkably high terms in which his abilities were spoken of by the leading papers. Both as an experienced journalist and as a recognised master of humour, encomiums were lavished upon him. Even men in the opposite political camp did not withhold their meed of praise. Well, Sir, this writer, leaving London during the Parliamentary recess last autumn, made his way to Japan, and, as special correspondent of the *Daily News*, called on several of the Japanese Ministers. He was, doubtless, hospitably received. Japanese hospitality is well known and would unquestionably have been extended to a gentleman of Mr. Lucy's reputation. The result of the interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs was telegraphed to the *Daily News*. There was, indeed, nothing novel to be related. What Mr. Lucy had to tell, though not previously told by a London journal, was familiar to every one in Japan, namely, that the Japanese Government is most anxious to open the whole country to foreign intercourse. But no sooner did the telegram appear than its sender, also, was charged with venal motives by the same traducer, though in the case of the political editor of the *Daily News*, "a handsome gold-lacquered box with a few etceteras," and a little hospitality, were the limits of the consideration he was charged with having received. So far as he is concerned, he will not be a whit the worse of the accusation. But what a pretty character English writers are receiving! Are they all venal? Can nobody say a word that seems to tell directly or indirectly in Japan's favour, without being pointed at as a receiver of Japanese bounty? If Englishmen are what the *Japan Herald* represents them, and if our boasted liberty of the press has only been won that it may be carried into the market for commodities, the sooner we abandon our lofty pretensions the better.

But as there are slums in the wealthiest and most prosperous city, so, even among a respectable community like that of Yokohama, there may occasionally exist men so depraved and resourceless, that fate condemns them to live by the exercise of qualities which in sterner societies used to be punished by the whip or the stocks. If calumny and detraction flourish here, it is not because the soil is specially congenial to their growth, but because, like the slums, their very offensiveness procures for them a certain immunity.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Q.

Tokio, January 31, 1884.

"CONSISTENCY'S A JEWEL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Being much interested in the prospects of this country's foreign intercourse, I am a tolerably constant reader of the various articles and notes referring to that subject published by the local foreign press.

In the columns of the *Japan Gazette* of May 13th, 1882, there appeared an article headed "Pending Questions." The writer took for his theme an article of your own under the same caption, quoting from it the following statement:—

Japan, we confidently believe, is willing and anxious to remove all restrictions upon trade, travel, and residence in the interior, provided only that we, on our side, consent to be subject to her laws while availing ourselves of the privileges thus afforded.

Referring to this your contemporary wrote thus:—

Now the *Japan Mail* is instructed to say, that if any person, whatever his position or his social status may be, in other and plainer words, any cheat or ruffian, chooses to submit to Japanese law, he may go where the educated and respectable foreigner under the control of his own law is

strictly inhibited. *Foreign governments will no doubt recognise, as all thoughtful men must recognise, the danger of the acceptance of this latest proposition; for in all probability the lawless, dishonest, and immoral conduct of the few availing themselves of the privilege of travel in the interior would be highly prejudicial, if not entirely fatal, to the extension of our mutual intercourse upon a solid foundation of confidence and experience.*

The italics here and in following quotations, are my own. Passing on now to January 19th, 1884, I find, in the same journal, an article from which I take the following:—

In well informed circles in Tokio the impression gains ground that on the arrival of Mr. Plunkett the tariff question, which was virtually decided some time ago, will be finally settled; and certain other conditions of the treaty will be modified in the manner experience shows to be desirable. Upon the conclusion of these negotiations, the government will announce that the whole of Japan is thrown open to foreign travel, residence and trade; but every person availing himself of that privilege, whatever his nationality, will be subjected to the operation of Japanese civil and criminal jurisdiction.

A proclamation to this effect would at this moment be regarded with extreme astonishment; but foreign residents may consider its publication as imminent. Japan will follow a dignified course in doing this; and there is little doubt that all the treaty powers without exception would be quite willing to join in a convention agreeing to recognise this measure, and to enforce execution of the decrees of Japanese courts against the property of foreign defendants in the settlements.

We congratulate H.E. the minister for foreign affairs upon being the author of a measure which all must wonder was not thought of some few years ago.

Once more, Sir, permit me to refer you to the columns of the *Japan Gazette* of January 26th, 1884. You will there read the following:—

If foreign governments have the real interests of Japan at heart they will persevere in the course they have heretofore pursued, and decline at present to submit their people to Japanese jurisdiction in whatever part of the empire they may be. Japan is weary of asking for the recognition of her jurisdiction; and the only dignified course left her is to open the country to all who choose to enter it and submit to native jurisdiction. Of the benefit to accrue to Japan little need be said. The people that will avail of the "privilege" we have several times endeavoured, with the best intentions, to describe faithfully and accurately; Japan will herself rue the day when she substitutes for a modified form of travel and trade under a strict passport system, the opening of the interior to all persons, conditional only upon a real or nominal submission to her laws.

I think you will agree with me, Sir, that the unfortunate journalist who penned the above has been obliged to take the "sharp curve" once too often. I could understand his changing his opinion between May, 1882, and January, 1884. A man is not disgraced by changing his opinion. Sometimes, on the contrary, he earns credit and respect by the performance. Therefore, when your contemporary declared, in the spring of 1882, that "foreign governments, as all thoughtful men, must recognize the danger of accepting the proposition" to open the country conditionally, and that such a measure "would be highly prejudicial, if not entirely fatal, to the extension of our mutual intercourse;" it was still open to him to veer round and declare, in the beginning of 1884, that doubtless "all the treaty powers without exception would be quite willing to join in a Convention agreeing to recognise this measure," and that he "congratulated the Minister for Foreign Affairs upon being the author of it." Having regard to the fact that he had himself discussed and severely condemned the same measure when suggested by you, in 1882, it was certainly a little rash to express astonishment, in 1884, that it had not been thought of some few years sooner. But that is a mere incident. Few people, especially if they are journalists, like to make a public retraction. Your contemporary's attempt to put the past out of sight altogether when taking his new departure, was a pardonable weakness. But what can have happened him between the 19th and 26th of January, that on the latter date, he should turn himself inside out once more, and declare that, "if foreign Governments have the real

interests of Japan at heart, they will decline, at present, to submit their people to Japanese jurisdiction anywhere," and that "Japan will herself rue the day" when she opens the country conditionally?

Finally, Sir, let me enquire whether "the only dignified course left for Japan," is one which she would "herself rue," and which "would be highly prejudicial, if not entirely fatal, to the extension of our mutual intercourse upon a solid foundation of confidence and experience." Her "only dignified course," observe.

Your obedient Servant,

QUERY.

Tokio, January 29th, 1884.

AN ORNITHOLOGICAL MISNOMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your paper this morning I notice you call the *uguisu* "throstle." This is a mistake; the *uguisu* (*Cettia cantans* and/or *cantillans*, for we are not yet certain whether there are one or two species) are warblers, and allied to the nightingales, not to the thrushes.—Yours, &c.,

C.M.Z.S.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1884.

[We are much obliged to our correspondent for this information.—Ed. J.M.]

REVIEW.

Indian Idylls: from the Sanskrit of the Mahabharata. By EDWIN ARNOLD, author of *The Light of Asia*. London: Trübner & Co. 1883.

Edwin Arnold's latest production "Indian Idylls" is quite on a par with his former works. The "Light of Asia" is, according to Oriental critics, a most masterly reproduction of ancient Sanskrit though in the purest English form. Edwin Arnold has the rare gift of reproducing all the luxuriance and grace of the Indian tongue in the straightforward terseness of the English, uniting in a strange harmony the entirely different genius of two languages. "In all of his poems," says the *Statesman*, "we meet with that rich luxuriousness of imagination, which is verdant, glowing, many-coloured, and has a strong scent about it, like an Indian landscape after heavy rain—the same melody of verse, chastened by good taste, and couched in pure English." The unkindest of Mr. Arnold's critics have to acknowledge that his verse has a most pleasant ring to English ears; "Mr. Arnold's mastery of a smooth Tennysonian kind of blank verse," says one of his severest critics, "avoiding the Laureate's least commendable mannerisms, if never reaching even his average music, and only occasionally lapsing into mannerisms, is amply sufficient to supply a smooth and pleasant medium of communication." And again, "Mr. Arnold's verse is prose which borrows in a manner pleasant enough in result, and by no means unartful, the more obvious and seductive attractions of verse without forfeiting its own capacity of faithful rendering."

A full half of the "Indian Idylls" is taken up by the well-known and often translated story of the gambler Nala and his faithful wife Damayanti. Mr. Arnold could have perhaps been wiser in his choice of subject. Almost the whole of the bulky Mahabharata is virgin ground to the English reader, and it seems rather a pity that the "Indian Idylls" are so largely taken up with the one part of the Mahabharata which was already so well-known in translations. Still, Mr. Arnold's graceful manner of handling his theme goes far towards reconciling one with the old tale under a new guise.

Critics are undecided as to which of the Idylls the palm should be awarded. "The Birth of Death" is a most exquisite poem,—the legend of Mrityu, the daughter of the thought of Brahma—as was

Minerva of Jupiter—whom the god created to bring death into the world, and whose gentle nature shrank from the terrible duty imposed upon her. No other country can boast a myth in which the two ideas of death the destroyer, and death the consoler, are so skilfully and gracefully blended. The first of the Idylls is taken from the Mahabharata, line 16,616, and, with the exception of a few passages, has not been brought before English readers heretofore. "Savitri; or Love and Death," is its title; the song of that love which overreaches death itself. A Raja, long childless, receives from the gods a daughter. Savitri, "with lotus eyes, lovely of mould,"

And when swift years her blossomed youth made ripe,
Like to an image of dark gold she seemed,
Gleaming with waist so fine and breasts so deep,
And limbs so rounded.

Deep in the woods, a blind and banished King
lived a hermit's life with his only son. This Prince was

Fair of form,
(Vayati was not fairer), sweet of looks,
(The Aswari not more gracious), gallant, kind,
Reverent, self-governed.

Savitri chooses him for her husband, despite the sinister fate which overhangs him, for he is to die within one year. When the fatal day came, Savitri followed him into the forests, and when death carried off his soul she pursued the "silent presence," beseeching it to restore her loved one. Death, to appease her, promised that her husband's father should regain his sight, his throne, his children; but at last her gentle and persevering opportunity forces the black shadow itself to smile, and yield back her husband's soul. It is the Indian version of Orpheus and Eurydice.

The "Enchanted Lake" is an old friend, and revels in luxuriant description of scenery. Take, for instance, the picture of Indian jungle:—

A leafy depth, where never foot was heard
Of man, but shy deer roamed and rough bears rustled;
With tall trees crowded, in whose crown the bees
Swarmed buzzing, and strange birds builded their nests.
Through this green darkness wending, Yudhisthir
Passed to the pool, and marked its silver face
Shine in the light, rimmed round with golden cups
Of lotus blossoms.

The "Great Journey" and the "Entry into Heaven" are full of power. The "Night of Slaughter" is a weird story. Three chiefs, beaten by their enemies in open battle, flee at night into a wild forest. Desperate, bleeding from many wounds, they lie down for a space, but one of them

While he lay
Chin uppermost, arm-pillowed, with fierce eyes
Roving the wood and seeing sightlessly,
Chanced to see in a fig-tree's
Shadows a thousand crows perched;
Some nested, some on branchlets, deep asleep,
Heads under wings, all fearless
When lo! there fell out of the velvet night,
Silent and terrible, an eagle-owl,
With wide, soft, deadly, dusky wings, and eyes
Flame coloured; hooting but low
The fury smothering in its throat, then fell
With murderous beak and claws upon those crows,
Rending the wings from this, the legs from that,
From some the head The great owl
Hooted for joy of vengeance, and again
Spread the wide, dusky, deadly wings.

Springing from his couch, the silent watcher wakes his comrades, and retrieves their defeat by a night-attack upon their enemies. The "Enchanted Lake," "Great Journey," and "Entry into Heaven" are three tales which deal with the heroic constancy and justice of Yudisthir, the "Long-armed King." In the final legend, he seeks his beloved ones in the abode of the blest; but they have, it appears, committed sins which doom them to the hideous hells of Hindū mythology. He insists on seeking for his own, and is permitted to visit the lowest abysses. Their horrors for a moment shake his courageous heart, but, discovering his loved ones in torment, he turns to the attendant angel with the words—

Go to those thou servest.
Tell them I come not hither. Say I stand
Here in the throat of hell, and here will bide—
Nay, if I perish—while my well-beloved
Win ease and peace by any pains of mine.

Struck with his deathless courage and heroic love, the Hindū deities allow him to return to the upper earth with all his kindred.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF NAVIGATION.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

Learned men aim at the development and progress of social order, and to attain this great end it is above all things necessary to encourage the facilities of transport. Hence the great importance of railway and ship construction. The countries of Europe and America are covered with a perfect network of railways, and possess immense mercantile flotillas. Starting from Dover in the morning, one may reach Paris before nightfall; and one hardly lands at San Francisco before New York is in sight. These and other marvels are the direct achievements of civilization. Europeans and Americans do not, then, without good reason boast of their national progress.

But the construction of railways is not our present theme; we would rather call attention to the question of navigation. Historiographers tell us that nations without a thorough appreciation of the importance of navigation are to be regarded as uncivilized; whereas those countries who protect and encourage the rigorous development of navigation are conspicuous for national progress. This is undoubtedly correct. Rome of ancient times enjoyed remarkable prosperity, wealth, and power, solely because her people thoroughly understood the power of navigation, and carried her trade and commerce to the confines of India and Persia. Unfortunately for the greatness of Rome, Goths, and Vandals invaded and over ran the country, destroying her magnificent edifices and laid waste the land. After that time, her maritime interests fell into decay, and India was finally left to the mercy of the English. When Holland was in the zenith of her prosperity she monopolized the commerce of the high seas, established colonies in America, and carried her Eastern trade to Japan. At one time Holland was the most powerful nation on the globe; but she quarrelled with Great Britain, her war-fleets were destroyed, and her great name gradually declined. At the present moment, England is Queen of the Ocean. While Holland has been losing fame and power, England has steadily been increasing like the morning sun rising above the horizon. We may therefore justly conclude that the prosperity of a nation depends upon the development and progress of her maritime interests.

Turning our gaze upon this, our own land, we are grieved to find navigation still in its infancy. In days gone by, no communication existed between this country and foreign states; our ships sailed along the littoral only, though now and then, once or twice in many years, they found their way to China and Korea. Navigation did not command the interest of the public. Christianity was forbidden under the Toyotomi and Tokugawa régimes, and, for more than two centuries, no one attempted a voyage to foreign lands. The navigator's sole compass was the islands along the coast, nor dared he sail out of sight of land. One might as well have gone a fishing in a forest as to have hoped for the development of navigation under such circumstances. Since the great defeat of the Tokugawa armies at Fushimi and Toba, the usurper's power has passed away, and the Imperial authority has been restored. On the other hand, our foreign intercourse has gained wider and greater dimensions, as ports have been opened for the interchange of commodities. The time of dreams and sleep has vanished, and the public has awakened to the importance of its marine interests.

In the 2nd year of Meiji (1869) the Government granted the people the power of owning vessels constructed in foreign style, and six years later (1875) it extended its protection to the Mitsu Bishi Company, who established regular communication between this country and Shanghai and Hongkong. In the 13th year of Meiji (1880) the Japanese

vessels that visited foreign countries numbered 680, with an aggregate tonnage of 683,660; showing an increase of 41 vessels and 49,604 tons over the returns of the preceding year. This was welcomed as the earnest of maritime progress. Yet there was one unpleasant feature, and that was, that the greater part of our foreign commerce was in the hands of foreign ship-owners. The amount of goods conveyed by foreign vessels to and from Japan reached, in 1880, the sum of 51,776,780 yen; while Japanese ships transported goods to the amount of only 11,639,689 yen. Supposing that foreigners realised 15 per cent. in the shape of freight and insurance fees, their profits would have reached 5,170,000 yen. This was owing to the still embryonic condition of our maritime interests, and this fact cannot too forcibly impress itself on our minds.

The dangers attending navigation in early times undoubtedly obstructed its rapid development. Man desires first of all the safety of his person and property, and so it was not surprising that, while dangers still beset its path, navigation made no advancement. It was, therefore, essential to the progress of civilization that these dangers should speedily be done away with. One of the principal dangers lurked in the flimsy, unsubstantial nature of Japanese ships. Look, for instance, at the perils of going to sea in junks. On stormy days the passengers may be heard screaming with fright and invoking divine assistance by repeating again and again the mystic words *Namu Amida Butsu*. The voyage from Yokohama to Kiushiu formerly took a whole month, whereas it now takes but a week. Only a few years ago, when one started on a trip to Tokiyo, a crowd of weeping relatives paid adieu to the traveller, hardly daring to hope for his safe return. The perils of navigation were constantly before the eyes of the public. Even at present, the number of junks far exceeds the number of vessels constructed in foreign style; indeed, the latter seem to be mere auxiliaries of the former. This is an almost hopeless state of affairs. The following tables compiled from the report of the Agricultural and Commercial Department for the 13th year of Meiji, give a correct idea of the situation:—

VESSELS OF FOREIGN FORM OF CONSTRUCTION.

STEAMERS AND SAILING SHIPS ABOVE 1,000 TONS.										
1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
STEAMERS.										
2	2	4	4	6	10	12	16	13	12	12
SAILING SHIPS.										
0	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	1	1
STEAMERS AND SAILING SHIPS NOT LESS THAN 500 NOR EXCEEDING 1,000 TONS.										
STEAMERS.										
10	11	12	12	21	22	22	13	20	20	13
SAILING SHIPS.										
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	4
STEAMERS AND SAILING SHIPS NOT LESS THAN 100 NOR EXCEEDING 500 TONS.										
STEAMERS.										
28	34	37	39	39	42	44	44	40	44	39
SAILING SHIPS.										
18	28	32	32	34	32	38	46	71	91	107
STEAMERS AND SAILING SHIPS LESS THAN 100 TONS.										
STEAMERS.										
22	41	51	55	68	81	93	105	112	133	223
SAILING SHIPS.										
1	2	5	7	8	14	24	36	67	141	220
82	119	141	149	176	203	235	275	326	452	619

JUNKS.

JUNKS ABOVE 1,000 KOKU.									
1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	
305	312	276	625	109	224	230	247	247	
JUNKS ABOVE 100 KOKU BUT NOT EXCEEDING 1,000 KOKU.									
1,108	1,337	1,260	1,261	1,237	1,275	1,139	1,274	1,283	
JUNKS ABOVE 50 KOKU BUT NOT EXCEEDING 100 KOKU.									
5,822	7,501	8,798	8,776	7,814	7,518	6,971	7,140	7,173	
JUNKS ABOVE 50 KOKU, BUT NOT EXCEEDING 100 KOKU.									
7,852	9,414	12,358	12,371	11,394	10,902	10,416	10,474	10,582	
15,087	18,584	22,692	22,673	20,684	19,919	18,756	19,135	19,285	

Despite the unsubstantial character of Japanese craft, there was an evident increase in their number during 1878-79. This was due principally to the growth of maritime industry, as well as to the fact that many navigators of the old school were incapable of passing the necessary official examinations. There are thus fragile vessels and inexperienced seamen side by side with the modern system of seamanship. Unless this obstacle be removed, the condition of our transport trade will

never make satisfactory progress. To attain the wished-for end, the construction of junks should be prohibited.

There are, however, three objections which may be raised against such a procedure: (1) the public will be seriously inconvenienced for a time; (2) the substitution of foreign built vessels for junks will entail heavy expenditures, and interfere with wholesale shipbuilding; (3) foreign-built vessels themselves are not absolutely safe. As to the first, the further benefit of the public by means of foreign-built vessels far out-balances any momentary inconvenience. Such a complaint is based on merely superficial data. Great success can only be achieved by great ventures. Whatever obstructs the path of national progress should at once be done away with. When the feudal system was abolished and prefectures established in its stead, the people were inconvenienced for a time. But just as all traces of a barbaric age must give way before the onward march of civilization, feudalism had to disappear. Since those times progress has gone on with lightning rapidity. The prohibition of the construction of junks will be more than out-weighed by the rapid development of maritime industry. With regard to the second objection, it is almost as absurd as entertaining a fear that the heavens are on the point of falling down upon us. It is undeniably true that the substitution of foreign-built vessels for native craft will entail heavy expenses, and only the rich will be able to put this plan into execution. But there need be no apprehension on this score. If we adopt the joint-stock scheme, as do, for instance, the banks and insurance companies, in which the combined capital of many individuals is invested, it will not be difficult to build as many ships as we need. And we can only repeat that our maritime industry will be increased in exact proportion to the number of our ships. As to the third objection, the statement that European vessels are unsafe and that the percentage of shipwrecks among them is larger than among native craft, betrays lamentable ignorance of the true state of the matter. In 1879, junks were wrecked to the number of 375; or 5 per cent. of the total number 19,285. In 1880, 70 ships built in foreign style were wrecked, or one out of every nine, the whole number being 619. At first sight, the calculation appear to confirm the objection raised, but a very little examination will prove the fallacy of this conclusion. In the first place, Japanese shipbuilders have little or no experience in the construction of European vessels, and are inclined to be careless; and so many of the ships built in this country are really weaker than junks, a fact largely due to a mistaken economy. In the second place, ships go on long voyages and experience all sorts of weather, whereas the junks only put to sea on calm days and sail close to the coast. Hence the difference in the percentage of wrecks. Finally, the large number of wrecks among ships is not due to the ships themselves, but to the want of skill displayed in the construction. Were these carefully built and ably officered, there would be little or no danger of shipwreck. The very fact that junks cannot put to sea in threatening weather demonstrates their uselessness. So long as our navigation is thus impeded we cannot hope for its rapid development. True civilization aims at the conversion of all things to practical use, and that with the greatest possible promptitude.

TOKIO AS THE FUTURE TRADE CENTRE.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*)

As we have already argued, when the new quays are built in Tokiyo—the means for which undertaking are to be raised by public loans—foreign and native vessels will no longer experience the serious inconvenience attendant upon the landing of cargo and the shipment of passengers, to which they are now subject in the harbours of Yokohama

and Shinagawa. The steamers of the Pacific Mail Company, running between San Francisco, Japan and Hongkong, those of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Co., and the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, plying between Europe and the Far East, as well as the vessels of the Mitsu Bishi and the Union Steam Navigation Companies, will, in future, be enabled to discharge and take cargo along the new quays in Reigan-jima, Tsukiji, and Takanawa, where there is room for any number of ships. The advantages of such an arrangement will be thoroughly appreciated by both natives and foreigners, whether they be merchants, navigators, or tourists. Under these circumstances, Tokiyo will surely become the great centre of foreign and domestic trade. By the time the quays are completed, foreign and Japanese merchants will transfer their Capital to Tokiyo; though should our foreign relations still remain in their present highly imperfect condition, European and American merchants will perforce carry on their business in Tsukiji. This, as the inevitable consequence of an untoward fate, we must greatly deplore. What we most sincerely desire, is that foreigners shall have every opportunity to start business and open stores in all of the outports of Japan, enjoying the same privileges as do the Japanese. Exterritoriality, however, may once again frustrate so satisfactory an arrangement. Should foreigners still persist in refusing to acknowledge the sufficiency of Japanese jurisdiction, we cannot, for our part, tolerate in our capital such prejudiced and selfish guests. We should dislike their presence even in Yokohama, Kobe, and the other open ports. Although we are firmly persuaded that the Japanese people are second to none in the matter of hospitality and national etiquette, yet there are limits even to these virtues, and the Japanese cannot, without impatience, see the treaty ports overrun by unfriendly aliens. While we most earnestly desire that all foreigners may enjoy the same privileges of residence and trade as do the Japanese in the Metropolis, yet we must require them to do away with the ban of extrterritoriality before availing themselves of the privileges. Internal communication is improving daily; what was proved to be inconvenient in former years has been done away with in late years, and additional advantages have been made for the convenience of the public; this year will similarly be an improvement on the last. The construction of railways is being pushed throughout the country, and the Nakasendo Railway that is to connect Tokiyo with Kiyoto has already been commenced. Public Loan Bonds have been issued to the amount of 5,000,000 yen, and these will undoubtedly be supplemented in time to come by a further issue of 15,000,000 yen. The Nakasendo Railway will shortly be *un fait accompli*, as will the line between Tokio and Aomori. Again, Kobe will be connected with Nagasaki by way of Shimonoseki, another line will run to Niigata; and so, all the treaty ports, cities and towns of any commercial importance will be linked together before many years pass by. Passengers will speedily recognize the advantages of land over marine communication, and merchandise requiring speedy conveyance will be sent by rail. No doubt need be entertained on this head. Yet foreigners stick to the treaty ports and refuse to avail themselves of the advantages of the railway outside of the treaty limits of ten *ri*. Are they, then, so well satisfied with the inconveniences of marine communication between the treaty ports? Traded operations require, first of all, promptitude and despatch; and while others enjoy these advantages, foreigners will have to forego them. Do they, then, imagine that they will be able to compete with native merchants on such unequal terms? We doubt it very much. They themselves will be the first to recognize the drawbacks of such a position. Should they attempt to travel beyond treaty limits despite the regulations of the treaties, the Government would enact stringent railway regulations, and order strict examination of all

passengers passing beyond treaty limits. We ask if any one can imagine a more absurd situation? It is an utterly impossible condition of affairs, which could not be permanent. Nor is it, on the other hand, possible for the Japanese alone to enjoy the benefit of railway communication. Apart from all other considerations, it is perfectly impossible for railways and extrterritoriality to stand side by side. And may we, in conclusion, most sincerely hope that, when Tokiyo shall have become the great centre of foreign and domestic trade, "foreign settlements" will be abolished, and foreigners themselves enjoy the same privileges of residence and trade as do the people of Japan.

SPRING MEETING OF THE UNION RACE CLUB.

The Spring Meeting of the Kiyodo Keiba Kwaisha (Union Race Club), to be held at Toyama, is fixed for Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, the 26th, 27th, and 28th April. The following is the Programme:—

FIRST DAY.—SATURDAY, 26th April.

- 1.—The CRITERION STAKES, value, Yen 500; for Subscription Griffins, 1st pony to receive Yen 400, 2nd Yen 70, 3rd Yen 30; weight as per scale; a compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 25 each. Five Furlongs.
- 2.—The YOKOHAMA STRANGERS' CUP, presented; for Japan Ponies that have never won a race; five ponies to enter or no race; weight as per scale; Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb.; Entrance, Yen 10. Five Furlongs.
- 3.—The DIPLOMATIC CUP, presented, value —; for Half-Bred Ponies that have never won a race; five ponies to enter or no race; weight as per scale; Entrance, Yen 10. Five Furlongs.
- 4.—The LOTTERY STAKES, value, Yen 200; for Subscription Ponies; weight as per scale; winners 20lb. extra; a compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 10. Once Round (6 furlongs 100 yds.).
- 5.—The PRINCES' PRIZE, presented; value, Yen 100; for Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Twice Round.
- 6.—The WAR OFFICE CUP, value —; for Half-Bred Ponies; weight as per scale; non-winners last Autumn, 20lb. allowance. Entrance, Yen 5. Twice Round.
- 7.—The FOREIGN OFFICE CUP, presented, value —; for Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; winners of 3 or more races at the last Autumn Meetings, 15lb. extra; winner of race No. 5, this day, 5lb. extra. Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Half a Mile.

SECOND DAY.—SUNDAY, 27th April.

- 1.—The NURSERY STAKES, value Yen 300; the 1st pony to receive Yen 250, 2nd Yen 50; for Subscription Ponies; weight as per scale; winners 20lb. extra. A compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 15. Five Furlongs.
- 2.—The MAIDENS' PLATE, presented by the Merchants of Tokio; value Yen —, for Japan Ponies that have never won a race; five ponies to enter or no race; weight as per scale; Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Five Furlongs.
- 3.—The —, presented, value Yen 100; for Half-Bred Ponies; weight as per scale; previous winners 20lb. extra, non-winners allowed 15lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Once Round.
- 4.—The LADIES' PURSE, presented by the Japanese Ladies of Tokio, value —, for Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; to be ridden by first-class members of the Union Race Club; Entrance, Yen 10. Half a Mile.
- 5.—The —, value Yen 200; for Subscription Ponies; weight as per scale; winners 20lb. extra; a compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 10. Once Round.
- 6.—The NOBLEMENS' CUP, presented, value Yen 100; for Half-Bred Ponies; weight as per scale; non-winners last Autumn 20lb. allowance; winners at this meeting 15lb. extra. Entrance, Yen 5. Seven Furlongs.
- 7.—The MITSU BISHI STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S CUP, presented, value Yen 100; for Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; winners at this meeting 20lb. extra. Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Seven Furlongs.

THIRD DAY.—MONDAY, 28th April.

- 1.—The ———, value Yen 400, the 1st pony to receive Yen 300, 2nd Yen 70, 3rd Yen 30; a Handicap for Subscription Ponies; minimum weight, 30 lb.; maximum 175 lb.; a compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 20. Once Round.
- 2.—The IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD PRIZE, presented; value Yen 250, the first pony to receive Yen 150, 2nd Yen 70, 3rd Yen 30; a Handicap for all Half-Bred Ponies entered at the Meeting; Minimum weight 130 lb.; a forced entry of Yen 10. Seven Furlongs.
- 3.—The IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD PRIZE, presented, value Yen 250, the 1st pony to receive Yen 150, 2nd Yen 70, 3rd Yen 30; a Handicap for all Japan Ponies entered at the Meeting, except Subscription Ponies; Minimum weight 130 lb.; Entrance compulsory, Yen 5. Once Round.
- 4.—The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES, value Yen 200, for Subscription Ponies, non-winners; weight as per scale; a compulsory Sweepstake of Yen 10. Six Furlongs.
- 5.—The CONSOLATION STAKES, value Yen 100; for Half-Bred Ponies, non-winners at the meeting; weight as per scale. Entrance, Yen 5. Once Round.
- 6.—The SOLACE CUP, value Yen 100; for all beaten Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; Subscription Ponies allowed 7lb.; Entrance, Yen 5. Six Furlongs.
- 7.—The CHAMPION FAREWELL STAKES, value Yen 250; the 1st Pony to receive Yen 150, 2nd Yen 70, 3rd Yen 30; a Handicap for Japan Ponies; Entrance compulsory for winners at the Meeting, except winners of races Nos. 3 and 4 on this day; winners of one race, Yen 10 entrance; of two races, Yen 25; of three or more races, Yen 40; optional to non-winners at an entrance of Yen 5. Six Furlongs.

The barque *Raishin Maru*, which is being built for the Union Steam Navigation Company at the Hiogo Dockyard, will be employed as a training-ship for the students of the Commercial Navigation School. She will be commanded by Messrs. Ito and Oishi, both of them being graduates from this establishment.

Acting upon a suggestion of the Union Race Club, a race course will be constructed around Shinobadzu Lake, Ueno. The costs are estimated at 40,000 yen.—*Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

A German band-master of the Naval Service will, it is reported, be transferred to the Imperial Household upon the expiration of his term of engagement in April next.

A general meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Bourse will take place on the 10th inst.

Infantry drill has been introduced into the Intermediate School (*Chingakko*) at Osaka.

There are 994 ward-offices in the Kanagawa Prefecture.

An exhibition of wrestling will be given to-day at the Yenrio-Kan, in presence of the officials of the Foreign Office and the *corps diplomatique*. A banquet will afterwards take place at the Rokumei-Kan.

With the sanction of the authorities, the *Shidzuoka Shimbun* will, in future, appear under the style of *Shidzuoka Daimu Shimbun*. The size of the paper is to be enlarged.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

General Oyama has ordered a large number of fans and tea-sets, at prices ranging from 15 yen to 25 yen, which are to be given away in the form of presents during the European tour. The articles are of excellent workmanship.

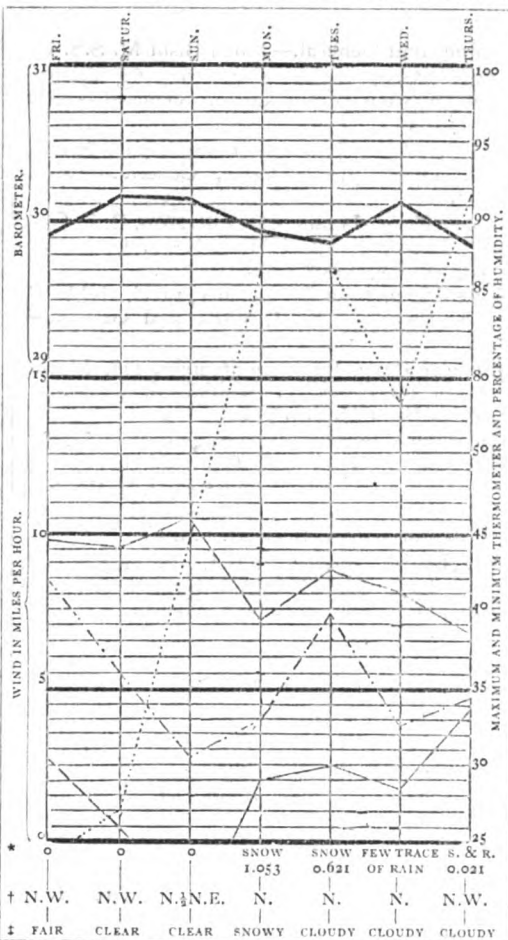
The Government is reported to have paid 300,000 yen for the dockyard owned by the late Mr. Kirby. When the *Yamato Kan* was ordered of that gentleman 160,000 yen were paid down as earnest money, so that the establishment has cost altogether nearly 500,000 yen.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

We learn that the police are strictly forbidden to draw swords within the precincts of the foreign settlements.—*Fiji Shimbun*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. + Direction of Wind. † Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 19.9 miles per hour on Tuesday at 9 a.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.201 inches on Sunday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.669 inches on Tuesday at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 46.2 on Sunday, and the lowest was 20.0 on Sunday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 44.0 and 24.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 1.669 inches, against 1.461 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per P. M. Co. Thursday, Feb. 14th.*
From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Feb. 14th.
Kobe ... }
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Friday, Feb. 15th.†

* City of Tokio left San Francisco on January 24th. † Kaituma left Hongkong on February 7th. The Harter (with English mail) left Hongkong on February 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. M. Co. Sunday, Feb. 10th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Monday, Feb. 11th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Feb. 13th.
Nagasaki ... }
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Friday, Feb. 15th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Feb. 23rd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 3rd.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Baker Pasha has made a successful reconnaissance in force, in which the enemy fled. Baker's cavalry pursuing, killed several hundreds.

London, February 6th.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament has been opened by Royal Commission.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Queen's Speech, in making reference to affairs in Madagascar, said that the exchange of communications with the President of the French Republic in regard to the incidents which have occurred in that island, have confirmed the cordial understanding previously existing between France and England.

The revision of the Treaty with Japan has been nearly completed, a Treaty with Korea has been signed, and the policy of the British Government in Egypt will remain unchanged.

The Speech enumerates the principal measures for the Session, which include the enlargement of the occupation franchise, extension of local reform, and the municipal government of London.

DEFEAT OF BAKER PASHA.

Baker Pasha has been completely defeated near Tokai, with a loss of 2,000 men. He returns to Suakim.

London, Feb. 8th, 5.30 p.m.

Cotton, $\frac{1}{8}$ per lb. lower; Mid. Uplands, $5\frac{1}{2}$; Yarns, unchanged but weak; Shirtings, unchanged but dull. Silk Market quiet and little doing.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

London, 25th January.

Colonel Gordon has arrived at Cairo and proceeds unescorted to Khartoum.

London, 26th January.

Colonel Gordon has been appointed Governor General of Soudan, and invested with full powers.

The Oriental Bank propose to register as a Limited Company.

London, 28th January.

Colonel Gordon has started on his Mission and taken as reporter Mr. Sterling.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with * run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with † are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.65; First-class, yen 1.58; Third-class, sen 79.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, B. E. Gall, 2nd February,—Fushiki 26th and Kobe 31st January, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha.

Dsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 3rd February,—Numadzu 27th January, General.—Tokai Kaisan Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imada, 3rd February,—Shimidzu 1st February, General.—Seiriusha.

Kowyeiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 3rd February,—Yokkaichi 31st January, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 3rd February,—Sagara 31st January, General.—Seiriusha.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 4th February,—Takao 16th January, 6,500 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 5th February,—Shimidzu 2nd February, General.—Seiriusha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 6th February,—Yokkaichi 3rd February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 7th February,—Kobe 4th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 7th February,—Kamesaki 3rd February, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 7th February,—Hongkong 31st January, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 7th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 5th February,—Hakodate 2nd and Ogino-hama 4th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 7th February,—Handa 4th February, General.—Handasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 7th February,—Yokkaichi 4th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,070, James, 7th February,—Kobe 5th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 8th February,—Fukuda 5th February, General.—Kanyosha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 8th February,—San Francisco 15th and Honolulu 24th January, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 320, Amano, 8th February,—Yokkaichi 6th February, General.—Handasha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 464, Tamura, 8th February,—Yokkaichi 6th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 8th February,—Yokkaichi 7th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 2nd February,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 492, Sakahara, 2nd February,—Ishihama and Miako, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tamura Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Dithlefsen, 2nd February,—Oginohama via Miako, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, C. H. Porrett, 2nd February,—Matsushima, General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 3rd February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 3rd February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Davison, 3rd February,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 925, Spiegelthal, 3rd January,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,220, C. Young, 3rd February,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 5th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Kilgour, 5th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 6th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kowyeiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 6th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 1st February,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, B. E. Gall, 6th February,—Fushiki via Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 7th February,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 7th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 8th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 9th February,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 9th February,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yoritomo Maru*, from Fushiki via Kobe:—105 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—10 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeiki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Sagara:—7 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—47 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Kamesaki:—26 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Nomura, Mrs. Nomura, Mr. and Mrs. Howoshiyama, Mr. and Mrs. Ikesoye in cabin; and 35 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Russell in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sinkins, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Tai, Mr. and Mrs. Hasegawa, Dr. Naumann, Mr. Y. B. Sicart and servant, Messrs. J. Potter, Elberton, George Nachtigal, Kawasaki, Hoshiyama, Nakatani, Makino, Kuroda, Wakai, Matsuda, Yamada, Kosaki, Nakai, Kurabara, Sakurai, Ishibashi, Hirose, Kobayashi, Fukushima, Kido, Furusho, Sakakibara, and Ema in cabin; and 1 Chinese and 112 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. W. J. Harcourt, F. Midon, Nanahashi, Yamanouchi, Watanabe, and Okuda in cabin; and 98 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—69 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Kobe:—250 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—5 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. W. G. Hannum, Rev. A. R. Morris, Messrs. J. R. Morse, D. W. Stevens, C. Lyons, G. T. Lyons, O. Schubert, and H. C. Miller in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. H. A. Happer, Miss M. A. Baird, and A. Hinz in cabin; and 298 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—14 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—95 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—13 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Messrs. J. Winstanley and J. Ferguson in cabin;

and 13 Europeans and 55 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. John Taylor and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Raum, Miss Ripley, Messrs. Chas. E. Hill, Colgate Baker, and John F. Twombly in cabin. For Liverpool: Messrs. C. S. Bland and J. P. Mollison in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Messrs. K. Watanabe and Hirada in cabin; and 55 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, for Kobe:—25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. M. Date, S. Kuwaori, S. Yamada, M. Okura, T. Morimura, and Hakushinbai in cabin; and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Paymaster Ring, U.S.N., Colonel Abu, Messrs. G. Doering, Matsuoka, Katsumada, Tanaka, Ayase, Sakagami, Yoshikawa, Shima, Wakiya, Ariyoshi, Koiguni, and Niwa in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Captain Will, Messrs. E. Kildoye and J. Sudzuki in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Rickett and family, Mrs. Murray, child and amah, Mrs. Bellamy, 2 children, and servant, Miss O. Kashiwagi and servant, Dr. Wood, Mr. H. Pryer and servant, Mr. Tsuda and servant, Messrs. Baillie, R. T. Rhode, E. D. Murray, Kostileff, Hake, Evers, Eduljee, A. Bellamy, Letourneur, Ah Yuen, and Khee Sun in cabin; and 1 European, 2 Chinese, and 17 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	295	—	532	827
Nagasaki	—	—	106	106
Hiogo	98	72	2,422	2,592
Yokohama	1,306	81	2,093	3,540
Total	1,759	153	5,153	7,065

	SILK. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	134	—	134
Shanghai	—	116	—	116
Yokohama	—	439	—	439
Total	—	689	—	689

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—1,874 packages.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 336 bales; for London, 43 bales; Total, 379 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 2nd February, at 6.30 a.m. with strong N.W. winds and passing snow squalls to Oginohama, where arrived on the 3rd, at 8 a.m., and left on the 4th, at 6 a.m. with strong N.E. gale, rain, and heavy sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 5th February, at noon.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robert R. Searle, reports leaving San Francisco on the 15th and Honolulu 24th January, 1884, with moderate weather and variable winds throughout the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 8th February, at 11 p.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 8th February,—San Francisco 15th and Honolulu 24th January, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October,—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 7th February,—Hongkong 31st January, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 7th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Abreck (8), Russian gunboat, Captain Schanz, 27th December,—Hakodate 24th December.

Fuso Kan (12), Captain Inouye, 21st December,—Nagasaki 15th December.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A moderate but very steady demand has existed, and fair sales have been made at gradually hardening prices. Deliveries of previous contracts have also been satisfactory, showing an improved state of the trade generally.

COTTON YARN.—Small daily sales have been made of both 16/24s and 28/32s again at higher prices as shown by our quotations; there have been some trifling sales of 38/42s and of 16s Bombay, but for 2-fold Yarns, there is almost no demand.

GREY GOODS.—Small sales only of best lbs. 9 Shirtings at a trifling advance have been made; also a few T. Cloths.

FANCY GOODS.—Moderate sales of Turkey Reds, Mousselines, and Victoria Lawns are reported; there is still a demand for Velvets, but hardly any in Stock, and higher prices are quoted.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$25.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.00
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.50 to 27.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.50 to 33.00
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week amount to 35,000 cases, and deliveries to 20,000 cases. The Market continues very firm at quotations.

	PER CASE.
Devoc	\$1.81
Comet	1.79
Stella	1.73

SUGAR.

The condition of the Market as last reported continues, prices are unaltered, and transactions limited to a retail extent.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was issued on the 1st instant, since which date a moderate and somewhat fitful business has been done. Reported Settlements are about 300 piculs, more than two-thirds of the same having been done in time for the American mail of the 3rd instant. Since then but little business has been transacted, and sellers do not seem inclined to force their wares upon the Market. As hinted above, an unexpected spurt in purchasing for the United States Market at higher prices, put the Market up quite \$10 for descriptions usually shipped in that direction, and holders confident in the scarcity of Good *Filatures* for the balance of the season do not feel inclined to sell freely, although the present rate of *Kinsatsu* promises them a good return. *Filatures* and *Re-reels* have again been most prominent in the daily list of purchases.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which left this port on the 2nd instant, carried 174 bales, all destined for Continental ports. The O. & O. steamer *Oceanic* on the 3rd instant had 439 bales for the New York Market; of these but 23 were noted as on Japanese account, and it would seem that "Direct shipments" to the United States are, for the present, somewhat restricted. These shipments bring the total Export to date up to 26,427 bales, against 20,128 bales last year, and 12,224 bales at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—But very little has been done in this class; there are buyers of good silk, but holders are strong and do not care to sell at quotations, believing in a still better time later on. Some days have passed without a single transaction, and the few purchases reported range from *Yechigen* at \$435 to Fair *Hachoji* at \$460.

Filatures.—Just before the departure of the *Oceanic*, some purchases in good *Shinshu* sorts at an advance had the effect of putting the Market up about \$10 for anything better than a No. 3. Best kinds are scarce and held for long prices, even *Koshu* district silks coming into prominence at about \$600. In fine size we note a purchase of *Yonezawa* at \$630, but the bulk has been done in kinds adapted for the United States Markets, among which we observe *Utsunomiya*, \$635; *Tokusha*, \$625; Ordinary *Shinshu*, \$600; *Yamagata*, \$590; *Hida*, \$587½; *Koshu Yajima*, \$600; *Bushu* and other sorts \$560 to \$530.

Re-reels.—The situation remains unchanged. Nothing of moment has been passing; none of the known chops have been dealt in; and the only transactions noted have been in Medium *Foshu* at \$550, with *Bushu* at \$530 down.

Kakeda.—Some business was done previous to the departure of the American mail in sorts grading 2½ to 3 at about \$540, but in other kinds nothing has been sold during the week.

Oshu.—A few piculs only have changed hands at about former quotations.

Taysam Sorts.—No sales or business of any kind to report in these descriptions.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	\$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	495 to 505
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	485 to 495
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3	455 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½	440 to 450
Filatures—Extra.	635 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	605 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	575 to 585
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra.	605
Kakedas—No. 1.	Nom. 585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2.	540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3.	520 to 530
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	430 to 450
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 7th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,080	10,425	6,320
America	7,774	6,667	3,425
England	2,573	3,036	2,479
Total	26,427	20,128	12,224

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more doing in this Market, although transactions have been confined to one or two buyers. Settlements for the week are reported as 250 piculs; and as supplies have been retarded by snowy weather, the available Stock is somewhat reduced. The enquiry for favorite descriptions continues, but the Stock is poorly assorted, desirable kinds being scarce and comparatively dear. The French mail of last week took 117 bales for Europe, bringing total Export of Waste and *Cocoons* up to 19,132 piculs, against 17,189 piculs last year, and 14,415 piculs to same date in 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—There are rumours of a few piculs, really good, having been settled at a rather high figure, but the Stock and business generally are quite insignificant.

Noshi-ito.—Enquiries for Good *Filature* and other kinds have resulted in some business on basis of *Shinshu* *Filature* \$135, *Koshu* *Filature* \$125, Fine *Foshu* \$100, Assorted *Foshu* \$90 to \$85, according to quality, with Common skin silk at \$55. The parcel of *Tomioka* *Filature* still remains unsold, buyers not willing to pay the price asked.

Kibiso.—There has not been very much doing in this branch. "Filature" are still in request, and

some have found buyers at from \$120 to \$113, according to quality. Some low *Shinshu* has been done at under \$45, with *Foshu* at \$32½. *Samdanshu* reported at \$60, and Fair to Medium *Shinshu Neri* at \$13. The bulk of the Stock on offer is low, undesirable Waste.

Mawata.—Nothing has changed hands during the week, although some good assortments of Best *Oshu* are on the Market at \$185 for an offer.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	Nom. \$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	Nom. 65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 10
Mawatta—Good to Best	Nom. 175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 7th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	16,967	14,076	11,850
Pierced Cocoons	2,165	3,113	2,565
	19,132	17,189	14,415

Exchange. whether foreign or domestic, has been drooping throughout the week, thus favoring shippers and dealers alike. We quote London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 89½; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.70. *Kinsatsu* have been weakened from day to day, closing at 115½ for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 7th Feb., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,600	Pierced Cocoons	15
Filature & Re-reels	600	Noshi-ito	200
Kakeda	400	Kibiso	600
Sendai & Hamatsuki	350	Mawata	165
Taysam Kinds	150		
Total piculs	3,100	Total piculs	980

TEA.

Settlements during the interval have again resumed their old channel, namely,—only reaching about half of those during the same period of 1883. The business on the whole has been uninteresting. The purchasers for the last outgoing American mail (which sailed on the 3rd instant) seem to have been satisfied; since then only a few scattering lots amounting to about 240 piculs have been settled at irregular prices, which form no basis for quotations; those given being merely nominal, although some holders might be induced to part with their small lots more favorably (say within about half a dollar lower) than the quotations indicate. Receipts from the country up to the 7th instant do not amount to anything of importance. The steamship *Moray* is advertised to leave for New York, via the usual ports, on or about the 17th of this month, and will probably be the last Suez Canal steamer for New York for the season 1883. The rate of freight for this steamer is fixed at 60 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet measurement. The O. & O. steamship *Oceanic*, despatched on the 3rd instant, took 4,905 lbs. for New York, 36,040 lbs. for Chicago, 3,328 lbs. for Boston, 4,940 lbs. for Portland (Oregon); 54,168 lbs. for California, and 66,375 lbs. for Canada, making in all 169,756 lbs. of Fired Tea from Yokohama.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	13 to 15
Medium	17 to 20
Good Medium	Nominal.

EXCHANGE.

There has been little doing in Private Paper during the week, and the demand for Bank Bills has been limited. Closing rates are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.60
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.70
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/20 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89½

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in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

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May 1st, 1883.

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YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 16TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AN electric torpedo, invented by Mr. H. Tanaka, has been tried in Tokiyo and found successful. A valuable sword was presented to the inventor.

MR. STEVENS, foreign Secretary to H.I.J.M.'s Legation at Washington, has returned to Japan on official business.

A TELEGRAM published by the *New York Herald* announces that Germany has forwarded a favorable reply to Japan's proposals for treaty revision.

IT is stated that stamps will in future be substituted for the ruled paper used in draughting legal documents.

A SUBMARINE cable connecting Japan with Korea was opened for the transmission of messages on the 15th instant.

IT is announced that the Forestry Bureau will take steps to send exhibits to the International Forestry Exhibition to be held in Edinburgh.

THE Annual Report of the Ladies' Benevolent Society of Yokohama has been published. The disbursements during 1883 amounted to \$1,052.94 and there is a balance in hand of \$79.06.

THE Honorable F. Plunkett, H.B.M. Minister to Japan, is expected to arrive in Yokohama by the P. & O. mail which is due on the 16th of March. Mr. E. Satow is a passenger in the same steamer.

MR. R. T. RHODE, Captain of the Relief Fire Brigade, sailed for England on leave of absence by the P. & O. mail of the 9th instant. Mr.

Rhode was one of the most popular and energetic officers the Brigade had ever been fortunate enough to possess. He is succeeded by Mr. W. C. Bing.

THE incendiaryisms so prevalent in Tokiyo during January and the early part of February, have fortunately ceased, owing to the vigilance of the police and the gendarmerie.

THE first of a course of free lectures in the Japanese language was delivered on Monday afternoon in the Union Church, by the Rev. Geo. W. Knox. There was a good attendance.

THE fourth annual report of the Central Sanitary Bureau has been published. The period covered by the report being July 1st, 1878, to June 30th, 1879, its contents are not of much interest.

THE French Amateurs announce a second performance, for charitable purposes, which will be given at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday the 25th inst. Particulars are given in an advertisement.

A JAPANESE *employé* of the Comptoir d'Escompte committed suicide in a casino on Monday afternoon. He had forged a cheque, and deeming discovery inevitable, put an end to his life. The body of a Japanese girl, killed by a pistol shot, was found beside him.

A JAPANESE surgeon, Dr. Kogane Yoshikiyo, a graduate of the School of Medicine in the Imperial University of Tokiyo, has been nominated assistant in the Anatomical Theatre of Berlin by the German Minister of Public Worship.

THE returns of various trading associations for the second half of 1883 have been summarized by the vernacular press. The general rate of profits is considerably in excess of what might have been expected, having regard to the depressed state of commerce and industry during the past twelve months.

DURING the past fortnight *K'insatsu* have again shown a tendency to depreciate. On the 8th instant the premium on silver rose to 17½, but it has since fallen to 15. These fluctuations are doubtless attributable to local causes. The price of rice has also received an upward impulse. First class unhulled is now quoted at 5.13 *yen* per *koku*, as against 4.90 *yen* twelve days ago.

A BILL has been introduced before the United States House of Representatives providing for the establishment, in China and Japan, of Courts of Law presided over by American judges. There seems little probability that the United States will adopt this measure in Japan's case, at a moment when the President has recommended that the jurisdiction of the latter's courts shall be extended to American citizens.

THE military mission to Europe, of which General Oyama is at the head, left this port in the Messageries Maritimes steamship *Menzaleh* on Saturday morning. The party includes the following officers:—H.E. General Oyama, Minister of

War; General Miura, General Nodzu, Colonel Kawakami, Colonel Katsura, Lieutenant Nojima, Lieutenant Ijichi, Lieutenant Mataza, Lieutenant Harada, Commander Shimidzu, Commander Ozaki, Commander Murai, Commander Yabuki, Intendant Koike, and Dr. Hashimoto.

A MARINE COURT was convened on Wednesday at H.B.M.'s Consulate, to enquire into the circumstances of the loss of the British bark *Sattara*, which was stranded near Omaisaki, on January, 13th. The Court decided that sufficient use was not made of the lead and that steps ought to have been sooner taken to wear ship. The master's certificate was suspended for a period of three months from the date of the finding.

THE weather during the week has been a counterpart of that which visited us at the same season last year. On Wednesday, two or three hours after sunset, rain began to fall steadily, but changed into snow towards midnight, and in the morning the ground had a white covering from nine to ten inches deep. Then followed a few hours of drizzling rain, which, however, failed to produce much effect upon the snow. Windy days and frosty nights succeeded.

A CURIOUS example of Japanese honour is reported by the vernacular press. A family in Satsuma having been ruined, in 1876, by the contributions which the rebels levied upon it, moved to Osaka and lived there in very straightened circumstances. At the close of last year a number of the rebels, on being released from prison, voluntarily pledged themselves and their posterity to pay off the debt by monthly instalments of 30 *yen*, extending over a period of 193 years.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Yokohama United Race Club was held on Tuesday afternoon. The accounts showed a balance in hand of \$1,612. The working accounts for the year exhibited a loss of \$140 against a gain of \$500 in 1882, while the gate money and public contributions also showed a falling off of \$1,350. The President, the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench, made a strong appeal to the community to support an institution which affords them so much recreation and which helps to promote social relations between Japanese and Foreigners.

WEEKLY NOTES.

A most interesting and delicate operation took place at the Noge-yama Hospital on Friday morning (15th inst.). The patient was a Japanese, and it is decidedly to his credit that he bore the long operation without the aid of anæsthetics. The right eye had been rendered useless by adhesions on the inner surface of both eyelids, due to antecedent neglected, if not maltreated, eye-disease (conjunctivitis), the ligaments being almost as hard and tough as leather. In such cases, the object being to free the lids and restore the mobility of both lids and globe of the eye, it is not sufficient to free them merely by

dissection, as the parts concerned are peculiarly prone to form fresh adhesions, leaving matters rather worse than before. At least one of the raw surfaces must be covered by some tissue which, while capable of adhering firmly on the one side, will remain free on the other. This requirement was fulfilled, in the case in question, by the membrane dissected from the eyelid of a living rabbit (under chloroform). This membrane was applied to the raw surfaces of the patient's eye-lids, in the place of a new lining, and sewed fast in the proper position by some thirty or forty tiny stitches. Dr. Eldridge performed this interesting operation. Although this particular operation is of very infrequent occurrence, skin-grafting is now an everyday performance in European hospitals. The transplantation of portions of skin either from part to part (as in rhinoplasty), or from individual to individual, is usually attributed to Reverdin, but was in reality first performed by the famous Hamilton of New York. Success in this direction stimulated attempts at similar treatment of other tissues, as bone, muscle, and those entering the eye. In all these directions an encouraging percentage of success has been attained, especially in reference to the last. Not only have portions of tissue from the human body—for instance, from eyes totally incapable of vision—been successfully transferred to the bodies of others, but, such material being naturally scarce, the tissue of lower animals has been experimented upon, with happy results. The success of the present operation is now simply a question of time.

OFFICIAL life in China is a singular compound of corruption and espionage. A man must be doubly fortunate to grow rich. He must be successful in his extortions, and he must also be successful in conciliating the envy or satisfying the cupidity of his fellows. Failing the latter condition, he is liable to see the proceeds of long squeezings and savings swept, at a moment's notice, into the Imperial Treasury. A catastrophe of this nature has just befallen Mr. Wên Yü, President of the Board of Punishments and Assistant Grand Secretary. Among his enemies is the Censor Têng, a writer not partial to circumlocutions. Têng memorialized the Throne to the effect that Wên's "talents were of a most mediocre description, and that he was nothing more, or less than a dullard." Despite these moral drawbacks, he had succeeded in amassing so much wealth that one of his bank deposits amounted to 700,000 taels, money which, in the opinion of his accuser, had clearly been "acquired through avarice and corruption," so that Wên's "demerits did not consist merely in the possession of mediocre qualifications." In answer to this memorial, an Imperial Decree was issued ordering the Governor of Peking to investigate and report. The upshot of the matter was that Mr. Wên, of his own accord, admitted a deposit of 360,000 taels, but explained that it represented the savings he had managed to collect by the exercise of care and economy during an official career of over thirty years. The Throne gave him credit for having been frank and truthful, but ordered that he should pay into the public exchequer a sum of Tls. 100,000. To a casual observer the meaning of this decision would seem to be that though a high official may amass, by extortion and corruption, an average annual amount of Tls. 8,666, he exposes himself to punishment and confiscation if he exceeds that figure. As for the Censor Têng, he must

be an invaluable official from an Imperial point of view, and certainly if he be the upright, fearless character his memorials imply, China has reason to be proud of him. Not content with denouncing President Wên, he prefers charges of a similarly sweeping nature against the late Governor General of Kwangtung, two Literary Chancellors, two Superintendents of Customs, a Rear-Admiral, a Salt Commissioner, a Taotai, two Prefects, and three Magistrates. All these persons, he says, during their tenure of office in Kwangtung "amassed enormous fortunes, if not at the expense of the people, certainly at that of the State." If all that we have been taught to believe of Chinese official corruption be true, Censor Têng has set himself to purify an Augæan stable. One effect of his appearance on the scene will be to make men doubly solicitous of concealing the true state of their worldly affairs, and also to render banks unpopular. The security offered by a bank's strong room will lose much of its value if the bank's books are liable to be cited as evidence of ill-gotten gains. The *North China Herald* justly comments on this consequence, in the context of some remarks about a proclamation recently issued by the Kwangtung Lekin Bureau. Anxious to raise taxes for war purposes, the Bureau has farmed to a guild of merchants the privilege of managing the Lekin imposed on the banks of Canton and Fatshan. According to existing rules, the banks ought to have paid a monthly tax of two candareens on every loan of Tls. 100, and a sum of two mace on every Tls. 100 sold. They did not pay, however; or rather their yearly payments only amounted to a bagatelle of Tls. 25,000. They were consequently "advised of the importance of adding to the War Tax," a recommendation to which some simply responded by pleading inability, while others made no reply at all. The Bureau has accordingly had recourse to the device of farming the tax to a guild which undertakes to find Tls. 50,000 per annum, and to commence by handing to the Treasury a sum of Tls. 100,000, which is to be deducted, in amounts of Tls. 20,000, from the yearly payments. There is also to be imposed on the banks a third tax of 2 candareens per month on every Tls. 100 of deposits. Taken in conjunction with the inconvenient memorials of the Censor Têng, the effect of this proceeding will probably be to make capitalists prefer stockings and holes to the strong rooms of banks.

NOTES.

THAT Nihilistic agitation was about to be vigorously revived in Russia might have been inferred, some time ago, from the extraordinary accusations formulated against the Czar's Government in telegrams sent to the English and American press. Prince Krapotkin, writing from his prison stories which seriously taxed the credulity of his readers, had, nevertheless, nothing so terrible to tell as the wanton cruelties alleged to be constantly perpetrated on the route to Siberia and in the jails there. Sympathy is always illogical. When we read in an American journal that an executioner's bungling protracted the death agonies of a negro who had brained a woman and cut the throats of three children, we forget what the man did and remember only what he suffered. So, too, when we read of the pains which Nihilistic exiles have to suffer, we lose sight of the pains they inflicted, or would have inflicted, upon others. We forget, too, that

the story of their misfortunes is told by the sufferers themselves, whose natural inclination is to exaggerate; and we forget, finally, the extreme improbability that a Government required to deal with such a social plague as Nihilism would deliberately aggravate it by injudicious treatment. It is only reasonable to assume that the Russian authorities, being, as they are, civilized and sensible men, refrain from putting arms into the hands of their opponents by the exercise of needless cruelty. Nihilism, however, having paved the way to public sympathy by telegraphing to America and England terrible tales of what the pioneers of liberty have to endure in Russia, is now again resuming its ancient weapons. Colonel Sudeikin was the first victim. According to the telegrams, he was tied down, and repeatedly stabbed until he consented to disclose the whereabouts of certain documents. After enduring this torture for an hour, the Colonel gave the required information, and was then put out of pain. Of this horror an American journal, the *Alla California*, has nothing to say but that it was a counterpart of the cruelty which the Nihilists themselves suffered in times past, and that Colonel Sudeikin's executioners were less merciless than a Government which used the rack and the electric machine. Despite such utterances as these, Nihilism has long forfeited all title to sympathy, though its worst excesses cannot make wise men forget that it denotes the existence of a disease which requires judicious treatment. Colonel Sudeikin's murder was decreed by the Executive Committee, and the same body is said to have recently addressed to the Czar a proclamation demanding personal and political freedom, a full amnesty, complete liberty of the press, and representative institutions. It is impossible to conceive a greater burlesque than that an agitation professing such objects should be carried on with the dagger, the bullet, and the bomb. Torturers and assassins demand to be made legislators and teachers.

THE *North China Herald*, in an interesting article on the polytheistic worship of the Chinese, says that trees, snakes, tortoises, turtles, hedgehogs, and sundry varieties of vermin are objects of veneration in that very conservative Kingdom. Philosophers tell us that monotheism, as compared with polytheism, is an artificial product, requiring a considerable amount of intellectual culture before it can be reached. In that intellectual culture the Chinese are evidently very imperfect, else would not the Viceroy of Chili fall prostrate before a water-snake, nor the Governor of Shangtung offer Thibetan incense to a river god. The Japanese have much the advantage in this respect, though they, too, have not yet succeeded in disentangling the links in the chain of causation sufficiently to be sure that no one event can be absolutely preordained or controlled by any power save a power "holding in its hands the reins of all nature and not of some department only." Our Shanghai contemporaries mentions fox-myths as a variety of superstition common to Japan, not less than to China, but in truth the fox receives little veneration from the people of this country. As the messenger of the rice god, he has the honour of being carved in stone and placed on either side of the path to that deity's shrine, but there his elevation ends. Of his power to do mischief, however, some vaguely large notions exist or used to exist, for one never hears now-a-days of

young gallants led astray by lady foxes in human shapes, or old people pestered by the possession of imaginary brushes. We once had the pleasure of meeting a gentleman who was supposed to be possessed by a fox, but inasmuch as the only symptom of unnatural occupation his mind displayed was a very demonstrative resolution to be served with the best of whatever was going at the shortest possible notice, we concluded that foxes find their way into other folks besides Japanese.

THE London *Echo*, of 8th December last, published the following paragraph on the subject of the Ilbert Bill:—Lord Ripon informed his Council yesterday, and through it all whom it may concern, that subject to the modifications already explained by Lord Northbrook, the Ilbert Bill will be passed into law. We hope it will be passed quickly. It is much to be regretted that it was not carried through all its stages in the spring. It must be assumed that such an important measure was not brought forward until it had been carefully considered in all its bearings and the opinions of those most competent to speak upon it ascertained. Had it been passed in the spring, the perilous agitation of the last six months would have been avoided. As it stands, we do not consider the Bill to be of great value. The "modifications" consented to in the vain hope that they would conciliate opponents who are irreconcilable, have taken the backbone out of it, and made it of little worth in Native eyes. Better not have introduced it at all unless with the determination to pass it in its entirety. However, such as it is, it ought to become law before the end of the year. It has already done more mischief than (in its new form) it is ever likely to do good.

THE *République Française* remarks that in sending the son of his Sovereign from Madrid to Rome, the all-powerful arbiter of the peace of Europe has desired to make a great Conservative and Monarchical demonstration. This public manifestation of a mind which has hitherto shown such studious reserve when about to proceed to action is considered by the *République* as a remarkable departure from the habitual ways of Prince Bismarck, which calls for attention. The *République* oracularly expresses doubts whether Prince Bismarck will have reason to congratulate himself on the success of the first trial of a new method, and loftily concludes the France may safely let events take their course. The worst political coalition with which France has to deal is, it considers, that which, uniting all the *débâris* of the old Monarchic factions, assumes the mask of that religion which Republican France always has resisted and always will resist.

A SHORT time ago, we had the pleasure of being assured by the *Hongkong Daily Press* that our ignorance was something quite surprising. We had exhibited it by saying that a discretionary power to exclude the public from criminal trials is vested in every civilized administration. Now, the same critic undertakes to explain why the English law-courts prefer not to exercise that power except when circumstance make choice impossible. It seems, at first sight, a little superfluous to analyse the motives which induce a man to refrain from doing what he is not competent to do, but possibly the sequence of these ideas would be clearer to less ignorant

persons. Yet even that hypothesis will not explain all the enigmas of our contemporary's logic. "According to the *Japan Mail*," he tells us, "Japan says she is willing to adopt a code founded on those of Western nations, provided the Treaty Powers will consent to the abolition of extraterritoriality." It need scarcely be observed that the *Japan Mail* never advanced any such statement. That, however, is not the enigma. It is that Japan, having promulgated a code three years ago and practiced it since 1882, should, in 1884, offer to adopt it provided extraterritoriality be abolished. In other words, she makes the doing of what she did long ago contingent upon something still in the future. The *Hongkong Daily Press* will pardon us, if we confess that our intellectual stature does not suffice to venture into these depths of reasoning. Our contemporary's premises are entirely his own, and his right of property in his conclusions shall remain undisturbed so far as we are concerned.

A VERY interesting discovery of ancient coins was made some time since in the neighbourhood of Carystos, in the island of Eubœa. In preparing the foundations for a house there were found in an earthen vessel over seventy Athenian tetradrachmas of pre-Roman times, three Athenian drachmas, and thirty drachmas of Carystos itself. One of the tetradrachmas has in the inscription the names of the *demos*, and is believed to be a unique specimen of the kind. Between the death of Alexander and the Roman domination, the coining of money used to be entrusted at Athens to certain selected persons, who introduced their own names into the superscription; but this case would indicate that, occasionally at least, for some particular reason, the *demos* took the coining into their own hands, stamping the name on the coins. Most of the other tetradrachmas bear the names of Archons.

THE launching of H.M.S. *Impérieuse* has been successfully accomplished, at Portsmouth, electrical arrangements, under the direction of Mr. H. Lane, playing an important part in the proceedings. By pushing an electrical button, water was admitted to the dock, floating the vessel; the manipulation of a second button shattered the bottle of wine, christening the vessel; whilst on a third button being pushed the hawser holding the ship to the stage was released, and she was hauled out of the dock.

SEVERAL Russian writers have of late been drawing attention to the fact that the Japanese seas harbour various species of fish which are poisonous. Dr. Sawtscherks even suggests that ships going to these waters ought to be provided with descriptions and representations of these suspected fish, of which twelve varieties would appear to belong to *Tetrodon*, *T. inermis*, the Japanese "Kanatuka," being reported as especially venomous. According to Dr. Guldrew, one Japanese fish, known as Fuku, is so poisonous that death follows almost instantaneously after eating only a moderate-sized bit of the flesh. The Japanese are forbidden by law to eat this fish, but it is nevertheless not unfrequently the cause of death among the lower classes, who believe it to be possessed of certain marvellous properties, on account of which they risk the danger of being poisoned.—*Nature*.

THE value of newspapers in fomenting revolutionary feeling is thoroughly recognised in Russia

and Germany. Professor Alphons Thun has published in Leipsic a book the contents of which show pretty clearly that the author is fully initiated into the secret plots of Nihilism. Nothing is of greater importance to the agitators, he says, than a press to print a periodical journal. During the first stages of the Nihilistic movement in 1861, the *Old Russian* was brought out, for a time, in St. Petersburg, but the plant of the paper was soon discovered and destroyed by the police. After this many groups set up their own printing establishments, but in every case their existence was short-lived. Indeed, it is hard to see how such work as the printing of a journal could possibly be done in secret with ordinary materials and after ordinary methods. In 1875, however, Jacob Stephanowitsch invented some devices which greatly facilitated privacy, and by their aid his printing establishment escaped detection for two years. But the greatest success was achieved by a Jew, Aaron Sundelwitsch, who smuggled printing materials over the Russian frontier, and set up a press in St. Petersburg, where he worked uninterruptedly during four years. Two papers, *Land and Liberty* and the *Will of the People*, were brought out by this conspirator and his associates, though their stock of materials was of the most meagre and simple description. An accident at last betrayed them. In Germany the administration has been more successful in preventing the publication of disloyal matter, though a very extensive use of arbitrary power has been necessary for the purpose. It appears that more vigilance than ever is to be exercised henceforth. The circulation in Germany of three papers printed outside the empire is to be strictly prohibited. These journals are, the *Fremdenführer* published in London; the *Proletariat*, published in Warsaw; and the *Radical*, published in Pesth. They are all organs of extreme Socialism. We read also that, at Prince Bismarck's suggestion, a special censorship has been created to determine what papers may be published and to supervise the press generally. The effect of this measure, if it be rigorously carried out, will doubtless be to free Germany of socialistic literature.

ON the 5th ult. the *Alta* writes:—Unless the Chinese Immigration Act is amended, Congress will have to establish two or three more United States Courts in San Francisco, for those we have are quite unable to keep up with the business or hearing testimony and arguments on writs of habeas corpus taken out by the passengers on China steamers. Before the list of applicants from one steamer is disposed of another comes in and dumps its load, and the astonished Court cannot see its way out of the woods. If this thing should go on, the whole time of the District Court would come to be taken up with hearings for the benefit of Chinese immigrants, and the interests of our own citizens which need judicial attention would have to be neglected. There is just one way out of the maze, and that is for Congress to amend the law and make its enforcement possible, without consuming the whole time of the Custom House officers and the District Court.

THE *Iroha Shimbun*, which by its Uncle-Remus-like simplicity of speech sometimes lapses into unintentional sarcasm, says that clever as the Government officials must be to conduct the affairs of State with such remarkable skill, there has been drafted a project of

law which will have the effect of considerably raising the standard of their qualifications. Doubtless the allusion is to an intention, which we believe exists, of instituting a system of competitive examinations for civil officials. This would be a worthy supplement to the recently promulgated Pension Regulations.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the "Chronicle and Directory for China, Japan," &c., for 1884, issued from the office of the *Hongkong Daily Press*. This work has gradually assumed increasing proportions until it now contains over a thousand pages of matter of great variety and usefulness relating to all the places in the Far East between the Straits Settlements in the South and Korea and Vladivostok in the North. Glancing hastily over the Japan portion, we find, that which it is as well the publishers should know, that the names of several late residents in this country who have left, in some instances, years ago, still remain in the work. The difficulties the compilers have to contend with in far away places are great through want of agents to interest themselves sufficiently in the matter to obtain correct returns. The typography of the "Directory" is not first-class, and the printing might be a great deal better.

FROM a list of fashionable marriages published in an Indian contemporary we (*Hongkong Telegraph*) learn that a match has been arranged between Mr. Egerton Bagot B. Levett, R.N., flag-lieutenant to Admiral Willes, C.B., China Station, son of Colonel Levett, Milford House, Staffordshire, and Miss Mabel Parkes, daughter of Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., H.B.M.'s Plenipotentiary in China.

THEODORE MOMMSEN, the celebrated professor of history at the University of Berlin, and an opponent of the bimetalists, has lately published in a German journal (*Die Nation*) an essay showing how the experience of ancient Rome may be applied to the question at issue. Drawing his illustrations from an edict published in the time of the Emperor Julian fixing the pay of lawyers in measures of wheat or their equivalent, he says that this shows how, in its dotage and decline, Rome was forced to adopt the same measures of value which had been in use in those early days when coin had not become available. In the best days of Roman rule, when gold was the measure of value, the coins of Rome had conquered the ancient world quite as much as its sword. They were strictly equal in value to the amount stamped on them, and from the eastern to the western confines of the empire they were accepted as the standard measures of value. But the unfortunate policy of the empire in fixing by law the relative values of gold and silver without confining the use of silver to the payment of small sums led to a slow and gradual but certain debasement of the coinage. Julius and Augustus Cæsar had not the same difficulties to contend with as the Germans of to-day. No other state then existing could dispute the universal supremacy of Rome in commerce as in arms, and the coinage of gold had been so plentiful that for a time silver was only used in small amounts. Owing, however, to the mistaken policy referred to, silver gradually drove gold coin out of circulation, and even the silver coin was debased by alloys, and at last became little more than plated copper.

The commercial world became in consequence slaves of dishonest money-changers, and as we see from the documents which have come down to us from the times of Julian, coin finally ceased to be recognized as a measure of value and was replaced by the cumbrous wheat. Professor MommSEN argues that if this was the consequence of a policy of bimetalism under the most favorable circumstances in Rome, the same policy would lead to still more disastrous results in the complicated arrangements of modern commercial and international relations.—*Bradstreet's*.

WE observe that the next Mitsu Bishi mail steamer for Shanghai, the *Hiroshima Maru*, is advertised to leave one day earlier than usual, namely, Tuesday next instead of Wednesday.

THE *Tribune* says editorially:—It is the ambition of San Francisco to have a world's fair, and her capitalists and business men have held a meeting to arrange the preliminaries. It must be admitted that, with some drawbacks, San Francisco is, in many respects, well prepared for enterprise of this nature. The chief hindrance is the distance, but it may be said that if the California railroads and steamship companies are determined to assist the projected world's fair, they can do much toward banishing the most formidable objection to it, and we presume from the terms of the despatch, these corporations were represented at the meeting, and that they propose to interest themselves actively in the undertaking. With such aid it may be granted that the scheme is feasible, and if San Francisco is somewhat awkwardly situated with regard to Europe, it must be remembered that her location with regard to the Orient and Australia is peculiarly advantageous. But the distance over from Europe has been greatly diminished of late by the opening of the Southern Pacific. The people of San Francisco, moreover, are called upon to bestir themselves now that the completion of the Northern Pacific threatens not only their commerce with the far western terminus and States, but also with Australia, China, and Japan. There never was a period in the history of California when some energetic, popular demonstration of this sort was more needed. In fact, even as an advertisement of those splendid resources which have hitherto failed to secure for the Golden State anything like the population required for her development, and with three years of judicious and liberal drumming, aided by a free expenditure in hospitalities and organized management, there is no reason why San Francisco should not secure the "World's Fair," which will be altogether as profuse and splendid as that of any other community. It would be unique in many of its features, and of special value because of its suggestions and revelations. In short, if the Californians carry out this undertaking with their accustomed energy and dash, we can see no reason why it should not be as decided a success as its most sanguine advocates can expect or desire. On this subject the *Alta* says:—The World's Fair, which is proposed to be held in this city in September, 1887, if it attains fruition, of which there can be no doubt, will commemorate the centennial anniversary of one of the grandest events in the history of our country, for on the 17th of September, 1787, the Constitution of the United States was adopted in convention. It will be a proud and glorious commentary on the growth and pro-

sperity of our nation, that in the one hundredth year of its constitutional existence, it should be a Mecca for the pleasure-seeking people of the entire globe, and the commemoration of this historical epoch will add, in no small degree, to the *éclat* of the occasion.

THERE is a well authenticated story of the late Lord Granville's devotion to whist. Intending to set out in the course of the afternoon for Paris, he ordered his carriage and four posters to be at Graham's at 4. They were kept waiting till 10, when he sent out to say that he should not be ready for an hour or two, and that the horses had better be changed. They were changed three times in all, at intervals of six hours, before he started. When the party rose they were up to their ankles in cards, and the Ambassador, it was reported, was a loser to the tune of £8,000 or £10,000. About this time there was a set at Brooks—Lord Sefton, an excellent player, being one—who played hundred guinea points, besides bets. We still occasionally hear of £300 and £500 on the rubber, but £5 points are above the average. The spirit of play absorbs or deadens every other feeling. Horace Walpole relates that, on a man falling down in a fit before the bay window at White's, odds were instantly offered to a large amount against his recovery, and that, on its being proposed to bleed him, the operation was vehemently resisted as being unfair. When Lord Thanet was in the Tower, for the O'Connor riot, three friends—the Duke of Bedford, the Duke de Laval, and Capt. Smith—were admitted to play whist with him, and remain till the lock-up hour of 11. Early in the sitting Capt. Smith fell back in a fit of apoplexy, and one of the party rose to call for help. "Stop," cried another, "we shall be turned out if you make a noise! Let our friend alone till 11; we can play dummy, and he will be none the worse, for I can read death in his face." The clergy, especially of the West of England, were formerly devoted to whist. About the beginning of the century there was a whist club in a country town in Somersetshire, composed mostly of clergymen that met every Sunday evening in the back parlor of a barber. Four of these were acting as pall-bearers at the funeral of a revered brother, when a delay occurred from the grave not being ready, or some other cause, and the coffin was set down in the chancel. By way of whiling away the time one of them produced a pack of cards from his pocket and proposed a rubber. The rest gladly assented, and they were deep in their game, using the coffin as their table, when the sexton came to announce that the preparations were complete.—*London Society*.

AN experiment in rearing silk-worms on a small scale is reported to have been made in the Botanical Gardens at Saharunpore and Mussurie during the year ending 31st March last. The chief drawback to the development of this industry being want of fodder to the worms, it is hoped that the distribution of the mulberry plants and cuttings made during the year will tend to some extent to remove the difficulty. The result of the experiment made showed that the silk industry may possibly be carried on successfully in the sub-Himalayan Districts as well as in the Dun. The experiments in the girth measurement of Sal trees, made with a view to ascertain their rate of growth, were also continued. The net cost of the gardens to Government was Rs. 25,094.—*Indian Mirror*.

SOME time ago, writing of M. Tricou's reported endeavours to persuade Japan that her honour was concerned in espousing France's side against China, we said:—"We may be wrong, but we cannot help thinking that the mail-clad Japanese troops placed by the Chinese vernacular press in the van of the French forces at the assault of Son-tai, were creations of M. Tricou's imagination. *They are, at any rate, the outcome of the policy he pursued here.*" The *North China Herald*, omitting the portion which we have italicized in this paragraph, comments on the remainder as follows:—

A more gratuitous and indefensible assumption was never made. We are asked to believe that M. Tricou deliberately forged an absurd and libellous report, and communicated it to the Chinese newspapers, with the intention of causing trouble between two friendly Powers to the advantage of his own country. So gross a charge scarcely deserves confutation, and we should not have noticed it had not the *North China Herald* been appealed to in the matter. 'M. Tricou,' says the *Mail*, 'may congratulate himself on having obtained a certain measure of success. He has helped to sow seeds of discord between China and Japan, and we wish him joy of the achievement.' Is this true? We have heard nothing in the least bearing out any such assertion, and doubt it utterly. But the *Japan Mail* is supposed to be generally so well informed that it is possibly in possession of details that have not reached us, and these it ought now to publish. It accuses M. Tricou of furnishing false news to the Chinese papers—our own, possibly, among them—with a view to making enmity between China and Japan, and adds that he has partially succeeded. We await with interest the proof.

It is somewhat troublesome to follow the sequence of ideas in this criticism. What makes the matter more puzzling is that our Shanghai contemporary sets out by declaring that he "agrees with the *Mail* in its condemnation of M. Tricou's ill-advised and happily abortive attempts to enlist the aid of Japan in the campaign against China." We fail to see how these attempts could have been made without the "intention of causing trouble between too friendly powers to the advantage of M. Tricou's own country." But let that pass. The gravamen of the charge preferred against us appears to be that we accused the French envoy of "deliberately forging an absurd and libellous report and communicating it to the Chinese newspapers." When and where did we make any such accusation? We thought, and do still think, that in the sequel of the policy which aimed at inducing Japan to take active advantage of China's embarrassment, there was an effort to persuade China that Japan entertained such an intention. From that effort to a hint that Japanese assistance would not be wanting to the French in their Tonquinese campaign, diplomacy of a certain species might pass without much trouble. Thus much granted, how easily the mail-clad warriors appear upon the scene, and what a difficult metaphysical problem it becomes to determine whether their origin is to be referred to M. Tricou's suggestions, or to the interpretation put upon his hints by Chinese exaggeration? Disapproving, as it says it disapproves, of M. Tricou's methods, and condemning, as it says it condemns, his attempts to enlist Japan's aid against China, can the *North China Herald* persuade itself that the presence of Japanese troops in the van of the French forces would ever have been suspected had not M. Tricou's machinations prepared the way for such a fancy? We, at any rate, find it difficult to imagine that the policy of the French envoy and the romance of the Chinese vernacular press do not stand to one another in the relation of cause and effect, and that is why we spoke of the one as "the outcome" of the other. But that "M. Tricou deliberately

forged an absurd and libellous report and communicated it to the Chinese newspapers" is a very ideal rendering of our language. It is also perplexing to find that the *North China Herald* includes itself among the Chinese vernacular press; and it is, further, perplexing to learn that, having itself retailed the erroneous notions entertained by the Chinese as to the assistance given by Japan to France, our Shanghai contemporary should "have heard nothing in the least bearing out any such assertion" as that M. Tricou "has helped to sow seeds of discord between China and Japan." Are there no seeds of discord sown when the Chinese believe that the van of the French force at Son-tai consisted of Japanese troops? The *North China Herald* can scarcely suppose that a rumour of that nature, whether directly or indirectly referable to M. Tricou's policy, will help to dispel the Middle Kingdom's umbrage against its neighbour. Unqualified as our condemnation must be of the French envoy's conduct in this matter, we should be sorry to do him an injustice. But we desire to be judged by what we have written, not by an impossible interpretation of it. We are now supposed to have "accused M. Tricou of furnishing false news to the Chinese papers with a view to making enmity between China and Japan," and the *North China Herald* says that it "awaits with interest the proof" of the charge. It gives us pain to keep our contemporary waiting, but truly he can scarcely expect us to prove a proposition which we never advanced, and since he has been at the trouble to misinterpret our language, we trust that he will do us the justice of noting our correction.

A REPORT from the Riukiu Islands, states that the people are in a state of great excitement. There are two classes struggling for supremacy, the White Party, who are friendly to Japan, and the Black Party, who are adherents of China. Their dislike of each other has resulted in wordy vituperation. In October of last year one Anshi, a native noble, went to Foochow, China, accompanied by ten followers. His confederates are very numerous, and the police are doing all they can to prevent them from leaving the islands. Attempts are nevertheless frequently made to escape to China, and some forty or fifty manage to get away every year. Some attribute their secret departure to a desire to trade with China unencumbered by any restrictions; for if they are provided with passports as Japanese citizens, they cannot carry on trade in the interior; a most disadvantageous condition of affairs. The farmers live frugally and contentedly, devoting much time and attention to weaving. But the gentry (*shizoku*) are discontented, since they have been forced to forego their hereditary pensions since the abolition of feudalism. A few who have visited Tokiyo hold more enlightened views; but most of their compatriots refuse to believe in a civilization with the concomitant nuisances of telegraphs, steamers, and railways.—*Yiji Shimpō*.

AN Indian paper says:—When Theebaw is not drunk, he shows himself an able prince and a ruler of infinite resource. Just at present, his difficulties with the Shan princelets, notably Monay Isabwa, and the consequent preparations for war, keep him sober. Not long ago, the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah was obliging enough to catch twenty-two dacoits for Theebaw. They had been charged with misconducting themselves in Upper Burmah, were

arrested in British territory, and handed over to the tender mercies of the Woon. The story now goes that Theebaw, so far from punishing them, has made three of them Colonels and the remainder Lieutenants. All have been put in command of regiments of released convicts, and ordered to march against the Shans.

ON the generally good authority of the *Cologne Gazette*, it is reported that China has made a compact to cede the island of Hainan to England, if the latter nation succeeds in inducing France to consent to a partition of Tonquin, the northern portion, including the city of Bac-ninh, or Bac-ninh, to belong to China. It is an even chance, whether the story is true or false. England's general policy is one of insatiable territorial aggrandizement, but Gladstone has shown in repeated instances—in Afghanistan, South Africa, Egypt, and New Guinea—that he does not share this rage for annexation, and it is, therefore, at least doubtful that he has concluded a treaty with the Chinese on the basis stated. It is quite likely that China has made the offer to Great Britain, but if so, the probabilities are it was refused. If China could trade off the Island of Hainan for the northern half of Tonquin, it would be in every way a most advantageous stroke of policy for her. Not only is that portion of Tonquin, including the delta of the Red River, a naturally rich and fertile country, but the river possesses great strategic and commercial importance for China, being the natural outlet for the south-eastern part of the Empire. Bac-ninh, on the possession of which China places so much stress that she has threatened war if it should be taken by the French, is situated upon one of the northerly outlets of the Red River and is considered the key of the delta. If England had an ambition for territorial acquisition in that part of the world, the offer of the Island of Hainan would be a tempting bribe. The island is almost as large as Formosa—about the size of the State of Maryland; possesses a million inhabitants, and though rough and mountainous, is extremely valuable on account of its great forests of useful timber. If the late Earl of Beaconsfield, instead of Gladstone, were Premier now, it is not hard to conjecture how he would act in the contingency of being offered such a prize in return for diplomatic services that cost nothing.—*Alla*.

A SHORT time ago, the *Yiyu Shimbun* published a report that an International Dendrological Exhibition had been proposed by several influential merchants residing in Washington, D.C., and that Japan had been invited to contribute. We have not met with this statement elsewhere, but it seems that a Forestry Exhibition on a grand scale will be held in Edinburgh, during the course of this year. The classification of exhibits ranges over a wide and interesting field, so much so that *Nature* waxes quite eloquent over the Exhibition. Practical forestry will be illustrated by implements, models of huts, appliances for floating and transporting timber, and wood-working machinery of every description. The department of forest produce will include a collection of the chief uses to which the raw and manufactured material of the woods may be applied. The class of scientific forestry will deal with the botany of the forest, sylvan entomology, preservation processes applied to timber, fossil plants, parasites, and numerous other

subjects. Growing specimens of rare and ornamental trees and shrubs, rustic work in arbors, bridges, gates, and seats, and dried specimens of ornamental objects will exemplify the division of ornamental forestry. The remaining departments will include pictorial illustrations of the trees, foliage, and scenery of all countries, and the effects of blight, accident, parasitic growth and abnormal conditions; together with the literature of forestry, working plans of plantations, and examples of the economic condition of foresters and woodrangers. The entries for the exhibition will close on October 4th of this year.

No more extraordinary billiards than that shown by John Roberts and Joseph Bennett in their recent match of 4,000 points has ever been seen at the English all-round game. Although giving 400 points start, that man of iron, Roberts, beat his opponent easily. Bennett made a magnificent break of 170, and one of his last efforts was 130; but Roberts was able to put in a greater succession of large breaks. Bennett is a more nervous man than his stolid north-country opponent, whom nothing can put off his game. The play of each was frequently of the most splendid character.—*World*.

THERE was something very pathetic in the circumstances attending the departure of Baker Pasha for the Soudan. The Khedive's letter is extremely unlike those usually addressed by Princes to their military commanders. "For heaven's sake, says his Highness, be cautious. Don't do any fighting if you can possibly help it; and if you do, only engage the enemy 'under the most favourable circumstances.'" Well may the Khedive feel anxious. Two thousand of the gendarmes—the timid peasants, be it remembered—are all that Baker Pasha has to depend upon besides the black troops of Zobeir, who no doubt can fight very well if they like, though it is always open to some doubt whether they will greatly like to fight against their friends and fellow-tribesmen under the Mahdi. Considering what great difficulties Baker Pasha goes to encounter, with inadequate men, material, and money (fifteen thousand pounds was all they could raise for him in Cairo), no wonder it was with mournful forebodings that the English residents bade him farewell. Baker Pasha and his staff are officers of the Egyptian Government, and their proceedings do not concern us, we suppose; but remembering Col. Hicks and the men who fought and fell with him, it is difficult to think without apprehension of the possible fate on which another company of brave Englishmen is being hurried.—*St. James's Budget*.

THE burning of the Institute of the Immaculate Conception at Belleville, Illinois, on the 5th of January, adds another item to the list of terrible calamities that have made the world shudder during the past twelve months. Thirty women and children were burned to death or killed by leaping from the windows. The convent was a substantial brick building, five stories high, and contained, at the time the fire broke out, fifty-eight regular pupils besides the teachers. The flames started from the furnace in the basement, and the Mother Superior and Sister Superior made their way to the dormitory to arouse the sleeping children. But it was already too late to escape. The fugitives were met by the flames, and a number of their charred bodies were afterwards found grouped round the heroic women

who had sacrificed their lives in the attempt to save them. One little child died with its arms round the Sister Superior's neck. Up to the evening of the 6th of January thirteen bodies had been taken from the ruins, and at least as many more were still buried under the smoking débris.

THE telegrams show that the British Cabinet has unanimously adopted, with regard to Egypt, a policy consisting of three features. First, England is to maintain her position in Egypt; secondly, she guarantees the Khedive to resist any attempt on the part of El Mahdi to invade Lower Egypt, but does not undertake to oppose any operations of his which are not directed against Egypt proper; and thirdly, her Consul at Massowah is instructed to notify the King of Abyssinia that England will not approve of any military operations by Abyssinian troops in the Soudan. It appears, too, that certain reforms are to be immediately inaugurated in the Government of Egypt, and that Sir Evelyn Baring has been ordered to remain there and supervise the operation of the new policy. General Gordon's unescorted journey to Khartoum doubtless had for its object to superintend the withdrawal of the troops from that place to the second cataract of the Nile, that being a measure upon which the British Government insists.

AFTER letting the whole country into the secret of its method of "expanding" foreign intelligence, the Central News has failed in yet another of its numerous actions against journals which had thought fit to criticise and even condemn the process. *Judy* had gone so far as to call the expander attached to the Central News a "Chartered L——," which was interpreted at the office as signifying "chartered liar." In the spirit of the too self-conscious gentleman who, hearing a vocalist sing out at a public banquet "Now let us strike the lyre!" replied that no one should strike him with impunity, the Central News invoked punishment on the head of the journalist who had called it a "Chartered L——." But, far from avenging the wrongs of the injured telegraphic association, the court before which the case was taken declined even to hear it to the end. Such was the evidence of the prosecution, and such (as regards substance) was the speech of the prosecuting counsel, that the Recorder and the jury stopped the trial without waiting to hear the defence. The court had not been called upon to decide whether it was elegant satire to call an "expander" a "Chartered L——." The question was simply whether it could be considered legitimate to represent as having been received by telegraph from abroad what had been written in the ordinary way at home; and this admitted but of one answer. Explanations of telegrams and comments upon them are not only permissible, they are often necessary and indeed indispensable: only they should not be published as part of the message from beyond the sea. The flies and the butter should be served separately.

THE Japanese lecture delivered on Monday afternoon in the Union Church, by Rev. Geo. Wm. Knox, was a most encouraging commencement of the course to be given in Yokohama and Tokio under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan. The day, in addition to being a most beautiful one, was the anniversary of the first Emperor of Japan's accession to the throne, and

many classes of the people had holiday. The audience, mostly of men of middle age, filled the church amounting to 250 persons, and for two full hours gave the strictest attention to a closely read lecture, without embellishment or illustration, on a subject that could hardly be expected to claim the attention of the ordinary class of native hearer—"The Basis of Morality." The speaker's argument, after an introduction showing the importance and wide scope of his subject, was mainly an effort to disprove that utility or happiness was what constituted right. After showing the doctrine of Epicurus, and the defects as well as excellencies of Spencer's and Mill's code of morality, he pointed out the true foundation of morality and whence we were to ascertain it. It was found written in Nature in Conscience, and in the character and revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ. The time, place, and subject of the next lecture would be announced through the press and might be expected the following week. The lecture of yesterday will be repeated at the Meiji Kwaido, Tokio, on Saturday, at 3 p.m. on the 16th inst.

THE trial of the newly-invented electric torpedo took place on the Sumidagawa on the 11th instant, the results being most satisfactory. Mr. Soyeshima presented the inventor, Tanaka Hisahizo, with a sword, made by the famous Munetoshi, in recognition of his inventive genius.—*Choya Shimbun*.

AN American paper says:—The cable reports that Mary Anderson—"our Mary"—is to marry the Duke of Portland. This gentleman is only 26 years of age, and at that susceptible period of life it is not improbable that he has been mashed on Mary. But that the possessor of the ancient title of Duke of Portland and the immense wealth attaching thereto will be permitted to marry an actress is not so certain. It will not come to pass without a great deal of hair-pulling in high quarters.

IT does not speak well for the business ability of the Tokiyo authorities that a sale of land should take place at the Foreign Concession, Tsukiji, without any sufficient notice being given to the public. Due intimation of the fact was doubtless sent to all the Consulates, but the United States Consul-General alone thought it worth while to advertise the sale in the newspapers. We can readily understand that a Consul might be perplexed about the proper incidence of a charge for advertising such a fact, though, truly, a sale of land in a foreign concession is not so novel an affair that the details of its management ought to present much difficulty. The Japanese, at all events, should understand how to go about it, and should know that the price obtained for the land may depend, in a great measure, on the intimation given to the public. On the other hand, from the side of the buyer there is good reason to complain. It is doubtless very imposing and correct to post up a notice on the black board at a Consulate, but what chance is there that such a notice is ever seen by any one but the Consular employés? The public does not go round to the Consulate every morning to peruse the notices, and we are disposed to think that but for Consul-General Van Buren's thoughtfulness, the sale of land at Tsukiji would have been entirely ignored. The Japanese authorities might do better if they travelled a little out of purely official grooves in these matters.

The Consuls, it is true, are the recognised vehicles for conveying intelligence to their nationals, but if they decline to employ any more efficient advertising medium than their notice-boards, it behoves the Japanese, presuming that they are desirous of selling their land, to take care that the public is not left in complete ignorance. It may not be worth the Consuls' while to convey information to their countrymen, but it certainly is worth the while of the sellers of the land to advertise the time and place of the auction.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the Relief Volunteer Steam Fire Engine Company was held on Tuesday evening at the Club Hotel for the purpose of electing a Captain in the place of Mr. R. T. Rohde, who recently left for England. After some general remarks indicative of the great loss the Company had sustained by the departure of Mr. Rohde, a ballot for the Captaincy was taken, which resulted in the unanimous election of Mr. W. C. Bing, a gentleman who, by the energy and skill displayed in connection with the working of the company during the last three or four years, has shown himself to be eminently qualified for the position. By another unanimous vote it was resolved that the Committee should address a letter to Mr. Rohde expressing the regret felt at the severance, which it is hoped may be only temporary, of his connection with the Company, and the appreciation of the efforts on his part which have been so conducive to the present efficiency of the corps.

WHILE England is very generally regarded as a great horse-breeding country, it is a fact, nevertheless, that the home supply does not adequately meet the national requirements, and that horses are largely imported. The *Manchester Guardian* has been of late giving some interesting statistics with regard to the excess of imports over exports. In the fifteen years 1868-82, the average annual import has been rather more than 14,500, while the exports have amounted to only about 4,200. In 1868 the number of horses imported was only 1,575; in 1872 it had risen to 12,618; in 1876 it was 41,146; in 1877, 30,524; in 1878, 26,521, and in 1879, 15,246. The years 1880, 1881 and 1882 show a large decrease, but the import in each case still exceeded 9,000. The exports have also fluctuated a great deal. In 1868 England exported 4,091 horses; in 1877 the number was only 2,258, but in 1882 the export stood at 6,444. The *Guardian's* statistics bring out one remarkable fact. While the average value of imported horses was £28 each, that of the animals sent from English studs to foreign buyers was £60. The larger part of the imports includes ponies, cart and cab-horses, while the bulk of the exports is made up of horses of a high class. "That we should be so largely dependent upon foreign sources for horses of any description," says the *Guardian*, "is a matter which demands attention. It is being found more and more difficult to obtain at home a sufficient supply of serviceable animals for the army."

THE British barkentine *Glenury*, Captain Thomson, which arrived here on the 13th inst. from Takao, reports having left Formosa on the 22nd ult. and during the first part of the voyage having experienced hard E.N.E. gales with high confused seas, then strong N. to N.W. winds, with unsettled

weather. During the worst of the gale a portion of the *Glenury's* bulwarks was carried away and other minor damage sustained. On the night after leaving Takao one of the crew, a Chinese, fell overboard and was drowned, all efforts to save him being fruitless.

THE false prophets of Islam have, the *St. James's Gazette* remarks, been many, not a few of them have endeavoured to follow the example of Mahomed and to found an empire by force of arms. Not one of them, however, has been permanently successful; and if the Mahdi escapes capture or assassination, he will be more fortunate than most of his forerunners have been. Moseilama, who raised the standard of religious revolt during the lifetime of Mahomed, was defeated and slain during the reign of Abu Bir by Khaled Ebnal Walid; and Al Aswad, who set up in the year of Mahomed's death, was almost immediately betrayed and decapitated. It was upon that occasion that Mahomed declared that, ere the day of judgment, Islam would be troubled by thirty other impostors. Soon afterwards Toleiha Ebn Khawailed arose, but seeing the error of his ways, recanted; and Sejjaj Bint al Moudar, an early exponent of woman's rights, led many after her. In the reign, too, of the Halif al Mohidi, Hakem Ebn Hashem, called Al Mokanna, and well known as the Veiled Prophet of Khorassan, gained some successes, and might have gained more had he not despaired and committed suicide; and in the reign of Al Motasem, the still more formidable pretender Babac was executed, but not until he had slain a quarter of a million of his enemies. Then came the Karmatians and the Ishmaelians, or Assassins, and the followers of Al Motanabbi, and of Baba the Turkoman, and of many more; so that, if Mahomed's thirty impostors have not already appeared and disappeared again, the Mahdi must surely be nearly the last of the series. If, on the other hand, all the false prophets have come and gone, who is the Mahdi? It is but too probable that Islam, or at least a great part of it, will answer the question by proclaiming that Mahomed Ahmed is the Messiah.

THE Japanese Assistant Commissioner at the Foreign Exhibition, Boston, has addressed the following letter to the *New York Herald* :—

My attention has been called to the following paragraph, which appeared in your valuable paper of the 15th inst., dated at San Francisco and headed, "Boston Taken In," which would seem to require some explanation :—

Advices from Yokohama state that the Japanese government is indignant at an imposition practised at the Boston Exhibition. The exhibits described by the Boston journals as a rare collection of ancient historical works of art are modern and were manufactured expressly for sale. The government had nothing to do with the exhibit. A valuable private collection sent by an English amateur collector failed to arrive in time.

The Japanese government has sent no direct special government contributions to the Boston Exhibition, the only exhibit of an official character being the exhibit of wall leather, and other papers sent free of expense by the Imperial Printing Bureau. This fact I have stated repeatedly to most or all of the directors of the Exhibition, to the representatives of the art museums, and to numbers of prominent people. As it might be implied, however, from your article that the government of Japan had nothing whatsoever to do with the Exhibition, either directly or indirectly, I beg to state that the government has furnished material aid and assistance to the exhibitors, and a considerable amount of money has been set apart and devoted to furthering the success of the exhibit by the government. The commission of Mr. Takahashi as chief commissioner, and myself as assistant commissioner, emanates also from the Japanese government direct.

The Japanese exhibit at the Boston Exhibition was essentially destined as an exhibit of modern Japanese art, and as such it speaks for itself. Only a very few old articles have incidentally been brought along and established, and I venture to say that in no single

instance has any of the exhibitors from Japan represented a modern article as being old or antique.

Some months ago, shortly after the opening of the Exhibition, one or two Boston papers spoke at considerable length and in detail of "antique," "historical," &c., collections exhibited at the Boston Exhibition. All the articles therein referred to are exhibited by a merchant of Boston, and the Japanese government has no more to do with them than it has with the stock in trade of any other dealer in Boston or elsewhere in the United States. These articles cannot even be called a part of the Japanese exhibit proper, which came from Japan. They are merely a private exhibit, and under the circumstances I do not feel called upon at present to give any opinion as to their merits or demerits, their historical character or otherwise. The first edition of the official catalogue of the Exhibition left it in doubt as to who was the owner and exhibitor of these goods. In the subsequent editions, in compliance with the demands of the Japanese exhibitors, this was remedied.

The Japanese exhibitors, collectively and individually, have been the recipients of a great deal of kindness and consideration from the Boston public, and would feel greatly pained at anything like a misunderstanding as to their position or the character of their exhibits. This is the principal reason why I have trespassed at such length upon the space of your paper, valuable as I know it to be, and hoping you will find it proper to insert this answer, I have the honor to remain.

Your most obedient servant,

L. WERTHEIMBER,

Imperial Japanese Government's Assistant Commissioner, Foreign Exhibition, Boston.

This communication removes all doubt as to the nature of the enterprise upon which we commented in our issue of November 10th. It will be remembered that our remarks—the substance of which was apparently telegraphed from San Francisco to New York—were based upon a lengthy notice of the Japanese Section of the Exhibition, which notice had appeared in the *Boston Herald*. It was there explained that "one of the purposes underlying the exhibition was to make some of the displays shown there as much historical in character as possible," and that "this purpose had been carried out in a remarkable degree by Commissioner Graves." The article then continued as follows :—

In the present collection shown it was attempted, for the first time, to secure, through direct appeal to the Japanese Government, such an exhibit as should be historical, and cover examples of all the various products of Japan, both ancient and modern. This has been for the first time accomplished, and in this respect, at least, the Boston Foreign Exhibition may be said to be 'unique.' To the hearty coöperation of the Japanese Government, then, is due the rare collection of historical works to be seen at the Exhibition, and without the friendly interest which prompted the same, it would have been utterly impossible to have secured such a collection. Praise is due to that Government, and it will be readily accorded when it is known that while it has refused to do the same favour for other nations holding similar exhibitions, it has, out of its especial interest in our country, which the whole Japanese people regard with the most friendly feelings, acceded to our request. The visitors, therefore, to our foreign exhibition will, for the first time in the world's history, have the pleasure of examining such a collection from this exceedingly interesting country as no one has ever enjoyed before.

Whether or no Commissioner Graves inspired this notice we cannot tell. The *Boston Herald* certainly is not primarily responsible, for it may be taken for granted that no writer employed by a journal of that stamp could have penned such a sentence as the last of those we have quoted. At all events what the public was asked to believe was,—first, that Commissioner Graves, by direct appeal to the Japanese Government, had secured its active coöperation; secondly that a rare collection of historical works had been obtained through that coöperation; and thirdly, that the Japanese Government had never before conferred the same favour upon any other foreign exhibition. Everyone of these statements was diametrically opposed to the truth. The Japanese Government had not coöperated with Commissioner Graves: the Japanese Government had not forwarded through that gentleman, or through any one else, a single exhibit, whether modern or antique, with the exception of the paper mentioned by Mr. Wertheimber; and

the Japanese Government had sent, or caused to be sent, illustrative collections to three European exhibitions in former years, when private enterprise alone could not have been trusted to represent Japanese art industries becomingly. It now appears, from Mr. Wertheimer's letter, that the articles referred to in the *Boston Herald* did not even form part of the Japanese exhibit proper, but were simply the private collection of a Boston merchant. We regret that the Assistant Commissioner refrained from mentioning the name of this exhibitor. The motives of such reticence are explicable, but not valid. As the matter stands, the *Boston Herald*, unwillingly no doubt, has been made a party to what we cannot but term a fraudulent attempt to impose upon visitors to the Boston Exhibition, and in the interests of the public we trust that that journal will take the only step consistent with the high reputation it justly enjoys. We, at this side of the water, know how persistent and subtle are the devices employed to deceive American collectors of Japanese objects of *virtu*, but it is not often that anything so flagrant as this particular performance is brought to our notice.

SOME of the advantages of Japanese *geta* are thus described by an American paper:—One of the queer sights in the streets of Japan is the rows of wooden sandals, old and new, large and small, which are seen outside of the doors of the houses, where they are left upon entering. They have a separate place for the great toe, and make a loud, clacking noise. It is surprising to see how quickly the people step in and out of them, without even stopping. Straw slippers are also worn, travellers starting on a journey take a supply of several pairs, in order to have new ones ready when the old ones give out. They cost only a cent and a half a pair. The Japanese are never troubled with corns or any disease of the feet.

A HOME paper thus describes Mr. Forster:—Mr. Forster, M.P., is a brave man. He is also a lucky man, as most people who read the evidence in the trials of the Invincibles will admit. Despite his firm, earnest nature, he is one of the most tender-hearted of men. During the unfortunate troubles in Ireland, when the work of the agitators had been done so well that sedition and outrage, assassination and murder, stalked unblushing in the light of day, it was adjudged necessary to use the troops to clear the streets. Full powers were given to them to use ball-cartridge and bayonets. Mr. Forster, seeing the misery and disaster that such a step was likely to bring about, and knowing that when a rifle bullet is once despatched amongst a crowd it must inevitably maim or kill some one, suggested that buckshot might be substituted. He argued that buckshot would not kill, though it might punish rioters sufficiently to reduce them to submission. For this thoughtful action he has since been held up by the Irish as the most infamous scoundrel who ever lived, and has been dubbed by the nickname of "Buckshot Forster." But he seemed to bear a charmed life, for though his death had been arranged for well nigh upon a score of times, he came out unscathed in the long run. He recently addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting at Bradford. A knot of noisy Irishmen in the gallery over and over again tried to prevent him gaining a hearing. He bore this with patience

for a long time, but at last he addressed the disturbers, and said in emphatic tones:—"As you did not kill me in Ireland you shall hear me now." This was followed by a grand outburst of cheering, the audience rising and waving their hats and handkerchiefs wildly above their heads. After this the disturbers judged it best to give the speaker fair play. Had they not done so, it is just possible they might have found the way downstairs much simpler and shorter than pleasant. We have nothing whatever to do with the political side of the question; we only go upon bare results. Hitherto the Irish agitation has resulted in two things. A golden plum for the agitators, and a hempen collar for the "cat's-paws" who had to do the dirty work. "Buckshot Forster" still flourishes.

THE experience's of the bark *Mohawk* on a voyage from New York to Calcutta are related in American journals of December the 27th. The *Mohawk* had a crew of thirteen sailors, among whom were several Japanese. She took the Long Island-Sound course. When the tug left her she was under light canvas and speeding before a bitter gale. Before long the cold became so intense that none of the men could remain at the helm more than ten minutes at a time. The following morning the wind hauled to the northward, and blew a "biting icy blizzard," while a dense yellow fog hid everything. This state of affairs lasted till the afternoon, by which time the ship was glazed with iced snow, and whenever a hand touched, or attempted to pull, a rope, the skin was immediately frost-bitten. By and by the wind abated, and in order to reach a harbour that day, it became necessary to set more canvas. Nine men clambered up the frosted rigging, and out on the arms of the fore-yard, where they gnawed at the gaskets with their teeth to aid their benumbed fingers in prying the knots. Gradually their efforts succeeded, with the exception of one man whose work seemed to make no progress. The officer of the watch crawled up to see what was the matter. He found that the sailor, a Japanese, called Soneyeta Okichi, was either asleep or dead. The next moment, the man fell to the deck, a distance of twenty-five feet. He died five hours later, after much suffering. A snow storm the following morning softened the air, and the skin on the men's hands and faces then rose in huge blisters. They were unable to sleep, and their agony was such that it was feared many of them would become insane. By this time the ship was anchored about 8 miles off New Haven, but a crew to man a boat could not be mustered, and the pilot was finally obliged to make his way ashore alone. Of the thirteen sailors forming the crew only three had escaped without injury. Surgical operations, of more or less gravity, had to be performed on nearly all the others. Among the sufferers were two Japanese, Thomas Jiji and John Kimbei, the former of whom lost his right thumb, and the latter had his ears frost bitten.

AN English missionary, the Rev. A. Parrott, writing to the *North China Herald* from a city called Yangchou, near Chinkiang, gives some terrible details of the suffering that has resulted from the floods in the north-eastern and mid-land districts of China. It appears that some 28,000 persons, men, women and children, have flocked down from the north of the province, and for their accommodation a species of refuge

has been formed outside the walls of Yangchou. The refuge consists of 6,000 straw huts, divided into seven compounds, each of which is surrounded by a mud wall three or four feet high, and guarded by soldiers. "Only the children," writes Mr. Parrott, "are allowed outside the enclosure, except for the purpose of gathering dead grass and weeds in the neighbourhood, for which the women have permission to leave. Very few of these wretched people have any bedding, and they are dependent upon the grass and weeds they can pick up off the graves and barren fields in the immediate district for warmth during the night. Their miserable huts are built merely of mud and straw mats, and are of such a flimsy construction that the rain beats though and necessitates not only their sleeping on the cold clay, but in many cases in soft mud. The ground in some parts is very low, and outside the compounds I noticed large pools of water and several inches of mud." For the support of these most unhappy outcasts, thus hemmed in and prevented from seeking charitable aid, there is doled out a pittance, nominally of 1½ lbs., but really of 1⅓ lbs., of rice per diem. The sufferings of the women and children are said to be very pitiful. Instead of a bed or cradle there is allowed a small mat for each newborn infant, and, as might be expected, the deaths are numerous. A similar state of things obtains at T'sing-Kiang, where the number of refugees housed in the same way is said to be 100,000. Certainly if ever there was a case calling for charitable assistance, it is this. No vivid imagination is needed to understand what the winter has in store for these poor half-starved people, without coverlets, without fire, the rain beating in on them as they lie on the ground. We venture to suggest to the Japanese that a little benevolent assistance would be most timely. Nothing is more worthy of humanity's finer instincts than those impulses of international charity which a great calamity so readily evokes in the Occident, but of which the Orient has not yet given any evidence. We should like to see Japan take the lead in this, as she has in all other points of civilization. The spirit is not wanting. Among themselves her people are seldom backward in acts of grace and kindness, and if their benevolence has never taken a national form, still less extended to sufferers in a foreign land, it is only because the means of reaching their sympathies have not existed. Now, however, there is a press to tell them of the miseries their neighbours are enduring, and we do not doubt that if some of the leading journals would take the matter up, their appeal would be widely answered. It seems almost a pity to speak of anything but charity for charity's sake in such a context, but we cannot forget that there are many reasons which impart a special value to any expression of the Japanese people's fellow-feeling for their Chinese neighbours, and which should suffice to suggest a potent initiative to men of influence.

WE (*China Mail*) hear on good authority that several changes have been made in the Portuguese Consular Service in China. Mr. Loureiro, the worthy representative of Portugal in this Colony, has been definitely transferred to Japan, with residence in Tokiyo. It is not yet known for certain who will succeed Mr. Loureiro here, but, taking into consideration the many claims of Commendador A. G. Romano to consideration at the hands of the Lisbon Government, and

his well-known abilities and long experience in the Consular Service of that nation, we think it may be taken as a foregone conclusion that that gentlemen will be ultimately raised to the honor of Consul-General, in fact, we believe, that it has already been offered to Mr. Romano. The salary of the Consul in Shanghai has been raised from \$300 to \$450 per month. It is said that Dr. Corte-Real will probably be nominated to this Consulate.

THE following definite opinion is expressed in the *Alta* of the 5th ult.:—Japan has long been striving to throw off the stigma upon her civilization caused by having thrust upon her the necessity of granting ex-territorial rights to foreigners of European and American nativity. She claims to be sufficiently civilized to have foreigners dwelling in her territories subject to her laws, instead of carrying with them the laws of their own country. There is so much justice in the complaints of Japan at the injury done her that it may be considered good news that Germany has consented to waive the right of ex-territorial jurisdiction. Our Government will follow suit, and John Bull cannot long withhold his assent.

THE *Saigonais* says:—One of our correspondents, well placed for obtaining reliable information, sends us the following news, which on account of its gravity, we give under all reserve.—A large army is now concentrated at Bac-ninh. It may, without exaggeration, be computed at 50,000 men, namely, 25,000 Chinese regulars, 15,000 bandits ranged under the banner of the chief of the Black Flags, and, lastly, 10,000 Annamite regulars commanded by disaffected mandarins who are partisans of Chinese supremacy. All these forces obey the chief of the Black Flags, who has been appointed Generalissimo of the Chinese forces in Tonquin by an Imperial decree dated from Peking. Our correspondent complains bitterly that in the attack on Son-tay the Kim-toai passage and the route to Hung-hoa were left completely free, so that the coalitionists were enabled to transport their stores and reform their forces to the south of Babac. He adds that it is necessary to strike terror into the hearts of these enemies, who are difficult to reach, and that it is greatly to be feared that if they are allowed to fly from Bac-ninh in the direction of Kwangsi the war will be protracted indefinitely. We hope that if, as we are assured, this news is true, a commencement will be made in teaching the Chinese we are no longer their dupes. A progressive bombardment of the ports of Hainan would perhaps have an excellent result.

THIBET is one of the few regions left on the earth which still afford legitimate scope for romantic conjecture. All other lands of mystery have been exploded. The Abyssinian campaign dissipated the last shreds of wonder about Prester John. Travellers have abolished the Mountains of the Moon; a Russian railway runs within sight of the Vulture's Nest, the eyrie of the Assassins and the Old Man of the Mountains; commerce has familiarized us with the Lands of the White Elephant and Golden Umbrellas; science has dispersed Atlantis, Utopia, and the other "Erewhons," of past beliefs. No Raleigh nowadays would make sail for the fabled cities of Mansa, no voyager set his helm for the Hesperides. The Ichthophagi, Tartarinis, and Malrotrans, with all the other strange races of whom Mandeville gossiped are now sobered

down into matter-of-fact tribes, and the whole world, under the ruthless scrutiny of scientific exploration, is fast becoming commonplace.—*Daily Telegraph*.

If we may judge from the accounts of the Calcutta Exhibition contained in the Indian journals, the exhibits from Japan have secured a remarkable success. That there is a Japanese Court at all in the Exhibition seems to have been entirely due to the enterprise of Mr. Kuhn, of Yokohama, who also is the proprietor of the fine collection exhibited there. We notice some curious errors in the descriptions given by the press, but there is doubtless good reason for the unanimity of praise bestowed upon the beautiful objects that adorn the Court. We congratulate Mr. Kuhn on his good fortune, and also the Japanese upon the additional market opened for their works of art by enterprise of this nature.

AMONG the pleasing little items of chit-chat which the Tokiyo society journals collect for their youthful readers there is a story of a wonderful cat, the property of a certain Mr. Takahashi, who lives at Honjo. The animal has all the accomplishments of a very clever dog, and its reputation is so wide-spread that an enterprising Japanese Barnum is said to have offered fifty yen for it. The owner would not deal, and several young ladies in the neighbourhood are reported to be engaged in an attempt to train rival pussies up to the fifty yen standard.

A WASHINGTON telegram of January 12th says:—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations met to-day and took up the bill prepared by the Pacific Coast delegation, and introduced by Senator Miller of California, amending the Chinese Immigration Act of last Congress. The discussion was a long one, and not confined to the merits of the bill in hand, but involved the original questions, developed when the Chinese bill was under discussion. This was due to the fact that some members of the Committee had never dealt with the subject before in the Committee. The bill was referred to a sub-committee, consisting of Miller, Wilson and Morgan. The tone of the debate gave warrant that some measure, having for its purpose the correction of the defects of the present law and the prohibition of the importation of Chinese laborers will be reported by the committee.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* has the following:—The Glass Factory at Shinagawa, an establishment of the Public Works Department, has proved very unprofitable, despite all the reforms introduced to ensure its success. It was rumored some time ago that the Factory was to be closed, but it now appears that it has been sold to a Mr. Isekatsu, a well known shoe-manufacturer in Tokiyo, for the small sum of 20,000 yen. The money is to be paid by instalments covering a term of five years.

ACCORDING to some tables recently published by the authorities, the actual cost incurred in the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion amounted to 10,878,885.87.1 yen.

THE *Yei Shimbun*, speaking of the bad times, says that one would not have expected the recent snow-fall to mend matters much, yet true to the old saying of the ill wind, the business of the

patten makers of Tokiyo has received a notable filip from the bad roads. Their ledgers show that the snow created an extra demand for more than seventy thousand pairs of *Geta*.

THE submarine telegraph cable recently laid between Japan and Korea was yesterday morning formally declared open for the transmission of telegrams. The places thus brought into communication with the outer world are the islands of Iki and Tsushima, and Fusan. The pseudonym of "Hermit Kingdom" is no longer quite applicable to Korea!

THE farmers of Sapporo are said to have captured an enormous bear weighing 725 lbs., and having a forked tail five feet long. They are taking steps to forward the monster to the Museum at Uyeno, Tokiyo.

WE learn that a collection of more than 300 Japanese pictures, intended for an exhibition of Japanese art in Paris, will be displayed on the 17th instant at the Kôyôkwan, Shiba. The collection will well repay a visit, if rumour does not greatly exaggerate its qualities.

A VERY close game of football was played on Wednesday between "Tea, Silk and Bankers" versus the "World." The former had the stronger side, and won by one goal, kicked by Mr. Durant. We are sorry to hear that Mr. Bing and Mr. Oram collided heavily, Mr. Bing having his cheek laid open and Mr. Oram his forehead.

THE following seductive advertisement appears in the *Hochi Shimbun*:—

MATRIMONIAL AGENCY.

The advertiser begs to announce that he has opened an agency for Matrimony as well as for the adoption of children of either sex. All orders attended to with promptitude and despatch. Applicants are requested to state their age, profession, social standing, and income.

We intend keeping the address a profound secret.

A MONTHLY periodical devoted to the interests and cause of Buddhism will shortly appear, under the style of *Niyo Shinshi*. It is reported that the editorial staff will be entirely made up of Buddhist priests.

THE Hongkong papers brought up by the *Harter* contain no news of fresh operations in Tonquin, and the latest with regard to the attack upon Bac-ninh is that Admiral Courbet has determined to wait until the arrival of General Millot and the reinforcements now on the way out before undertaking the assault upon that town.

An iron boat with the telescopic frame, recently invented by an officer of Japanese Engineers, is said to have been subjected to an official trial and found in every respect satisfactory. When folded, it can easily be carried by two men.

WE are informed that the Messageries Maritimes steamship *Volga*, bringing the next French mail, with dates from Marseilles to the 6th ultimo, left Hongkong for this port at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the Transactions of the Seismological Society of Japan, vol. vi., January to June, 1883.

JAPANESE HOUSES.

NOW that it has been finally resolved to construct the Imperial Palace of wood in Japanese style, the problem of procuring skilled carpenters is said to be giving some trouble. One imagines that a difficulty of this sort would be among the very last to present itself in Japan, where every little bit of wood-work gives evidence of admirable ability and painstaking. But the Japanese are exceedingly fastidious in these matters, and when it comes to building an Emperor's Palace, not one carpenter in a hundred is found up to the mark. It is accordingly proposed, we hear, to establish, within the grounds of the shrine of Dai-jingu, in Tokiyo, an office for examining carpenters with a view to determining their competence. This is spoken of with a sort of pride by the vernacular press, and we do not doubt that the new Palace will be a building of great beauty. But what seems really regrettable is the resolve to build it of wood. Popular opinion credits the EMPEROR himself with having decided this point, in opposition to the advice of many of his Ministers, and there need be no difficulty in accounting for HIS MAJESTY'S predilection. His life has been spent in Japanese houses constructed with such taste and symmetry that among the foreign buildings this country possesses, nothing comparable is yet to be seen. Since the Restoration, Tokiyo has been embellished—disfigured would be a more correct term—by sundry lath-and-plaster, and a few brick, edifices, popularly supposed to represent Western architecture, but in reality the veriest parodies. Of late years, indeed, matters have mended a little. The Engineering College, the Roku-mei-kwan, the Museum of Antiquities at Ueno, and one or two other buildings, have sprung up to vindicate the reputation of Occidental styles. But it would require a stretch of educated imagination to infer from any of these, suited as each of them is to its own special purpose, what an aptly designed and handsomely furnished palace might be. The Imperial Princes, for the most part, live *à la Européenne*, but it must be frankly confessed that their residences do not possess a princely air, and are not at all calculated to win the taste of a Japanese from allegiance to the light, spacious, and chaste constructions which represent the highest efforts of his country's civilization. Of the Ministers, again, some have shrunk from the heavy outlay required to build houses of stone or brick; while others, though more enterprising, have nevertheless been obliged to refrain from attempting anything of a particularly striking or attractive nature. The upshot of the matter is that, one, perhaps, of the Foreign Legations excepted, Tokiyo possesses no specimen of a foreign dwelling competent to compete with the best class of Japanese residence in the particular re-

spects which appeal most to Japanese taste. It may safely be said, therefore, that the EMPEROR has never yet seen a house likely to impress him with a worthy idea of the comfortable, healthy, and artistic features of Western architecture. His predilection for the fashions of his own country is, under these circumstances, perfectly natural.

Now from an æsthetic and a cleanly point of view, we have not a word to say against Japanese houses. They combine, in a very high degree, the qualities of symmetry, simplicity, and refinement. Intimate experience alone effaces the pleasing impression they leave upon the mind of a foreign visitor, who sees, for the first time, their spotless mats, quaint alcoves, gracefully curved roofs, and faultless decoration. But, after all, the first essential of a house is that it should be good to live in, and Japanese houses are, most emphatically, bad to live in. There exists a popular notion that they are cool in summer. Never was there a greater fallacy. Coolness is not obtained simply by opening one's room to the four winds of heaven. Of infinitely more importance is it to keep out the sun, and there a Japanese house fails completely. The midsummer suns in this country will not be denied ingress by any flimsy barrier of planking. Their rays make as little of such an impediment as though it were a paper screen, and thus it falls out that while the airs which permeate a Japanese dwelling on an August afternoon seem only to agitate, without freshening, the oven-like atmosphere, they bring to the inmate of the neighbouring brick house, with its solid walls and skilful ventilation, a sense of delightful coolness and reinvigoration. To know this, it is only necessary to have passed one or two summers in a Japanese residence. The comparison soon forces itself upon the most enthusiastic dilettante. Then, so far as the winter is concerned, we doubt whether a Japanese is ever really warm except during the half hour after his daily boiling is concluded. He comes out of his bath in a semi-scalded condition, and until this artificial caloric evaporates, he feels about as comfortable as anything human can feel. But for the rest, it is a case of shivering over a brazier, with a flushed head and icy feet; or of embracing a heated stone; or of coddling a *kotatsu*, and breathing, throughout half the night, the carbonic-acid exhalations of this deadly bedfellow. In addition to, and even more important than, this question of warmth, coolness, and comfort, there is the fact that life in a Japanese dwelling is life on all four. We had almost called it life several degrees too near the fashions of the animal world, but to avoid wounding any susceptibilities, we choose the gentler form of expression. The Japanese sits on the floor, sleeps on the floor, eats on the floor, and, in short, spends the greater part of his time indoors in a crouching, squatting, or stooping atti-

tude. It is not in his nature to be a slouch, for despite the disabling effects of the muscular contortions his household attitudes demand, his general carriage is upright enough. But he lives too near the ground for either his physical or his moral well-being. So long as his habits are not reformed in this most important particular, it is idle to look for any considerable improvement in the nation's hygiene* and physique.

We need scarcely point to the imperative necessity of saving the people, especially the citizens of Tokiyo, from those cruel catastrophes which, every winter, destroy thousands of houses. There can never be any great accumulations of wealth in a country where, year after year, conflagrations levy an enormous tax on the nation. This is so self-evident that every patriotic and prudent Japanese ought to devote his energies to popularizing building reform, since there alone is to be found a valid protection against fire.

It is very possible that Japanese gentlemen may associate Western horticulture with Western architecture, and think that in adopting the latter it would be necessary to conform to the former also. We venture to suggest that this is entirely a misconception. Though not disposed to acknowledge the inferiority of English landscape gardening to any other known system, we readily admit the exceptional charms of the Japanese style, and, above all, the great advantage it possesses in point of practicability. A Japanese gardener will produce, with an acre of land, as much effect as an English artist obtains with a park of twenty times that extent, and when one compares the methods adopted in laying out the grounds of an ordinary residence in Europe with those adopted in Japan, the superiority of the latter is at once apparent. Nothing could be less artistic, or more unnatural and unsightly, than the straight walks, mathematical flower-beds and rigid hedges of the former; nothing happier, softer, or more pleasing than the latter's infinite variety of miniature lake, cascade, hill, and forest. It were indeed a pity that Japan should abandon anything of this charming art which she has elaborated for herself through centuries of peaceful refinement. Nor is there the smallest reason for such a course. There is no fashion of house that a Japanese garden will not embellish, and nothing in foreign architecture is unsuited to Japanese surroundings.

It were idle to expect, however, that houses of brick or stone will ever find general favour with the people of this

* A minor point, but well worthy of note, is the wretched construction of the floors of a Japanese dwelling. An European, inhabiting one of its neatly matted, sunny rooms, is surprised to find that his feet are never warm. The more he heats the room, the chillier airs circulate about his extremities. He does not recognise for a long time, if at all, that no attempt has been made to join the edges of the boards underneath the mats, and that the cold atmosphere enters there freely to replace the ascending caloric. At night, when the verandahs are enclosed everywhere by wooden shutters, such a house acts like a huge cupping machine, and draws up from the soil all those dangerous gases which, according to science, are imprisoned there.

country so long as the EMPEROR leads fashion in an opposite direction. There may be some who will say that these matters do not concern foreign critics, and that an English journal would be better advised did it refrain from commenting on the MIKADO'S reported likes and dislikes. But everything Japanese concerns the friends of Japan; and, further, this country's progress has so far enlisted the interest of the world that even outsiders have acquired a certain right of comment. Were we writing of an European Sovereign, we should say that a ruler's exalted position compels him to consider every act of his life, not by the light of his individual tastes, but from the standpoint of the example he sets his subjects. In Japan, however, such a remark would be superfluous, since the principle it embodies has always been supposed to govern the relations between the MIKADO and his people. Yet, if we may judge by the statements that have appeared in the vernacular press, the model of the new Palace has not been laid on lines so entirely altruistic as would certainly have been the case had the above considerations been allowed to present themselves in their entirety to the Imperial mind.

CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

THE paper read by the Rev. C. S. EBV at the Tokiyo Missionary Conference on the 5th instant, contains matter of great interest. We shall not comment here upon the earnest eloquence of the language employed, nor yet upon the view of lofty thought that runs through the whole discourse. These are qualities we might expect to find in workers of Mr. EBV'S stamp. But what seems to us specially noteworthy is the courageous candour of the position assumed by the writer in regard to questions which, as much from the apparent unwillingness of missionaries to discuss them as from anything else, are commonly considered unanswerable. The attitude of a considerable section of the lay public towards Christian propagandism is one of hostile criticism. The propagandist, sometimes by his own indiscretions, but generally because he works in a field where the strongest passions of the human heart are engaged, is frequently associated, directly or indirectly, with results which conform to no aspect of the creed he preaches. His profession, too, like all others, is not without disfiguring features. Frequently, and with much justice, it is urged against him that the outcome of his teaching can only be perplexity and doubt; that the people to whom he appeals are confused rather than enlightened by the conflicting clamour of rival sectarians, each of whom offers a different gospel, and each of whom declares that by his particular gospel only can eternal perdition be avoided. This, perhaps the

most unsightly, blemish of missionary enterprise is constantly derided by certain cavillers; while, upon the other side, little is said in its defence or extenuation. Mr. EBV, however, meets the issue fairly and unshrinkingly. He acknowledges the whole of the facts; accounts for the naturalness of their origin, and shows that, so far from being an unmixed evil, the balance of gain is on the side of sectarianism. His argument simply amounts to this—that what has been lost by diversity of doctrine has been more than gained by energy of effort. Missionary work is like every other undertaking: competition is the strongest factor in its development. It is quite certain that the enormous growth of the United States would have entirely distanced any available religious ministrations, had not the ardour of rival sects sent out teachers in all directions by the hundred. The result is that probably in no part of the world is society pervaded by a sounder or more firmly rooted religious sentiment. Whatever weight may be attached to this plea, it is evident that the evils of sectarianism, whether great or small, are coming to be recognised by the Churches themselves, and that where the advantages of competing enthusiasm cease to overbalance the dangers of its confusion, non-essential differences will be merged in essential unity. It is not our province to discuss matters of this nature in detail. But from any standpoint, the liberal philosophy advocated by Mr. EBV deserves admiration, as it will certainly command success. We think, too, that he wisely estimated the temper of the Japanese public when he elected to place before them so frank and straightforward a statement of the case. Such a method is calculated to win the confidence of all whose confidence is worth winning, while the proposed unison of action can scarcely fail to furnish an additional evidence to the Japanese Government of the moral force Christianity has actually acquired in Japan.

And here we may observe that the time cannot be far distant when the rulers of this country will have more seriously to consider their attitude towards Christianity. It is true that all grave impediments have been removed from the path of Christian propagandism, as well as all social or political disabilities from the professors of foreign faiths. But something more is wanted than negative toleration. It cannot have escaped the Japanese, keenly appreciative as they have proved themselves of the benefits of Western civilization, that Christianity is the spirit and essence of that civilization. The two cannot possibly be separated, nor can the latter be permanently assimilated without the aid of the former. Whether or no Christianity is the one and only creed suited to all classes and conditions of men, we do not pretend to say. Neither is it the function of a government to determine such a point. But the history of the world furnishes one argument which appeals

strongly to human reason. It is that material power and prosperity have never remained with non-Christian countries. The comparative conditions of the Orient and the Occident to-day are a sufficient proof of this. The characteristic of the former is decay; that of the latter, growth. It may be urged that this difference has nothing to do with religion: that the advantage in point of intelligence and energy is primarily with the people of the West. But even if this be granted, we are still confronted by the fact that the peoples possessing this intellectual and physical superiority have, without exception, chosen Christianity. If their condition be not the result of their choice, the former, at all events, gives the latter a weight not to be gainsaid. Nothing is farther from our purpose than to advocate official interference on behalf of Christianity. Its truths are quite independent of such aid. But what we desire to emphasize is that Japan cannot take the material, and leave the moral, civilization of the West. Neither, perhaps, is suited to her in its entirety, but it is impossible for her to determine how much she can assimilate of the one so long as she excludes the other, for the two are, in many respects, inseparable. This is why we say that the Government will have to reconsider its attitude. When the last vestige of the ban is removed from Christianity in Japan; when, so far as the laws are concerned, it is placed on an equal footing with Buddhism and Shintoism—then, but not till then, will the last grounds for mistrusting the stability of the country's progress be removed. Among the plans proposed by Mr. EBV, there is one for the establishment of a Christian University, competent "to vie with the best universities in our home lands." Addressing ourselves to Japanese, we need not comment on the benefits such an institution would confer on the country. But no measure of zeal and perseverance could ensure the success of an university without an officially recognised status in Japan. The very liability of the students to conscription would effectually mar its prospects. The same consideration applies, though in a lesser degree, to Christian Ministers of the Japanese Church. So long as they do not share the exemption from military service accorded to Buddhist and Shinto priests, it cannot be said that religious toleration exists fully in Japan. We do not underrate the difficulty of dealing with this matter, or the dangers of precipitancy. But knowing the spirit which animates the Japanese Government, and learning from Mr. EBV'S able essay the admirable grooves in which missionary enterprise is working, we hope before long to see Japan take the last step that is needed to convince the world of the sincerity of her progress, and to qualify her for the mission that lies before her as the civilizer of the Orient.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

THE *New York Herald* publishes the following telegram, dated at Berlin, January the 3rd:—

The German government has forwarded a favorable reply to the proposal of the government of Japan that the latter should establish courts of justice which will have jurisdiction over foreigners in that country as well as natives. It is understood that the United States government has given a similar reply to the Japanese proposition.

It would appear from this telegram that two of the principal Powers having relations with Japan acknowledge the justice of her proposals for treaty revision. Probably, if the truth were known, these two Powers would not be found alone in their views.

In one respect the *Herald's* message obviously conveys an exaggerated impression. It speaks of Japanese Courts of justice exercising "jurisdiction over foreigners," whereas the proposals of the Tokiyo Cabinet are known to have contemplated partial jurisdiction only. This, however, is a point of detail, about which accuracy could scarcely be expected in such a source. The broad fact, stated without any uncertainty, is that "the German Government has forwarded a favorable reply."

That this result was to be expected, nobody impartially considering the nature of the proposals could doubt. Japan is not to be for ever condemned to a state of semi-isolation. The medley of conflicting, and in many cases incompetent, jurisdictions established here by the Treaty Powers a quarter of a century ago, was never intended to be anything but a temporary makeshift. As a system it is so cumbrous and inefficient that nothing short of imperative necessity could justify its existence. Above all, it is admittedly inconsistent with any extension of foreign intercourse beyond the narrow limits fixed by the first treaties. That is the hard fact which stares us in the face from whatever aspect we consider the question. Either this country is to be permanently excluded from the privileges of free intercourse with the rest of the world, or steps must be taken to modify the existing system of extraterritoriality. There is no alternative. To argue that things should be left as they are because a change would not confer direct benefit on a section of the foreign residents, is to ignore Japan's rights altogether. This nation's title to demand an extension of its foreign intercourse is at least as valid as was ours to inaugurate that intercourse. We came here to open Japan, and when some persons now claim that she shall only be opened just so far as suits their convenience, they assume towards her precisely the same position as the Japanese anti-foreign party assumed towards them twenty years ago.

Apart from these considerations of abstract justice, men of ordinary intelligence will see at once that an extension of

foreign intercourse cannot bring to Japan any benefit which will not be equally shared by foreigners themselves. If Western capital is to assist in Japan's development, Western capitalists will have their due share of the profits. No other prospect is rational, unless we assume that so soon as Japan is allowed to associate with foreigners on equal terms, she will exhibit some subtle ability to enrich herself at their expense.

It cannot be denied, on the other hand, that deference is due to race prejudices, and that any sudden change, of such a nature as to ignore these, would be dangerous and ill-judged. It is for this reason that the Japanese, while keeping the complete abolition of extraterritoriality—in other words, the complete opening of the country—always in view as the goal of their endeavours, have proposed a transition period, during which a very limited amount of jurisdiction over foreign residents shall be vested in courts presided over by a bench of foreign and Japanese Judges. This appointment of Western jurists is not at all a confession of Japanese incompetence to administer justice. It is wholly a concession to the not unnatural reluctance entertained by Occidentals to submit to even a partial exercise of Oriental jurisdiction at once. Some such practical and reasonable intermediate step is necessary, unless the present state of things is to last for ever. There is not the slightest doubt that all the Treaty Powers will recognise this sooner or later. Some of them have already recognised it, and nothing will help more speedily to convince the rest than the interpretation which the most violent opponents of progress themselves put upon their opposition. That interpretation is, that under treaties distinctly temporary permanent interests have been created, and that until these are bought out by the Japanese Government its proposals will meet with unchanging resistance. It is not likely that any civilized Power will assist a handful of its subjects to make their own illicit gain a necessary preliminary to the fulfilment of international obligations and to the spread of international intercourse. The legitimate obstacles to any sweeping change are foreign distrust, and the consequent danger of admitting to all the rights of citizenship men predisposed to discontent and agitation. The Japanese have at least as much to apprehend as foreigners. On the one side there is the natural reluctance of Westerners to exchange familiar for unfamiliar systems; on the other, there is the equally natural diffidence of Japanese to admit into their family, outsiders who have always shown themselves masterful and haughty, and who avowedly bring with them a spirit of doubt and censure. Both that reluctance and this diffidence can only be increased by perpetuating the present state of agitation and recrimination. The Japanese Government has therefore proposed a preliminary step, and the assent its proposals have already received reduce their final success to a mere question of time.

THE HEALTH OF JAPAN.

It is a pity that the Central Sanitary Bureau cannot contrive to compile and publish its annual reports before the events they embody have passed completely into the limbo of the past. February, 1884, is some months too late for the issue of a report referring to the period July 1st, 1878, to June 30th, 1879. We could understand a delay of one year, or even two, but when it comes to three or four, the contrast of dates looks a little ludicrous. On the other hand, it has to be observed that only four such reports have as yet been published in Japan, and since the science of preparing sanitary statistics is virtually in its infancy, we have no right to expect great promptitude or precision. This is well illustrated by the tables of mortality contained in the Report just issued. The mortality during the twelve-months period 1876-77 appears to have been greater by 153,000, in round numbers, than the mortality during the preceding period; while, again, the records for 1878-79 show a further increase of 60,000 deaths. The director of the Bureau reasonably concludes that these differences are attributable, not to any actual increase of the death rate, but simply to improved methods of registration. He thinks, also, that the death rate, 1.21 per cent., indicated by the last returns, is still too low, and that some figure in the neighbourhood of 2.5 per cent. would be nearer the truth. From the tables appended to this part of the Report we learn that diseases of the digestive organs are the most powerful foes of longevity in Japan, more than twenty-five per cent. of the total mortality being ascribed to this cause. Next on the list come diseases of the nervous system, with 22 per cent. of the deaths; and then diseases of the respiratory organs, with 18 per cent. About one death in every ten is caused by fevers. After these four principal causes of mortality, a rapid descent is made to diseases of the genito-urinary organs. If these tables are to be trusted, Tokiyo and Osaka must be regarded as the most unhealthy places in Japan, their death-rates being nearly 24 per thousand inhabitants, whereas, with the exception of Yamaguchi Prefecture, which has a rate of 19.5, nothing higher than 16 is found anywhere else. We may fairly conclude, however, that differences of accuracy in registration are chiefly responsible for these discrepancies.

People whose special avocation seems to be the prediction of disasters, have recently been alarming the public with rumours that Japan is to be visited this season by a terrible epidemic of cholera. They have no better basis for their prophecy than the fact that 1883 was an "off" year, but they have certainly succeeded in causing a good deal of apprehension. The section of this Sanitary Report which refers to infectious and contagious diseases will, therefore, be read with much interest. It contains, however, little information of a novel nature. The origin of the epidemic in Nagasaki, in 1878, is referred to a case of cholera which occurred on board a British merchant vessel from Shanghai, but the compilers of the Report think that both in Kumamoto and Nagasaki the germs of the disease had lain dormant, and that favorable conditions must have caused their redevelopment. This suggests an uncomfortable inference for places which were severely visited by cholera in 1882. Nor is it much consolation to learn that the malignity of the plague

was greatest in 1877. Japan cannot be said to have been entirely free from cholera since 1877. Throughout 1878, cases were reported from various parts of the empire, though the disease reached the dimensions of an epidemic in Nagasaki and Kumamoto alone; in the summer of 1879 Kanagawa and other prefectures were visited by it; during the two following years its presence could be traced here and there at intervals; the memory of 1883 is still fresh, and up to the end of last autumn the vernacular press spoke of isolated cases which constantly suggested serious possibilities. It is to be feared that cholera must hereafter be reckoned among the contingencies of life in Japan.

An interesting point brought out by this Report is the cost of a cholera epidemic to the Central Government. During 1877, a sum of 232,273 *yen* was devoted to preventive measures, disinfection and medical relief, whereas, in 1878, the amount expended by the Sanitary Bureau was only 2,238 *yen*. It is mentioned that during the former year carbolic acid became very scarce, and the demand being great, speculative drug-dealers ran the price up to an exorbitant figure. Under these circumstances an essay to manufacture the disinfectant was made at the Tokiyo Laboratory, with such success that a carbolic acid apparatus has since then formed part of the permanent plant of the institution, and the public can now count upon always obtaining the compound at a reasonable figure.

Returns relating to small-pox have been prepared since 1878 only. The Report under review, therefore, contains the first statistics compiled in Japan with regard to the results of vaccination. We learn that of 941 cases of small-pox recorded in thirteen districts during the period covered by the Report, 458 were cases in which vaccination had been performed, and 481 were cases of unvaccinated persons. This does not say much for the preventive effects of the measure. When we come, however, to compare rates of mortality, the record assumes a different aspect, for while the deaths among vaccinated patients were only 24 per cent. of those attacked, the deaths among unvaccinated patients were 59 per cent.

It is only nine years (Feb. 1875) since a system of granting licenses to medical practitioners after proper examination was inaugurated by notification to the officials of Cities and Prefectures. At first these examinations were confined to Tokiyo and Osaka, as the progress of medical science had been more marked there than elsewhere; but applications to be included in the scheme were soon received from various places. By 1878 all the prefectures, with one exception, had made arrangements for a system of tests; and in 1879, in order to ensure uniformity of qualification as well as to raise the standard, the regulations for examinations were revised; the status of the examiners was fixed, and examination papers were issued by the Home Department to all the local authorities. The compilers of the Report do not pretend that this method is perfect, but they hope to improve it as opportunities arise. Beyond all question, very excellent results have been achieved up to the present, for the principal cities, at any rate, possess medical practitioners of considerable skill and education. We have no figures at hand to show the number of licensed physicians now practicing throughout the country, but the total in 1879 was

1,817, of whom 939 had passed the prescribed examination. Stringent regulations have also been enacted with regard to the qualifications and control of midwives, and to check abuses which were found to exist in the practice of their art. A system of examination for apothecaries, too, has been instituted. Among other interesting figures given in this section, we learn that the total number of medical students in public hospitals and medical schools, in 1879, was 4,313, while the number in the Tokiyo University was 600.

A most satisfactory feature in Japan's sanitary history is the rapid growth of hospitals. In 1879 there were 382 of these institutions in the empire, 85 of them being private. Sixty-one were Lock hospitals; a system for the prevention of venereal diseases having been adopted in all the prefectures with five exceptions. The number of inspections performed at the Lock hospitals during the period under review was 398,529.

On the measures adopted for the control of medicines, as well as on other interesting details furnished by the Report, we have no space to dwell here. It must be owned, however, that Japan's progress in sanitary matters is not the least creditable feature of her recent history.

THE GOVERNMENT PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIES.

(Translated from the *Chiugai Bukka Shimpō*.)

A glance at the tradal conditions of nations plainly shows that all countries alike are devoting their energies to the furtherance of trade and industries, while their governments are doing all they can to protect and increase the national commerce. A country that pays no attention to the development of its industries will soon find itself weakened and poor, while the bulk of its trade passes into other hands. How great are the perils that beset the path of national industries! We ourselves are surrounded with perils on every side, and so it is well to consider whether or not our industries have need of Government protection. Nothing does greater damage to our industries than the rapid fluctuations and unsettled condition of the national currency, which consequently loses its value as a trustworthy medium of exchange. Not one of our many commodities has a standard value, while many have ceased to find a market. No industry can develop favourably under such trying circumstances. Look at the state of affairs that prevailed from 1872-73 up to 1879-80. The balance of foreign trade was constantly against us, imports far exceeding exports. The drain of specie steadily continued, and an universal outcry was raised against it, but without satisfactory result. Politicians were finally forced to conclude that Japan could not be rescued from her ambiguous position. When the people develop spendthrift habits and indulge in luxurious tastes, it is only natural that imports should exceed exports, and that the drain of specie should be constant. This applies to all nations alike, and Japan is no exception to the rule. This state of affairs, however, has gradually given way to a better position since 1882. Everything has a limit; and so when the excess of imports had reached its maximum it gradually decreased, while the Government simultaneously earnestly endeavored to reduce the bulk of the currency and bring about a more satisfactory condition of affairs. The national currency has already been reduced about forty million *yen*. Small wonder then that the price of commodities should fall. Rather term it the appreciation of currency than the depreciation of commodities. But this rise in the value of currency has seriously interfered with the development of trade, and the whole nation has

had to feel its ill effects. Many remedies have been proposed, some going so far as even to propose a fresh issue of paper money. In fact, the policy of the Government has been directly attacked. But now the importance of the resumption of specie payment has been directly recognized. If the bitter experiences of the past are not misleading, we are forced to conclude that the depreciation of paper money alone has encouraged the growth of expensive habits among the people, and this in return has caused the excess of imports over exports, and resulted, finally, in the unequal balance of trade. We hope, therefore, that the Government will undeviatingly pursue the present policy.

The specie reserve in the Treasury amounts to twenty-two million *yen*. Should the Government keep to the present programme, there will be no difficulty in replacing paper money by a metallic currency. In our opinion, the Government can accumulate fifty million silver *yen* in three or four years hence, provided that there are no famines, no failure in the harvests, no war. [The specie set aside during the last two years is estimated at fifteen million *yen*]. When the Government resumes specie payment [with so large a reserve fund as this at hand, there will no longer be violent fluctuations in the price of commodities, and trade will speedily return to a healthy basis, much to the country's benefit.

The pernicious effect of the fiat currency having thus so far been counteracted, it is now necessary to raise the national industries out of the ruin into which they have fallen, thereby augmenting the wealth and power of the country. The opportunity has at last arrived. An opinion is, however, entertained, that our industries must advance hand in hand with the progress of the nation, and that those industries which remain in the van of the national advancement will surely decline, no matter how thoroughly they are protected. Yet the teachings of political economy and the experiences of the past do not at all prove that the Government protection of industries results invariably in their ruin. Its merits and usefulness depend upon the manner in which it is employed; for, if it be misapplied, great failures will arise where success was certain. It is necessary, first of all, to consider the time, place, and manner of the industry to which the Government protection is to be given. Whether this protection be given directly or indirectly—if applied in the proper manner industries are sure to be considerably benefited. This assumption has been thoroughly proved to be correct in the case of the commercial navy of Great Britain, as also with the sericulture in Italy. In a country like Japan, where all industries are still in an early stage of development, the protection of the Government is of the first importance. Mr. Kelly says:—"In recently civilized countries, protection may be given without trespassing on the field of political economy; provided that it be given for a certain number of years only, and be less stringent as the term approaches expiration. Such protection is then of very much the same force as a patent law, and must be subject to the same regulations." This is eminently true. Has the protection given by the Government to industrial enterprises since the days of the Restoration been in every way suitable? Certainly not. Our definition of protection is very different from that of the Government's. What remains now-a-days of the various industries commenced under the auspices of the Government? The Tomioka Silk Factory is often pointed out as a fair example of the success attendant upon Government interference, and it is even asserted that this interference has largely contributed to the encouragement of the industry throughout the country. We do not hold this opinion. Although most of our industrial enterprises have been at various times under direct Government supervision, yet there is none that has tended to enrich the nation. This is because the protection was given in an awkward, insufficient manner. What

industry most demands protection at present? In our opinion, nothing can be more important than the encouragement and development of land and marine transport. Should this great enterprise be ably superintended, trade will rapidly increase and products be multiplied. As the people are still unable to undertake so extensive an enterprise, it is the duty of the Government to see it properly carried out. If the means of transport remain unimproved, and the products shut up in the interior find no way to reach the ports, the country will never become wealthy or powerful; just as no man can be healthy without the proper circulation of blood. The Mitsu Bishi Company has monopolized the coast trade, but the number of its vessels is decreasing instead of increasing. Fortunately, for the welfare of the nation, the Union Steam Navigation Company is now well established; where ships were not sent last year they find their way this year, so that the outcry against the insufficiency of marine transport has considerably subsided. Still the improvement is small, and far from being all that is necessary. According to the most recent statistics, our trade requires 200,000 to 300,000 tons available for transport (foreign shipping not included), and yet the mercantile fleets of Japan do not aggregate one half of this amount. Though the prices of commodities have fallen greatly, yet freights have not been reduced; a significant indication of the condition of our maritime industry. With regard to overland transport, we find the means of communication and of the interchange of commodities much worse than that by sea. The cause of this is directly traceable to the feudal system. The railway, the principal means of conveying goods, is still in its infancy, the total length of the lines constructed not exceeding 200 miles. And even the lines now open are not linked together as they should be, nor can they be of great value till they have become so. The further construction of railroads is therefore of the utmost importance to the development of our trade interests. On this account, the Government issued the Nakasendo Railway Bonds in December last, affording great facilities for investment.

In conclusion, we can but congratulate the Government upon having these Bonds open to foreign investment. We urge the Japanese people to take them up. Finally, we request the Government to issue railway regulations, which will protect private companies who wish to connect the Nakasendo and Awomori Railroads with the numerous minor towns and districts of importance.

SERICULTURE IN CALIFORNIA.

The production of silk in California is not by any means a new idea, but it has not been systematically set about until very recently. Fifteen years ago, an attempt was made to begin the industry on a very large scale, but as it was undertaken without the necessary reference to economic conditions it is almost needless to add that the plan resulted in somewhat ignominious failure. But now, according to a correspondent of *Bradstreet's*, the idea has been resuscitated, and gives evidence of success. We are disposed to think that the San Francisco correspondent is somewhat too sanguine as to the results of the scheme, all the more so as he looks upon silk-culture more as a pleasing and lucrative pastime than a laborious and painstaking employment. He is just a thought too poetical, and indulges too much in pleasant castles-in-the-air to warrant implicit reliance in his statements. "The culture of silk," he writes, "does not hold out inducements of large incomes with small expenditure like the grape-vine colonies or orchard tracts, or the olive and walnut groves on irrigated lands, but it offers sufficient inducement to women and children to engage in it as a home work." It is essentially 'women's work.' "It is light, clean, interesting and fascinating, as it involves the care of living creatures, whose progressive stages of development

must be solicitously watched, whose food must be provided, and whose imperative natural impulse is to reward this care by spinning, of its own integument, the most perfect thread for the manufacture of fabrics to clothe and adorn those whose gentle solicitude rendered its short but useful life possible." This is very pretty, and quite rhetorical in its way, but the writer has evidently never visited the silk-producing districts of Kwangtung, or indeed of any other place. He would be speedily disillusionized as to the easy, graceful, 'fascinating' rearing of the silk-worm; and his ideas as to the ultimate end of the precious thread 'to clothe and adorn those whose gentle care' persuaded the wily worm to spin, would undergo a complete revolution. Silk was truly 'women's work' in the days of the famous Empress Si Ling-she, who kept the friendly *bombyx* within the palace-walls, and watched her maids while they wound the shining threads. But that was 4,581 years ago (2697 B.C.). Times have changed since then.

The legislature of California has created a State Board of Silk Culture, whose first annual meeting was held in the latter part of last year. This meeting was—if we are to credit all reports—a decided success, and great interest was, naturally enough, manifested in the undertaking. Prizes were distributed to adults and young people of both sexes for quantity and quality of silk. A filature has been established in San Francisco by this State Board, and—one steam reel is in operation. As yet, instruction in reeling is given by the hand-reel alone, and we hear with due delight that "there are now six young women who are nearly proficient in the art." These youthful disciples of Si Ling-she are to be in future employed as teachers in the various institutions "in which silk culture is to be introduced." It is furthermore stated that several hundred pounds of cocoons were received in 1883, and that "one person alone"—may his tribe increase—promises 1,000 pounds of cocoons this year. "It is thought," adds the San Francisco correspondent of *Bradstreet's*, "that six or eight additional steam reels must be added to the filature in 1884, owing to the increased production of silk. The superintendent of the state filature is an Italian of experience in the business."

Upon the basis of these simple data, the San Francisco correspondent indulges in a pleasant dream of silk. The United States, he argues, consumes over \$1,000,000 of raw silk every month in manufactures; so why, indeed, should not the outlook of silk culture in California be promising? The demand for silk is increasing steadily with the increase of wealth, and the country should be in a position to supply its own wants. "California alone could supply all the raw silk needed for the entire United States, but, of course, with its scant population, the production cannot be large for some time to come"—very true. Silk culture in California is, however, not to be a large public industry; careful distinction is made on this point, for it is to be "a home, or rather, family" industry. Under these circumstances, the genial writer argues, that the output of raw silk would be surprisingly large in a few years. "Five or six boys or girls in a family," says he, "with the mother's superintendence, can raise several hundred dollars' worth of cocoons." How much have we not foregone! In the palmly days of youth we not infrequently used to watch the patient struggles of the silk-worm to spin its cocoon between sundry bits of straw placed in secluded portions of our rooms, but we never knew until the present moment that there was the golden prize of "hundreds of dollars" hanging, so to speak, before our very nose.

"Under very favourable circumstances," says the bulletin of the State Board of Silk Culture, "with the help of four or five men for eight or ten days, one could earn from \$500 to \$1,000, and perhaps even more. By favorable conditions, we mean the best mulberry trees near the house, the best silkworm eggs, a suitable

cocoonery, knowledge of the work required, and careful attention by all the workers." There's the rub. These postulates are, unfortunately, not always to be had at short notice; and so we can heartily echo the San Francisco correspondent's wise decision, that the culture of silk "is not all plain sailing."

In spite of many disadvantages, and an not unnatural impecuniosity, a few determined spirits have resolved to make the enterprise a success; and numberless committees and subcommittees have met together to consider the burning question of 'ways and means.' The "Executive Committee on Mulberry Trees" held a deliberative meeting on January 4th of this year; "the committee recommended the importation of the best varieties of trees from Italy for grafting, with the proviso that the expense of the importation should not exceed \$30." Great oaks undoubtedly spring from little acorns, but if the exchequer of the mulberry committee cannot admit of a greater appropriation for the importation of the anthelmintic* shrub, it is to be feared that their hopes will prove abortive. The Chairman of the meeting reported further that a box of first-class silkworm eggs would arrive from Japan about the end of January, and that the "Health Committee was instructed to examine them before paying the charges." Another luminously sagacious proviso. "Parties wishing eggs are requested to file a written application with the Secretary before the end of the month," yet the latest advices make no mention of applicants. But the State Board has judiciously bridged this chasm by offering "500 eggs gratis" to any one who would like to have a hand in the production of silk. It also announces for sale cuttings of mulberry trees, ranging from two to three feet in height, at \$20 per 100; and smaller slips, less than three feet high, for \$15 the hundred.

All this is very laudable, and ought, doubtless, to lead to success. Yet there is a great want of funds to carry out these plans, and, more than all, "money is sadly needed to complete the work of graduating the present class of young ladies" who are still worrying along in the school of silk-reeling. "After some discussion, it was resolved to continue the school for at least two months longer in the hope of financial relief;" the Californians evidently do not intend heavy speculations in the silk market at present. A later paragraph mournfully adds that the school will remain closed until the first of next June, "owing to the lack of funds," but when it does reopen its scholastic portals there will be "greatly improved facilities in the way of new apparatus and enlarged quarters." The secret of the present financial distress is allowed to slip out in the report, despite every precaution. "The Filature Committee reported eleven scholars in attendance during December, and that something over six pounds of silk had been reeled;" da liegt der Hase im Pfeffer! Estimating these six pounds at their highest value, \$1.25 per pound, we have a grand total of seven dollars and fifty cents, with perhaps a dime or so extra for the fractional seventh pound. No silk industry based on a monthly income of \$7.50 can hope to succeed. This is our solemn conviction, nor do even the extra dimes suffice to shake it. And the pupils have evidently been flagrantly idle, for the report states elsewhere that "a good reeler will in one day's work convert a pound of cocoons into silk." Taking this statement into consideration, a simple example will suffice to convict the youthful students of an inexcusable neglect of their opportunities. Say, for argument's sake, that it takes two of these students to make one good reeler, and we have the following equations:—

11 students = 5½ good reelers;
But 1 good reeler = 1 lb. of silk daily,
Therefore 5½ good reelers = 5½ lbs. of silk daily;
Therefore in 1 month 5½ good reelers should turn out 165 lbs. of silk.
But 11 pupils turned out only 6 lbs. of silk,
Therefore there is a moral deficit of 159 lbs. of silk.

* i.e. "good for worms."

This is very shocking, and one must seriously condemn the inaction of the silk-reelers. Perhaps, however, one must view the students as the *larvæ* of perfected silk-reelers, and so it may be that the first equation is incorrect. But even if one admits that

11 students=only 1 good-reeler, there is still a deficit of 24 lbs. The journal from which we quote is evidently aware of this inconsistency, for it adds that "the facilities for instruction are somewhat meagre and admit of only eleven pupils, the youngest of whom is but thirteen years of age."

Beyond all question there is a fine field for silk industry in California, only the starters of the scheme have gone at it in the wrong fashion. It is quite true that "the fertility of the soil warrants the successful culture of mulberry trees," although it remains to be seen that "the climate is admirably adapted to the health of the silkworm." The water of California is also excellent for silk-reeling purposes, on account of its peculiar softness and its freeness from alkaline substances. The idea has been to introduce into every farm, of suitable size, a patch of mulberry trees, thus enabling persons of moderate means to augment their incomes by the breeding of silk-worms. For the present, this seems to be a mistake. If a suitable appropriation for the silk industry were made by the State Legislature a fair share of success would in all probability follow the establishment of a State silk-farm. Other smaller establishments would speedily follow suit, and the venture might easily be successful. The desultory manner in which the industry has been commenced does not at present argue any great success; it is as yet but a pretty plaything, hardly a serious undertaking. The knowledge and experience requisite for the enterprise are not easily obtained, and until several years of moderate success have crowned the efforts of the State Board of Silk Culture there is little prospect that California will become the great silk producing district of the United States.

MURDER AND SUICIDE IN TAKASHIMA-CHO, YOKOHAMA.

On Monday afternoon, the 11th inst., a Japanese interpreter, Kikuna Yoshiyuki, in the employ of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, committed suicide in the house known as "Jimpuro," Takashima-cho, Yokohama. A girl, named Hamanosuke, who was with him, died at the same time from a pistol shot, but it is not known whether death was voluntary on her part or whether the man himself murdered her. It seems that the deceased Yoshiyuki had forged a cheque for \$300, and had sent a woman belonging to the "Jimpuro" to cash it on Saturday morning; she, however, signed the name of the forger on the cheque in presenting it at the exchange shop, and so disclosed the crime. After receiving the money, Yoshiyuki went to Tokiyo in company with the girl Hamanosuke, and visited various places of amusement in Asakusa, where they were seen by an acquaintance. Upon returning to Yokohama, he was informed by the woman who had cashed the forged cheque that she had signed his name on the back of it. Seeing that discovery was inevitable, he resolved to put an end to his life. Whether the girl Hamanosuke consented to die with him is not known, but at all events they were both found dead in the evening, after spending the afternoon in rioting on a grand scale. The deceased was a frequent visitor at the "Jimpuro," and was well known in that quarter. As soon as the first excitement attendant upon the discovery of the tragedy was over, an attempt to murder was made in a tea-house close to the "Jimpuro." One of the touters of the old Yoshiwara, known as Okame-no-kinta, went to the proprietor of the "Jimpuro" in order to condole with him on the unfortunate occurrence, and while there indulged in an excited altercation with one Idzukame, a touter belonging to Takashima-cho. Four of the latter's followers attacked Okame-no-kinta and dangerously wounded him. He is not expected to recover.

RATE OF PROFITS IN 1883.

The Tokiyo Domestic and Foreign Trade Journal (*Chugwai Bukka Shimpo*) publishes the following table, showing the profits realized by various guilds and associations in Japan during the second half of last year (1883):—

	PER CENT.
Nippon Railway Company	10
Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha	9
Niigata Kingu Kwaisha	11.6
Tokiyo Marine Insurance Company	10
Meiji Life Insurance Company	20
Tokiyo Rice Exchange	2
Osaka Rice Exchange	7
Bakwan Rice Exchange	11
Tokiyo Stock Exchange	18
Yokohama Stock Exchange	30
Osaka Stock Exchange	9
Yokohama Specie Bank	14
First National Bank	18
Second National Bank	20
Third National Bank	10
Fourth National Bank	15
Seventh National Bank	15
Ninth National Bank	14
Tenth National Bank	17
Twelfth National Bank	12
Thirteenth National Bank	12
Fourteenth National Bank	9
Fifteenth National Bank	11
Nineteenth National Bank	12
Twentieth National Bank	10
Twenty-first National Bank	15
Twenty-second National Bank	13
Twenty-third National Bank	14.5
Twenty-fifth National Bank	15.2
Twenty-seventh National Bank	12
Twenty-eighth National Bank	16
Thirtieth National Bank	14
Thirty-second National Bank	13
Thirty-third National Bank	13
Thirty-fourth National Bank	14
Thirty-fifth National Bank	20
Thirty-seventh National Bank	15
Thirty-eighth National Bank	15
Thirty-ninth National Bank	15
Fortieth National Bank	14
Forty-first National Bank	13
Forty-second National Bank	17
Forty-third National Bank	14
Forty-fifth National Bank	2
Forty-sixth National Bank	11
Forty-ninth National Bank	13
Fifty-first National Bank	15
Fifty-fifth National Bank	14
Sixtieth National Bank	10
Sixty-third National Bank	10
Sixty-fourth National Bank	11
Sixty-sixth National Bank	13.6
Sixty-eighth National Bank	16
Seventy-first National Bank	14
Seventy-fourth National Bank	10
Seventy-seventh National Bank	14
Eightieth National Bank	16
Eighty-fourth National Bank	12.5
Eighty-fifth National Bank	15
Ninety-second National Bank	14
Ninety-fourth National Bank	10
Ninety-fifth National Bank	10
Ninety-sixth National Bank	13
Ninety-eighth National Bank	13.2
One hundredth National Bank	15
One hundred and fourth National Bank	14
One hundred and fifth National Bank	13.5
One hundred and eighth National Bank	11
One hundred and ninth National Bank	14
One hundred and tenth National Bank	14
One hundred and twelfth National Bank	14
One hundred and thirteenth National Bank	14
One hundred and sixteenth National Bank	15
One hundred and twenty-first National Bank	6
One hundred and twenty-second National Bank	13
One hundred and twenty-third National Bank	14
One hundred and thirtieth National Bank	10
One hundred and thirty-third National Bank	12
One hundred and thirty-fourth National Bank	12
One hundred and thirty-ninth National Bank	17
One hundred & forty-ninth National Bank	10
Osaka Marusan Bank	15
Kakedzuka Bank	14
Kasai Bank	14
Yokoyama Bank	16
Yamanashi Bank	13
Fukuta Bank	13
Shiojiri Bank	12
Nagano Bank	12
Mitsui Bank	9

THE LOSS OF THE BRITISH BARK "SATTARA."

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

A Marine Court Enquiry was held at H.B.M. Consulate yesterday, into the loss of the above-named vessel. The Court was composed of Russell Robertson, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, President; B. Gillett, Esq., Merchant; Captain F. Grandin, of the steamship *Harter*; and Captain Martin of the bark *Velocity*.

Captain Jenkins stated that the bark *Sattara* left Yokohama bound for Kobe on the 19th December last, and up the day of stranding they had very tempestuous weather. She stranded on the 13th of January. At daylight on the morning of the 13th, he was beating to the west of Omaisaki, standing on the port tack from 5 to 7.40 p.m., the wind being W., blowing a moderate gale. At 8 a.m. he estimated the ship to be 8 or 9 miles from Omaisaki Light. At 8 a.m. it suddenly came on to blow, and he reefed topsails, which were furled, and also top-gallant sails. The ship was standing in on the port tack, heading N. by W. by standard compass; she was under lower topsails and reefed courses. At 9 a.m. he furled the upper topsails. At 10.30 a.m. he reefed and furled the mainsail, the wind increasing. At 11 a.m. he called "all hands" to wear ship, at the same time ordering W. Burke, the man at the wheel, to put the helm up, ship heading N. by W., and she went off as far as N.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. He considered that the ship was about 3 miles from land when the order to wear was given. The main yards were squared, but he found the ship would not go off more than N.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E., so he put the helm hard a starboard and made all the sails flat aback. At 11.25 a.m. while the sails were laid flat aback, he was surprised to find the ship touch the ground. He kept the yards aback and hoisted the mizen staysail, trying to back her off with stern board. Found she kept bumping and striking heavily, and canted round broadside on to the sea. Tried to clew up the sails, but they being aback and the wind being so strong, all hands we were not able to clew up the lower topsail. At noon finding the vessel was canting, her head more to the W. he let go the starboard anchor with 30 fathoms of chain. From 1 to 2.40 p.m. the sea was breaking over the vessel fore and aft. The ship was then striking so heavily that the crew were afraid to go aloft to furl the sails owing to the masts flying about so much on account of the ship bumping. At 2.30 p.m. he ordered the starboard life-boat to be lowered. Mr. Humphreys, chief officer, with five able seamen manned her and succeeded in getting a line ashore. In endeavoring to haul the life-boat back to the ship she capsized twice. He tried to get natives to launch the surf-boat, but they were afraid to come; at 5.20 they made the line fast to the surf-boat, but when she was hauled alongside she filled. He concluded to abandon the ship on Monday the 14th, regarding her as a total loss, and finally abandoned her at midnight on the 14th, leaving Mr. Carter, pilot, officers, and crew on the morning of the 15th, with instructions to salve as much as they could. He arrived in Yokohama on Thursday, 17th, and reported the wreck to the agents and the Consulate. On Sunday 20th, he returned to the wreck, and arrived on the following Tuesday (22nd). Found the ship lying as he had left her, only a little more upright. Before he had abandoned her, he, Mr. Carter, Mr. Hunt, second officer, and the carpenter had gone down into the hold, and found the ballast had shifted fore and aft and had left the sides. Several of the stanchion rivets were broken, and the ballast had sunk down 18 inches by the mainmast. The maindeck was sprung, and several seams opened. The ship was far up on the beach when he abandoned her. When he returned, he found she had sunk in the sand. The crew left the place in a schooner on Wednesday, 23rd. He, Mr. Carter, and the Chinese steward remained.

They left on the 2nd of February. He considered the ship seaworthy in every respect when he left Yokohama. There was nothing to indicate shoal water when she struck; he had no idea the water was so shallow. He had a chart of the place (produced). He did not anticipate shoal water, and therefore had not used the lead. Soundings were taken after passing the first bank. The helm put hard a starboard, so as to lay everything back; she had not struck then. He thought there might have been an undercurrent which would not let her go off more; she was then going about 3 to 3½ knots an hour. The ship struck at first about three miles from shore, and now lies about 1½ miles off.

Captain MacDonald, who appeared as surveyor for the Netherlands Sea and Fire Insurance Company, said that after the ship got ashore he was asked by Mr. Von Hemert what he (witness) knew about it, as he (Mr. Von Hemert) had taken a risk on the *Sattara*. Mr. Von Hemert said that he was told at the agents' office that she had a survey report, and he naturally concluded that it had come from him (witness). He (MacDonald) said he had refused to give her a first-class risk. Mr. Von Hemert then said he would not take it. He refused as he did not consider her bottom clean. Witness had connection with the ship through another insurance office, and in connection with that he had told the captain that if he did not satisfy him that the bottom was clean he could not give a first-class risk. If the captain had employed a diver it could soon have been determined whether she was clean or not. He ultimately got a diver (Carst) who reported that the vessel's bottom was very foul. Witness would have been satisfied of the ship had been put upon the bank. He knew after she had left that she had been put upon the bank, but as a fact she left without his making a report upon her.

The Captain put in the survey report by the diver and an account of the expenses he had incurred.

Mr. MacDonald said that if the captain had reported to him that he was going to put her on the beach he should have recommended him to have taken two or three hundred tons of ballast out of her.

Captain J. Carst confirmed his report as to the condition of the ship's bottom before she was beached. He saw her on the beach, after she had been cleaned to within seven feet from the water-line, which was as far as could be reached.

In reply to the Court, Captain MacDonald said he would not have passed her on those certificates, as he did not think that they went down far enough.

Captain Carst, in continuation, said the vessel was put on the bank at high water and was scraped down at low tide a foot under the water, in all about seven feet.

Captain MacDonald—They ought to have gone down three or four feet lower, as the bilge of the vessel is the most important part to clean.

Captain Jenkins—The keel is about nine inches deep.

Captain Carst—The ship was upright on the bank.

Captain MacDonald said no report was presented to him. If it had been impossible to do no more he might have passed her. They should have taken ballast out of the vessel, as it was the flat of the floor that ought to have been scraped. If it had been stated to his satisfaction that more scraping could not be done he might have passed her, but he believed more of her bottom could have been got at by taking ballast out.

Captain Carst said the vessel was put upon hard sand, into which she sunk about six inches.

The Chief Officer of the *Sattara*, Mr. Humphreys, was next examined. He said his watch below was from 8 a.m. till 12, and when he went below at 8 a.m. on the 13th January the vessel was on the port tack heading for the land, wind W.S.W., blowing a moderate gale. He was called about 11 o'clock, and the captain gave orders to put the helm up. The vessel was about four miles from the land, he judged. They squared the yards, but

she would not wear round. When they found she would not wear, they backed the fore and main yards, and the next thing was that she touched the ground. The anchor was let go, but the ship then got broadside on to the sea. The Captain ordered him into a boat with five men to take a line ashore, and the boat was sent back and capsized half-way between the ship and the shore. Next day the captain ordered all hands ashore. The captain told him she was a total loss. He returned to Yokohama with the crew, who were on the beach about a week salving.

In answer to the Court, witness said there was too much swell on to carry a kedge out or to take effective measures to get her off. The ship was going through the water about five knots at the time she would not wear. From the time the helm was put up to the time they found she would not wear was from 20 to 25 minutes, and all the time the vessel was going about five knots, and heading N.E., but she would not answer her helm. After they backed the yards she struck in about 10 minutes. He saw the land about five miles off when he came on deck. He did not know anything about the beach.

In reply to Captain Jenkins, witness said the main-yard was square when she touched the ground. When he came on deck with all hands he found the ship had gone off, and the main-yard was sharp up by the starboard brace. The fore-yard was square when she touched, and he thought her head was N.N.E. at that time, but did not know exactly. The fore and main-yards were braced and the mizen-staysail hauled up about ten minutes before she touched the ground.

In answer to the Court, witness said when he came on deck the yards were sharp up and the ship was on the port tack. When she struck the yards were all aback.

In reply to the Captain, witness said that from the time of leaving Yokohama to the time the vessel struck they wore ship a good many times, and she never refused to wear before under lower topsails, reefed foresail, and fore-topsail. He had found her always answer her helm, but she took a long time to get round. She answered her helm on the passage out, but was always rather slow. She was longer getting round after leaving Yokohama than on the passage out. She would go round under the same canvas in about half-an-hour. He attributed her sluggishness to the fact that she was in ballast. He had stated to the captain, when the vessel was on Kanagawa beach, that her bottom was clean.

George Hunt, the second officer, stated that he was on deck from 8 a.m. to 12 on January 13th. At 8 o'clock the wind was W., blowing a gale, and the vessel was on the port tack under shortened sail. The wind freshened at 9 o'clock, when the other top-sails were taken in. At 8 o'clock he judged the ship to be about 12 miles from land, and going about three knots. From 9 o'clock to 10 the gale continued from the W., and the vessel was on the same tack and steering N.N.W. At a quarter to 11 furled the mainsail, and at 11 o'clock handed over the ship to the captain, who ordered "all hands" on deck to wear ship, the vessel being then about four miles from land. Witness attended the braces, and the yards being squared the ship began to pay off to the N.E., but seemed to stop paying off and then appeared to be coming to. The captain ordered the helm down and the fore and main yards aback, and just after the yards were aback she struck. They loosened the main-topsail and set it, but it had no effect, and the ship came round head to wind, and seeing these operations were no good they clewed up the sails and let go the starboard anchor. The captain abandoned the ship at 12 o'clock on the night of the 14th January, and left for Yokohama. Witness remained salving for six days, and then came up to Yokohama with the crew, arriving here on the 2nd February.

Captain Jenkins had no questions to ask, and the Court adjourned until two p.m.

On resuming,

J. C. Carter stated that he was engaged to pilot the bark *Sattara* to Kobe. From midnight to 4 a.m. on the morning of the 13th January they had variable winds. Between 3 and 4 a.m. he kept her away to head outside Omaisaki Light. As she got up to the light the wind came up from the Westward and she broke off to S.S.W. There was a good current with her and she soon brought the lighthouse bearing N. About 6 o'clock, he went down and consulted with the Captain as it was blowing very hard. They agreed to reef topsails and courses, but it was blowing too hard to hoist the topsails so they left them reefed. At 7.40 a.m. they wore round, head to the land, the ship going N.N.W., wind due W. At 8 a.m. Omaisaki Light bore N.E. ¼ N. about 12 miles distant. At 9.30 a.m. he told the Captain he should lie down, as there was no necessity for him on deck. The Captain said "all right, she won't go near the shore, and I will keep a good look out for you." Between 11 and 11.30 a.m. the Captain asked him to come on deck as the ship would not go off. The Captain was wearing the ship at the time. As soon as he came on deck they agreed that the best thing was to put the helm down and put everything back. The headway was nearly stopped when she touched.

To the Court—The orders to wear the ship were given before he came on deck.

J. E. Carter continued—When she touched she was unmanageable, they clewed up the topsails and put out an anchor. She bumped till about 4 o'clock when she slipped over the bank and ran up on the beach.

To the Court—The Captain consulted him about the abandonment, and they agreed that nothing more could be done. He remained to look after the salvage and returned to Yokohama with the Captain. She struck about a mile outside of the shoalwater as marked on the chart. He often wore the ship after leaving Yokohama and found her slow. She got over the outer bank into a channel. The chart is not correct, at the place she struck there is a bay. The channel between the two shores is about a quarter of a mile wide. There was no holding ground and she dragged considerably, they had 30 fathoms of chain out, all she could take.

The man who was steering at the time the vessel struck (Burke), said he went to the wheel at 10 a.m. and remained till she stranded. When he took the wheel the vessel was heading N.N.W. About an hour afterwards, the order was given to wear ship. She was under lower topsails, reefed courses, fore topmast-staysail and mizen-staysail. When he had the order to wear, he put the helm up and the ship went off to N.E. and would go no further. The Captain asked "was she going off," and he replied "No." The Captain then ordered the helm hard a starboard, he did so, and she came up. Orders were given to back fore and main yards. The ship came up to N. about 9 minutes after, and then struck. An anchor was let go, and the topsails clewed up.

Mr. Carter, in answer to the Court, said he did not hold a Pilot's licence.

Captain Jenkins said that in his estimation the vessel was perfectly seaworthy in every respect. He held a letter from his agents saying that she had been accepted by the home offices as a good risk. He had been in her before on much longer voyages. He attributed the loss to his being misled by the chart and believed there was a current near the shore. He referred the Court to the sailing directions and the chart, which showed at the point where the vessel struck, 3½ fathoms of water and his ship only drew 12ft. 6in. The captain then expressed the thanks of himself and his officers to the Japanese for the great kindness that had been shown them.

FINDING.

The Court finds that the British barque *Sattara* of Liverpool, official No. 47,591, Thomas Jenkins master, was stranded at Shirowa-mura, near Omaisaki, on the south-east coast of Japan on the 13th January last between eleven and twelve in the forenoon, where she has since been abandoned as a total wreck.

It is contended by the master, Thomas Jenkins, that the stranding is attributable to an error in the chart which shows a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms at the spot where the vessel struck, also to an adverse current; he relies, too, on the "Sailing Directions," which describe the coast as being "steep to, with no known off-lying dangers."

The Court, while giving due consideration to what has been put forward by the master, is of opinion that he erred in two particulars, namely, in not using the lead which would have indicated his near approach to shoaling water, and in not wearing ship earlier having regard to the canvas the vessel was carrying at the time.

The Court orders that the certificate of Thomas Jenkins, master, certificate No. 92,216, be suspended for a period of three months from the date of this order. The certificates of Thomas Humphreys, mate, and George Percy Edward Hunt, second mate, are herewith returned to them.

(Signed) RUSSELL ROBERTSON,
H.B.M. Consul, President.
FRANCIS GRANDIN,
Master steamship *Harter*.
ROGER MARTIN,
Master Barkentine *Velocity*.
B. GILLET, Merchant.
British Consulate, Kanagawa, Yokohama, Japan.
February 13th, 1884.

CHINESE DOMESTIC LIFE.

The following interesting lecture on the above subject, by Mr. Hong Beng Kaw, M.A., appears in recent issues of the *N. C. Daily News*:-

Science, it has been said, has now made visible to everybody the great and pregnant elements of difference which lie in *race*, and in nothing is this marked difference more evident than in the social institutions and domestic life of the different races of the world. "Who will believe," says an English writer, "who will believe, when he really considers the matter, that where the feminine nature, the feminine ideal and our our relations to them, are brought into question, the delicate and apprehensive genius of the Indo-European race, which invented the Muses and Chivalry and the Madonna, is to find its last word on this question in the institutions of a people whose wisest king had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines?" Nevertheless there is nothing which more strongly marks the essential unity of man than the points of similarity and elements of likeness, which we can trace in their early institutions, between the members of one family of people and the members of another.

Now much as the modern yellow-visaged, long-gowned Chinaman differs from the modern blue-eyed red-haired European, yet nothing is more certain than that there was a period in the early history of each of these peoples when they were naked savages, running wild upon the face of the earth without any social or moral restraint whatsoever. The Chinese writers themselves speak of a period in their early history when the people painted their skins, dwelt in caverns, and ate the flesh and drank the blood of animals raw. In an essay upon the origin of the feudal system, the writer Liu Tsung-yüan, of the T'ang dynasty, says:—"The human race, no doubt, came into existence at the same time as all the created things of the earth. Amidst the wild gloom of the virgin forests, where wild beasts of all descriptions abounded, the early man walked about, having nothing wherewith to seize upon his prey to satisfy himself.

Neither could he, having no weapons, defend himself. He was therefore obliged, as the philosopher Jün-ching says, to invent instruments. Now the invention of instruments gave rise to the possession of property, and the possession of property necessarily to disputes. The disputes were, of course, referred to him who was able to decide between the right and the wrong of the matter in question. Those, therefore, who distinguished themselves by their intelligence and prowess would have many who came to them for decisions. Finally, in order to enforce these decisions, punishment had occasionally to be inflicted. In this manner kings and rulers and a system of government came into existence."

The earliest ancestors of the Chinese people—it is now impossible to know whether they were originally immigrants or indigenes of the soil—seem to have first appeared in the modern province of Shensi. Among these people there were already leaders, who led them wandering about, living the unsettled life of a nomad people. At last there arose a great ruler, the Emperor whom the Chinese call Fu-hsi, who finally settled with his people in the western regions of China, selecting for his capital, it is said, a place which is now identified with a town in modern Honan. To this Emperor Fu-hsi, then, is ascribed the honour of having founded the social and political institutions of the Chinese people. To him succeeded Shen-nung and Huang-ti, or the Yellow Emperor, both of whom were said to have carried on the great work of civilising the people, commenced by Fu-hsi. By them the sacred rite of marriage was instituted, and with the rite of marriage we may begin our essay upon the domestic life of the Chinese.

Now, before I enter into the details of the married life of the Chinese, allow me to remark that it is one of the greatest unexploded errors among European writers, like the one I have quoted above, to suppose that the low, degraded position in which women are held, is peculiar to races other than the Aryan or Indo-European, and that the system of polygamy or concubinage is exclusively confined to the people denominated as Asiatic, among whom the Chinese are of course included. In the early history of every people there was a period when man ruled over his brother man by the mere force of his arms and the right of might. In such times, slavery, and the concomitant of slavery, polygamy or concubinage, necessarily existed. Of captives taken in warfare, the males were made slaves, and employed in menial drudgeries, while the females, unless they were old and ugly,—it is, I think, one of the great social problems of the present day in Europe as to what really is to be done with women who are old and ugly,—were made hand-maids or concubines to amuse and delight the leisure hours of powerful captors. This, I take it, is the origin of polygamy or concubinage, as it is of slavery. It was, in fact, a birth of the cruel iron law of Necessity; but gradually, as among us Asiatic people, it became an established institution sanctioned by the people from long usage. In early Greek and Roman times in Europe, the position of women was certainly not much better than it is among us Eastern people at the present age. And in the feudal times of the Middle Ages it was perhaps even worse, as may be judged from that horrible law of the *jus primæ noctuæ* of the barons. But, with the introduction of Christianity, a great spiritual influence had begun to work, an influence which idealised womanhood, invented chivalry, and finally ended by abolishing polygamy and concubinage from all European countries. Now what was this influence?

In order to explain, I must be allowed to quote the great German poet Goëthe, who, in his philosophical novel, Wilhelm Meister, has given a most just theory of the development of human religions, which is applicable not only to Europe, but, I find, even to the religions which we Chinese have had. In early times, he says, men worshipped only those

powers that were above them. In their human relations therefore they submitted only to those who were powerful enough to coerce them by mere prowess and physical force. This was the state of all early savage peoples. The second stage of their development arrived when men recognised the rights of their equals. Hence arose civil and social institutions which were only possible when mere physical force ceased to be held supreme. In the last stage of their development came that influence which made men recognise the rights of not only their superiors and equals, but also of those who were weak and miserable. Christianity, the Creed of Love, brought this last influence into Europe, and Buddhism, the Religion of Mercy, brought it into China. But Buddhism in China was never the central current of spiritual influence as Christianity certainly was at one time in Europe. The influence of Buddhistic teaching in China was, so to speak, always only a side stream crossing the vast flowing river of Confucianism. Nevertheless we shall find that, in the later Chinese literature and in the social and domestic life of the people, the influence of this Religion of Mercy has done not a little in creating the ideal of womanhood in the Chinese mind. As the Christians in Europe have their Virgin Mary or Madonna, the highest and purest conception of womanhood, so almost every boy and girl in a Chinese household is from his or her earliest years made to worship Kuan-yin, the Pure and Merciful One, who listens to the prayers of the wretched. A picture of this goddess—I am quite vexed to have no other word to use—will be found hanging in the private apartments of almost every maiden in China, in order that she may always have before her the ideal of a pure and perfect woman. The maiden is further taught in many households to repeat the ordinary Buddhistic *sutras* for the purification of the heart before this picture, every morning and evening. The good European missionaries call this an idolatry, but it is surely a beautiful kind of idolatry.

But to return to our subject. The system of polygamy* or concubinage, born, as I have said, out of the cruel law of brute physical force, became gradually, among the Chinese people, an established institution sanctioned by the people from long usage. Now in order to pronounce judgment on the characteristics of national manners and morality, it is not sufficient to say that, because they happened to be different from what we have been brought up to conceive, they are therefore to be condemned. "La morale," says Georges Sand, "c'est une affaire toute à fait géographique." It is certainly always a dangerous thing to throw stones at a nation's notions and practice of what is called morality. The pure and moral people of England, for instance, at one time certainly considered it a grave and heinous sin for a man to marry his deceased wife's sister. But within the last few years a great portion of the public opinion in England has suddenly changed, and now many good respectable English people consider it quite proper that an unmarried woman, when her sister dies, should, if it please her brother-in-law and herself, have the legal right to take care of her dead sister's children. So much for public opinion of what is called morality. I have often shocked people by expressing the opinion that public opinion in England may one day again change—having changed in one direction, why should it not change in another?—so that it may be considered quite lawful for a man to marry his wife's sister even before his wife is dead.

But the reason why some people are hasty in their judgment of the moralities of individuals as well as of nations is because they never consider that there are always two elements of the human mind which must necessarily enter into such judg-

* Note—I have here used "polygamy" and "concubinage" as synonymous terms. It is, however, perhaps not so well-known to the European reader that every Chinaman, from the Emperor downwards, can have but one *legal wife*, although he may have as many concubines or handmaidens as he pleases. But I shall have more to say on this point later on.

ment. The Chinese call these two elements *li* and *ching*, which might fairly be translated as *reason* and *sentiment*. Indeed, in European books of moral philosophy it is always a point of dispute as to whether it is our reason or our judgment, or whether it is our feeling or our sentiment, which leads us to consider this action to be right and that action to be wrong, this to be noble and that to be ignoble and base. Now without pedantically entering into abstruse questions of philosophy, it may be said in general terms that, where the relations of the sexes are brought into question, it is always our feeling or sentiment which enters for the most part into the formation of our judgment. But this feeling or sentiment always changes—is subject, as the French writer I have quoted above, says, to the different positions of geography, to the changes and necessities of the times, and perhaps even to the variations of the temperature. For it is certainly true that people of cold northern latitudes are as a rule monogamic and constant in their marriage ties, whereas people of hot southern latitudes are generally polygamic and loose in their relations of the sexes. It is true, as the poet says:

That bright and fierce and fickle is the South,
And dark and true and tender is the North.

Now, from the few glimpses we now have of Chinese married life in early times, the system of concubinage was certainly tolerated. The great wise Emperor Yao, we are told, gave his two daughters in marriage to the good ploughboy Shün. It is equally certain that the emperors and nobles of the period of the three great dynasties had, besides the one true legitimate consort, many other handmaids or concubines. But, judging from passages in the Shi-king, or the Ballads of those early times, the position of women was in no wise a low and degrading one, as might be easily supposed from the existence of concubinage. In a passage quoted by Mencius, the ancestor of the Chows is described as flying alone with his consort and coming to choose a dwelling below the Ch'i mountains. "In those days," says Mencius, "in the house the women were contented, and abroad every man had his wife and helpmeet." Many other passages might be quoted from these ballads showing the happiness and conjugal felicity of those early times. It is true that a woman was then considered good and virtuous because she was able to suffer her lord to have many handmaids or concubines. But then the moral tone of the public mind—to speak in the phraseology of the modern newspapers—was pure and healthy. There was still a certain ennobling principle or sentiment alive in the public mind, under which concubinage itself "lost half its evil, by losing all its grossness." For vice only begins when it becomes conscious of itself, becomes conscious of its own grossness. This is what an English writer meant when, comparing Charles II. and Henry VIII. of England, he said: "The Stuart had mistresses: the Tudor kept wives."

In the beginning of the great Chow dynasty, twelve centuries before the Christian era, a great Chinese Lawgiver arose, who codified and gave permanence to laws relating to the social and domestic relations of the Chinese people. This was the Duke of Chow, the brother of the first emperor of the dynasty. To this day, we Chinese speak of the marriage laws instituted by Chow Kung. Whatever might have been the state of things during the periods preceding this, the ceremony of marriage henceforth became a solemn and religious rite. It was also further enacted that a man might not marry a woman of the same surname; and this law is still binding at the present day, after the lapse of more than two thousand years.

The decay of the great Chow dynasty dates from the time when the Emperor P'ing Wang, the Peaceful, removed the capital to the East. But even before this, moral disorganisation and social disintegration had already set in, beginning, as it always does, at first in the high places. The Emperor Yen Wang, of execrated memory, with his concubine, the celebrated Pao Ssu, had set an

example of moral looseness in their domestic relations that did not take long to spread to all grades of society. In the last year but one of the reign of the Emperor P'ing Wang, we enter the troublous times known in history as the period of Spring and Autumn. From this time forth the manners of the princes and the people drifted more and more every day towards every possible kind of license and extravagance. "Alas!" exclaimed Confucius at the time, "I have not seen one who loveth virtue as he loveth pleasure." The social relations, especially the domestic relations, were being entirely disregarded and set aside. In the courts of the princes as in the halls of the nobles, all manner of excesses were the order of the day. In fact the simple ways and purer manners of those early times were no longer remembered, or, if remembered, remembered only by those who could but sigh over the degeneracy of their own times. It was the sight of this state of things, which made Confucius and his followers lay stress upon the importance of the domestic relations. Good government, it is constantly laid down in the Confucian books, rests solely upon the proper regulation of the family. To illustrate this, a beautiful passage is quoted from the Book of ancient Ballads, in which it is said that "the family well ordered, happy union with wife and children, is like the music of lutes and harps. When brethren well agree, both joy and gladness there abide. By keeping your household in order and taking pleasure with your wives and servants you make your parents happy." This, by the way, is in fact the Chinese ideal of a perfectly well ordered household. Notwithstanding, however, the influence of the Great Master's teaching, the morals and manners of the age did not improve. The system of what Mr. Faber happily calls *Frauenkultur*, the breeding and cultivation of women for the market, became a regular trade. A troop of eighty beautiful girls, with musical and other accomplishments, we are told, were sent by the Duke of Ch'i to Duke Ting of Lu to estrange him from the Master's teaching and to overturn the great reformations begun in that state. The women, accordingly, were received, and the Sage was neglected. "Alas," the Master could only exclaim with a sigh, "I have not seen one who loveth virtue as he loveth pleasure."

The Great Sage himself, however, did not seem to have been very happy in his domestic relations. In the simple ways and healthy customs of olden times, we are told in the Li Chi, a compendium, edited by one of Confucius' later followers, of the minor details of domestic "comme il faut" or etiquette,—in those early times the proper age for a man to marry was thirty and for a woman, above twenty. Confucius himself, however,—according to the traditions,—married at the early age of nineteen, and latterly, for some reason or another, he was obliged to put away or divorce his wife. Dr. Legge thinks, however, that the evidence inclines against the supposition that Confucius did put his wife away. The story therefore may be apocryphal. But we have a saying of the Sage himself recorded by his disciples, complaining of the difficulty of behaving properly to women and servants. "They are discontented," he says, "if we keep them at a distance, but if we allow them to be familiar, with us, they lose their respect for us." We have also one other single instance of the manner of the great Teacher's intercourse with his son. The disciple, who heard how the Master behaved towards his son, inferred from it that "the superior man maintains a distant reserve towards his own son." This, in fact, agrees with the words of Mencius, who says "In ancient times the father never acted as teacher to his own son." It is true to this day that the relations between a Chinese father and his son are always a little reserved. Nevertheless it must by no means be imagined that there is no room left at all in Chinese domestic relations for the play and development of natural affection. It is true that a Chinese son always speaks of his father as the "severe one"

of the family; but it would be a mistake to infer from this that the Chinese father is always an incarnation of severity, in the same manner as the French writer, Monsieur Taine, ridiculously generalises from the fact that an English boy sometimes speaks of his father as "my governor," that there is a fund of stiffness in the intercourse of relations in English households.

But one of the causes—or it may be the effects,—of the laxity of the moral relations of social and domestic life, was the literature of the time. In fact, during this period of transition, one of the great spiritual forces of humanity had set in, a force or influence, defined by an English writer as the spirit of Hellenism, which, by irresistibly forcing men to return to nature and to seeing things as they are, although it never failed to produce splendid results, had, nevertheless, always a side of moral weakness and relaxation. In an essay upon the Taoist philosopher and statesman Han Fei-tzu, the poet Su Tung-p'o of the Sung dynasty says:—"The reason why Holy men detest these strange doctrines, is not because these doctrines are capable of bringing the world into a state of anarchy, but because they are the results and products of anarchic times. Formerly during the decay of the Chou dynasty there arose the philosophers Lao-tzu, Chuang-tzu, Lieh-tzu and their followers * * *. A century and more after the death of Lao-tzu come Shang Yung and Han Fei-tzu. Scholars of after times attribute to these last two the evils which the people suffered under the Ch'in rulers; they do not know that the origin of the evil began with Lao-tzu and Chuang-tzu. Now the doctrine of humanity and righteousness arises originally from the love which husband and wife, father and son, and brothers and sisters bear in their hearts to each other. In other words, the foundations of moral and social obligations have their roots in the domestic relations, in *natural affection*. But Lao-tzu and Chuang-tzu deny this natural affection. They say that the relation between a father and his son is merely one of *accident* like the weeds on the river, which happen to get entangled with each other and thus become related." The philosopher Chuang-tzu himself, we know, took the death of his wife so lightly to heart that a friend who came to offer his condolences found him squatting on the ground, drumming upon a basin and singing. But the two great representatives of the new heresy at the time, who did most to make men do away with all social and domestic relations, were the philosophers Yang-tzu and Mê-tzu. Yang-tzu, according to Mencius, denies the moral obligations of the duties of social life, and Mê-tzu, the moral obligations of the duties of domestic life. "But," says Mencius in just indignation, "a man, who knows not the duties which he owes to his rulers and parents, is—a mere beast." Indeed we can well imagine that the great Confucian Apostle, who owed much of what he was afterwards able to do, to the early influence and teaching of his mother, the mother of Mencius,—who is become to us Chinese what the mother of the Gracchi was to the Romans,—we can well imagine, I say, that he was able rightly and fully to appreciate the importance of the domestic relations. I have already referred to his idea of the proper relation of the sexes, namely, "the women happy and contented at home, and the men, every man with his wife and helpmeet." Bachelorhood therefore found no favour in his eyes; in fact he, considered it a most heinous sin for a man not to marry. "There are three things," he says, "which I consider as sins that a man may commit against his parents: to live and die without issue is the greatest." Moreover, with his perfect knowledge of the human heart, he was not one of those strict inhuman moralists who preach down and would do away altogether with human passion, the passion of love. "In childhood," he says, "a man loves and yearns for his parents, but when he arrives at the age at which the passions are developed, he loves and his heart yearns towards

beautiful girls. Again, when he has a wife and family, his affections are set upon his wife and children." Now it has often been said that in Chinese Domestic Life there is a great deal insisted upon, of the children's duties to their parents, but nothing of the parents to their children. But Mencius lays it distinctly down that it is one of the sacred duties which the parents owe to their children to provide for them a husband for the girl and a wife for the son, as soon as they arrive at a marriageable age. In this manner one of the great social problems is solved in China even at the present day, whereas in Europe, where the mutual obligations and duties between parents and their children may be said to exist only by accident, the poet is obliged to make his hero curse the social institution of the day:—

Cursed be the social wants that sin against the strength of youth!
Cursed be the social lies that warp us from the living truth.

Now in an essay upon the domestic life of the Chinese, I have perhaps expatiated longer than is proper upon points which might be thought impertinent to the subject. But the period of which I have been speaking is a very important one in Chinese history. It was then that the Chinese institutions were fully developed, and they then acquired a degree of permanence which, with very few modifications, still obtains and holds good even to this day. The teaching of Confucius and his followers—which is the standard of Chinese manners and morals in social as well as in domestic life—has often been criticised and censured for its defect with regard to the relation of the sexes; that it permitted and gave permanence to the system of polygamy and concubinage. Now instead of actually setting up a defence for polygamy or concubinage, it is perhaps better for me to state what is the actual relation of the Confucian teaching to this so-called immoral system. In a conversation between Mencius and one of the princes of the time, the prince frankly avowed that he was incapacitated from governing his people properly by his love of women. "What is there wrong," answered Mencius, "in your Highness's love of women, if you could share them with your people?" Thus it is distinctly laid down that it is not the love of women which is immoral, but the loving of women *selfishly*, unnaturally, that is to be condemned. In the same way with polygamy and concubinage, it is not the having or keeping of many wives that makes the system degrading and vicious; the vice lies in the keeping of women selfishly, unnaturally, and immorally. Now in the actually domestic life of the Chinese of the present day, although concubinage is fully and freely permitted, yet, when cases occur,—such as an old man of sixty taking a concubine of fifteen or sixteen,—the circumstances of which are such as the feeling or sentiment in the human mind naturally revolts at, in such cases the public opinion in China never fails in unanimously condemning them. But there is another point in the Confucian teaching with regard to the relation of the sexes, upon which I wish to say a word. Somewhere in the Confucian books it is said that "the behaviour of husband and wife to each other should be like that of host and guest," *i.e.*, that they should treat each other with reverence and respect. Now where there is reverence and respect, the position of women cannot be so low and degrading as it has been supposed to be in China. Moreover, it is said that in giving and taking, men and women may not touch each other's persons.

But to return to my historical sketch of the Chinese domestic life. During the time of the Ch'in dynasty the public and domestic morals and manners of the people were perhaps no better than they were during the last years of the decaying house of Chou. The infamous mother of the First Emperor, by her profligacy and intrigues within the Palace, certainly did not set an example to improve the manners of the people. The Emperor himself was at last obliged to put to death her many paramours—one of whom is alleged to have been his own father, the celebrated Lü Po-wei. But when the House of Han finally came to the throne of China, the many years of wars and constant fighting had produced a salutary change in the manners of the age. It is true, however,

that the wars had also brought in a certain brutality of conduct in the ways of the people. But constant fighting had made the people hardy, and less inclined them to the sensual and profligate pleasures of a luxurious age. In fact this period of Chinese history corresponds very much to the period in European history at the breaking up of the Roman Empire and civilization. It was the beginning of the age of chivalry in China. It has been said: "Out of the strong came forth sweetness." This, I think, is particularly true of the manners of a people. In an age where the men are warlike and brave, the public manners are invariably pure and healthy. We find therefore that during the reigns of the early Emperors of the Han dynasty there was a certain liberty of intercourse between men and women which we do not find in any other period of Chinese history, except in the early times of the three great dynasties. As an illustration of this, I might take the romantic story of Ssü-ma Hsiang-ju, the poet who eloped with the beautiful young widow of a rich family; how the couple, when they were cast off by their family, opened a wine shop in a town in Szech'uan, where the girl served out wine to the customers while her husband washed the dishes. In late years, when the poet had become a courtier in Ch'ang-an and wanted to take a concubine, his wife wrote the beautiful song which is famous to this day. The song concludes thus:—

Weep not, weep not, ye maidens, when you take the marriage vow.
If you can find a true and faithful man, who will be true to you till your hairs are white as snow.

Another example might be taken from the literature of this period to illustrate the healthiness of the public morals as well as the brutality of the manners of the people. A memorial is still extant in which an old Minister reported to the Emperor that he had, in obedience to instructions, made a most careful and minute examination of the lady's person who was a candidate for the position of nothing less than the Empress of the Empire. The many personal and physical details which were given in the report would certainly not have been tolerated except in an age when the public manners were very healthy, free from every taint of pruriency and false delicacy.

This healthy state of the public manners, however, lasted only for a time, and, like all human things, it finally came to an end. With Emperor Han Ch'eng Ti, nearly two hundred years after the beginning of the Han dynasty, the favourite Ch'ao Fei-yen (flying swallow) and her sisters brought vice and profligacy into the palace of the Emperor, which, it may be said, did not fail to produce its results outside the palace walls. At last came Wang Mang, the Usurper, whose character is described as that of a hypocrite and charlatan in Chinese history. Under his administration, therefore, there was introduced in addition to the other immoralities and vices of the time, the great ugly vice of hypocrisy in the public manners of people. But with the restoration of the Hans under Kuang Wu Ti, there was again a change for the better. Nevertheless the free, pure and healthy manners of the early Hans were never again revived. The Eastern Han also lasted nearly two hundred years. During the last years of this House, and more so, when we enter into the period known in history as the period of the Three States, almost the same state of things existed as in the last days of the Chows. Licence, extravagance, and every possible kind of excesses were the order of the day. The same spirit of Hellenism, or it may be called, Naturalism, had again come into the mind of the people. Moral and social obligations of civil and domestic life were no more regarded. The members of the family of the Wei Emperors, were certainly not happy in their domestic relations. Ts'ao Tzu-chien, a poet prince of this house, was banished by his brother Wen Ti, the second emperor of this dynasty, for his attachment to a lady whom his brother had taken to wife. There was also a group of writers, known as the Seven Men of Genius of the Ch'ien An period, who made it their work to set at naught and pull down the social and political order then existing. This society was succeeded by another brotherhood of the Seven Worthies of the Bamboo Grove, who were still more extravagant and reckless both in their writings and conduct. Two of these worthies were uncle and nephew, and the case is often quoted by Chinese moralists as an instance of the shocking confounding of relations,—the case of the old uncle and the young nephew getting often drunk together in a bout of dissipation. Another of these worthies again appeared publicly in gay and fashionable clothing during the period of mourning for his parents, and at the same time joined in all the revelries and dissipations of his friends. These men were in fact what may be called the Free-thinkers of the time.

I must, however, hurry over the period of the Six Dynasties, which was a period of transition,

until we come to the establishment of the Great T'ang dynasty. But I am also obliged to confine my sketch of the public manners and domestic relations of the T'angs to one sentence: the Chinese have a proverb which speaks of the House of the T'angs in their domestic life as the "filthy T'angs," as they speak of the later Hans as the "unsavoury Hans."

Of the families that have sat upon the throne of China, that of the Sung is said to have been the most decorous and decent in their domestic relations. The same statement, however, cannot be applied to the Mongol dynasty, the Yüan, which succeeded the Sung. The Mings are also said to be very decent and proper in their domestic relations. We are now come to the present Ching dynasty. I shall, therefore, in the next and last portion of this paper, endeavour to give such details of the characteristics of the domestic life of the Chinese at the present day as my limited space will permit me.

I began this essay upon the domestic life of the Chinese with the sacred rite of marriage. Now marriage in China is not a matter of sentiment, of mutual love between the man and the woman. It is based solely on the idea of duty. There is therefore very little romance of the heart in Chinese marriages, at least before the wedding day. There are, of course, exceptions, but they are very rare. A Chinaman who marries generally considers that he is merely performing an act of duty towards his ancestors. A man, in China, wants a wife, and he or his family has the means. He simply gets hold of the matchmaker, or go-between, who will arrange all preliminaries for him, or, as they say, do all the courting for him. The lady intended will perhaps know nothing at all of the whole affair until within a few days of the wedding, when she is made to try on the wedding dress. Very often, however, even the bridegroom himself knows nothing. The whole affair is arranged for by the heads of their respective families. It happens sometimes that a boy of fifteen years of age is made to marry before he knows what marriage really means. I know, for instance, of a case where the grandfather was very old, and, as the Chinese say, "drawing near the wood," and the grandson, a boy ten years old, was made to go through the usual marriage ceremony with a little girl one year older than himself. Now this was done in order that the old grandpapa might have a granddaughter-in-law appear at the celebration of his eightieth birthday, or, if he should die, at his funeral obsequies. Early marriages, however, are not so general in old literary families who possess family traditions. They are much more common among what may be called the middle class. In families where the son has to finish his education, to distinguish himself at the literary examinations, his marriage is deferred until he has obtained a degree. It is always an advantage for him, if he is not already engaged, to wait, for literary honours will often procure for him a rich and influential wife. Sometimes, however, the lady's family will make it a condition that he is successful at the examinations before they will give their daughter to him. Early marriages, therefore, as I have said, are not usual in the higher classes of Chinese society. The well known poet, Yüan Tzu-ts'ai, for instance, was married at the late age of twenty-six, after he had obtained the highest literary honours in Peking. In families who have the means, however, the marriage of a son is never deferred beyond the thirtieth year.

I have said that the parents in China regard it as their duty towards their children to provide for them, a wife for the son and a husband for the daughter, as soon as they arrive at a marriageable age. But this part of their onerous duty ceases not with the marriage. In case of the son they have besides to provide for the couple ever after the marriage. Now this has a very serious disadvantage: the sons never become independent. They are in a state of dependence, both morally and for the support of their family, throughout the whole lifetime of their parents. All the members of one family almost always live under the same roof; and even after the death of the parents, the brothers, unless they choose to keep separate establishments, continue to live in the same house. When the father dies, the eldest brother takes his place, and if the mother dies the eldest brother's wife take, her place, at the head of the establishment. We often see therefore a family of six or seven—or even ten—brothers and their wives living under one roof. The poor mother, the mater-familias, has accordingly all these ten daughters-in-law to keep in order. She has often enough to do to keep these young women from tearing each other's eyes out, with the jealousies, petty spite, and tricks that women living in the same house will be sure to have. Again the unmarried sisters often come in to further complicate the difficulty. The English proverb says, blood

is thicker than water; and in Chinese households the mother is always partial to her own daughters, in preference to the daughters-in-law. Hence arise constant and interminable disputes and bickerings. The daughter-in-law, for instance, will complain that the sister has a finer pair of shoes, or such and such a head-dress that she has not; or she will complain that she has had allotted to her more than her share of the household work. An appeal is then made to the son, who will, of course, always side with his better half. In fact, a book itself might be written on the political relations of brothers, sisters and daughters-in-law in a Chinese household. An instance of this may be read in Mr. Giles's admirable translation of the "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio." Two daughters-in-law were doing their work in the kitchen. The announcement that the eldest son had been successful at the literary examination came in just then. Instantly the mother-in-law went into the kitchen and bade the eldest daughter-in-law cease her work and go and dress herself. The other girl, of course, had nothing to do but to cry to her heart's content. Soon after, however, the other son was also announced as having been successful. The girl who had just been weeping then also threw away her work, saying, "I, too, will go and dress myself."

But this system of keeping one large establishment for all the members of one family has also many advantages. One of these is this. A girl—and girls in China, as I have said, are often very young at the time of their marriage—who marries has not to accept the serious and arduous responsibility of the proper management of a household. She is in most cases unprepared and unfit to take care of a house. But then she enters the roof of her husband's family only as an apprentice to the life of a matron. There she finds everything ordered, arranged, and prepared for her. Only one sleeping apartment and one seat more at the dinner table have to be provided for her. As yet she has all the duties of a good housewife to learn. In the mean time, all she has to do is to obey, with strict and implicit obedience; she is not yet called upon to order, to command. By and bye, however, a portion of the household duties is allotted to her. Then she can exercise a little authority, but still under the supervision and orders of the powers that be. In large and wealthy households, each of the daughters takes charge of one special department. One, for instance, will keep the accounts of the family expenses, this, by the bye, being the most eagerly contended-for position. If there is an unmarried sister in the house, the mother almost always gives it to her. But if there is no unmarried sister, each of the daughters-in-law in the house will try what she can do to get this enviable post of family bookkeeper. As a rule, the girl who finds most favour in the mother-in-law's eyes will get it. The others then will take charge, one, of the dress department, and another of the paint and powder, or cosmetic department. When the unmarried sisters are very young, the eldest of the daughters-in-law will be allotted the task of looking over them, superintending their studies, needlework, and their proper behaviour generally. It happens sometimes that one of these girls is selected to amuse the old mother-in-law—to read to her, if she can, out of some amusing book, to play chess, cards, or dominoes with her; in fact to keep her from wearying. Above all, in all well regulated families one daughter-in-law has nothing to do but to receive guests and to pay and return visits.

But we will follow these young women each into their allotted private apartments. There each is her own mistress. She is there subject only to her husband, and very often the husband himself is subject to her. She has generally a servant or slave-girl of her own, who came with her at the day of marriage from her own family. This girl she can order about just as she pleases, and if the girl displeases or provokes her, she can even chastise her, of course in her own private apartment. The girl, of course, cleans, sweeps and puts the room in order for her, wakes her up at the proper time, waits upon her with hot water, tea and all necessary things, or even assists her in her toilette. It is also through this girl that she sends her messages or buys her little things outside. The girl becomes, in fact, sometimes her confidante, or perhaps has been so even before her marriage, and therefore knows all her little secrets. I may mention, by the way, that she will sometimes persuade her husband to take the little hussy as his concubine. It sometimes happens, however, that the husband first takes liberties with the maid and then persuades the mistress to allow him to take the "good little girl" into the more intimate relationship. It is, moreover, considered that the wife is in the wrong who would not allow her husband to receive her own maid. Besides, it is perhaps better that the No. 2 should be one upon whom she has always been accustomed to exercise her petty authority,

than that it should be a strange woman from outside, who is not accustomed to her little tricks, and who perhaps does not recognise her authority. In case of her death, too, she knows that her own maid, who has been taking care of her own children, will have a love and kindness for them such as no other woman will. Cases, therefore, often occur in which the wife at her death-bed will leave word with her husband to make her maid the mother of her own children. The relation between the maid and mistress is very often a beautiful human one. Now I will only further add that this maid is merely a slave girl, bought of her poor parents in early childhood. This, then, is the form of domestic slavery against which such an outcry has been made in Hongkong and elsewhere. I do not, of course, deny that the poor slave girl is very often also badly and inhumanly treated. But even then the law in China provides that the master shall marry her at a certain age, not above thirty. Ill-treatment of slave girls, however, occurs in most cases in what are called in Europe, "shabby genteel" families; families who really cannot afford to keep a maid. The poor girls then become Cinderellas of the family; get very bad and insufficient food and clothing, and more than they are capable of doing in the way of the household drudgeries. But in rich and well-to-do families these girls are perhaps better treated than they deserve. They sometimes play tricks—convey messages, and become thereby the means of bringing ruin and dishonour upon the family who has treated them so well.

But to return to the daughter-in-law. She is supposed—according to immemorial tradition—to rise with the cock's crow, in order to commence her household duties. The first thing she has to do is to wait upon the parents of her husband as soon as they get out of bed. She is supposed to get ready their hot water for purposes of ablution, to prepare the breakfast for the old people, and then to receive their orders for the day. At the present day, however, in rich families, the actual performance of these onerous duties is generally dispensed with, except just the first few days after the marriage, when the bride has actually to make a pretence of performing these duties. As a matter of fact, it is true still in some mandarin families that the daughters-in-law have to appear before the old people every morning to pay their respects. Moreover, each of the girls takes it by turns to superintend the servants who wait upon the old folks when they get out of bed. The same rule applies to the evening. The girls are never allowed to retire to their private apartments and join their husbands before the heads of the family have retired to their rooms. I actually know of a family where a poor delicate little girl is said to have completely ruined her health by sitting late at nights waiting for the old father-in-law to retire to rest.

After the morning visit to the old people the duties of the day begin. These duties, however, in rich families, are not so very onerous. The young women as a rule wait in some one chamber, whither the female head of the family comes down to give her orders for the day. When the mother-in-law is still young and vigorous, she generally does the greater part of the management of the house herself. But if she is well on in years, or ill in health, one of the elder girls who has her confidence will do it for her. Still, in order to keep up the tradition of the family, and still more to keep these young women from fighting and brewing mischief, they have to be kept in some sort of employment, and they thus receive their orders accordingly. But as a matter of fact, they simply make a pretence of doing something. In most of the wealthy families that I know I am told that the daily occupations of the young mistresses in the house are dressing, sleeping, and card-playing. There is only one family of my acquaintance where the girls can read, and the reading too in this case I am informed is confined to the most vulgar trashy novels written in the colloquial. Other accomplishments, such as drawing and music, are still more rarely to be found. As regards music, such as is played and heard in the streets and theatres, it is considered disreputable for a girl to know these musical instruments. There is only one instrument which is above suspicion; that is, the ancient seven-stringed dulcimer. I have a friend whose lady is said to be able to perform upon this instrument, but I have never been able to persuade him to allow me to be present at a recital. In fact, I think that one of the reasons why a Chinese woman never has the health and colour of English girls, is because she has really no sane and healthy ways of passing her time. Miss Harriet Martineau suggested that skipping-ropes might, with great advantage, be introduced among the idle Turkish ladies. But then in China we have the golden lilies, which, of course, will not admit of skipping-ropes. There is then but one other amusement that I can think of at this moment; that is the swing. I have indeed read a great deal, both in prose

and verse, of ladies taking exercise on the swing, but I do not know of one family where the girls take to this amusement.

But it will be said, Why do not the women work? They do, as I have said, make a pretence of working. But then there are so many servants in a rich household. Indeed, I think the reason why most of the Chinese houses are kept in such a state of filthiness and dirt is because they have too many servants. Two good housemaids in England will, I am of opinion, keep the house more tidy than ten servant girls in a Chinese household. By the way, I may mention another reason why I think the interior of a Chinese house is kept so unrepresentable. Confucius says: "Thriftiness leads to meanness." It certainly leads to uncleanness. And thriftiness is one of the vices of Chinese women. Every boy and girl—especially every girl—is taught from his or her earliest years, not to be virtuous and good, or always to speak the truth, but ever and always to be thrifty. Although a Chinaman and to the manner born, yet I do not consider that I have the vice of thriftiness to an immoderate degree. But if ever I have children, be they boys or girls, I shall certainly whip thriftiness out of them. It is this thriftiness, in fact, which leads to so much "untruthfulness," another of the mean vices of which Confucius speaks, for which the Chinese are so much cried down by foreigners.

Now, before I speak of the relations between the husband and wife in China, let me again sum up my conclusions on the system of keeping one large establishment for all the members of one family. It destroys independence in the men; but it is perhaps a great advantage for the women. It trains them gradually to be fit to take care of a household. In fact, to keep the peace in a house with eight or ten women is in itself a discipline. Moreover, this living under the supervision, under the eye, we may say, of her mother-in-law—a woman who is always older than and more experienced than herself—is always an advantage for her both morally and, I will not say, intellectually, but certainly in a way to teach her many womanly duties, if she is only anxious to learn. She can, too, always go to someone for advice, in case of sickness, sorrow, or affliction. Again, the constant companionship with her sisters-in-law in the same house will certainly keep her away from many temptations that she would be exposed to—a raw, green, inexperienced girl as she is—if she lives alone with her husband. This part of the Chinese social institutions, therefore, cannot altogether be condemned.

Now we will bring the man and wife face to face in their private apartments. Imagine it to be the first night of their wedding. The unruly guests who came to tease the bride have all retired, and so have the servants. The red auspicious candles are still burning. The bride has doffed the most part of her unwieldy attire. There hang the many rich and gaudy scrolls inscribed with golden wishes for the happy pair. There is also the sword hanging in one part of the chamber, which in ancient times, was supposed to give the power of life and death to the husband. There the poor girl sits—the woman whom he has never seen, but who is now to be his partner for life through good and through evil report. She is perhaps frightened. He, too, is not at his ease; fidgets about, perhaps looks furtively askance at her. But night is wearing late. The watchman outside has beaten the fourth watch of the night; the candles burn low, and the room is filled with a perfume that makes faint the senses of a young man only once in a life time. The old woman who accompanies the bride will perhaps then come in to tell them that it is getting very late, and to bid them retire to rest at once, as they have to be up betimes to-morrow to perform the other part of the marriage ceremonies. The old woman will then finally retire. Now he must speak to her—to his bride. But what will he say?

Now that is one of the questions which you will never get a Chinaman or woman to answer you. I must therefore ask the reader to imagine it for himself. One thing, however, I wish here to emphasise that is not so well known among Europeans, namely, that a Chinaman almost always respects the wife of his first marriage. Time may come when his love for her may change, but he never or seldom ceases to respect her. He may take in many concubines or run after strange women. But she is always his wife. It is generally her fault if he ceases to treat her as such. She may be stupid, she may be ugly, bad-tempered; she may storm and rage, she may even beat him, over his many irregularities. But as long as she is true to him and to no other, and as long as she respects her parents, she is his wife, the mother of his children, the woman who will lie beside him when they are gathered to their fore-fathers. "By Allah!" as the Arabian prophet said, when his beautiful favourite concubine asked him whether he did not love her more than his first wife, "by Allah! no; I shall love no woman as I have loved her."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 10th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Sinkat and Tokar are said to be in the last extremity, relief being impossible.

Admiral Hewett, in compliance with the request of the British Government, has been appointed to the supreme civil and military command at Suakim.

London, February 12th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Sinkat has fallen, and the garrison has been entirely massacred. A portion of the British troops in Cairo will proceed to the relief of Tokar.

London, February 14th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

The British garrison at Alexandria has been transferred to Cairo, sailors replacing the troops.

Major-General Gordon telegraphs that he has been very warmly welcomed.

London, February 15th, 6.15 p.m.

Cotton, $\frac{1}{8}$ lower; Mid. Upland $5\frac{1}{4}$. Yarns nominally unchanged. Shirtings steady. Silk quiet.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, January 30th.

Lord Wolseley, speaking at a banquet last night, said that during the past year thirty-three thousand recruits of good physique had enlisted.

February 1st.

Ordinary law and trial by jury have been suspended in Vienna and its suburbs, owing to the increasing number of murders and the spread of Socialism.

London, February 4th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Latest advices from the Soudan state that Baker Pacha continues his advance.

A foraging expedition sent out towards Sinkat has been cut to pieces.

Obituary.—M. Rouher. Wendell Phillips.

[M. Eugène Rouher was appointed Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works in Feb., 1885, and he was one of the plenipotentiaries who negotiated with Mr. Cobden the Treaty of Commerce between England and France signed in 1860. He belonged to the Imperial party, and at the fall of the Empire followed Napoleon III. to England.]

[The following sketch of Mr. Phillips appears in "Men of the Time":—Phillips, Wendell, born at Boston, Nov. 29th, 1811. He graduated at Harvard College in 1831, at Cambridge Law School in 1833, and was admitted to the bar in the following year. In 1837 he joined the Abolitionists, and identified himself with the Anti-Slavery, Temperance, and Woman's Rights reforms, and has ever since been one of the most popular orators in America. During the civil war he advocated a vigorous policy, especially urging the emancipation of the slaves. After the close of the war he opposed the dissolution of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and, succeeding William Lloyd Garrison, was its President, until its final disbandment in 1870.]

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

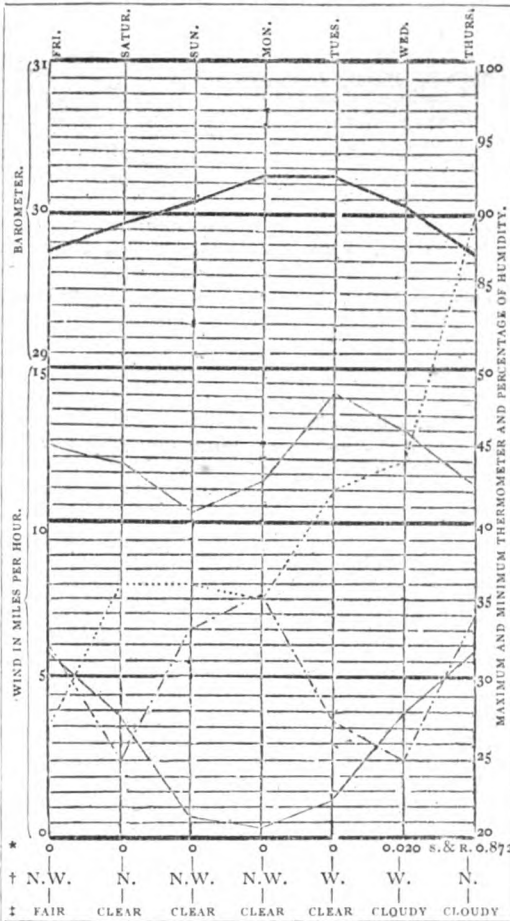
The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 26.1 miles per hour on Monday at 2 and 4 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.317 inches on Tuesday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.677 inches on Friday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 48.3 on Tuesday, and the lowest was 20.9 on Monday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 42.6 and 17.2 respectively.
The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 0.892 inches, against 0.00 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per P. M. Co. To-day.*
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Wednesday, Feb. 20th.†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, Feb. 21st.
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Saturday, March 1st.‡

* City of Tokio left San Francisco on January 24th. † Volga (with French mail) left Hongkong on February 13th. ‡ Arabic left San Francisco on February 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe ... per K. U. Co. Monday, Feb. 18th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Feb. 19th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Feb. 20th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Feb. 23rd.
For America ... per P. M. Co. Saturday, March 1st.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, March 1st.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

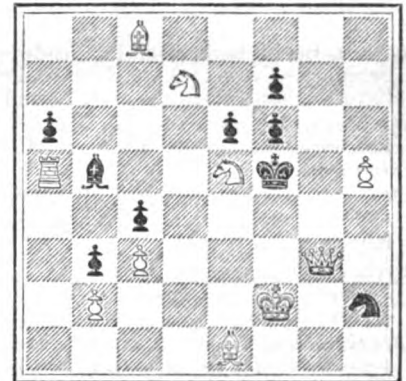
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By E. H. COURTENAY.
From American Chess Nuts.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 2nd February, 1884, from the Chess Player's Chronicle.

White.	Black.
1.—B. to Kt. 7.	1.—B. to K. B. 7.
2.—Q. to Q. 6 ch.	2.—Anything.
3.—Mate.	
	if 1.—B. to K. 2.
2.—Kt. takes P. ch.	2.—Anything.
3.—Mate.	
	if 1.—B. to K. B. 3.
2.—Q. takes B.	2.—Anything.
3.—Mate.	

On the 12th instant, the Princes of the Blood and the high military officers belonging to the mission under General Oyama were entertained in the Palace at tiffin.

The Government officials propose giving a farewell banquet to General Oyama.

An instalment of \$900 on the Korean indemnity was recently paid into the Japanese Consulate in Seoul, but the quality of the silver was so poor that the Consul requested the Korean authorities to change it. This they refused to do, on the grounds that the money was packed when handed and that it was the fault of the Japanese Consul that he had not properly examined it. The matter was finally referred to the Government.

On the 4th inst., while fishing off Ooshima, a native fisherman noticed a box floating out at sea, and heard the cries of a child. On rowing up to the box, he found a little girl, about five years old, in it, with plenty of food about her. A note was found in the box stating that she had bitten the nipple off her mother's breast, and that she had been put in the box and consigned to the waves in consequence. The fisherman concluded that the girl, if let live, would grow up to be unprincipled and unruly, and so pushed the box with its contents out to sea again. Upon returning to land, he reported the matter to the authorities.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

The European dietary system will be introduced in the Naval Hospital.

The Spring Meeting of the Mita Race Club will take place on the 8th and 9th of next month.

Diphtheria is raging in the gaol at Ishikawa. All necessary preventive measures have been taken.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

Mr. Tak Chang-sik, a Korean gentleman noted for his knowledge of the Japanese language, and distinguished as a promoter of his country's interests, died in the Kobe Hospital on the 11th inst. He was a man of great ability and genial disposition. Although his father was a privy councillor he refrained from entering upon an official career. All his energies were devoted to the promotion of the civilization in his own country, and his untimely decease is regretted by a large circle of friends.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Alpheus Marshall, British bark, 1,096, E. W. MacFaden, 9th February, —New York 9th September, 40,000 cases Kerosene.—I. Isaacs & Bros.

Annapolis, British bark, 915, J. Woodworth, 9th February, —New York via Kobe 4th February, Kerosene and General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 9th February, —Kobe 6th February, General.—Seiriusha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 10th February, —Kobe 9th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 10th February, —Yokkaichi 8th February, General.—Kowyekisha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 10th February, —Shimidzu 8th February, General.—Seiriusha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 11th February, —Yokkaichi 9th February, General.—Handasha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 11th February, —Hakodate 8th and Oginohama 10th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 12th February, —Yokkaichi 10th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Harter, British steamer, 1,196, Grandin, 12th February, —London 23rd November and Hongkong 3rd February, Mails and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Glenury, British barkentine, 283, Thomson, 13th February, —Takao 22nd January, 7,500 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Ingeborg, British steamer, 436, O. M. Meldrum, 13th February, —Hongkong via Shanghai and Kobe 11th February, Ballast.—Bernard & Wood.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 13th February, —Kobe 10th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 13th February, —Toba 11th February, General.—Yamamoto.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 14th February, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 15th February, —Yokkaichi 13th February, General.—Kowyekisha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 15th February, —Hakodate 13th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 15th February, —Yokkaichi 13th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 15th February, —Yokkaichi 13th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 16th February, —Hongkong 7th February, via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, MacFarlane, 16th February, —Fushiki 10th and Kobe 14th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,330, James Ross, 9th February, —Kobe, General.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,254, James, 9th February, —Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 10th February, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 11th January, —Handa, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 11th February, —Fukuda, General.—Kowyekisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 11th February, —Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 11th February, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 11th February, —Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 12th February, —Hakodate, via Awomori and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 12th February, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 13th February, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 13th February, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 13th February, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 13th February, —Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Dzukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 14th February, —Atami, General.—Todasha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lambert, 14th February, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Dithlefsen, 14th February, —Oginohama, via Miako, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 42, Hirao, 14th February, —Shimidzu, General.—Todasha.

Abreck (8), Russian gunboat, Commander Enghelm, 15th February, —Kobe.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 15th February, —Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 16th February, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 16th February, —Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 16th February, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Kobe:—27 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—Admiral Akamatsu in cabin; and 80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—24 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Sister MacAlwine, Messrs. M. Nomura, O. Fujinuma, and J. Watanabe in cabin; and 105 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. John de Ryke, Nishigawa, Hikida, Atago, and Takaishi in cabin; and 58 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—H.I.H. Prince Yamashina-no-Miya, Mr. and Mrs. Ottoson, Messrs. R. S. Schwabe, W. S. Anderson, J. D. Macintosh, W. S. Robertson, Jas. Scott, J. Bousse, Max Norwald, Yokoyama, Kawano, Fujishima, Azegami, Shaku, Iba, and Ito in cabin; 2 Europeans and 130 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—25 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Hakodate:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—22 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—48 Japanese.

The British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Blissett, Mrs. I. Ye Tong and servant, Miss Murray, Messrs. Medwin, Nanson, Hindson, Watson, Evers and Nonaka, in cabin; and 12 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Fushiki via Kobe:—19 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. R. Manley and family, Mrs. H. A. Happer, Mrs. Hunker and son, Miss Bingham, Miss M. A. Baird, Messrs.

Jas. R. Anglin, and Mr. A. Hinz in cabin; and 298 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* for Kobe:—Mr. Wm. Stoffregen in cabin; and 25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Captain and Mrs. W. Walker, family, and servant, Mr. Lye, Chinese Consul, Mrs. Hannum, Mrs. Graham and child, Madame Fujioka (3), Mrs. Yoshimura, Rev. A. R. Morris, Messrs. M. Ginsberg, V. Faga, M. M. Rewakoff, Pevier, C. Lyons, G. T. Lyons, Milits, Yasuda, Yeura, Betsuyaku, and Ikeda in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—50 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Geo. Sale in cabin; and 35 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. J. A. Wilson, G. Mori, and Inada in cabin; and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—H.E. General Oyama, Minister of War, General Miura, General Nodzu, Colonel Kawakami, Colonel Katsura, Lieutenant Nojima, Lieutenant Ijichi, Lieutenant Matata, Lieutenant Harada, Commander Shimidzu, Commander Ozaki, Commander Murai, Commander Yabuki, Intendant Koike, Dr. Hashimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Anais, Mrs. Macarie, Mr. Hikigai Otokichi and son, Messrs. J. M. James, F. Dubois, Jenkins, W. S. Robertson, J. Bousse, Zelesny, Inouye, S. Go, Matsudaira, Hashimoto, Iwase, Amagata, Hijikata, Harada, Wada Tsunashiro, Mamba Shitoshi, S. Hikida, J. Shiba, Matsunami, N. Izawa, J. Hada, and Natsuoka in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$57,000.00.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 269 bales; for England, 18 bales; Total, 287 bales.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Cattle, 20 head; Twist, 190 bales; Sugar, 4,154 bags; Sundries, 1,276 packages; Total, 5,640.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Harter*, Captain Grandin, from Hongkong, reports having experienced strong N. to N.E. winds with high sea and unsettled weather throughout the whole passage.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 10th February, at 10.50 p.m. with light N.W. winds and fine weather throughout the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th February, at 7 a.m.

The British steamer *Kashgar*, Captain W. J. Webber, reports leaving Hongkong on the 7th February, at 1 p.m. with fresh head winds and fine weather to Nagasaki, where arrived on the 12th, at 2.20 a.m.; left Nagasaki on the same day, at 3 p.m. with light adverse winds and thick rainy weather to Kobe, where arrived on the 14th, at 11.20 a.m.; left Kobe on the same day, at 8.20 p.m. with fresh N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 16th February, at 7 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October, —Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Harter, British steamer, 1,196, Grandin, 12th February, —London 23rd November and Hongkong 3rd February, Mails and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 14th February, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ingeborg, British steamer, 436, O. M. Meldrum, 13th February, —Hongkong via Shanghai and Kobe 11th February, Ballast.—Bernard & Wood.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 16th February, —Hongkong 7th February, via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December, —Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Fuso Kan (12), Captain Inouye, 21st December, —Nagasaki 15th December.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The tone of the Market generally remains satisfactory, and though the volume of business, apart from Cotton Yarns, has not been large, prices have been well maintained and in some cases rather higher.

COTTON YARN.—Buyers have been very eager for business, and large sales have again been reported in nearly all descriptions at a further slight advance, but at the close there are symptoms of a quieter feeling.

GREY GOODS.—Shirtings have been in very limited demand, but prices are said to be very firm, for best makes of 9 lbs. and for common 8½ lbs. Fair sales of T.-Cloths 7 lbs. are reported both of English and Bombay goods.

FANCIES.—Turkey Reds have been again sold largely; Velvets still are scarce, and command full prices, and a moderate business is reported in Victoria Lawns. Mousselines de Laine, Italians, and other Woollens are rather quieter, but can scarcely be quoted lower.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$26.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	26.00 to 27.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.50 to 33.50
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

No business has been transacted in Oil during the past week. Holders remain firm, but native dealers cannot, apparently, re-sell their late purchases at any profit. Deliveries have been 16,000 cases. The *Annapolis* and *Alpheus Marshall* have arrived with 72,681 cases, making present Stocks some 642,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.82½
Comet	1.79
Stella	1.73

SUGAR.

The Market continues without any animation whatsoever, and prices are unchanged. New Brown Sugars are placed on the Market at prices quoted below, but nothing doing in new or old beyond retail dealings.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated the 7th instant, since when a fair business for the time of year has been done. The Settlements for the week are returned as 400 piculs; and without doubt, more purchases would have been made, had not some holders raised their demands to an impracticable point, while others have withdrawn their Stocks from

the Market for the present. To show the intermittent nature of the business done, we may instance the fact that more than half the Settlements took place on one day (the 9th), while the two following days passed without a single transaction. *Hanks* have come again prominently into notice at an advance over last week's rates, and the higher grades are now held off sale at prohibitive prices. In *Filatures*, there has been less enquiry for coarse kinds, there being no steamer for San Francisco until the 1st proximo, but all grades are firmly held in spite of an easier Exchange in the native currency.

The P. & O. steamer *Khiva*, which left at daylight on the 9th instant, had on board 370 bales; of these 43 were entered as going to London, and 336 to Continental ports. This vessel's cargo brings the total Export up to 26,806 bales, against 20,186 bales last year, and 13,132 bales at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—This class has been most in demand during the week, Settlements reaching 225 piculs. Holders have checked business by opening their mouths too wide; but orders are supposed to be in town at something like last week's prices, and it remains to be seen which side will give way. Among the Settlements we notice *Shinshu*, \$520 (afterwards cancelled); *Chichibu*, \$500; *Takasaki*, \$485; *Hachoji*, \$470; *Koshu*, \$465; *Yechizen*, \$430.

Filatures.—There has not been very much doing in these, but what has transpired appears to be at full rates. In fine sizes some fairly large parcels have been taken at from \$625 to \$610, and in coarser kinds, \$620 is reported to have been freely paid, for a good lot of *Hida*. Some desirable parcels are held off the Market altogether, and for others long prices are demanded. Holders appear strongly entrenched, and buyers on their side assert that the news from home does not warrant their paying whatever price sellers choose to ask. Among the sales made, we observe *Yamagata*, \$625; *Hida*, \$620; *Mino*, \$610; *Hagiwara*, \$605; *Shinshu* and *Koshu* sorts, \$600 to \$590.

Re-reels.—These have again been almost a dead letter; there are rumours of some transactions between foreigners, but the regular business has been very small, and comprises a few bales only. *Takasaki*, \$580; *Bushu*, \$570.

Kakeda.—Transactions in this class reduced to a minimum, the sum total resolving itself into one parcel reported at \$555. Holders ask higher prices, but all quotations must be looked upon as nominal in the absence of business.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—Nothing done, and no movement of any kind to report in these descriptions.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3½	450 to 460
Filatures—Extra	635 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	605 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 605
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	550 to 560
Kakedas—No. 3	530 to 540
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	480 to 490
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	430 to 450
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk 14th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
France and Italy	16,416	10,465	6,512
America	7,774	6,667	4,032
England	2,616	3,054	2,588
Total	26,806	20,186	13,132

WASTE SILK.

Again we have to notice more doing in this Market, and as before, buying has remained in few hands. Settlements for the week have been about 350 piculs, and as arrivals for the same period were but 170 piculs, the already attenuated Stock-list shows a further diminution. Enquiry for some kinds is good, and sellers have again been able to advance rates a little. The English mail of the 9th took 119 bales, bringing total Export of Waste and *Cocoons* up to 19,492 piculs, against 17,269 piculs last year, and 14,724 piculs in 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—The few piculs in Stock last week have been taken into foreign godowns for sorting and inspecting, thus leaving the Market

quite bare. The season for these is now closed, and should any further supplies come down, they will be dribbles only.

Noshi-ito.—Holders maintain a firm attitude supported by the paucity of the Stock. *Filatures* are wanted at higher prices, and business is reported in *Shinshu* at \$140; *Koshu*, \$130; Fine *Bushu* *Noshi*, \$120; Fine *Foshu*, \$100; Assorted *Foshu*, \$90 to \$85 (one parcel "Summer reeling" which had been held over, fetching as much as \$95); with a modicum of Common at \$55 to \$60.

Kibiso.—Some business done in this class, ranging chiefly in Medium *Foshu* at from \$35 to \$40, per picul. Some *Oshu* at \$80, with *Hachoji* at \$22½ and \$17 complete the list. *Filatures* could be readily sold at good prices, but there are none offering.

Neri.—There are rumors of a small parcel being taken at \$15, but the report lacks confirmation.

Mawata.—No transactions at present, buyers standing out in hopes of obtaining a concession in price.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	Nom. 65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 14th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
Waste Silk	17,327	14,156	11,902
Pierced Cocoons	2,165	3,113	2,822
Total	19,492	17,269	14,724

Exchange has continued its downward course, renewed activity in Import clearances having made Dollars and *Kinsatsu* more plentiful in the foreign and native exchange marts respectively. We quote London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 89½; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.70. *Kinsatsu*, which at one moment were quoted at 121, close at about 116½ for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 14th Feb., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,250	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	700	Noshi-ito	90
Kakeda	500	Kibiso	510
Sendai & Hamatsuki	300	Mawata	190
Taysam Kinds	50		
Total piculs	2,800	Total piculs	790

TEA.

There has been very little animation in our Market during the past week, and but few purchases have been made. Prices are quite firm at our quotations. It would seem that the approaching close of the season, which promises to be considerably earlier than last year, and the general belief that there is but a very small quantity of leaf to come forward from the country, have stimulated a few purchasers to operate at advanced prices. Stocks here are very small, most dealers have sold their entire supply, and receipts from the country have come in very slowly. The aggregate Settlements only foot up to about 340 piculs, and consist mostly of Tea grading Medium. The P. & O. steamship *Khiva* took 80,005 lbs. Tea for New York via Hongkong.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	13 to 15
Medium	17 & up'ds
Good Medium	Nominal.

EXCHANGE.

With only a small amount of Private Bills on offer during the week, rates have again slightly declined. At the close quotations are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.59
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 ½ d. dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89½

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No. 8, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1884.

DEATH.

At Philadelphia, U.S. of America, on January 13th, 1884, suddenly, LYDIA E., wife of Jno. C. Ballagh Esq., recently of Tokio.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

An attempt to break Jail was made by the prisoners at Okayama on the 8th instant. The plot was discovered and frustrated.

It is stated that additional purchases of railway bonds have been effected by the National Banks, and this highly improper use of bank funds is ascribed to a circular addressed to the Banks by the merchants of Tokiyo.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a curious story to the effect that a continuous system of theft was carried on in the International Exhibition at Amsterdam by the Inspector General of Police. The goods stolen amounted in value to \$140,000.

A GENTLEMAN has written to the local press warning foreign residents in Tokiyo against fraudulent attempts on the part of Japanese coal merchants to deliver short weights.

A PROCLAMATION has been issued by the Council of State fixing the tax to be levied hereafter on the sea-weed obtained in the prefectures of Nemuro and Hakodate. In the former the tax is to be 10 per cent., in the latter 20 per cent., of the amount fished.

A REPORT is circulating that apprehensions are entertained of an unsatisfactory yield of silk in Japan this year. Similar rumours are set afloat

every spring, and the causes to which the probable deficiency is attributed in the present case are not of a nature to inspire much confidence in the truth of the rumour.

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs returned to Tokiyo on the 21st instant, accompanied by Madame Inouye and Madame Katsu Inouye. The latter lady, we are happy to state, is quite restored to health.

On the morning of the 19th instant, a godown belonging to Messrs. J. D. Carroll & Co., and containing rope, paint, oil, cotton yarn, etc., was destroyed by fire. The goods were insured for \$60,000, it is said.

SYMPTOMS of a revival of business begin to be discernible, the railway receipts, among other things, showing totals in excess of those for the corresponding periods of last year, a result which has not been witnessed for some time.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Tokiyo Traders' and Manufacturers' Association was held at the Meiji Kwaido on the 18th instant. The subjects discussed were the banking system of Japan, and a scheme submitted by the Minister of Finance for extending the use of bank bills.

It is said that the authorities contemplate the issue of return postal cards. The idea of these cards in that, when desirable, an answer may be written on the same card by the recipient and forwarded to the original sender free of expense. The vernacular press anticipates a great increase to public convenience from this facility.

THE experience of the past two years having shown that an inconvenient accumulation of cases, both civil and criminal, can scarcely be avoided with the system of law courts at present existing, reforms, intended to facilitate the transaction of judicial business, are said to be in contemplation.

THE total number of conflagrations which occurred in Tokiyo during the past week was ten, of which six were incendiary fires. In only one case did the fire attain dimensions sufficient to destroy a house. One of the incendiary fires took place within the compound of General Kuroda's residence.

AN exhibition of pictures by Japanese artists was held at the Koyokwan, Shiba, Tokiyo, on the 17th instant. About 150 artists were represented. The exhibition was under the auspices of the Riuchikwai, a society formed two years ago with the object of promoting Japanese art industries. The pictures are to be sent to Paris for exhibition in the Museum of Japanese Arts recently opened there.

REPORTS from the Riukiu Islands indicate a renewal of pro-Chinese agitation on the part of the descendants of the Fuhkien immigrants. The present inclination of these men seems to be confined to leaving the country, and, as their departure would remove the source of agitation, surprise is expressed that the Japanese authorities take measures to detain them.

THE return of His Excellency Yenomoto to Peking, at an early date, is announced. This Minister's visit to Japan was made the basis of many sensational rumours, pointing, for the most part, to complications between the Chinese and Japanese Governments. The public was also informed, now that he would replace the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, and again that he would relieve Mr. Mori, in London, the simple truth being, as we explained at the time of his arrival, that he had come home on leave of absence.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce was held on the 18th instant. The statistics of the Chamber showed that the value of the import trade was 2½ millions of dollars less, and that of the export trade about 1½ millions less, in 1883 than in 1882. A comparison of the estimated totals of the import and export trades for 1883, showed that the former exceeded the latter by nearly 9 millions of dollars. Some discussion took place with regard to Bonded Warehouses, in view of the pending changes in the tariff. Mr. A. J. Wilkin spoke at some length on the subject of treaty revision in relation to the abolition or modification of the extraterritorial clauses.

THE first lecture of the free series announced by the Evangelical Alliance was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Knox in the Meiji Kwaido on the 16th instant. About 1,200 persons, including many ladies, were present, and though occasional interruptions were caused by a few boisterous students, the proceedings were eminently successful. The next day an attempt was made by a Japanese gentleman to lecture in the same place on Buddhism, but a crowd of students took possession of the hall and effectually interrupted the affair. It is significant of the spirit of enquiry now prevailing in Japan that, in the former case, eleven or twelve hundred persons assembled and listened attentively, many of them standing all the while, to a lecture lasting more than two hours, unrelieved by any passages of anecdote or humour, and treating of a subject so severe as the "Basis of Morality."

THE Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held on the 19th instant. The accounts showed a balance of \$2,665 still due to the Hon. Treasurer, but it was explained that if there was no falling off in the receipts during the current year, this debt would be reduced by about one-third. A separate account was exhibited from which it appeared that the total losses by fire in the foreign settlement during 1883 only amounted to eighty thousand dollars. Of the origin of the seven conflagrations figuring in these statistics, the Committee of the Brigade had no satisfactory explanation to offer in any case. Some discussion took place with regard to the comparative contributions of the community and the Insurance Companies, and a proposition, made by Mr. A. J. Wilkin, to employ Mr. Hegt's corps as a flying brigade, elicited an explanation that Mr. Hegt had declined to be incorporated.

NOTES.

It is somewhat unusual just at present for the Conscription Regulations to be celebrated with any outward and visible signs of joy, but the *Fiji Shimpō* gives a striking instance of that sort. "On the 11th inst.," says this journal, "a celebration of the Conscription Regulations took place at Okayama, the promoters of the festival being Messrs. Mineya and Ishihara. A platform was erected under a canopy of national flags, and a display of fireworks took place. Mr. Mineya, in addressing his audience, pointed out the necessity of the enlargement of military organization, and warmly congratulated the authorities on the revision of the Conscription Regulations. Speeches were made by several persons, and, at the conclusion of the addresses, a straw effigy was brought forward, intended to represent those averse to military service. The effigy was considerably battered with wooden swords, and finally decapitated with due ceremony. The head of the obnoxious effigy was then hoisted on top of a bamboo pole and exposed to the derisive jeers of the populace."

Two years ago, there was organized in Tokiyo a society called the *Riuchikwai*. It consisted, in its early days, of about a hundred noblemen, gentlemen, and traders, all of whom were concerned, as a matter of profit or sentiment, in the revival of Japanese art and its popularization abroad. The society was under the presidency of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, patron and supporter of whatever is liberal, useful, or benevolent. In a few months its numbers were doubled, and its list of membership now comprises fully a thousand names, while it disposes annually of a fund amounting to ten thousand *yen*. The Committee of management, justly deeming that any efforts made in Japan ought to be supplemented by an appeal to the European public, have concluded arrangements to open in Paris a museum of modern Japanese art productions, and a collection of pictures destined for exhibition there was shown at the Kōyōkwan, Shiba, on the 18th instant. Japanese pictorial art undoubtedly suffered much after the Restoration, from the general disposition to discard everything of native origin. Until five or six years ago, oil paintings and water-colours *à la Européenne* were all the vogue, and the few artists who remained true to the old styles, found little employment and less patronage. But the temper of the times has changed considerably. The exhibition at the Kōyōkwan did not contain much that would satisfy the severest standards of Japanese art, but it showed a marked improvement as compared with its predecessor at Uyeno in 1882. About 150 artists were represented, and their works ranged from the most elaborate specimens of decorative painting to the severest style of Indian ink sketches. That essentially Chinese and most unnatural variety of picture known as the *Bunjin-gwa* had evidently occupied the attention of a great many artists, but we frankly confess that our education does not yet extend to an appreciation of the grotesque rocks and impossible hills which always occupy the background of these efforts. The masterpieces of the exhibition were two pictures by Kiyosai. One, in Indian ink, represented an eagle in the act of striking a young boar; the other, in colours, depicted the well known episode in Chinese mythology where the afterwards-renowned warrior Choriyo picks up the sandal of

the Genius Koseki. Nothing could exceed the boldness and vigour of these drawings. Kiyosai's works will certainly take rank hereafter among the highest achievements of his country's artists. Unfortunately like many another man of note, his respect for the conventionalities of everyday life is said to be slight, so that he fails to secure the patronage without which the execution of important pieces is difficult to a painter of slender resources in Japan. An artist, Hōgai, whose name will doubtless be better known one of these days, exhibited a remarkably composed picture of the goddess Kwannon in the act of pouring from a phial a slender stream of water, in the spray of which floated a baby drawn with great skill. Another piece from the same brush, a winter scene, attracted much attention. A very beautiful specimen of that graceful and delicate fashion of figure painting inaugurated in Japan by Matabei and copied so admirably by Okiyo, was shown by an artist called Sensai. Other pictures worthy of special note were a snow scene by Bunkiyo; a group of flowers by Kwansen; figures of fishermen by Beisen; a flock of wild geese and a hawk by Ansen, and a landscape, with a junk in the foreground, by Kason.

UNDER the heading "The French in possession of Colombo," the *Ceylon Observer* of the 23rd ult. has the following:—"So one might judge from the appearance of the harbour and streets of our city to-day. Last evening the French transport *Européen* with 600 troops on board; arrived; and this morning the *Vinhlong* with the General Commanding-in-Chief, Millot, two Brigadiers-General, Brière de l'Isle and de Négrier, with staff and about 900 troops for Tonquin. The steamer *Comorin* also came in this morning with further troops. From an exchange we quote the following details:—The reinforcements for Tonquin, numbering 6,300, were to leave France in two detachments. The first, which was to have started on the 25th Dec., consisted:—1st, of transport *Vinhlong* with Generals Millot, Brière de l'Isle, and de Négrier, 1,050 Algerian troops and three horses; 2nd, the transport *Européen*, with 602 men and two horses; 3rd, the steamer *Solong*, with 615 men and six horses; 4th, the steamer *Comorin*, with 817 men and eight horses. The *Annamite* was to start on Jan. 10th with the troops from France, consisting of infantry, artillery, engineers, and the ambulance train, numbering altogether 3,219 men, with fifty-two horses. Finally the steamer *Ville de Metz* will be dispatched at the end of the present month with 3,000 tons of provisions. It will thus be seen that there are over 2,000 French troops now in our harbour. A number of these have been wandering about our streets, wondering no doubt at the novelties of a tropical island and themselves objects of wonder to the natives. The Algerian troops are, we suppose, the first who ever landed here. An officer who died on board was buried this evening."

ON Sunday afternoon, the 17th instant, the Meiji Kwaïdo was witness of a somewhat remarkable scene. Mr. Kitabatake Dōrin, Chief Priest of the Higashi Honganji, had announced a lecture on his recent tour through India, together with observations on Indian Buddhism. As the subject was a novel one, a very large audience collected some time before the appointed hour. The hall was soon over-full, while quite a crowd forced their way through the windows,

despite every effort of the watchmen to prevent them from breaking in. As soon as the lecturer commenced speaking, cries of disapprobation and rude clamor rose from many parts of the hall, completely drowning the speaker's voice. The student element was largely represented, and was conspicuously noticeable for rowdy behaviour. The noise and disturbance finally reached such a pitch that the speaker announced that the lecture could no longer be continued, pleading sudden indisposition as the reason of his abrupt close. The excuse gave occasion for renewed hisses and derisive cries, many calling out "Priests shouldn't lie; why don't you go on with the lecture?" Unfortunately there were no police present to put an end to the riotous proceedings. The cause of the disturbance is said to be due to the fact that no admission fees were charged, access thereby being given to the mob. Several thousand persons were present.

IN days gone by, fire was known as the "flower of Yedo," because, though destructive, it was regarded as an evidence of prosperity. This sounds rather like a mysterious *non sequitur*. Since the establishment of the Imperial residence in Tokiyo, the authorities have done everything in their power to prevent the occurrence of disastrous conflagrations. Statistics show that the entire city is burnt in every seven years. From 1874 to 1883 the area covered by houses destroyed by fire amounts to 67,467 *tsubo* for each year, and, estimating the average cost of real estate at 28.91.3 *yen* per *tsubo*, this gives a total loss by fire of 1,950,715 *yen*. Dividing this sum by the total number of houses in the fifteen wards—287,930—gives an annual average of loss by fire of 6.77.4 *yen* per house.—*T. Y. Mainichi Shimbun*.

WE (*Hongkong Daily Press*) learn on reliable authority that all operations are suspended for the present throughout Tonquin, pending the arrival of General Millot with the reinforcements. As the moon will be full shortly after his arrival, the attack on Bac-ninh will be pushed forward immediately. We understand that the French authorities have taken steps by which dispatches will be sent from the field of battle direct to Hongkong, for telegraphing to France, without touching anywhere. Meanwhile correspondents are encouraged as little as ever.

THE reconnaissance made from Hanoi in the direction of Bac-ninh, on January 11th, appears to have established the fact that every preparation for a vigorous defence has been made by the Chinese. The troops engaged in the reconnaissance were four companies of Turcos, one of Annamite riflemen, and three pieces of artillery. They found that the only practicable route to the place was fortified at every point, and the same report was made as to the condition of the canal by the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief. The reconnoitring force was under Chinese fire for about three hours. It is to be feared, from all this, that the French will find the assault of Bac-ninh a task of some difficulty. As we predicted in November, they have wisely waited for reinforcements before attempting to advance, and they will thus be able to deliver the assault with a force of eight or nine thousand men. The Chinese, on the other hand, will have three times that number, at least, and if they stand to their guns with

ordinary steadiness the losses of the attacking force must necessarily be severe. As to the result, there can be little doubt, but it is not pleasant to think of the sacrifices that may have to be made. The best thing that can happen in the interests of peace is that the French should succeed easily and swiftly. They must win in the end, and every difficulty or repulse they encounter will only furnish a fresh incentive to Chinese stubbornness. Our conviction that there will not be any open war between France and the Middle Kingdom remains unchanged. Bac-ninh will fall, and France will then find that she can afford to be magnanimous, while China, on her side, is not sufficiently sensitive to be stirred to earnest action by a trouble so remote as the loss of a nominal suzerainty, or even of an outlying dependency. When France sees herself mistress of the delta of the Red River she will listen to mediation, and America will be the mediator. Any friendly offices of that nature once contemplated by England, have probably been finally abandoned in view of Egyptian complications.

A FIRE broke out on the morning of the 19th instant in a godown belonging to Messrs. J. D. Carroll & Co., next to their offices in Main-street. The fire was discovered at twenty minutes to five o'clock, and is supposed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion, the building containing rope, paint, oil, cotton yarn, waste, blankets, &c. The engines were very quickly on the spot and were soon got to work, but unfortunately the "Relief" burst a boiler tube, and had to be withdrawn. Quantities of water were poured into the burning building by the "Victoria" and manuals, but owing to the nature of the contents of the godown, the firemen were only able to confine the conflagration to the building in which it originated, which was entirely destroyed with all it contained. We understand that the property is insured in the China Fire for \$40,000, and in the Hongkong Fire for \$20,000, but whether Messrs. Carroll are covered or not has not transpired. Great credit is due to Mr. Morgan, of the Fire Brigade, for his exertions.

THE *Yomi-uri Shimbun* says that the people of Kagawa, in Sanshiu, had a surprise the other day. Some farmers were digging in the neighbourhood of a little temple when they came on a number of massive timbers buried in the ground. Pursuing their researches, they found ultimately that a hole, thirty-six yards square, was filled with similar logs. When and why these timbers were thus disposed of no one has yet been able to conjecture. Kagawa is a little village of hard-working rustics, and tradition does not tell of any time when a use could have existed there for the buried logs.

THE *North German Gazette* states that the reception of the Imperial Prince by the Pope was ceremonious yet cordial, and declares that the report published by the *Osservatore Romano* with regard to the interview was the only correct and complete one. From this it results, adds the semi-official journal, that the private conversation between the Prince and his Holiness lasted about an hour.

The *Osservatore Romano* is officially authorised to contradict, both as regards the substance and the words, the report published by some of

the Liberal newspapers of a portion of what passed in private between the Pope and the Crown Prince. That report was to the effect that at the end of the interview the Pope asked the Prince if he had no mission or anything to propose, to which the Prince replied, "My only mission is to express the lively desire of the Emperor and Prince Bismarck that peace may be re-established between Church and State in Germany compatibly with our laws and our institutions." The Pope, it was added in this report, made no answer, and was but little satisfied with what the Prince had said.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Tokiyo:—The lecture delivered at the Meiji Kwaido on Saturday last was a thorough success, 1,150 persons were present, and at least eleven hundred of these were as quiet as could be. At first there was some slight disturbance, but after a kindly appeal of the Chairman (Rev. Mr. Eby) to the politeness of the audience, the unruly section dwindled down to half a dozen, and even these were far from being boisterous, so that the vast bulk of the listeners had the opportunity of enjoying, to its very close, a lecture which lasted over two hours. When the Chairman and the Rev. Mr. Knox ascended the platform they were received with a perfect ovation, and the applause at the points in favor of Christianity was far in excess of the few cries of disapprobation. The impressions conveyed by the paragraph in the *Japan Mail* of the 19th inst. might have been those of one who stood on the outskirts of the audience, but not of one near the front.

A RECENT issue of *Iron* has a strong argument in favour of cremation. It says:—Some people—very worthy people, no doubt—have been shocked by the recent accounts of the cremation of the body of the late Captain Hanham. For charity's sake, we will respect their feelings, but we are utterly unable to understand their arguments against such a method of disposing of our dead. From a sanitary point of view their objections are absurd, and must be relegated to an age of darkness which we have happily passed. We will do our best to direct their attention to an important extract, which bears directly upon the question, and which is taken from the reports from Her Majesty's diplomatic and consular officers abroad on subjects of general interest, presented to both Houses of Parliament this year. The report is by Mr. Corbett, of Rio de Janeiro, and embodies the investigations of Dr. Freire on the subject of yellow fever. Dr. Freire states:—"I think it a duty to divulge as soon as possible a circumstance of much importance to the public health. Having gone to visit the Turnjuba cemetery, where those dying in the maritime hospital of Santa Isabel are interred, I gathered from a foot below the surface some of the earth gathered from the grave of a person who died about a year ago of yellow fever. On examining a small quantity with the microscope, I found myriads of microbii exactly identical with those found in the excreta of persons sick with yellow fever. These observations, which were verified in all their details by my auxiliaries, show that the germs of yellow fever perpetuate themselves in the cemeteries, which are like so many nurseries for the propagation of new generations destined to devastate our city. A guinea pig, whose blood examination showed that it was in a pure state, was shut up in a confined space in which was placed the

earth taken from that grave. In five days the animal was dead, and its blood proved to be literally crammed with cryprococcus in various stages of evolution." Could science speak more plainly, and is sentiment to get the better of its teachings? We have too great a faith in healthy public opinion ever to doubt its verdict in this matter.

THE *Yomi-uri Shimbun* says that the first ice of the season came to Yokohama three days ago in the *Owari Maru*. The ship carried a cargo of 500 tons from Hakodate, and it was transferred, immediately on arrival to the ice-house of Mr. M. Asada, who expects to be as fortunate this year as he was last in the ice trade.

THE unrivalled tenor, who died at Rome on the 12th of December, though known to the world as Mario, was in reality the Marquis Giovanni di Candia. He was seventy-three years old when he died, and like many another great artist, his last days were passed in obscurity, if not in embarrassment. Among his best friends and most munificent patrons was the Queen of England. She, too, was one of the first to receive the news of the great tenor's death. A few moments before Mario expired he was waited on by Mr. Cusin, one of the Royal Chaplains, who had just arrived from London, knowing nothing of his friend's illness. Mario had scarcely strength to bid his visitor farewell, and to entrust to him respectful remembrances for Her Majesty, which were immediately telegraphed to Windsor. The Queen replied, also by telegram:—"Her Majesty has learned of M. Mario's death with sincere regret. She begs that you will represent her at his funeral, and place a chaplet of flowers, in her name, on his bier." After he retired from the stage Mario seems to have busied himself writing his memoirs, but unfortunately he left them incomplete. It is said, too, that towards the end he had become subject to curious hallucinations. Thus, on the last page of his diary, he wrote:—"At about 3 o'clock this morning, I distinctly heard three knocks at my window. Evidently this has some relation with the news which I sought of my daughters in London." Mario was originally destined for the career of arms. He was for seven years an officer in the Italian army, during five of which he served as aide-de-camp to General de Maistre. One day, however, as he himself relates, he was ordered to carry some despatches to the Viceroy of Sardinia, at Cagliari. He had special reasons for not desiring to make the journey, and as there was no way of avoiding it if he remained in the service, he determined to resign. Soon he was singing in the salons at Paris, and hearing everybody praise his beautiful tenor, with its compass from *fa* to *si*. Among his admirers was the Baroness de Montmorency, an excellent musician and pianiste, who could not conceal her astonishment at hearing him sing *basso profondo* at Nice a short time before. Mario told her gallantly that if he had formerly taken the part of *Marcel*, in "The Huguenots," he now took that of *Raoul*, because the lover's rôle always fell to the tenor. He appears to have felt many scruples about going on the stage, but the Prince of Belgiojoso finally convinced him by saying:—"If I had your voice, and your figure, I should not hesitate, prince as I am." While he was preparing for his new career he used often to go, he says, to hear Rubini sing, and that artist's beautiful voice pro-

duced such an effect on him that, on his way home, he could not help repeating what he had heard at the Salle Vendatour. The police did not appreciate this artistic enthusiasm, and more than once Mario was rebuked by them for disturbing the public tranquillity.

THE present Governor of Hongkong adopts a refined and scholarly method of letting the Colonial Office know that his ideas of the dependency he administers do not exactly correspond with those of his predecessor. Hongkong, he informs the Earl of Derby, is neither the *colonia* of the Romans, nor yet the *αποικία* of the Greeks, but is a mixture of *επιτεχισμα* and *εμποριον*, that is to say a cross between "a fort or stronghold placed so as to command an enemy's country" and a commercial mart. Lord Derby does not often enjoy an opportunity of deriving so much solid information as Sir G. F. Bowen's despatches place at his disposal, and it is to be hoped that he will have leisure to profit by the chance. Moreover, there will be much comfort for the opponents of Sir John Pope Hennesy's policy in the thought that his successor, so far from indulging in any humanitarian dreams of placing the Chinese residents on the same level as the foreign, regards Hongkong as "a fortified outpost like Gibraltar, a post of power," a place designed to "command an enemy's country." This is pretty much the conception a great many Englishmen entertain of their position, both in Japan and China, *vis-à-vis* the people of the country. Sir G. F. Bowen, having dispelled all doubts as to the proper status of the place he writes about, then proceeds to give some interesting statistics. He says that the tonnage of the shipping entered at Hongkong in 1882 was 4,976,233, a larger figure than the tonnage entered at London in the year of Her Majesty's accession: that the revenue of the colony (£220,000) is greater than was the entire public revenue of Scotland at the time of the Union; that so far from having a public debt, the place has a balance fund, invested at interest and amounting to £209,000; that its population is 160,402, of whom 7,990 are whites, 1,722 coloured, and the remainder Chinese, and that the city of Victoria extends for more than four miles along the shore and contains about 7,000 houses of stone and brick, "many of them spacious and handsome."

AN eminent financialist of social proclivities lately wrote to Mr. Mitchell to request him to inform Miss Mary Anderson that her presence would be welcome either at a dinner party, or as a guest later in the evening after it, and to request to be informed what the charge would be. Upon submitting the proposal to Miss Anderson, this young lady very rightly replied that she was not on hire for dining or evening party purposes. *Truth* remarks:—"Never was a snub more deserved. What would the financialist have thought if Miss Anderson had asked him to come to her house to be stared at in consideration of food and a cheque? This sort of purseproud, vulgar snobbishness must be put down."

THE New York correspondent of the *London and China Express* gives the following account of how a Chinaman, named Chew Fong Lee, slipped very cleverly into the country. He came over for the especial purpose of drying shrimps and crabs for food, a business which properly excludes him under the Chinese Anti-Immigra-

tion Act. He had the forethought, when challenged, to engage a lawyer, who overwhelmed the judge before whom the case was tried with a burst of scientific jargon. "He is, your honour," said the lawyer, "about to conduct a series of experiments and investigations in the arts of dessicating and freeing from moisture the long-tailed decaped crustaceans, which inhabit the waters of our beautiful bay; also in pulverising the *palcemon vulgaris* and utilising the carapax of macoural and the cephalo thorax of the *alamoura* species as an article of food." "That sounds very good," said his Honour; "I wish Chinamen were all seized with the desire to benefit science." Chew Fong Lee is now drying shrimps and small crabs.

ONE of the Tokiyo society journals enters into some pleasing details about an unfortunate youth whose body is said to be the home of innumerable caterpillar-like animals. He is at present an inmate of a private hospital, and various microscopists are endeavouring to place the animalculæ in their proper classification. This is nothing to the case of Edward Longmore, a man of Sedalia, whose stomach has just ceased to be the home of a lizard which had lived there for more than two years and made the miserable citizen very uneasy by promenading in his intestines.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Pottery Gazette*, under the heading of "Bosh Tea Shops," calls attention to the fact that the "tea and glass combination" is taking a new departure in Birmingham. Enterprising tea-shops have extended their "gifts" giving a *towel* with every half-pound of tea. This is suggestive to the happy purchaser. A dustpan, a coal-shovel, a tin basin, a brush, indeed nearly every trifle used in a house is "given away" now-a-days with each pound or half pound of tea. The writer concludes that this new move is a direct attack at the drapers' trade, "but," he adds, "the draper can defend himself, and with great pertinacity, as we all know." We do not wish to appear too active in our own behalf, but—really could not some of our local tea-dealers do the same? Towels are very handy articles.

THE *Morning Advertiser* of December 26th thus delivers itself on the situation in Egypt:—Even "the uncrowned king," as Gordon came to be called, had to complain continually of the untrustworthiness in action of his best trained troops. But Valentine Baker has no trained troops at all. They are policemen at the best, and not good policemen. And if, as we insisted should be done at first, Indian troops are not to be used even for the protection of Egypt—and a diversion by Suakim is clearly the quickest way of securing such a protection—then there is nothing for it but to stand on the defensive where defence is possible, and to recruit men from the Levant, who, especially Turks from Smyrna and Constantinople, would be only too glad to volunteer under English officers. But the first thing, it appears to most people who have studied the subject, is that there shall be an end of divided counsels at Cairo. Mr. Hake shows how these hampered Gordon, even when the situation was much simpler than it is, and when there was a strong ruler in the Palace of Abdeen. The next step is some relaxation of the rule respecting the application of the revenue. It is absurd, when Egypt has hardly begun to recover from the

effects of Arabi's rebellion, and when the Treasury is empty, and when these troubles have come upon the Government, to insist on the strict letter of financial arrangements which were well enough when Mr. Goschen devised them, but were never meant to cover such contingencies as are now to be met. Sir Evelyn Baring has had a soldier's training, and we can hardly believe that he will refuse his sanction to an arrangement by which the surplus tribute—the prospective sinking fund—should be advanced to the Khedive for actual purposes of defence. The continuance of the present state of affairs must deprive the Government of Cairo of far more revenue than would be spent in a few resolute movements which would have the effect of restoring public confidence and reopening the now paralysed markets at Khartoum, Berber, and Dongola. No doubt we should in no way assist the Khedive in reconquering the Eastern Soudan. But there is no question of that now. And if we refuse to help him out of his hobble we shall have a much vaster responsibility cast upon us very soon. We are virtually his protectors; Sir Evelyn Baring is virtually a Resident and dictator of policy. It will be strange if our direction of policy leads to military paralysis, and if our protection means tying our puppet by hands and feet. Yet that is remarkably like what the immediate outcome is.

THE course of events in Europe seldom elicits any expression of journalistic opinion with regard to Consular jurisdiction. It happens, however, that the Continental newspapers comment very plainly on this subject, in connection with the Capitulations of Tunis, which, as our readers are doubtless aware, recently gave rise to long negotiations between France and Italy, with the result that the jurisdiction of the former has been finally accepted. The whole question to be discussed was one of jurisdiction. Neither the commercial nor the financial phases were taken into consideration. The Capitulations referring to jurisdiction had their origin in the existence of barbarian governments, more especially the Mussulman Government, which, having no law but the Koran, was obviously incompetent to administer justice to Christians. It had been necessary to establish Consular tribunals, and of these a leading Italian journal says that "they have always been considered very defective," and that "wherever regular tribunals exist, the interest of all is to suppress special and exceptional jurisdictions, which, by their very nature, are vicious." The same journal then continues thus:—"From a civil point of view, diverse tribunals, the competence of which depends on whether a man is defendant or plaintiff, are good only for persons of bad faith, who seek, in chicanery, the means to evade their engagements. With justice of this species, credit is impossible, and consequently respectable merchants of every nationality desired to put an end to a regimen injurious to all legitimate interests. There remained then, the question of criminal justice, which interests, it is true, in general, very uninteresting persons, respectable folks seldom having anything to do with criminal tribunals: yet as there might be exceptions to this rule, guarantees were necessary. The difficulty has been solved by giving to Italians, when accused, the guarantee of a number of Italian jurors sufficient to remove any suspicion of partiality. It is evident that

the new jurisdiction will be preferable to that of Consuls, which, we repeat, is most defective." One cannot but wonder how this journal, and others that write in the same strain, would express themselves about Japan, where not two, but seventeen, different jurisdictions exist, and where respectable foreign merchants, so far from thinking that these multitudinous administrations "are good only for persons of bad faith who seek to evade their engagements," regard them as a valuable privilege not to be given up until Japan can offer some material *quid pro quo* for their surrender.

For some time past a party of speculative auctioneers have been plying an interesting and exciting trade in the neighbourhood of Nihon-bashi. Their organization combines the elements of buying and selling, and appears to resemble the device said to be so successfully practiced in New York for disposing of cigars to unwary visitors. The American plan is to put up a number of boxes of cigars apparently in one lot, and to sell them to a bystander for some ridiculously small sum. Tempted by such easy terms, another bystander bids for the next lot, and finds that his bid is accepted, not as covering the whole parcel, but as referring only to one box. The result is that in a majority of cases he compromises by paying a fine and getting rid of his bargain. In Japan the plan is simpler. The party watch for the advent of a countrified looking person, and when his attention is attracted to the auction, the auctioneer sells a number of valuable articles for a mere song to confederates who drop in by accident. The happy purchasers betray so much satisfaction that the countryman is at last tempted, and the value he gets for his money can be easily surmised. The other day, however, the auctioneers were unfortunate enough to mistake a detective for a bumpkin. The next morning they were all deprived of their licenses.

At the closing of the Fisheries Exhibition in London, announcement was made that its immediate successor would be devoted to the subject of health. A Health Exhibition will be a very novel affair: the more so that its scope appears, at first sight, vague and almost limitless. If the only restriction placed upon exhibits were that they should bear some relation to health, it is plain that almost every useful object might find a place in the show. To obviate this uncertainty care has been taken to define the nature of the exhibits with tolerable accuracy. Those in the first main division are to be divided into five groups—Food, Dress, the Dwelling, the School, and the Workshop: the second main division is to be devoted to Education. Even this classification leaves an inconvenient degree of latitude, and it may be presumed that further steps will be taken to circumscribe the vagaries of exhibitors. But the programme, however it may be narrowed down hereafter, shows that the exhibition will be the most instructive, and not the least interesting, of those hitherto held. *The Times* thinks that Japanese and Chinese Courts may be looked for, and we trust that if Japan elects to send anything, she will take care to be better represented, than she was at the Fisheries Exhibition. Models of houses, gardens; specimens of clothing and foot-gear; food of all sorts; including some of her wonderful *daikon* and *kabu*; examples of cookery—from such a list as this a court might

be furnished so as to create quite a sensation among Western sight-seers. The whole process of cooking eels *à la Japonnaise* would delight a London audience, and there is a fortune to be made by anyone who is sufficiently enterprising to exhibit a tea house, built after the most approved fashion of the *Cha no Yu* æsthetics, where visitors would have a chance of tasting the best *kwaiseki riyori*, served by Japanese waitresses and washed down by mulled *saké*.

Le Saigonnais publishes a startling piece of news, to this effect:—The Viceroy of Yunnan, who considered Son-tay an impregnable fortress, learning that the French were marching upon it, went himself to the town in order to enjoy the sight of their defeat. Of the day of the assault, accompanied by the first lieutenant of Liu Vinh-phuoc, he passed along the Chinese ranks, exhorting them to resist to the utmost. While thus engaged he saw the French Admiral at a distance of not more than 150 mètres. Turning to the second chief of the Black Flags, he thus addressed him:—"Terrible soldier, you see before you the chief of these barbarians who have sworn our death; you are accounted our best shot, let us see you justify your reputation." The lieutenant raised his rifle to his shoulder, but before he had time to press the trigger, both he and the Viceroy fell, shot dead. The news of their death spread along the ramparts like a powder train. An hour afterwards the French entered the town victorious, the Chinese having retired into the citadel. The French were at a loss to account for the sudden cessation of the opposition, and this is put forth by our Saigon contemporary as the explanation.

According to the *Saigonnais* of the 7th inst., the French transport *Vinhlong*, whose machinery broke down off Colombo, had arrived at Singapore four or five days before the date of the paper. The troops and *matériel* for Tonquin were immediately transferred to the *Mytho*, but as this operation would occupy three or four days it will be towards the end of this week before the *Mytho* can arrive at Tonquin. Owing to the breakdown of the machinery of the French transport *Vinhlong*, near Colombo, Generals Millot, Briere, de l'Isle, and de Negrier, who were passengers on board, disembarked at Colombo and proceeded to Saigon by the French mail steamer *Anadyr* arriving there on Tuesday, the 5th instant, and they left for Haiphong the following day by the *Saigon*. They were preceded by the cruiser *Hamelin* carrying urgent despatches from General Millot to Admiral Courbet.

A SPORTING correspondent of the *Exeter Gazette* states that a series of inquiries have been addressed by a northern doctor to eighty headmasters on the subject of football casualties, and that answers have been received from forty gentlemen who have had in their charge upwards of 3,500 pupils. They report forty-six fractures, chiefly of the collar-bone, ninety-three dislocations and sprains, and twenty-three other injuries. One master sarcastically suggests that the risks of football be lessened by wrapping the players in cotton-wool and letting them play in goloshes and umbrellas.

It is a common saying among Japanese vegetable growers that one radish (*daikon*) grown at Miyashige (Owari), takes two men to carry it, and that two Satsuma turnips make a load for one pony. This sounds somewhat "tall," but so far

as the Satsuma turnip is concerned, the statement is little, if at all, exaggerated. One of these monster vegetables was presented to the Emperor the other day by the Shimadzu family. It measured over six feet in girth. The curious thing about these enormous turnips is that they are generally sound to the core, and that, when skilfully boiled, or steamed, they are an exceedingly delicate and palatable aliment.

THE Newcastle Chronicle says:—"Should the full strength at the disposal of France be pitted against the Celestials, we have never had two opinions about the upshot. China has made vast progress in her military organisation, but she cannot yet cope successfully with the skill, energy, and enlightenment of a great European Power. A more important question is—Can the Republic of France afford to imperil its existence by undertaking a great war on the far side of Asia, and leading the nation, in the teeth of its political prejudices, into a distant adventure more hazardous and inexcusable than that of Mexico, which was the first nail in the coffin of the Empire?"

THE example of lucrative law-breaking carried on with impunity is apt to have a demoralizing effect. The gambling establishment recently opened at the old Auction Mart in Nagasaki has proved so successful that a similar concern has been set a-going at a place known as the old Fulton Market in the same Settlement. These enterprises are forcible illustrations of what might happen on a very much larger scale if people were so minded. By an unwarrantable and illogical rendering of the treaties, the Japanese have been deprived of all municipal authority in the foreign settlements, while, on the other hand, it is not even pretended that foreigners themselves have any right to exercise that authority. The consequence is that the maintenance of peace and order depend entirely on the disposition of the residents. Should there happen to be discerned some prospect of gain or convenience by infringing the municipal regulations to which the Japanese are subject, then the only safe-guard left for the regulations is the virtuous instinct of publicans and adventurers. This state of affairs does credit to the patriotism and sagacity of diplomatists who concluded that no law at all was better than a law not of their own making. That the paralysis of government produced by an arbitrary and absurd interpretation of the treaties has not led to worse things than the occasional establishment of a gambling saloon or an exchange shop in open defiance of the laws of the land, is quite a creditable feature of foreign intercourse with this country.

JUSTIN MCCARTHY, speaking of the Czar Nicholas and the proposals he made in his celebrated conversations with Sir G. Hamilton Seymour, says that the Western idea of honour had not quite got possession of the Russian potentate's mind, and compares him to a savage who is ambitious of learning the ways of civilization, and who may be counted on to do whatever he knows to be in accordance with these ways, but who is constantly liable to make a mistake simply from not knowing how to apply them in each new emergency. A writer of contemporaneous history is at one serious disadvantage. He runs the risk of seeing his theories hopelessly upset by the sequel of the events on which they are based. There can be no doubt that Justin

McCarthy's language expresses, justly enough, the ideas entertained by the majority of Englishmen at the time when he wrote. But judged by what has since happened, the semi-civilized potentate's notions assume a new character. He thought that Servia and Bulgaria might become independent states, and that Turkey was too sick to be left any larger to her own devices; and he said that if England would let him alone to deal with the patient, she might take possession of Egypt and Candia, should the reorganization of South-Eastern Europe seem to render such a step advisable. England, of course, thought it would be highly improper to enter into any such compact without the knowledge of the other European Powers, and thenceforth, ceasing to regard Nicholas as a sincere friend, counted him an unprincipled plotter and plunderer, not to be made an associate in any engagement. The result of this little bit of sentiment, so far as Great Britain is concerned, is that, after two wars, involving the expenditure of tens of thousands of lives and seventy or eighty millions of treasure, she is drifting, point by point, into the very position which Nicholas would have had her assume without loss or bloodshed in 1853. Preferring Cyprus to Candia, she took possession of the former without consulting any of the Great Powers, and she is now occupying Egypt under circumstances that do not present the least prospect of her being able to withdraw. Ill-natured critics might be disposed to say that while she declined to let Nicholas have his share of the proposed compact, she has not failed to take her own. But the truth is that events have been too strong for her. There are phases of international policy which refuse to shape themselves by the principles of high morality. The Czar's method of dealing with European complications thirty years ago savoured slightly of scheming and spoliation, but if his ideas of international honour seemed a little behind the period, his political sagacity was a quarter of a century before it. From a material point of view the gain would have been immense had his programme been carried out, and though England might have forfeited a little of her self-respect, she would have been saved the injustice of imputing dishonest motives to an honest friend.

MR. LOWELL, having made himself very popular in England, is fast becoming an object of execration among the lower social strata of his own countrymen. In the eyes of Irish-Americans the greatest sin that can be laid to the charge of an United States' official is to be the friend of Englishmen. The London *World*, in a moment of giddy effusiveness, mentions, among Minister Lowell's titles to be liked, that "the arms of the United States are nowhere conspicuously emblazoned" about the Legation, that "you cannot detect in the tones of his voice the slightest Americanism." These are grave offences. An American journal makes them the text of a vigorous pasquinade against a diplomatist who is "more English than the English themselves." The talented writer and refined scholar is called "dishonorable" because he "declines to conspicuously emblazon the arms of his country," and speaks without a nasal twang. He is said to represent "that foreign-worshipping element of our Eastern cities who look upon their nationality as a misfortune and a disgrace, and would gladly welcome the restoration of British institutions over the ashes of our Republic." Another

writer thinks that "there is only one thing conspicuously absent from Mr. Lowell's career to make his identification with the worst conceivable toadyism to loyalty complete, and that is his singular failure to have written an elegy on John Brown." This patriotic journalist declares that an American Representative abroad should be a man "who would connect with the idea of the United States the fact that it is a nation which has attained its maturity through a defiance, and not an imitation, of foreign institutions: a man who would remember that 'a quarter of a century has not elapsed since Great Britain sent from her ports ships gunned with British guns and manned with British seamen to destroy the Government of the United States, and that she would do the same thing to-morrow were circumstances as favorable as when she launched her Confederate cruisers.'" It is not likely that this vulgar bluster will seriously impair Englishmen's friendship for a nation so closely related to them as the American. The principal feeling excited by the perusal of such wild writing is one of astonishment at the depth and permanence of Federal anger. Even granting that England were guilty of all the sins laid to her charge in connection with her so called "Confederate cruisers," still the worst that she did was to help one party of Americans against another. This, to our thinking, is a sin very much more venial than that of taking part with a foreign power against the United States. But among a certain class of Americans the distinction does not appear to be recognized. To have sympathized with the Confederates is an unpardonable crime. Whether the enduring umbrage its memory causes is to be attributed to the intensity of the North's wrath against the South, or to independent jealousy of England and Englishmen, it is pleasant to think that sensible men on both sides have learned to laugh at these acrimonious displays, and to regard their violence only as a proof of their growing insignificance.

THE Rev. W. C. Davisson, of the American Methodist Episcopal Church Missions, who, in addition to the arduous task involved by his own duties, undertook the Pastorate of the Union Church over twelve months ago, will preach his farewell sermon to-morrow (Sunday) morning, prior to his departure for America by the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*. During Mr. Davisson's connection with the Union Church, the congregation has nearly doubled in numbers, the hymn-book formerly in use has been changed for a more suitable one, the singing at the services has undergone a marked improvement, and the finances of the Church are in a far healthier condition than they have ever been previously, the balance at present in the Treasurer's hands reflecting great credit both upon Mr. Davisson and the officers of the Church who have assisted him in the conduct of affairs. Mr. Davisson will probably not return to Japan, and a large circle of friends beside his congregation wish him a pleasant voyage and a safe return to his native country.

It has long been understood that trees of the same kind do not generally flourish on opposite sides of the same continent. As a rule, the conifers of the Pacific Coast languish when planted on the Atlantic seaboard, and our oaks and hickories die in California and Oregon. The case is different with the corresponding shores of two continents. The ocean currents

and other causes make the climatic conditions of Eastern Asia more like our own, while the moist airs of Western Europe resemble those of our Pacific Coast. For this reason, California trees flourish in England, while, by natural selection, the forests of China and Japan are more nearly akin to our own. Indeed, a large percentage of the decorative plants on our lawns have come from Eastern Asia. Among the well-known deciduous trees are the ailanthus, sophora, kalreneria, paulownia, Japanese maples and Chinese magnolias, with such conifers as the retimosporas, ginko, Japan larch, umbrella pine, and Chinese cypress; beside shrubs, vines and herbaceous plants without number. It is not surprising, then, that the trees of Western Europe take kindly to our California climate, and these introductions may prove of great value to a region which is so rich in evergreen forests, but poverty stricken as regards hard wood. For some years past the English oak (*quercus robur*, var. *pedunculata*) has been tested on the grounds of the University of California alongside of our own oaks and other foreign ones. During the first two seasons the growth of the English oak exceeded from two or three times that made by any other, besides throwing out many more branches. The tree is a most valuable one, and serves in Europe most of the services for which we use white oak, ash, and hickory; that is all purposes where strength, elasticity, and toughness are required. A considerable supply of fresh acorns has been lately imported and planted with a view to the distribution of the seedlings when a year old. Besides this, Professor Hilgard invites application for acorns by those who wish to test the tree for forest planting in the different climatic regions of the State.—*Philadelphia Weekly Press*.

REUTER's enigmatical telegram, dated February 16th, stating that General Gordon had "recognized" the Mahdi, has been variously and amusingly translated by the vernacular press. The *Choya Shimbun* has, like many others, construed "recognized" by "acknowledged the supremacy." It states that the "gallant English General has made the False Prophet ruler of the Soudan," and gives vent to the opinion that as "the rebel chieftain has now accomplished his desire there will be no further disturbance in Egypt!"

A RECENT issue of an Indian contemporary has the following:—Professor Arminius Vambery has been giving his opinion on the Soudan disaster. He was interviewed by a reporter in Vienna, and his reply is well worth quoting in full. The veteran Orientalist is reported to have spoken to the following effect:—There is no reason for fearing disastrous consequences from Hicks Pasha's defeat. The Mahdi, as is well known to the lower classes, does not descend from the Khoreish family. None of the signs which are promised simultaneously with his appearance have appeared. The sun does not rise in the west. The stars do not fall. Antichrist has not appeared. Mecca and Medina are not destroyed. Without these signs, people will not believe in him. The Mahdi is much the same as many prophets who come forward in the East, and are bastinadoed or imprisoned for their pains. He may perhaps, invade Khartoum, but he cannot endanger England's position in Egypt, if it adopts the motto—"Fy suis et jy reste." The whole affair is doubtless a continuation of

Arabi's work, and if the cowardice of the Egyptians and all Africans is considered, we may rely upon it that a couple of English regiments will suffice to destroy the Mahdi's army, notwithstanding its fanaticism. It was most unlucky that the climate combined with Hicks Pasha's enemies, but it was reckless of the English to trust Mahomedans, who will never scruple to betray Europeans, since the Koran says that unbelievers have no claim to their fidelity. There can be no doubt that the Mahomedans exaggerate the importance of the Mahdi's victory.

AN article on the subject of the comparative bravery of the French troops under the Empire and under the present Government appears in the *République Française*. It says:—"Upwards of 300 men were killed and wounded in the five days' march and fighting which resulted in the capture of Song Tay. That is about ten per cent. of the combatants engaged. It is not surprising that it was a warm affair, since the enemy was under cover of his entrenchments. But our soldiers were well handled, and had confidence in their officers, and, when that is the case, success is not doubtful. What becomes of the argument put forward by detractors both in the tribune and in the press, that the Republic disorganises the army? Could the army have done better than it has done? More than 30,000 officers and soldiers have volunteered for Tonquin. In 1859, under the Empire, the Government offered an increase of one-third in the pay of the officers, and the pay of the troops was also augmented. No promise of this kind has been made by the present Government. The military spirit prevailing in our army is, therefore, as great as, if not greater than, at another epoch of our national history."

HIS EXCELLENCY INOUE, Minister for Foreign Affairs, was a passenger from Kobe in the Mitsui Bishi mail steamer *Tokio Maru* which arrived here on Thursday morning. His Excellency was accompanied by his wife and daughter, and the party on landing proceeded at once to Tokio. Mr. Yoshikawa, the Governor of Tokio, was also a passenger by the *Tokio Maru*.

It is stated that in future a battalion of infantry will be detailed for fire duty in Tokiyo and the other garrison cities of Japan. Attached to the battalion will be a company with pumps. It has always been a matter of surprise to foreigners that no use is made of the troops during conflagrations in the capital, but we confess that our confidence in the discipline of the soldiers is not such as to warrant us in congratulating the citizens on the measure now in contemplation.

AN American journal says:—"Ancient ruins, which a contemporary says surpass anything of the kind yet discovered on the American continent, have been found in Sonora, about four leagues south-east of Magdalena, Mexico. There is one pyramid which has a base of 4,350 feet, and rises to a height of 750 feet. It has a winding roadway from the bottom leading by an easy grade to the top, wide enough for carriages to pass over, which is many miles in length. The outer walls of the roadway are laid in solid masonry from huge blocks of granite in rubble, and the circles are as uniform and the grade as regular as could be made at this date by the best engineers. To the east of the pyramid, a short distance off, is a small mountain about the same height. On the sides of this mountain a

people of an unknown age have cut hundreds upon hundreds of rooms, from 5 feet by 10 feet to 16 feet or 18 feet square. These rooms are cut out of solid stone, and so even and true are the walls, floor, and ceiling, so plumb and level, as to defy variation. There are no windows to the rooms, and but one entrance, which is always from the top. The rooms are 8 feet high from floor to ceiling. On the walls are numerous hieroglyphics and representations of human forms, with feet and hands of human beings cut in the stone in different places. Stone implements of every description are to be found in great numbers in and about the rooms. It is, of course, a matter of much speculation as to who the inhabitants were and in what age they lived. Some say they were the ancestors of the Mayos, a race of Indians who still inhabit Sonora, who have blue eyes, fair skin, and light hair, and are said to be a moral, industrious, and frugal race of people, who have a written language and know something of mathematics."

REFERRING to the frequent removal of old landmarks in London, the *Whitehall Review* says:—"Portsmouth Street, Lincoln's Inn, which is receiving so many visitors by reason of the approaching demolition of that venerable imposture the so-called original "Old Curiosity Shop," contained in the memories of many of us a far greater, and certainly genuine, attraction in the shape of the old Black Jack public-house, celebrated as the favourite resort of that Joe Miller with whose time-honoured jokes such unwarrantable liberties have been, and we fear always will be, taken. From an upper window of the Black Jack, long known as the "Jump," Jack Sheppard made one of his memorable escapes to avoid the too close attentions of Jonathan Wild and Blueskin. The window has been pointed out to countless visitors, and has duly figured in the pages of Harrison Ainsworth and chroniclers of the adventures of Jack Sheppard, and other heroes of the Newgate Calendar. Has not also the pencil of George Cruickshank duly limned the Black Jack and its window?—which, if we mistake not, figures in that drama of Buckstone's which owed its main success to the "Jack" of Mrs. Keeley, and which brought such grist to the mill of the old Adelphi Theatre. We wonder how the tumble-down tenement in the aforesaid Portsmouth Street has come to be associated with that "Old Curiosity Shop" from which Little Nell and her grandfather went forth hand in hand? There is nothing to bear out the assertion that it was the original of the old bric-a-brac shop—nothing in the pages of Dickens to connect it with Nell's home. And why is the Black Jack supposed to be identical with the Magpie and Stump which figures in the immortal pages of Pickwick? Those who search for the genuine Magpie will have as hopeless a task as that of finding the George and Vulture, in George Yard, Lombard Street, with the veritable Sam Weller in attendance on Mr. Pickwick. The aforesaid Magpie and Stump was situated, we are told, in the vicinity of Clare Market, and closely approximating to the back of New Inn. Hence the association of the Black Jack with the hostelry sacred to the evening orgies of Mr. Lowton and his companions, and where Mr. Pickwick listened to the old man's tale about a queer client."

A FULL-PAGE photograph of "two famous Japanese wrestlers" appears in one of the

American "Society" papers. It may interest the public to know that these are the two athletes engaged by Barnum's wily agent in this country last year. Their "fame," however, is confined to the other side of the water, as they were considered but very third-rate artists here. Still, our friends across the Pacific have given them a very hearty welcome, and have gone into raptures over the "graceful poses" of the two wrestlers.

TELEGRAPHIC news announces that an attempt, fortunately unsuccessful, has been made upon the life of His Majesty the King of Italy. The only particulars to hand are that His Majesty was attacked in the train while on his way home from a hunting party.

THE Japanese journals in the capital announce that certain well-known physicians are taking steps towards establishing a "health-recruiting" club (*Yosei-kan*) at the Atami Hot Springs. A fund of 30,000 *yen* is to be raised in 300 shares at 100 *yen*, to be paid in five instalments. The rules of the club will be sent to any applicant on receipt of a two *sen* stamp.

THE next lecture of the course being delivered at the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, gave on Friday afternoon, commencing at three o'clock. Dr. Verbeck is the lecturer, and the subject will be—"Points of Similarity and Dissimilarity in Science and Religion."

WE have received the prospectus of a new work now in the press and to be published in March, "Practical and Inductive Book-keeping," by Professor J. L. Hart-Milner, of the Commercial School, Macao. The contents indicate that the work will be a thoroughly exhaustive one, and this, taken with the author's name, should ensure it a large circulation.

THE Mume Yashiki or Plum Garden at Kamada, near Kawasaki, is already driving a thriving trade in refreshments to would-be admirers of the blossoms. But, as a matter of fact, not a single petal is yet out, nor will the place be worth visiting for another ten days or a fortnight.

A GREAT many complaints with regard to this year's oyster crop have been made of late. This mollusc is not always digestible, and, just at present, is rather less so than at other times. It was to this fact that the Roman poet evidently referred in the words *Sic itur ad astra*—i.e. sick eater 'ad oysters.

WE learn with pleasure that the submarine telegraph cable between Saigon and Tongking, which the Eastern Telegraph Company contracted to lay for the Government of France, has been successfully completed. The cable connects Saigon with Thuan (Annam) and Haiphong (Tongking).

A LONDON paper, writing shortly after the New Year on the infliction of the "waits," says:—"It is a mercy that the dismal serenaders have left off for another year. What induces people to perpetuate this nuisance by paying for it we cannot imagine. We heard of an unhappy man who last week had three bands about his house at the same hour in the middle of the night. Of course they each played different tunes—the one that stayed longest giving at last Keble's Evening Hymn, and then, by way of benediction, "Coming through the Rye."

COMMERCIAL DEPRESSION AND CURRENCY APPRECIATION.

JAPAN has had to pay a heavy tax for the success of the revolution that abolished feudalism and inaugurated an era of progress and enlightenment. Inconvertible paper money, or revolutionary currency, as it has been well called, is an indirect tax, somewhat unequally and irregularly imposed, and yet as nearly equitable as any public measure born amid the exigencies and confusion of a great social change can possibly be. When it is considered that the Government of the Restoration came into power with an empty treasury; that it was obliged to assume a heavy burden of debt; that it found the finances of the empire completely disorganized; that several varieties of depreciated fiat notes were already in circulation; that it had to create a central administration, as well as to construct an army, a navy, postal, telegraphic, police, and educational, systems, and at the same time to encourage or take the initiative in many species of commercial and industrial enterprise,—when all these things are considered, there seems more to applaud than to censure in the recent financial history of this country. Indeed, it is doubtful whether the issue of *Kinsatsu*, and the conversion of the military pensions into public bonds, must not be regarded as measures of much political sagacity. Economists hint that without its enormous national debt the Government of Great Britain could scarcely have resisted the political convulsions of 1848; and certainly it could not otherwise have counted on the hearty support it received from every stock-holder and shop-keeper in London. So, in Japan's case, there can be little question that the pecuniary obligations which the Government assumed towards the people, gave the latter a material interest in guaranteeing its stability. On the other hand, it is very certain that the prolonged use of fiat paper, and the fluctuations in its value caused by inflation, do at least as much harm to the morals of a country as to its commerce, its reputation and its financial well being. Japan's gradual return to specie payments is, therefore, a result which those interested in her prosperity observe with much satisfaction.

We say "gradual return," because in a process of this nature, nothing is more to be deprecated than precipitancy. Reversion to a hard-money circulation must, under any circumstances, carry a country back, by a revulsion cruel in the direct ratio of its rapidity, to such a state of collapse as sometimes follows the excitement and delirium of a fever. Industry is depressed, prices fall, trade stagnates, and bankruptcies become numerous. The harm and wrong fall on the debtor classes, who are the most numerous and least able to bear losses. It has to be remembered, too, that the depreciation of paper money is

really a tax, inasmuch as the paper is issued originally to avoid the necessity of a direct tax, and each person through whose hands it passes, parts with it again at a loss proportionate to the quantity he holds and the time he holds it. The total loss is thus divided among those using the paper in just proportion to their ability and liability to pay a tax. The payment of the whole value borne on the face of a fiat note to the last holder, who has received it at a large discount, would only be to impose a second tax on the same persons who have already been fairly and heavily taxed by the depreciation of the note. These principal reasons make it imperative that financiers should prepare the way for a resumption of specie payments with the utmost deliberation and care. Heroic measures, such as those which used to be so vigorously advocated by the foreign local press of Yokohama some years ago, could not have been applied without disastrous consequences.

Without attempting to controvert the self-evident proposition that the degree of public confidence in fiat paper must, to some extent, influence its value, we may say, generally, that the value of such money is primarily controlled by its quantity. Inconvertible notes will not sensibly depreciate, other things being equal, until issued in excess of the minimum of the money which the people would use if it was metallic. It follows, therefore, that since any considerable depreciation may be regarded as a sign of excessive issues, the first step towards restoring equilibrium between paper and specie is to contract the volume of the former. This is what the Government has been doing for the past four years. In 1875-76, the quantity of *Kinsatsu* in circulation was 98½ millions, approximately, and silver was at a premium of 5 per cent. In 1878-79, the quantity of *Kinsatsu* was increased to 177 millions, and the premium on silver soon rose to 60 or 70 per cent. To understand these great and rapid changes, it is necessary to recall three facts. First, the rebellion in the South, and other exceptional events, obliged the Central Government to add 22½ millions to its note issues, thus raising their nominal total from 98½, to 121, millions. Secondly, the special reserve also went into circulation. The *raison d'être* of the special reserve is to defray the current expenses of the State at times when incomings are temporarily insufficient to cover outgoings. In 1878-79, it amounted to 22 millions, the whole of which was added to the volume of the currency. Thirdly, the National Banks, established in 1876 under conditions which rendered their rapid growth a certainty, issued paper of their own to the extent of 34 millions. Thus, in sum, the years 1878 and 1879 witnessed an inflation of about 78 millions of *yen*. Under these circumstances, it is not wonderful that rapid depreciation ensued, until, in the fall of 1880,

a paper *yen* was only worth 56 *sen* in silver.

The first step taken in the direction of contraction seems to have been the recall of the 22 millions which had constituted the special reserve. This was effected without much difficulty. The Finance Minister then proceeded to deal with the 121 millions which represented the nominal amount of the Treasury's issues. These he has succeeded in reducing by 29 millions¹, so that the total of the Government's paper now in circulation is only 91,580,000. It is not in our power to detail the exact processes by which this result has been achieved. Foremost among them, doubtless, is the sale of bonds. A considerable quantity of these securities had been accumulated by the late Minister of Finance, in lieu of the specie and other reserves which he found in the Treasury; and the Government has probably been able to dispose of them on advantageous terms. Finally, in accordance with the scheme published last May, the note-issuing power of the National Banks has been taken away, and measures are in progress to withdraw the whole of their paper by 1898. Thus the volume of the currency has been diminished by fully 50 millions since 1879, and the result is that a paper *yen* is now worth 90 *sen* in silver.

Contemporaneously with this contraction of its note issues, the Government has applied itself to accumulate a specie reserve for their ultimate redemption. Twenty-two millions are said to be now at the Treasury's command in silver and gold, and it is hoped that during the course of the next three years the total will be raised to thirty millions. Of the principal devices adopted in connection with this part of the scheme, we have already spoken in previous issues.

That the economies and accumulations of the Minister of Finance should have amounted to upwards of seventy million *yen* in less than five years, is somewhat difficult to realize. Yet it is scarcely credible that transactions of less magnitude could have produced the very remarkable appreciation of the past eighteen months. There may be differences of opinion as to the wisdom of such rapid manipulation, but there can be no question that it displays a degree of financial energy which places the future of Japan's fiduciary currency beyond the range of doubt.

Meanwhile, however, industry and trade have suffered severely. The same evils that overtook Great Britain and the United States at the period of their return to specie payments were experienced here in 1883, and are still experienced. This part of the subject is full of interest, since it involves the vital question—has the depression reached its maximum, or must we expect to see it still further intensified? In order to appreciate what has really happened, it will be necessary to examine a few figures, and we cannot do better than

¹ We take this figure from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

commence with agricultural returns, since in Japan the condition of the farmers is a true measure of the country's prosperity. With this object we have prepared four tables, showing the returns of agricultural industry in as many different districts for each year since 1879. These tables are as follows:—

KADSUSA DISTRICT.					
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Landlord's share of produce per <i>chō</i> (3,000 <i>tsubo</i> —about 2½ acres).	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.
	18	18	18	18	18
YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.
Total value of above	138.46	200.00	171.41.8	152.00	100.00
Value per <i>koku</i>	7.69	11.11.1	9.52.3	8.44.4	5.55.5
Land Tax (<i>Chiao</i>)	18.11.8	18.11.8	18.11.8	18.11.8	18.11.8
Local Tax (<i>Chihō-zai</i>) and expenses of irrigation (<i>Yō-sui-hi</i>)	7.42.5	7.21.1	8.33.1	8.09.7	7.80.5
Net value of produce	112.91.9	174.68.2	144.96.9	125.78.2	74.70.7
Value of land as assessed for purposes of taxation (<i>Chikendaka</i>)	724.53.2	724.53.2	724.53.2	724.53.2	724.53.2
Market value of land (<i>Bai-bai Soba</i>)	1,800	2,250	2,000	1,636	1,333
PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.
Net interest on Assessed value	15.5	24.1	20	17.3	10
Net interest on market value	6.3	7.8	7.2	7.6	5.5

KUMAGAYE DISTRICT.					
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Landlord's share of produce per <i>chō</i> (3,000 <i>tsubo</i> —about 2½ acres).	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.
	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5
YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.
Total value of above	115.29	145.39.5	153.27.9	125.46.9	96.39
Value per <i>koku</i>	8.52.4	10.77	11.33.5	9.29.4	7.14
Land Tax (<i>Chiao</i>)	20	20	20	20	20
Local Tax (<i>Chihō-zai</i>) and expenses of irrigation (<i>Yō-sui-hi</i>)	6.50	7.66.6	9.23	7.36	8.36
Net value of produce	88.79	117.72.9	124.04.9	98.10.9	68.03
Value of land as assessed for purposes of taxation (<i>Chikendaka</i>)	800	800	800	800	800
Market value of land (<i>Bai-bai Soba</i>)	1,250	1,400	1,500	1,250	1,000
PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.
Net interest on Assessed value	11.1	14.8	15.5	12.2	8.5
Net interest on market value	7.1	8.4	8.2	7.8	6.8

URAWA DISTRICT.					
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Landlord's share of produce per <i>chō</i> (3,000 <i>tsubo</i> —about 2½ acres).	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.
	12	12	12	12	12
YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.
Total value of above	107.30.4	135.58.8	140.48	119.49.6	87.30
Value per <i>koku</i>	8.94.2	11.29.9	11.70.7	9.95.8	7.27.5
Land Tax (<i>Chiao</i>)	17.12.5	17.12.5	17.12.5	17.12.5	17.12.5
Local Tax (<i>Chihō-zai</i>) and expenses of irrigation (<i>Yō-sui-hi</i>)	5.13.75	6.85	6.16.5	7.60	7.53.5
Net value of produce	85.15.4	111.72.55	117.30.65	94.88	62.75.2
Value of land as assessed for purposes of taxation (<i>Chikendaka</i>)	685	685	685	685	685
Market value of land (<i>Bai-bai Soba</i>)	800	800	1,200	1,200	900
PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.
Net interest on Assessed value	12.4	16.3	17.1	13.8	9.1
Net interest on market value	10.6	13.9	9.7	7.9	6.9

KAMADA DISTRICT.					
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Landlord's share of produce per <i>chō</i> (3,000 <i>tsubo</i> —about 2½ acres).	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.	KOKU.
	10	10	10	10	10
YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.	YEN.
Total value of above	84.74	108.94	122.49	97.98	60.88
Value per <i>koku</i>	8.47.4	10.89.4	12.24.9	9.79.8	6.08.8
Land Tax (<i>Chiao</i>)	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75
Local Tax (<i>Chihō-zai</i>) and expenses of irrigation (<i>Yō-sui-hi</i>)	5.55	5.55	11.25	12	11.25
Net value of produce	60.44	84.64	92.71.5	66.34.8	30.88
Value of land as assessed for purposes of taxation (<i>Chikendaka</i>)	750	750	750	750	750
Market value of land (<i>Bai-bai Soba</i>)	850	900	1,000	900	800
PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.
Net interest on Assessed value	8.0	11.3	12.36	8.84	4.1
Net interest on market value	7.1	9.4	9.27	7.3	3.8

In order to form a clear conception of the statistical import of the above figures, it becomes necessary to re-group them in comparative tables as follows:—

TABLE I.
Comparative market values of rice-land from 1879 to 1883, taking the value in the former year as the unit (100).

YEAR.	VALUE.
1879	100
1880	113.83
1881	121.28
1882	106.08
1883	85.80

* N.B.—This figure shows a variation from the general rate of change, owing, apparently, to an exceptional attraction of capital towards land investments.

TABLE II.
Comparative returns on capital invested in land from 1879 to 1883, taking the return in the former year as the unit (100).

YEAR.	RETURN.
1879	100
1880	127
1881	110.5
1882	98.5
1883	73.95

TABLE III.
Comparative incomes actually derived from land (without reference to capital invested) from 1879 to 1883, taking the income in the former year as the unit (100).

YEAR.	INCOME.
1879	100
1880	140.73
1881	137.93
1882	110.88
1883	68.06

These figures, especially those in the last table, are striking. They show that the income of the Japanese agriculturist in 1883 was less than half of his income in 1880 or 1881, and nearly forty per cent. less than his income in 1882. It will be seen, too, from the tables of details, that the average price of rice in 1883 is taken as 6.71 *yen* per *koku*, whereas the price at present ruling in Tokiyo is only 5.10 *yen*. Should the latter rate hold, the agriculturist's income in the current year will be represented in Table III. by a figure less than 50.

The significance of these facts is not to be mistaken. When we remember that the land-tax constitutes nearly sixty-five per cent. of the State's revenue in Japan, it becomes plain that the condition of the whole people is intimately associated with that of the agricultural classes, and that some improvement in the latter must precede any real revival of industry and commerce. There can be no active market for foreign goods so long as the practice of a rigid economy is an imperative necessity for the bulk of the nation.

How much of the above results are attributable to currency contraction, there is no possibility of determining with accuracy. It is a well known fact in political economy that prices always fall and rise somewhat beyond the permanent effect of the causes which influence them, and that in either case there is a reaction to the extent of the excess. During the past five years we have seen a paper *yen* sell for only 56 cents in silver, and then appreciate steadily until it now sells for 90 silver cents. Rice, during the same interval, rose in value to 12 *yen* per *koku*, and fell again to 4.90 *yen*, thus fluctuating within much wider limits than *Kinsatsu*. Something of this is doubtless due to the plentiful harvests which succeeded one another from 1879 to 1883. The production of rice exceeded the wants of the people, and so long as currency inflation continued the price of the staple was sustained at a high point by exceptional causes. When the general depression resulting from currency contraction set in,

stores of rice, accumulated in prosperous times, were thrown upon the market, thus helping to accentuate the mischief. While, therefore, the first symptoms of reaction will probably be discernible in the quotations of the rice market, we shall arrive at a more accurate estimate of the effects of currency contraction by excluding that staple from our calculations.

It is only by the price of commodities that the value of money can be ascertained and compared. In England, during the suspension of specie payments, from 1797 to 1821, prices gradually rose from 100, in 1795, to 157, in 1809. After the pacification of 1815, and the resumption of specie payments throughout Europe, prices again fell, until, in 1849, they reached 64. Similar causes have been everywhere followed by similar effects, and the following schedule will show that Japan has not been exceptional. For purposes of comparison we take, in each case, the price ruling in 1879 as the unit, and call it 100:—

Comparative Table of prices of the principal staples and necessities from 1879 to 1883, the prices ruling in the former year being taken as the unit in each case.

N.B.—Rice, *Saké*, and Tobacco are omitted from the body of this table; the first for the reason mentioned above, and the two last because exceptional taxation has prevented their prices from fluctuating like other commodities.

ARTICLE.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Cotton cloth (<i>Mo-men</i>)	100	123	155	145	106
Floss silk	100	152	134	132	113
Cotton (<i>Wata</i>)	100	115	152	130	110
Hemp	100	102	126	91	56
Salt	100	83	84	78	70
(<i>Miso</i>)	100	107	112	102	85
(<i>Shōyu</i>)	100	105	113	111	108
Sugar 1st quality.	100	108	122	113	86
2nd quality.	100	101	115	111	80
Tea	100	111	134	122	96
Dried Fish (<i>Ka-tsuo-boshi</i>)	100	162	209	190	164
Eggs	100	124	152	150	101
Lamp oil (<i>Mi-dsu-abura</i>)	100	87	143	139	89
Cooking oil (<i>Go-ma-no-abura</i>)	100	117	180	153	114
Oil for painting &c. (<i>Ye-no-abura</i>)	100	112	175	156	114
Coal	100	100	109	101	81
Charcoal	100	105	124	130	105
Mattings (<i>Tata-mi-no-omote</i>)	100	108	121	121	99
Paper (<i>Hanshi</i>)	100	97	98	102	91
Wax	100	121	115	94	65
Average	100	112	134	124	97
Average price of silver	100	111.5	127	116	96
Average price of rice	100	134	152	110	83

The influence of currency inflation upon values is plainly shown by this table. It appears, too, that, on the whole, prices have fallen below the level at which they stood before the effects of inflation began to be seriously felt, a fact which inspires a hope that some reaction may soon be expected. Japan has to go through the same experiences as other countries under similar circumstances. She may congratulate herself that her sufferings have not been more severe.

THE YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TREATY REVISION.

AT the Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, Mr. A. J. WILKIN spoke at some length on the subject of treaty revision, more especially with reference to a proposed modification of the existing system of extritorial jurisdiction. Whether his remarks were intended as an outline of the Chamber's opinion, or whether they embodied his own ideas only, there is a difficulty in determining. He opened his speech by saying that some expression from the Chamber on the extritorial question seemed advisable, but we are nevertheless disposed to think that he spoke merely as an individual, first because his observations were not made the subject of any resolution, and secondly because their nature was in some respects incompatible with the hypothesis that they had received the previous scrutiny and endorsement of a body of thoughtful men.

We may say at once, that while we dissent in the main from Mr. WILKIN'S views as formulated at this meeting, we hail their public expression with much satisfaction. The conservative section of the foreign community has been too long represented by men who, whatever their loyalty to the cause they champion, are so manifestly swayed by bitter aversion of everything Japanese, that their utterances assume the appearance of unreasoning hostility, and impart to the people of this country a wholly false idea of foreign sentiment. From this fault, at any rate, Mr. WILKIN'S statements are free. It would be difficult to find any one in Yokohama whose character is a better guarantee for the sincerity and kindliness of his opinions.

He sets out by deprecating any tendency to obscure the question by "selfish or sentimental considerations," and then goes on to say that while Japan ought, by all means, to have her sovereign rights, the fact that others have rights also must not be overlooked. What the latter rights are, he does not exactly explain, but we gather, from the general tenor of his speech, that he alludes to the extritorial privileges conferred by the present treaties. Now nothing is more necessary than to remark, at the outset, that there never has been any expressed desire on Japan's part to suddenly disturb those privileges. Her proposals, as Mr. WILKIN doubtless knows, contemplate nothing more, in the immediate future, than the exercise of a very partial jurisdiction, guaranteed against abuse by various liberal provisions, and to be regarded as a probationary step to more radical changes. It will readily be admitted that the treaties signed in 1856 were never intended to be permanent. A date for their revision was distinctly fixed. It will also be admitted that the term "revision" was never intended to apply to tariff only. Such a supposition would be absurd. If

then, eleven years after the date of revision as fixed by the treaties themselves, Japan asks for a modification—not the abolition, but a modification—of their extritorial clauses, it can scarcely be contended that she seeks to recover her own sovereign rights in defiance of the rights of foreigners.

Mr. WILKIN, however, is of opinion that Japan's concern about this matter is much less than the public has been led to suppose. He thinks that her advisers and advocates misrepresent her. Into the latter surmise we cannot follow him; but with regard to the former, we differ from him altogether. Nor need we go beyond his own statement for a justification of our view. "I cannot understand," he says, "how this country can aspire to be considered enlightened and civilized, while it closes the land in this fashion—a relic of darker ages." Now that is exactly what the Japanese themselves feel. They cannot aspire to be called a civilized nation until foreign intercourse has been emancipated from all restrictions, and strangers are as free to travel, trade, and live in Japan, as Japanese are free to live, trade, and travel in Europe or America. That is their feeling, a feeling which may or may not have been fomented by their foreign advisers and advocates, but which, at any rate, sways the educated classes so powerfully that it finds expression, publicly and privately, in all their writings and speeches. The Government, then, sharing this sentiment and recognising its strength as well as the danger of ignoring it, seeks to accomplish what it regards as an absolutely essential preliminary to the opening of the country,—namely, a modification of existing extritorial arrangements.

Here, however, Mr. WILKIN joins issue with the Government. "The plea that the opening of the country might lead to trouble without full jurisdiction, breaks down," he tells us, "under the result of actual experience." This is a very interesting statement. It is interesting because the great majority of foreign writers have hitherto agreed that the Japanese would not be justified in opening their country unless some provision were made for the government of foreigners in the interior. The reason is simple. To extend the privileges of trade and residence throughout Japan to persons who are only amenable to the jurisdiction of Courts sitting at one or two remote villages on the sea-coast, would be a virtual denial of justice to native suitors. The imperfections and inconveniences of sixteen conflicting jurisdictions, even when the area of their authority is confined to the open ports, have been sufficiently demonstrated to deprive the Japanese of all choice in this matter. How, then, does Mr. WILKIN obtain a different deduction from "actual experience"? By reference to the results of the passport system. "During the few years in which the passport system—an enlightened step in advance—has been

working," he says, "by the British Legation alone several thousand, say 7,000, passports have been obtained, and in no single instance is there a record of any serious trouble with any of the holders." We confess that a feeling of hopeless bewilderment creeps over us when we contemplate this argument. During the past fourteen or fifteen years passports have been issued to foreigners on the distinctly stipulated condition that their holders should not engage in any species of trade outside the treaty limits. The privilege, thus safeguarded, has not led to any complications, and Mr. WILKIN now bids us accept this as a proof that no complications would have ensued even though the safeguard had not existed. Such, at least, is the only construction we can put upon his language. The whole question hinges upon the right of trade. Travel merely for purposes of science, sanitation, or recreation admits only a class of persons for whom legal restraint is seldom, if ever, necessary. So soon, however, as trading passports are issued, everybody will find his way into the interior. The exercise of any efficient discretionary power by the Consuls would be quite impossible. As to what may happen under such circumstances, no inference whatever can be drawn from what has happened under existing circumstances. Mr. WILKIN'S argument is singularly inconsequential. He says that Japan cannot aspire to be considered enlightened or civilized until she opens the country, and he contends that the existence of extritoriality is not an obstacle to the opening, yet the only proof he advances is that no complications have hitherto attended the exercise of a privilege expressly circumscribed so as to consist with extritoriality. We cannot consent to regard this as the deliberate opinion of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.

Turning now to Mr. WILKIN'S analysis of the conditions that exist, and that formerly existed, in Japan, we are confronted by a list of singular inaccuracies. First among the reasons put forward as justifying extritoriality is "the want of any written law." This want, however, is of the past. "Within the last year or two, or two or three years, a written code has been formed," says Mr. WILKIN, "and it is understood that it is to some extent working." It would be difficult to construct a statement better calculated to convey a false impression. Japan has had a written code for centuries. Mr. WILKIN is evidently not a reader of the Proceedings of the Asiatic Society or he would have remembered an analysis of that code made years ago by an English jurisconsult. He is evidently not a reader of the local press, or he would have remembered a lengthened reference to that code recently translated into the columns of this journal from a German pamphlet. He is evidently not a reader of the calendars issued by the principal educational establishments in

Tokiyo, or he would know that that code forms a part of the course of law at the University of Japan. But his neglect of these sources of information is as nothing compared with his ignorance of the fact that a new code of criminal law was compiled and promulgated shortly after the Restoration; that it was translated by a member of the British Legation staff and published in English, and that its provisions were commented on over and over again by European experts as well as by foreign writers on and in Japan. Of the Old Code, of the New Code, and of the Revised Code, all antecedent to the present Code, he is apparently wholly oblivious. As for the codes now in force, after many years of preparation, they were finally promulgated in the summer of 1881, and came into force, not "to some extent," as Mr. WILKIN says, but altogether, and everywhere throughout Japan, on January the 1st, 1882. Mr. WILKIN thinks "it would be only decent to see a little how the Codes work before he is entrusted to their care." If the examination is to be conducted at the rate indicated by his present knowledge, not one generation, but half a dozen will pass away before the process is completed.

We do not wish to be misunderstood in this matter. The objection that Japan is unfamiliar with, and therefore not yet competent to administer, her present codes, is natural and to some extent valid. But there is neither justice nor accuracy in the assertion that "for generations all her habits of thought and idea have been in different grooves." Neither Mr. WILKIN, nor any other foreigner, is in a position to define the grooves in which her "habits of thought and idea" formerly moved. These are matters which history has still to elucidate. What we do certainly know is that ever since the Restoration her criminal procedure has been gradually purged of all its cruel elements, and that, although for more than two years she has been governed by laws admittedly abreast of the most advanced systems of the West, her judicial machinery has worked smoothly and her statistics show no increase of crime. In view of these facts, one of two conclusions is inevitable: either that her codes are administered with singular ability, or that the morality of the nation is in consonance with their provisions.

But Mr. WILKIN'S surprising carelessness of expression on these points pales before his assertion that torture prevailed in Japan three years ago. This is a cruel libel. Torture was partially abolished by a proclamation issued on the 25th of August, 1874, and wholly interdicted by a proclamation dated June 18th, 1876. The records of the Department of Justice show that since the latter date there has not been one application of torture in the courts of Japan. Again we say that, if Mr. WILKIN'S notions are to be taken as an index of his countrymen's knowledge of Japan, there is little hope that

the truth will be recognized during the lifetime of the present generation.

It is weary work discussing such errors, the more so when we remember the source from which they emanate. A few words more will, however, suffice to dissect the last of Mr. WILKIN'S delusions. He complains that there is no *habeas corpus* in Japan. There is a story told of an Irishman who, being accustomed to live in a house with broken windows, came to regard paper patches as an ornamental species of glazing. Mr. WILKIN'S case is similar. The *habeas corpus* is a device to correct the abuses of imperfect laws. England and the United States have a monopoly of it. It does not exist in France, Germany, Italy, or any other country where the laws are good enough to dispense with it. If Mr. WILKIN thinks it an essential adjunct of Japanese civilization, he must begin by mutilating the laws which in their present complete state render it quite superfluous.

"Is it not still the case," he then proceeds to ask, "that a man can be thrown into prison on a mere suspicion, and kept there for weeks without a trial?" So far as keeping a man in prison on suspicion is concerned, we have known it done, not for weeks, but for months in England. But Mr. WILKIN evidently means that in Japan a man is liable to be treated thus without undergoing any judicial examination. Here again he is wholly mistaken. If he will take the trouble to peruse the Third Book of the Code of Criminal Procedure, he will see that due provision is made for the immediate examination of every prisoner by a police magistrate, who deals with the case or remands it according to its nature. There is, or ought to be, no more delay in Japan than in England.

Mr. WILKIN'S next two queries severely tax our gravity. "Shall I be liable to be brow-beaten," he enquires, "if I walk on the bund without a lantern, even under the gas lamps? and is a foreigner to have the privilege of being able to tell his wife she may go—he does not want her any more?" We incline to the belief that Mr. WILKIN has been walking a long time without light of any sort if he thinks that pedestrians in Japan are still obliged to carry lanterns; and as for his conjugal crux—well, if an Englishman can persuade an Englishwoman to marry him *à la Japonnaise*, we presume he will have the privilege of treating her accordingly. These are frivolous issues and unworthy of serious discussion. They furnish an unfortunate preface to the complaint that the state religion of Japan is a paganism. Mr. WILKIN is doubtless actuated by the best motives when he classes this among Japan's disabilities, but it is not the business of any nation, or combination of nations, to dictate a religious faith to Japan, or to make the acknowledgment of her just rights contingent upon her acceptance of a particular creed.

More regrettable, however, than any series of misstatements and misapprehen-

sions is the spirit displayed in Mr. WILKIN'S closing remarks, where he deprecates the idea that the opening of the country would be really "a *quid pro quo* for the surrender of alien privileges." He does not deny that foreigners would benefit by the step, but he dismisses the whole prospect with the assurance that Japan's benefit would be much greater. And what if it would? Is Japan under any necessity to purchase from foreigners the rights which belong to every independent State? Must she be condemned to a condition of semi-seclusion, to the status of an unenlightened and uncivilized country, until she can make it worth our while to remove her present disabilities? Mr. WILKIN would be the last person to wittingly advance such a proposition. Yet he fails, apparently, to see that Japan is not more disgraced by her isolation, than are foreigners by their determination to keep her isolated until their own prejudices and misconceptions are removed by some miraculous revelation, and until they can be sure that their material gain by a just act will be at least equivalent to the selfish privileges they surrender in performing it. We have never believed that a logical defence of the conservative cause is possible, but the full extent of its sophistry and weakness had not dawned upon us before reading this speech of Mr. A. J. WILKIN.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

WHEN a Pacific Mail steamer arrives at San Francisco with a contingent of Chinese among the passengers, the Custom House officials proceed to institute a search for concealed opium. The operation partakes, somewhat, of a sporting character, especially in the fact that the whereabouts of the secreted poison appears to be best ascertained by the sense of smell. The searchers become so expert that in the end they trust to the guidance of their noses, and thus dig out deposits of drug much as a terrier ferrets out truffles. We are reminded of this by some remarks contained in a Shanghai contemporary to the effect that the weak points in the drainage system of a house can only be detected by the nasal ability of a professional, and that the Municipal Council ought to insist upon periodically investigating people's back premises and drains by means of a properly qualified inspector. It appears that even in self-governed Shanghai, Englishmen's castellated notions about the inviolability of their homes have hitherto interfered with sanitary inspection, and our contemporary, while acknowledging the sanctity of this creed, sensibly says that "there is a point beyond which individual liberty becomes a nuisance and a danger," and that there "judicious tyranny should step in to prevent the mischief which may accrue to the whole Settlement from the

neglect of one man." How long it will be before this principle is practically admitted in Yokohama, we are afraid to speculate. In the proposals drafted by a committee of land-renters more than two years ago there was one providing for the appointment of a Sanitary Committee with power to pay periodical visits to the premises and compounds of all the foreign residents. Obviously essential as such a measure is, any attempt to carry it out by the Japanese local authorities would probably be scouted by more than half of the community. This is perplexing, but what is worse is that the character and morality of the Settlement depend, at present, chiefly upon the good will of the grog shop keepers. The members of that fraternity are under no sort of control. If they were clever enough, they might take charge of Yokohama and defy the community. It is a strange state of affairs. Probably there never yet was offered to public gaze a more wonderful spectacle than that of a number of sensible men wasting months and years in formulating written complaints against the inefficiency of a Government which is confessed to be without the power of governing. The foreign residents complain, with justice, that they know nothing of the municipal laws which the Japanese Authorities profess to enforce. But it does not seem to have occurred to the complainants to ask themselves how a knowledge of those laws could be obtained. It has always been maintained by the Foreign Representatives, with some happy exceptions, that no Japanese laws, as such, are binding upon foreigners. The municipal regulations of the local government cannot, therefore, be authoritatively communicated to the community except through the Foreign Representatives, of whom only two, or three at most, are competent to meddle with such a matter. Thus, even supposing the Japanese agreed to admit that extraterritoriality applies to local as well as to imperial laws—an admission involving all sorts of irrational complications—and supposing they were consequently willing that their municipal regulations should be promulgated through the Foreign Ministers, there would still remain the trouble, that while the regulations could thus be made binding on two or three of the nationalities represented here, they would be a dead letter so far as the remaining thirteen or fourteen are concerned. There is not the smallest probability that the Japanese will take a step involving the abandonment of an important principle, and powerless to produce any good result. So long as our Ministers maintain that no municipal regulations are binding without their sanction, and at the same time admit that the great majority of them are not competent to give that sanction, just so long will the muddle remain hopeless. Writing memorials that ignore the true cause of the complication is mere waste of time. It is hard that busy men should be commissioned to per-

form such a hopeless duty. It is even harder that a respectable community should be indirectly charged with defying laws of which it knows nothing. But these things will never be mended until there is laid the foundation of all Government, the recognition of a governing authority.

MARRIAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The ritual employed at the marriage ceremony in England and elsewhere having no pretensions to supernatural inspiration, its alpha and omega are not protected by anathemas. Consequently its language is sometimes altered; sometimes dispensed with altogether. The latter is the case in the State of New York. There the intervention of a clergyman or magistrate is not needed to make a marriage contract valid. Neither is it essential that some formula should be uttered to express the mutual consent of the parties to the contract. Neither must that consent be attended by any ceremony, or manifested by any particular act or sign. The whole thing is purely a matter of dual volition. "Concurrence in matrimonial intent is all that is required of a man and woman in order to enter into the relation of husband and wife." These are the words of Justice FURGUESON, uttered in the Court-house of New Utrecht a few weeks ago. The occasion which elicited his verdict was a suit brought by Miss ANNIE EVADNE BEGBIE against Mr. JEROME WALTER VAUGHAN. These young people, each aged seventeen, had been married to one another under somewhat novel circumstances.

They met, not for the first time, last July at a "sociable." The entertainment, which was of a mixed nature, began at 9 o'clock in the forenoon. First there was a literary and musical performance; then followed refreshments, and then the party adjourned to the lawn where they tried to play croquet. This amusement does not appear to have suited their mood, for they quickly abandoned it, and received with acclaim a proposal that they should play at getting married. The sport began at once. Among its early incidents was a squabble between Miss ANNIE BEGBIE and another lady for the privilege of being united to Master VAUGHAN. This ended in an amicable compromise by which they were both married to the object of their choice. The ceremony was performed by a youth of twenty, who also married the same young ladies to another gentleman, and was himself united to a third spinster. How many others entered into the matrimonial state the evidence given at the trial did not clearly show, but the only practical consequence of the affair on that occasion was that the newly made husbands jumped over a fence and escaped from their wives. Subsequently Master VAUGHAN paid frequent visits to the house of Miss BEGBIE'S brother-in-law where he generally met his bride. On these occasions he never failed to "hug and kiss her." A hammock appears to have been a favorite place for exchanging endearments of this nature, and a not unfrequent witness of them was another young lady of seventeen who watched the proceedings from the vantage ground of another hammock which she shared with another young gentleman. On the whole the trial showed that neither the belles nor the beaux of New Utrecht are of a

prudish nature. Six gentlemen were examined. One was a man of forty whose kissing habits were, therefore, circumscribed, but the other five, judging from their recorded experiences, seemed to think that fondling ladies in hammocks and out of hammocks was a duty not to be neglected in polite society. There was naturally some difficulty in determining how far these attentions were responded to. One witness couldn't tell whether he was kissed back; another thought such affairs were "sort of simultaneous;" and a third was puzzled about the impression left on his mind. The testimony was most concurrent with regard to the relations between the witnesses and the plaintiff. Apart from her supposed husband, four of them confessed that they were on kissing terms with her. And so they remained until, three months after the ceremony at the sociable, the plaintiff's mother invited Master VAUGHAN to pay her a visit. The young gentleman doubtless had some intimation of what was coming, for he took care to be accompanied by three friends. He was told that the affair was more serious than he supposed; that the marriage was legal and binding, and that the only way to set the young lady right was to get separation papers drawn. This simple expedient, a small return, one would imagine, for the many kindnesses he had received at the plaintiff's hands, was not adopted, probably because Mr. VAUGHAN *père* felt so confident that, as he explained himself, "if a copper cent would have settled the affair at the start, he would not have paid it." The case, therefore, came into Court, and gave Justice FURGUESON an opportunity of explaining the marriage laws of the State of New York, as well as of deciding that the dual intention which alone could tie a genuine matrimonial knot was wanting in the instance under examination. The Judge added that "if parents would not neglect the discharge of their parental functions, mock marriages and indiscriminate kissing would not be so frequent." Some persons will be disposed to doubt whether the parents or the laws are more to blame.

THE CHINESE EVASIONISTS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

From a statement recently submitted to the Secretary of the United States Treasury it appears that attempts to defraud the Customs by means of undervalued invoices are made by about twenty-five per cent. of the merchants engaged in the importation of goods from Europe. If this is the result of a protective tariff in the case of Americans themselves, no surprise ought to be felt at a display of similar dishonesty on the part of Chinese who endeavour to evade the provisions of the anti-immigration law.

The devices resorted to by the would-be immigrants are sometimes ingenious and often ludicrous. One plan is based upon the difficulty a white man finds in distinguishing this Chinese from that. An immigrant is provided with a Canton certificate to which his photograph is affixed. Arrived at San Francisco and being admitted to bail pending a final decision as to his right to remain, he seeks out a fellow countryman who wants to revisit the Celestial Empire. Then the one who desires to leave, substitutes his own photograph for that of the one who desires to stay, and when the case comes up for hearing, the former appears in court

instead of the latter, prefers an insufficient plea for rights of residence, and is shipped back to China at the expense of the United States. By this double-barrelled dodge the outgoing AH HOW gets a free passage home, and the incoming AH WHY settles down unmolested. Others depend upon the straightforward plan of swearing the thing that is not. Such was the method adopted by Mr. LING YEN TICK, a gentleman described as "a rough looking, horny handed, coolie, whose clothes did not indicate anything better than a wharf rat or a vegetable digger," but who, nevertheless kept a Federal Judge, a District Attorney and certain other Court officials, engaged during the best part of a day investigating his private history. Mr. TICK averred that he owned a \$500 interest in a store in San Francisco, and that he had journeyed to America to become an active partner. In support of the allegation he called several witnesses, who declared that the interest originally belonged to TICK Senior, and that it had been transferred to TICK Junior on the former's decease. The Judge asked for documentary evidence, and after an adjournment for dinner the TICK faction produced an account-book, on the fly leaf of which was an entry saying that TICK Junior had an interest in the firm. This seems to have been an oversight on the part of the Chinese, for the account-book was six years old, and TICK Senior's decease only dated back a few months. The faction rose stoutly to the occasion, however. They swore blandly that TICK Senior's interest had never been recorded, but that TICK Junior's had. The Court then, having the account books at hand, proceeded to examine them, and found that during the first year of business the receipts from all sources were about \$300 per month, whereas, before dinner, the head partner had sworn that they were \$20,000 per annum. Confronted by this discrepancy, the faction said, with unruffled composure, that all things must have a beginning. The baffled Court now went on another tack. Entries of profits remitted to the TICK partner in China were asked for. Again the Chinese were equal to the occasion. There never had been any profits, they said. To their great regret the expenses had swallowed up everything. Questioned still further, they averred that their outgoings had always been the same—\$20,000 per annum—and that when they commenced business they had a capital of only \$3,500. Thus in the first year they appeared to have spent all their capital and made a deficit of \$13,900. The Judge exulted. He thought the faction must weaken under such a hard piece of logic as that. But the hope was deceptive. The head partner politely explained that he had made up the deficit out of commissions on the sale of garden truck coming from a manure-heap in which he had an interest. Manifestly the Court could not go into the manure-heap, so it fell back on TICK Junior. That worthy, being shown the account-book with the names of the partners, said that he recognized three of them as his relations. Once more the Court exulted, for TICK, when questioned by the Custom-house officers on board ship, had been unable to name any of the partners. But when everybody looked to see TICK confounded, he explained complacently that he had been sea-sick and unable to use his memory. And this though the ship had been three days in the dock before TICK was confronted by the Custom-house folks. Finally, the case was re-

manded, and other "evasionists" came on. One of them, inspired, perhaps, by TICK's example, professed himself a trader, but said that he, too, had been too sea-sick to remember the fact when first questioned. Another averred that, out of a possible total of \$156, he had saved \$250, and with it bought a seventh-share in a drug store in which a capital of \$4,800 was invested. He also could not recall the names of any of the partners in the store where his six years' savings were placed, and he also, under the influence of sea-sickness, had said he was to be, not a partner, but a book-keeper. These discrepancies between statements made on board ship and those sworn to in Court may perhaps be referred to the promptings of a Chinese circular said to have been published for the benefit of new comers. It is translated as follows:—

On her last trip the *Oceanic* brought over a number of passengers, a majority of whom are ashore, out on bail. It will not be a great many days before their cases will be regularly called for trial. There is a law prohibiting the coming of Chinese laborers. It is not only the Chinese who are not thoroughly acquainted with the above, but even the lawyers do not seem to comprehend it. The following hints are for the information of those whom those cases concern, particularly those who are passengers. They ought to understand the above so that there may be no disappointment:

First—If a laborer, "he must have returned to China after November 17, 1880 (Kwong Su, tenth month, fifteen day), and before May 6, 1882 (Kwong Su, eighth year, third month, twentieth day)." Then he can return to this country.

Second—If a young, intelligent person, coming to this country to go to school, he can land without any difficulty, but then he must never mention a word of learning how to work, etc.

Third—In the case of merchants, whether new-comers or old residents, they can also be landed without any difficulty, but then they must have some evidence prepared in the form of a paper, showing interest in some store, account-book, or money brought over. These facts must be all clearly stated and then all will be right. Those passengers who have been examined already by the Custom House, whose testimonies do not correspond with the above, who have signed their names to the paper (meaning the Custom House records), will say they had heard a great deal of what the interpreter said was not understood by the Chinese, and that a great deal of the numerous dialects was not understood by the interpreter. When these Chinese come into Court and their testimony does not agree with that given to the Custom House officials, the fault then must lie with the interpreter, in that he did not understand clearly what he heard. When they come to Court they need not be afraid to relate, clearly and straight to the Judge's face, that they do not understand the Canton dialect, and this will prevent disappointments.

We incline to the opinion that this circular rather injures the anti-Chinese case. That it should have been issued at all is unlikely enough, but that it should have been translated and given to the newspapers is almost incredible. Taken in conjunction with the evidence elicited in Court, it has inspired some tolerably strong journalistic utterances. The Chinese are declared to be "just as inveterate liars to-day as they were in the age of Confucius." What evidence there is to prove their disregard for veracity in the times of that sage, we are not told. It is enough that, according to a San Francisco journal, "they lie for friendship, for gain, and for pure love of lying." Possibly they might seem less mendacious in the eyes of men who did not think it a duty "to preserve America for its people and their posterity, and to protect the American laborer from a competition degrading in character and ruinous to his hopes of material and social advancement." However this may be, the tailed immigrant is in exceedingly bad odour just now beyond the Pacific. Great ingenuity is exercised to show that even his occa-

sional virtues are an evil trait. "The very frequency and persistency of the vice of lying," we are told, "force on a few men who are in business the necessity of keeping their word good, for otherwise they would be unable to make contracts. Where ninety-nine out of a hundred are liars, the business value of a reputation for truthfulness is higher than among a people who are habitually truthful. This is the whole explanation of the exceptional truthfulness of occasional Chinese." As a way of reconciling a perplexing inconsistency, this is quite the most convincing thing we have seen for a long time. The Chinaman, in short, is so bad that the necessity of being good under certain circumstances is borne in upon him with exceptional force; and when he is good he appreciates the value of the thing so much that he is uncommonly good. Further, truth is such a rare thing among people of his race, that it is far more esteemed than in countries where lying is less common. This method of reasoning in parts a new aspect to the character of nations which have the credit of setting a higher price than their neighbours upon virtue and probity. The inference is that vice and dishonesty are proportionately prevalent among them.

But what a pitiable business the whole thing seems. What a parody on Western civilization are these Courts of Judges and Attorneys busied, day after day, with investigations into the biographies and private affairs of Chinese hucksters, petty traders, and travellers, who may not live an hour in, "the land of freedom" without having previously undergone a rigorous official catechism, and proved that their industry and frugality are not to enter into competition with the insolent slothfulness of uneducated truculent boors from Ireland and elsewhere. And what a contrast does the orderly, hard working life of the much-abused Chinaman present to the noisy indolent ways of the Fenian agitator, honored citizen of the Great Republic, who openly plots assassinations and revels in riot and treason. At some not very distant day Americans will want to tear this page out of their national history.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A FRIEND IN NEED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The latest performances of a certain Yokohama journalist in the ill-fitting rôle of "guide, philosopher, and friend" to the Japanese Government, recall the days when his earlier efforts in that disguise used to excite alternately the amazement, the consternation, the bewilderment, and the horror of English-speaking officials in Tokio. That was a period when obnoxious intruders were to some extent held at bay by the difficulty of communication between the Capital and this Settlement, but it was never found that the obstacles which deterred the majority had the slightest restraining effect upon the editorial pest of whom I speak. Steamboats might blow up, stage coaches might break down, but such risks were always willingly encountered by this individual, who came gradually to be likened to Mrs. Micawber, in her determination not to desert the object of her fond devotion. I well remember the eagerness with which the attachés of a Department then situated near Tsukiji flew to inspect the list of killed by the explosion of the little boat commanded by poor Crowninshield;

and their expression of fatalistic resignation when it was ascertained that nothing resembling the *kata-kana* equivalent of the too familiar name could be found therein. I speak particularly of the list of "killed," because, even at that epoch, a gloomy conviction pervaded the department officials that nothing short of sudden death could free them from their incubus. A theory, weakly held by a few over sanguine optimists, to the effect that hopes might be cherished from the tendency of violent casualties to result in lock-jaw, was promptly suppressed by the larger number, who knew that their tormentor's resources were by no means limited to his lingual capabilities. I remember, furthermore, how each recurring overflow of the Rokugo River, at Kawasaki,—then a frequent event, though now almost unknown—was hailed with a satisfaction not usually evoked by a public mishap, solely because the chances of the unwelcome visitation were to that extent diminished. When the railway was first contemplated, it became a question of some gravity, in the precincts of *Kasumi-ga-seki* at least, whether the advantages of that enterprise would really compensate for the dire opportunities it would offer to the one dreaded foreigner. Then it was, or shortly after, that the reports of illness among the members of the Guwai Mu Sho staff began to be observed in such alarming repetition. During a number of months, it was noticed that, after each editorial pilgrimage to Tokio, a paragraph would appear announcing the serious indisposition, and consequent strict seclusion, of almost every officer or attaché who understood English. A little later, the hitherto unexplained fancy of prominent public servants to possess two or more private residences, in widely different parts of the city, commenced to manifest itself. The plea of sickness and confinement to their homes had not proved as efficacious as was anticipated, and it became convenient, in the event of objectionable calls, to be able to say that the *danna-san* was just now occupying some one of his other houses—perhaps at Asabu, possibly at Shinagawa, or it might be in Honjio. The apprehensions as to the railway were not, indeed, justified; its baleful facilities being counteracted by the admonitory properties of the telegraph. Whenever it was known that the object of official, terror was among the passengers from Yokohama, an excited and feverish tapping, like that of Poe's raven, would set in at most of the Departments, and especially at the one occupying the Kuroda estate, the consequences of which would generally be, first, a "hurrying to and fro" not unworthy of comparison with that of the ante-Waterloo revellers in Belgium's capital, and next, a half holiday all round. Many of the personal changes in the Guwai Mu Sho, ten years ago, were undoubtedly attributable to causes of which the community had no accurate conception. The memorable retirement of an eminent statesman was probably not due, as suspected at the time, to a dispute with his colleagues, but to the wear and tear of a nervous organization, subjected to incessant trituration by a bore from whom no means of escape could be devised. The transfer of several rising diplomatists, in rapid succession, from congenial posts in their chosen Office to the Finance, Law, or other Departments, was a source of wonder to those who were unacquainted with the dreadful penalty under which the original positions were held. *Daijos* begged on their knees to be sent upon missions to Europe and America. The organization of an intricate branch of the national service was understood to be undergoing gradual derangement from the inroads of a visitant more dreaded than the cholera or small-pox. But the invader, like Shakespeare's hero, was not to be awed from the career of his humour. Imitating the perseverance of a namesake famous in song, he simply stated—

"Men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever."

Finally, it is said, the expedient was adopted of summoning home from abroad the most dexterous and ingenious of Japan's younger diplomatists, to

cope with the evil. It was thought necessary that a decisive step be taken. A panic was feared. Ghastly forebodings that the suffering Department would become paralysed, or atrophied, were floating in the air. It was time to test the skill of the nimblest-witted and most imaginative of its agents. Arriving here, he was presently installed in a station of flattering prominence, and instructed as to the task before him. His conduct at that trying moment won him the undivided respect of his associates and the gratitude of his superiors. Confronted with a duty inexpressibly distasteful, he assented with the promptness of a soldier detailed for a forlorn hope. In the secret bosom of his family he was sometimes seen to wince. In the broad body of society his heroic calm never deserted him. History contains no nobler example of self-sacrifice at the command of patriotic abnegation.

And did he succeed? So I am given to understand, although I cannot vouch for the unimpeachable accuracy of such records as have been revealed to me. At any rate, the burden was thereafter borne by him alone. It is even alleged that he made light of it, and assumed an air of surprise that the proper treatment had not before been discovered. But this is not an uncommon device, to heighten the effect of brilliant achievement. He was often heard to say that beyond auricular blight and impotence he had little to fear. To listen—or affect to listen,—that was the only cruel hardship of his lot. Discussion, argument, persuasion,—these he contrived to set aside from the beginning. For this keen-sighted attaché at once detected that his visitor's purpose was not so much to discover and set forth the actual needs of Japan, as to find out the inclinations, the prejudices, the passing fancies of the individuals in power, and to formulate them in such ponderous English as should, in the writer's estimation, impose a dead weight of conviction upon every hearer or reader. To get at what the Government wanted, and then to convince the Government that the only sure way to attain their end was to enlist his coöperation as adviser, promulgator, editorial champion, or whatever—that (if I may use a vulgar expression for so exalted a project)—that was the little game in hand. From the moment of this disclosure, our young diplomatist's labours are believed to have been easy—excepting, always, the discomfort of having to sit like a bucket, day after day, and be pumped into. The fundamental principles of the editorial guardian-angel turned out akin to those of the Hibernian candidate who, having expounded his platform, proceeded to remark,—“These, fellow-citizens, are my fixed convictions, but if they do not suit you, they can be altered.” And so it came to pass that one of the most diverting series of dissolving views ever set in operation was exhibited in the columns of a Yokohama journal. Of course I do not speak from my own knowledge, and am open to correction in case of need; but the *ben trovato* tale runs that the able editor was induced from day to day to modify and reconstruct the doctrines previously asserted, until, at the end of a month or six weeks, his paper was proclaiming the exact opposite of what it had undertaken to demonstrate at the beginning. Nothing is more delightful than to listen to the lively descriptions of occurrences at that period, from the lips of those who were empowered by proximity and the thinness of *Shoji* to hear what passed between the native official and Japan's only true foreign friend. The course of the genial colloquy would thus run smooth:—

“Excellent, admirable! Nothing more true. Now I wonder how any person can see so exactly what our country needs, and can put it so perfectly into just the necessary language; so compact, so eloquent! It is a wonder!”

“Oh, no; not at all, not at all. You see,—well, practice, perhaps, and—ah,—habits of investigation; yes, experience goes a great way. Now, if you cared to hear, I could tell you,”—and so forth,

and so forth, mumble, mumble, for something like half an hour.

“Yes, very wonderful! I don't see how any body could present it in so grand a form. It is perfect. Perfect is the only word. I only wish—I only wish—

“Well, what?”

“I only wish that *all* the members of our Government would look at these matters in the same way. But sometimes, you know —,”

“Yes, oh yes, naturally. Let me tell you. When I was Minister of —, in —,”

“What? I beg your pardon. Were you ever Minister of — in —?” [He has heard the same thing a dozen times, but finds he can always make a point by expressing admiring surprise.]

“Oh, certainly; it's a well known fact. I held that responsible office for nearly a week. The parties, you know —”

“But, excuse me, this is *very* interesting. I must make a note. So, you were Minister of — in —. What was the date? My Government will be greatly concerned to know this. Pardon me for interrupting you. Then it is true that other Governments besides the Japanese do not always agree on delicate points.

“Why, bless you, of course not.” [Here a thumb is poised, as if meditating interjection between two Japanese ribs; from which familiarity the Oriental anatomy recoils in ill-concealed loathing.] “To be sure. I once made a speech nine hours long, and had to change my whole political position five times in the course of it, because I could see my colleagues didn't altogether agree, don't you see?”

“Ah! Very few could do that so discreetly, I dare say.”

“Oh, I don't say that; not quite that; but—well—I confess that my particular training may have given me a faculty of shifting—that is—ah—of gliding,—let us say *gliding*, you know”—[Again a slumberous monologue of fifteen minutes.]

“Then, perhaps, with your peculiar tact, you would not mind altering one slight point,—just ‘gliding,’ I think you said.”

“Yes, ‘gliding’ would be the parliamentary way of putting it.”

“Would you kindly ‘glide,’ then”—etc., etc.

The result, I am informed, always was that a certain deviation, as of a point in the compass, was effected with each interview; with the ultimate consequence that the wind which blew due North at the beginning of a month had “glided” so as to blow due South at the close. This feat accomplished, a climax of exquisite humour would be brought about. The first and the last article of the series would be solemnly presented to the writer, with an assurance that nothing was now required but to compose a national constitution for Japan, in which the the admirable ideas of the two effusions should be carefully wrought together. That done, the empire would be safe. But as that could not be done, by any process of “gliding” known to literature; and as the devoted friend of Japan was constrained to admit that the effort was too much even for an ex-Minister of —, in —, the equable young diplomatist invariably cut the knot of difficulty by saying, with imperturbable good humour,—“Very well; let us begin again.” And so the entire operation would be repeated, without awakening a touch of suspicion on the part of the deluded dupe. But of course this could not last forever. No amount of vanity and conceit, however cunningly tickled, could perpetually blind their possessor to the fact that he had been trifled with and rendered utterly ridiculous, not only in the sight of the Japanese, but in his own as well. How the catastrophe came about, I may at some future time relate. It is too good a story to be impaired by hasty narration. It is sufficient to say that the officers of the Government, high and low, were relieved, for years if not forever, from the offensive personal intrusions of this disinterested applicant for the post of Mentor. From that date, friendly advice and fraternal

counsel were at an end. Sweeping denunciation and blind hatred became the order of each day. I am given to believe that for several successive years, the pages of the Yokohama newspaper concerned in the proceedings were rarely free from abuse and defamation of everything Japanese. The annihilation of Japan's independence was advocated, and the theory that the country would be benefited by being placed under British rule was openly advanced. Whether this candid attitude of hostility was more, or less, satisfactory to its objects than the previous pretence of big-hearted amity, we need not inquire; but it was considered a settled fact that no renewal of the exploded "confidence game" need be feared. Time, however, works strange changes; and we are now diverted once more by the spectacle of the unreformed hypocrite coming forward in his stale character and proffering patent panaceas of his invention, for all the serious evils and embarrassments under which this country continues to labour. The reasons of his return to a field of endeavour in which he signally failed before, and the methods which he now employs, are not unworthy of a brief examination; and if I may, at another time, be granted the requisite space, I will attempt to bestow upon them a little of the attention which they merit.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

GOOD MEMORY.

Yokohama, 19th February, 1884.

SHORT WEIGHT COALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wish to call the attention of foreign residents in Tokiyo to the fact that, to my knowledge two established native dealers in coal not only deceive their customers with short weight, but make matters worse by bringing with them, when delivering coal, false weighing machines—one of them a Japanese machine marking *kuwamme*, the other a foreign machine marking pounds avoirdupois. A number of piculs brought to me showed great uniformity in weighing 133 lbs. on the dealer's weighing machine, a short weight of 3 lbs., and not, therefore, very important. I then had them weighed on a stamped *hakari*, and found each to mark 11.3 *kuwamme* instead of 16.0 *kuwamme*, that is 92 lbs. instead of 133 lbs. The dealer admitted his defaulting, and altered his delivery note to the correct weight, and received money in accordance with it. I have not kept particulars of the false *hakari* brought by the other dealer.

The use of false weights and measures is punishable in Japanese law, but probably very few persons would undertake the task of reporting the culprit to the authorities.

It is desirable, however, not only for their pocket's sake, but for the cause of commercial honesty among Japanese that coal consumers should take steps as I have done to defeat gross attempts at cheating.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

N.

Tokiyo, February 18th, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I should like to add a few words to the letter in your issue of to-day headed "Short Weight Coals." A statement of the two methods of fraud which I have detected may help to put other purchasers on their guard. In one case, when a foreign platform machine was used, I noticed that the man who weighed the coals always stood very close to the machine, and at last I found out that he put his foot under the platform each time and pressed the works underneath. In the other case when an ordinary Japanese *hakari* was brought, on my producing a small *hakari* of my own for comparison, the seller thought it well to take his away and bring another—a correct one I presume—and the coal which he had brought as a ton was found, when weighed with this, to be just three-

quarters of a ton, and he received in consequence some two *yen* less than he had expected. I did report this case to the police, but do not know whether they took any action in the matter. In the case of a Japanese *hakari*, the beam and the weight should be carefully examined to see whether the letters or marks on each correspond; otherwise you cannot tell that the coals are not being weighed with a weight belonging to a lighter *hakari*. We have, in fact, in this place to take these precautions:—1. See that the coals correspond to sample, so that you do not get *Chikugo* when you have ordered *Karatsu*. 2. Test the scales: this can be done even with a few pounds weighed on small house scales. 3. Watch the manner of weighing.

It would pay a community like the one in Tsukiji to have a weighing machine of their own for common use.

Yours, &c.,

M.

Tsukiji, February 21st, 1884.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce was held at their rooms yesterday afternoon, when the following members were present viz:—J. A. Fraser (Chairman) J. Dodds, I. Lindsley, E. Flint Kilby, A. J. Wilkin, A. O. Gay, W. B. Walter, A. Wolff, Tom Thomas, J. T. Griffin, A. C. Read, J. Bissett, H. Gribble, C. H. Dallas, F. Grosser, Aug. Evers, J. M. des Pallières, and others.

The CHAIRMAN said that, this being the annual meeting of the Chamber, the first formal business was to read the notice convening the meeting (read); the next business was to pass the minutes of the last annual meeting and of the special meetings of the 17th April and 18th December. He hoped some member would propose that they be passed.

Mr. WILKIN made the proposition, which was carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY then proposed that the accounts and report of the Committee as printed be taken as read.

Mr. W. B. WALTER seconded the proposition, which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that they now passed to a consideration of the various headings of the report of the Committee, the first of which was Treaty and Tariff Revision. They were unable to give any more information than appeared in the report as they had not received any communications on the subject. The views of the Chamber had been fully set forth in various communications with the Foreign Ministers in Tokiyo, and it was most probable that there remained very little more to say on the subject. It was also probable that a settlement would be arrived at before long, perhaps during the present year, and it was to be hoped that it would be one that would be honourable on all sides and at the same time carry no injustice to the interests of foreign merchants in Japan.

Mr. A. J. WILKIN then rose and said—I think that this subject should scarcely pass without some expression from the Chamber on that point, upon which a good deal is now being said, viz., the abolition or partial abolition of extraterritoriality jurisdiction. We are all, I trust, desirous that no injustice should be done to Japan, nor do we wish that any selfish or sentimental consideration should influence our judgment in respect to this question. By all means, let Japan have her sovereign rights, at the same time let it not be overlooked that others have rights as well as Japan. If I mistake not, there is a good deal of misrepresentation or at least a keeping back of the truth on the subject. Parties who have little practical knowledge of it, or who are interested,

picture a state of things which carries the idea of oppression on the part of the stronger nations. Now I hazard the assertion that practically there is very little of serious fiction in the present machinery of the relations with foreign powers. There may be a certain amount of feeling of injured pride, but I verily believe, speaking with all diffidence, that this owes its origin to a great extent to some of Japan's foreign advocates or advisers. No doubt, more especially in later years, Japan has many among these both able and worthy, but it is not so in all cases, and there are some on whose assistance she is not to be congratulated. But I presume the boldest of them would not venture to say that twenty years ago it was possible that any jurisdiction over aliens could have been conceded to this country; or say even 10 years ago, or even 5,—or let us come down even to three. The want of any written law; the utter dissimilarity of thought and feeling; the despotic method of treatment by one class of another; the prevalence of torture; a code of morality of a unique pattern; all these combined to set at nought any notion of the kind. But within the last year or two, or two or three years, a written code has been formed, and it is understood that it is to some extent working. But surely it will be only decent that at least we should see a little how it works before we are intrusted to its care. It is no great matter to write out a code, but a very different thing to administer it, and especially when for generations all habits of thought and idea have been in different grooves. Let us just illustrate by some examples the position of a Japanese towards the law and the position a foreigner would find himself in under that law. Is there any *habeas corpus*? Is it not still the case that a man can be thrown into prison on a mere suspicion, and kept there for weeks without trial? I know for a fact that comparatively recently this has been done. Shall I be liable to be brow-beaten by a policeman if I walk on the bund without a lantern, even under the gas lamps; a small matter, but the representative of a good deal. Or take a more serious question; the marriage law, or rather marriage customs of the country, for I suppose there are no marriage laws. Is a foreigner to have the power, or the privilege of being able to tell his wife she may go—he does not want her any more? These are aspects in which the subject should be considered, and there is another point, a delicate matter which I wish to allude to only in a proper spirit; the state religion of Japan is a paganism of a very primitive type, containing, as far as I know, no code of morality worthy of the name. People at home should know precisely how and where their people stand in relation to extra-territoriality jurisdiction, and it must take a generation at any rate before a state of thought and feeling can be developed here, which shall place this country in consonance with the platform of the West. Then, as to opening the country, which we hear of as something as a *quid pro quo* for the surrender of alien privileges; let there be no mistake on this point. I do not believe that it will have any material effect in increasing the opportunities of foreigners to do business. Indirectly and gradually it will foster business, and it will at once obviate a good many annoyances, but the benefit will assuredly be more for Japan than for the foreigner. While on the other hand, I cannot understand how this country can aspire to be considered enlightened and civilized, while it closes the land in this fashion—a relic of the darker ages. There is no country in the world besides which adopts this course. The plea that it might lead to trouble without full jurisdiction breaks down under the result of actual experience. I believe I am right in saying that during the few years in which the passport system—an enlightened step in advance—has been working, that by the British Legation alone several thousand, say 7,000, passports have been obtained, and in no single instance is there the record of any serious trouble with any of the holders. I am

very anxious that these remarks should not be misunderstood. I do not wish to make them in any carping spirit, but, on the other hand, it seems time to make some counter-statements to those which are circulated freely at the present time.

The CHAIRMAN after thanking Mr. Wilkin for his remarks said the next item was the Korean treaty. When this had last been brought to the notice of the Chamber they had commented in very unfavourable terms on the treaty made by Admiral Willes. He believed that it was through the representations made by the Chambers of Commerce in Shanghai, Hongkong, and here, that it had not been ratified, and was glad to say that the treaty as concluded by Sir H. Parkes was much more satisfactory. Speaking of the Kerosene Regulations, he said that he congratulated the members on the fact that they had been rescinded, and the promise of the Government that if new ones were enacted due notice would be given before they came into operation. Referring to the Postal Contract, they had appealed to the Home Government to continue the subsidy to the line between here and Hongkong, which appeal had been refused. It cost the Government £12,000 per annum, and they did not think it a necessary expense. He was glad to say that the delivery as conducted now by outside boats was as regular as by the French Mail.

Mr. WILKIN said there was some acknowledgment due to Mr. Rickett for signaling the mails, although they came by outside steamers. It was a great convenience, and he would suggest that the Committee ask Mr. Center, the Agent of the P.M. and O. & O. Companies to fire a gun when their steamers arrived.

The CHAIRMAN said he would note the suggestion and leave it to be dealt with by the new Committee. The Chairman, resuming, said the next question was Drawbacks and Bonded Warehouses. The views of the Chamber were forwarded to the Foreign Representatives in Tokiyo through the Doyen of that body in March last, in which they particularly pressed the matter of drawbacks. If it came to a question of only receiving one concession, he was not sure but that the Bonded Warehouse scheme would not be the more advantageous.

Mr. W. B. WALTER thought that the tariff question would come up for consideration during the current year, at least, and then they would have an opportunity of discussing the whole question.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that the proposed increase in duties was a very serious matter. A proposition had been made some time ago about Bonded Warehouses in the Settlement which was well worthy of being kept in view.

The CHAIRMAN then passed on to the scale of charges, which he said had been drawn up and adopted by a special committee in April last. Referring to Hatoba accommodation, principally for metals, he was given to understand that the Superintendent of Customs had not put aside a portion of the sheds and had them floored, as promised; but perhaps we expected these things to be done too quickly.

Mr. KILBY said that the Hatoba was in no better state than before. During the last fall of snow a steamer landed its cargo and no men were employed to clear away the snow; the sheds were leaky, and merchants suffered heavy losses from the damage occasioned.

Mr. WALTER remarked that the Hatoba accommodation was insufficient for the trade of the port. It was the same now as 10 years ago when the trade was smaller. He thought the Chamber should address the Superintendent of Customs on the subject, and, failing that, apply to the Ministers.

The CHAIRMAN said he had had two interviews with the Superintendent of Customs on the subject and had received plenty of promises. He would suggest that a special committee be appointed to push the matter.

Mr. LINDSLEY suggested that cargo might be landed here as at Shanghai, that is at other places

than the Hatoba, under special permits. It had been done here, but the fees were too heavy, viz., \$6.00 per diem. He would propose that the incoming committee be asked to look into the matter and see if some arrangement could not be made.

The CHAIRMAN, resuming, said there was nothing special to say about the Tea Telegram. The first was sent on the 22nd December, and there was a proposal to get an outward telegram from New York. The Finances had been fully considered in November and December last, and therefore there was very little to be said on the subject now. He would take this opportunity of mentioning that the Secretary's salary had been reduced to \$150.00. This was done after drawing up the report, and therefore did not appear in it. Mr. Dinsdale had kindly waived his right to two months' notice of the reduction. This would make the question of finances easier for the new committee.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that the increase in the price of the Circular, instead of increasing the receipts from this source had caused them to fall off 14 per cent. He moved that the incoming committee consider at the first opportunity the advisability of reducing the price of the Circular.

Mr. THOMAS seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that if the few firms who now held aloof from the Chamber, and there were only a few, would join, it might be said to be a thoroughly representative body. There was nothing to say about the State of Trade as it referred to a time that was past, but since the report was drawn up things had assumed a brighter aspect. As to Railways, it was to be desired that they should be built as economically as was consistent with good work. They would confer great benefits on the people of the country and this would naturally stimulate foreign trade. He would ask for a motion that the statement of accounts and report be adopted, printed, and circulated as usual.

This was proposed by Mr. DODDS, seconded by Mr. READ, and carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE YEAR 1883.

In framing a report of the proceedings of this Chamber for the past year, it is not necessary to assign to the question of Treaty Revision the prominent position which it has occupied in the Reports of the two preceding years.

Not that the question has lost any of its importance or interest, but, because, so far as this Chamber is concerned, the year 1883 has passed away without the necessity of any further action on its part.

REVISED TARIFF.

As regards the Revised Tariff on which it is supposed an understanding had been arrived at, last year, between the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives, and which had thereafter been remitted to the various Home Governments for their approval and confirmation, it might have been expected, remembering the eagerness displayed at one time by the Government of this country on the question, that ere now a date would have been fixed, or at least indicated, for the coming into operation of the new scale of duties, devised with the intent of providing this country with an increased revenue, but apparently fresh and unforeseen obstacles have interposed to hinder this result.

What the precise nature of these points of difference is, Your Committee is unable to state, but it is supposed that they have reference to the question of the duration of the Revised Tariff, and to the manner of its determination on the expiry of whatever period may be agreed on during which it shall be in force.

Apart then from the broader question of Treaty Revision, about which so much continues to be written in the native and foreign press, and so many conflicting opinions are constantly being expressed, Your Committee is not in possession of any information of a more definite character on the subject of the Revised Tariff.

COREAN TREATY.

Passing from the question of Treaty Revision in Japan, Your Committee arrives at a reference to the treaties with Corea concluded by the Representatives of Great Britain and Germany on the 26th November last, the former intended to replace the convention negotiated by Vice-Admiral Willes in 1882, and referred to in the Chamber's Report for that year. Through the courtesy of H.B.M.'s Representative at the Court of Peking, this Chamber was afforded an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the merits of the new Treaty, and Your Committee, in a despatch to Earl Granville, dated 8th instant, took occasion to commend the provisions of the new Convention, and to express the hope that its ratification might shortly be accomplished. (Appendix A.)

KEROSENE REGULATIONS.

In the month of February last, a new set of Regulations was promulgated by the Government, to come into force on the 1st of July, 1883. As the effect of these Regulations would have been seriously detrimental to the interests of all concerned in this important trade, a communication was addressed by Your Committee, on the 23rd February, to the Doyen of the Foreign Representatives in Tokio, pointing out the injustice of altering the Standard of Kerosene to be

imported into this country, without giving ample and sufficient notice of such proposed change.

The effect of the Chamber's directing attention to this matter, was to procure a rescinding of the New Regulations, and further to obtain from the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, an assurance that no alteration of the Standard of Kerosene would be decreed, without ample notice being given to foreign merchants engaged in the trade. (Appendix B.)

POSTAL CONTRACT.

In furtherance of the resolution carried at the last Annual General Meeting, a communication was addressed in March last to H.E. Sir Harry Parkes, requesting his co-operation in a fresh effort to induce the Home Government to consent to a renewal of the Branch Service by British Packets between Hongkong and this port.

In the month of August, H.E. informed the Chamber that he had received a reply from the Earl Granville, stating, that H.M.'s Postmaster-General, to whom the matter had been referred, saw no reason to recommend a reversal of the adverse decision previously taken by the Lords of the Treasury in this matter. (Appendix C.)

DRAWBACKS AND BONDED WAREHOUSES.

The resolutions on these subjects, passed at last Annual General Meeting, were duly communicated to the Foreign Representatives in Tokio, in a communication dated 28th March, and addressed to the Doyen of that body. (Appendix D.)

SCALE OF COMMISSIONS AND CHARGES.

A Special Committee, consisting of Messrs. W. B. Walter, Gay, Wolff, Evers, and Thomas, was duly elected, in terms of the resolution carried at last Annual General Meeting, and a revised scale was drawn up by these gentlemen. At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, called in April last to consider the proposed scale, its adoption was agreed to, with some slight alteration in the Fire Insurance scale. Members were supplied at the time with copies of the new scale as adopted, but it will also appear in the annual pamphlet. (Appendix E.)

HATOPA ACCOMMODATION FOR METALS.

In May last the Chamber addressed a letter to the Superintendent of Customs, at the request of the Foreign Merchants and others interested in the trade, complaining of the insufficient accommodation for metals at the Hatoba, whereby serious damage was often caused, to iron more especially, in the process of landing and sorting cargo. After some delay, a reply was received from the Superintendent, promising to pave and set apart a portion of the existing sheds for metals only. (Appendix F.)

FINANCES.

The financial position of the Chamber has been the cause of some anxiety to Your Committee during the past year, it was found necessary to hold two Special Meetings, to consider the all-important subject of ways and means. The proceedings at these meetings were duly printed, and circulated for the information of members, and Your Committee hope that the measures adopted may result in placing the Chamber's finances on a sound footing. (Appendix G.)

ACCOUNTS.

A statement of accounts for the past year, duly audited, is appended, and shows a credit balance of \$439.33, against \$713.98 at the close of 1882.

MEMBERS.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the Chamber's list of Members for the current year amounts to 58, as against 59 for 1883.

DANGERS IN THE SUNDA STRAITS.

A circular was received in October last from the Secretary of the Batavia Exchange, having reference to dangers to navigation in the Straits of Sunda, arising from the recent volcanic disturbances, and offering to take charge of letters and telegrams for vessels expected at Anjer.

Your Committee, considering the matter one of general public interest, forwarded the Circular to the local press for publication.

TEA TELEGRAM.

A request having been made by the recently established "Importers' and Grocers' Exchange of New York" that this Chamber would undertake the construction and despatch, after the departure of each American mail, of a Telegram about Japan Tea, averaged from information to be furnished by various firms engaged in the trade, your Committee decided to sanction the Chamber's undertaking the work on certain conditions, which have been duly communicated to the Committee of the Exchange.

As a commencement, a telegram was despatched on the 22nd instant, after the departure of the *Arabic*. All expenses in connection with the message are to be defrayed by the New York Exchange.

STATE OF TRADE.

Under this heading it is difficult for Your Committee to make reference to the past year in more cheering terms than those applied to its immediate predecessors. The Import Trade, as a reference to the Chamber's Statistics will prove, shows an estimated falling off in value of nearly 2½ millions of dollars, compared with 1882, and running the eye down the list of Imports, it is noticeable that this falling off has not alone affected the principal articles of staple use, but that, with few exceptions, all imported goods give evidence of a diminished sale, and of a lower average value.

Turning to Exports, it is apparent that the quantity of Tea shipped in 1883 differs but slightly from total of 1882, but the average cost has been somewhat less. Notwithstanding this advantage to buyers, it is to be feared that to most, if not to all engaged in the trade, the past season has been one of disappointment, for against the more moderate cost on this side has to be placed the decline in American markets, culminating in a low range of prices. Happily, indications are no longer wanting that a reaction has set in, and that a considerable improvement has taken place in New York, since the beginning of the current year.

As regards Silk, the figures of export for 1883 are the largest on record, and a lower average cost than in 1882 has to be noted, but here, too, it is open to question whether the result of operations in the article has so far proved profitable to shippers. These remarks would be incomplete without a reference to the large increase (due possibly to somewhat exceptional causes,) in direct shipments on native account, and also to the reappearance, in quantity, of what may be termed "Taysam" sorts, their presence on this market affording proof of the asserted depression and inactivity of the native manufacturing industry.

A further reference to the Chamber's figures shows a difference in the total value of exports, (in favor of 1882 as compared with 1883) of about 1½ millions of dollars, notwithstanding the remarkable increase in last year's Silk shipments; but comparing the estimated totals of the Import and Export trade for 1883, we find that the latter exceeded the former by the large sum of close on 9 millions of dollars.

RAILWAYS.

This report may fittingly be closed with a brief reference to the work of Railway construction, which the past year has witnessed in this country, as well as to the schemes for a further extension of the system, which are in contemplation.

Public Works of this nature, if carefully and judiciously carried out, cannot fail to be of great benefit to Japan, in opening up and developing the country, and it would seem not unreasonable to hope that their ultimate effect, in conjunction with the increased facilities for coast transport afforded by the numerous additions to Japan's Mercantile Marine, may be to give an impetus to the trade and commerce of the country, which shall be of benefit to native and foreign merchants alike.

J. A. FRASER, Chairman.

January, 1884.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1883.

RECEIPTS.	
To Balance from 1882	\$ 713.98
Members' Annual Subscriptions 50 @ \$25	1,475.00
Additional payments by Members 56 @ \$10	560.00
	2,350.00
Circulars sold:—To members 11,798 @ 10 cts.	1,179.80
Circulars sold:—To members 3,692 @ 12½ cts.	461.50

Circulars supplied to non-members	236.16
Half yearly Statistics sold: { To members 683 @ 10 cts. 68.30	
{ To non-members 60 @ 20 cts. 12.00	
	80.30

Reports, &c., &c., sold to members	10.30
Sample Japanese Bank note, returned by H.E. Sir H. S. Parkes	10.00
Interest allowed by H. & S. Bank on current account	18.51

\$4,745.55

EXPENDITURE.	
Rent	\$ 480.00
Secretary's Salary	2,100.00
Wages for Chinese assistant and office boys	475.00
Printing Circulars and half-yearly Statistics	647.76
General printing, advertising, and subscriptions to local newspapers	240.00
Returns of imports and exports, deliveries, and sales	147.83
Furniture and stationery	83.52
Books of reference	43.88
Petty disbursements, postages and sundries	68.33
Fire insurance, \$1,000	20.00

Balance, carried to new account	\$4,306.32
	439.33

Balance. Cash in hand	\$439.33
E. & O. E.	G. K. DINSDALE, Secretary.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1884.

Examined and found correct, 4th February, 1884.

J. RICKETT,
L. C. MAFSEN, } Auditors.

The ballot was then taken for the Chairman for the ensuing year, Mr. FRASER stating that he did not wish to serve again. This resulted in the election of Mr. W. B. Walter.

On the ballot for Vice-Chairman, Mr. Gay was reelected.

The following gentlemen were elected as Committee:—Messrs. Wilkin, Evers, Thomas, Lindsley, Wolff, Dodds, and Fraser.

The CHAIRMAN proposed, and Mr. DODDS seconded, a vote of thanks to the Auditors for their trouble, which was carried.

Mr. LINDSLEY proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able manner in which he had conducted the business during the last year.

Mr. WILKIN seconded this proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN thanked them for their kind expressions, and said there had been no very important work to take hold of during the year. He was glad, nevertheless, to see that the Chamber held its own in point of numbers, and he thanked Mr. Walter for accepting the chairmanship.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

The annual meeting of the Brigade was held yesterday afternoon (by kind permission) in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms. The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. J. Dodds (in the chair), Jas. Walter (Hon. Sec. and Treasurer), E. Flint Kilby, W. C. Bing, E. Whittall, T. Brewer, A. Milne, W. B. Walter, and A. J. Wilkin.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said he was sorry to have to remark on the very sparse attendance. The institution was one of very grave importance to Yokohama. He wished that the

people who were so ready to ventilate their ideas in the newspapers would make some suggestions as to the best means of protecting the Settlement from fires. The first business was to read the minutes of the last meeting.

These were read and confirmed.

Mr. KILBY proposed, and Mr. W. B. WALTER seconded, that the report and accounts, as laid on the table, be taken as read.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know whether any one had any remarks to offer about the accounts. The expenditure during the last year had no doubt been very heavy, but the Committee hoped that the results would fully justify it. The Brigade was now put on a thoroughly efficient footing and ready for every emergency. It was true, unfortunately, that at the fire at No. 51 both engines had broken down, the "Relief" bursting some boiler tubes and the valve in the pump of the "Victoria" giving way. The valve, however, was promptly replaced and the engine got to work. The repairs to the "Relief" would take some days, and in the meantime they hoped to make an arrangement whereby the new Japanese Police steam engine would be placed in the Fire Brigade compound. Both the engines had been recently tested by the engineer to a very high pressure, and they were found in good order although rather old. The expenditure had chiefly been on capital account, and such items were not likely to come in again for some years. During the next year there would be nothing to meet but the working expenses, unless something extraordinary happened which would entail extra expense, so that they hoped in time to be able to pay off the debit balance. The subscribers would see from the statement of accounts that there was a new item, namely, for police patrol, which had cost for working expenses \$749.54. This patrol was of great service, not only by giving the alarm as quickly as possible but also, as some of the newspapers had pointed out, by preventing thieves from carrying on their depredations. He thought that some of the members of the community who would not subscribe to the Brigade might be induced to subscribe to this branch of the service. The estimated expenses for the current year were as follows:—

Police Patrol	\$ 800.00
Sundries	160.00
Pumping Water	150.00
Manual Engines	1,100.00
Steam Engines	1,262.00
Total	3,472.00

and if the subscriptions amounted to the same figure as last year, namely, \$4,432.00, there would be a balance of \$967.00 to go towards reducing the debt due to the Hon. Treasurer. He hoped that the sale of water to tea firing godowns etc., would be increased. The outlay for pipes, pumps, tanks, etc., had been \$483.19, and the cost of pumping, etc., \$248.68, making a total of \$731.78, and they had received for water \$454.80, leaving a debit balance of \$276.98. The estimated working expenses for the present year are \$144.00, and if the receipts keep the same as last year, namely, \$454.80, in the two years the total cost of the plant will have been paid off and a balance left to the good of \$33.82.

Mr. W. B. WALTER remarked that the item of \$2,410.00 as subscriptions for 1883 was virtually from English Insurance offices and one or two others. The two local insurance offices expended in the support of their engine about \$1,800.00, which of course did not come into the accounts. At one time the English offices did not seem to think it their business to look after the prevention of fire, but they had seen the folly of their ways and now were doing more in London than they had ever done before. He would urge upon the Agents here to write home and point out the urgent necessity of making the Brigade thoroughly efficient. The residents not only gave money but their time and trouble, and he thought the amount subscribed by the Insurance offices was not nearly sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Walter for his remarks. Some of the offices said it was not their business, but always held out the hope of reduced

premiums if matters were better conducted and the buildings more substantially constructed. The community said they paid such high premiums that it was not their business, and so between the two the Brigade was not supported as it ought to be.

Mr. WILKIN thought the Home offices were of the opinion that it was as much the business of the community as theirs. There was a great deal of property not insured, and the offices were prepared to reduce premiums if they saw their way to it. The offices were likewise prepared to do their share if the community would come forward and do theirs, but they would not bear the whole burden. He was glad to find that the Honmura sluice had been repaired, as it ran through an important part of the Settlement, but he had heard there was still some difficulty in using it.

Mr. JAS. WALTER said that he had examined the sluice with an engineer, and it appeared that it had been built as a drain and not to hold water. If the gate of the sluice was closed it carried away the creek wall, and therefore they were obliged to keep it open. The sluice would never be of much use unless it were rebuilt.

Mr. W. B. WALTER suggested that the tubs on the Bluff were too far apart, and that when the Brigade was in funds it should have them mounted on wheels, so that a number of them could be run down right on the spot.

The CHAIRMAN said the tubs were a present to the Brigade, and were placed there as being better than nothing. In the last report it was stated that the generality of the wells on the Bluff were too deep, and it was proposed to construct reservoirs, but the expenses to which the Brigade had been put had rendered such an outlay impossible: of course tubs were only of use at the very commencement of a fire.

Mr. JAS. WALTER remarked that it would cost 6 yen each to mount the tubs on wheels. The proper thing would be to have tank engines, but as each engine cost from \$150 to \$175 and the tank \$40, it was hopeless to think about it. A tank engine would carry sufficient water to work for 25 minutes.

After some further conversation the subject dropped.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, in accordance with a suggestion of Mr. Macpherson's at the last meeting, the Secretary had placed in the report a valuation of the property destroyed at each fire, and it would be seen that the total amount for the 7 fires which occurred during the year was only \$80,000.

Mr. WILKIN wished to know whether it was not possible to come to some arrangement with Mr. Hegt, who took a great interest in fire prevention and was a thoroughly practical man. He thought Mr. Hegt's brigade might be subsidized in some way and made useful as a flying brigade, working independently. Of course the subsidy would depend upon their attending all fires.

Mr. JAS. WALTER said that both he and Mr. Rohde had spoken to Mr. Hegt of incorporating his service with the Brigade, but Mr. Hegt had refused to do so.

The CHAIRMAN believed Mr. Hegt was supposed to have a system, but what it was they had never been able to make out, and Mr. Hegt had never explained it. He had always shirked a fair trial.

Mr. WILKIN had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the report and passing the accounts. He was gratified to see the bold manner in which things had been taken in hand. He was sorry that the balance due to the Hon. Treasurer was so heavy, but expressed a hope that during the present year a great portion of it would be paid off.

Mr. E. WHITTALL seconded the motion, which was carried.

REPORT.

REMARKS ON ACCOUNTS.

RECEIPTS.

The subscriptions for 1883 show an increase of \$1,015 over those of 1882, Insurance Companies having contributed, \$160 and private firms \$455 more than last year, in addition to which the Chinese community have contributed \$400, on condition that an engine be kept in the China Town. This entails a rental for premises of \$120 per annum. The committee have to thank Mr. Chan Wong Chee, Chinese Consul, for the interest he has taken in the Brigade, and for inducing the Chinese community to become subscribers again. The sum of \$10 has been subscribed for the protection of the Bluff. A further sum of \$454.80 has been received for water supplied from the Brigade wells to tea firing compounds, for drinking purposes, which has been rather more than swallowed up for this year by the outlay of \$483.19 for iron pipes and pumping gear, and \$248.68 for labor. This, however, should be fully repaid in the course of next year.

DISBURSEMENTS.

These amount to \$7,259.12, which sum includes \$3,761.10 on Capital account, \$3,445.75 on Working account, and \$52.24 interest on overdraft, leaving a balance of \$2,665.07 due by the Brigade to the Hon. Treasurer. In the Capital Expenditure the principal items are for necessary Buildings, as detailed in the accompanying accounts, and in the Working Expenditure, which shows an increase of \$1,163.75 over last year, \$749.54 has been absorbed by the new item

of Police Patrol. This and the great rise in *kinsatsu*, fully account for the difference.

Commodious quarters are now provided for 150 scavenger coolies, in lieu of payment for working at fires, and the Coolie Superintendent has made arrangements by which 60 men shall always be on the spot in case their services are required.

WATER SUPPLY.

Repairs have been made by the Kencho authorities to the gates of the Honmura sluice, but this source of supply cannot be relied on at fires.

A new fire well has been made at the cost of the Brigade on the Bund opposite No. 2, iron pipes being extended into the sea to enable the Engines to work at low tide.

This well, after nearly a year's trial, has proved to be a thoroughly reliable source of water supply and, as funds permit, the Committee recommend that the number of these wells be increased.

The recommendation of the Committee in their last Report having been sanctioned at the subsequent meeting, the arrangements for a force of picked policemen were completed, and control clocks were fixed at (Nos. 198, 205, 241, 221, 224, 274,) (21, 47, 72, 54, 78, 59) (10, 20, 36, 86, 88, 62) (149, 154, 168, 134, 113, 161) in the Settlement, in order to ensure a vigilant and effective patrol. The Settlement is divided into 4 districts which are thoroughly patrolled throughout the night, the men being relieved every three hours. The early alarm now given of an outbreak of fire, has proved of great service to the Brigade, and your Committee in bearing witness to the greatly improved efficiency of the Japanese Police Force generally of this Settlement, are also of opinion that the comparative immunity from theft noticeable during the past year, is in no small measure attributable to the watchfulness of the night Patrol.

It would be most regrettable if, through insufficient support from the Community your Committee be compelled to discontinue this force, now so well organized.

The resignation of Police in February included Mr. Takahayachi (Keibu) who had done much to assist the Fire Brigade, but the harmonious working of the force with the police has continued under the management of the latter and Mr. T. Nozoe, who has done everything in his power to assist us.

FIRE.

In the Settlement and China Town there have been 7 fires, and 4 in the Japanese Town.

In two cases only the fires spread to adjoining buildings. The Committee have no satisfactory explanation of the cause of any of the fires in the foreign Settlement.

BLUFF.

The funds at the disposal of the Committee have not permitted any further outlay than was necessary for the placing of 24 water casks in convenient positions on the Bluff.

It is hoped that subscriptions will be sent in from private persons and firms somewhat more liberally for the ensuing year, to enable the Committee to increase the efficiency of the Brigade, as it will be seen from the subjoined statement that the private subscriptions only amounted to \$1,175 during the past year.

The Committee take this opportunity of thanking the Chief Superintendent, the Captains, officers and men of the various Steam Fire Brigades, the Japanese Municipal Fire Brigades, likewise Mr. Hegt, for the assistance rendered during the past year. The Committee have also to thank Mr. James Favre Brandt for the present of 3 Extincteurs.

Mr. R. Rohde, Captain of the Brigade, having returned to Europe on leave, the Committee take this opportunity to thank that gentleman for the very great services he has rendered to the Brigade for several years past. The Committee would be glad to see more of the young men of the Settlement offering to fill the vacancies in the several Steam Fire Engine Companies, which have not quite their full complement of men at present.

FIRE—SETTLEMENT.

1883.	
Mar. 8, 4.15 a.m., Lot 130, dwelling house owned by executors of Mrs. Hutton	\$ 3,000 destroyed.
Mar. 14, 2.13 a.m., Lot 52, dwelling house and store, E. Jacot	\$24,000 destroyed.
Mar. 15, 2.30 a.m., Lot 147, 150, China Town.	\$ 2,000 destroyed.
Mar. 16, 3.45 a.m., Lot 255, Godowns, P. Bolim	\$26,500 destroyed.
Sept. 15, 3.45 a.m., Lot 31, Dwelling, Madame Maigre	\$ 1,500 destroyed.
Nov. 30, 3.15 a.m., Lot 70, Provision store, Mr. Hoffmann	\$ 8,700 destroyed.
Dec. 25, 8.30 p.m., Lot 16, Water Street and Bund	\$12,000 destroyed.

BLUFF NONE.

June 12, 0.20 a.m., Kita Nakadori, Tea house, 15 houses.	
June 13, 4.30 p.m., Uchida-cho, Fireworks Manufacturer.	
Sept. 8, 8.00 p.m., Omari Yato, 36 houses.	
Nov. 9, 2.30 a.m., Honmura Zotoku-in, 600 houses.	

THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

DR.

To Balance cost of 5 Bluff Engines	\$ 375.00
To New Suction and Delivery hose and couplings	404.87
To Iron pipes to tea-firing godowns, pumps, tank and fittings	483.10
To Police Patrol clocks and fittings	260.00
To New Fire-well at No. 2 Bund	220.30
To One new small Shand and Mason's Metallic Engine	191.63
To One Extincteur	20.00
To One cart for Extincteurs	56.38

\$2,011.28

BUILDINGS.

To Coolies' Quarters	\$ 593.76
To Engine House	538.43
To Balance cost of Police Quarters	274.10
To Furniture for Police Quarters, bulls-eye lamps, &c.	209.64
To Drainage and Sanitary improvements on Fire Brigade lot	80.60
To Fitting Gas to Police Quarters	24.70
To Alterations to American Engine house	15.39
To Speaking Tube between Look-out and Police Quarters	13.20

\$1,749.82

3,761.10

WORKING EXPENDITURE.

STEAM FIRE ENGINES.

To Wages European Engineer	\$840
To Wages two firemen	132
	972.00
To Coal, oil, candles, and repairs to Engine and hose-carts	90.13
To Uniforms of Volunteer Members	200.00
	1,262.13

MANUAL ENGINES.

To Wages of Japanese Firemen	\$180.00
To Wages of European Foreman	360.00
To Wages of Coolie Foreman	84.00
To Wages of Look-out	42.00
To Rent of American Engine House, No. 150, 4 months at \$10	40.00
To Uniforms for Japanese Firemen	225.42
To Repairs and painting manual engines	74.66
To Salvage labor at Fires	\$145.36
Less repaid by Insurance Co.	124.43
	20.93
	\$1,027.01

POLICE PATROL.

To 2 Sergeants and 8 Constables	\$527.44
To Coal, oil, and sundry petty expenses	120.80
To Gas-lighting for Police Quarters during year	101.30
	\$749.54

SUNDRIES.

To Ground Rent	\$87.28
To Lighting Fire Brigade Yard, one gas lamp during year	33.93
To Printing reports, advertising, stationery	37.21
	\$158.42

WATER SUPPLY.

To Coolie labour pumping water to tea godowns	\$ 248.68
	3,445.78

To Interest on overdraft to 31st Dec. 1883, \$2,612 for 3 months @ 8%	52.24
	\$7,259.12

Total

\$7,259.12

CR.

By Balance from last year	\$ 145.59
By Subscriptions for 1883, of which Insurance Offices paid	\$2,410.00
Private firms and individuals	1,175.00
Chinese	400.00
	3,985.00

By Sale of Water	454.80
By Bank Interest	8.66
By Balance due Hon. Treasurer	\$2,669.98
Less balance in H. & S. Bank	4.91
	2,665.07

Total

\$7,259.12

E. & O. E.

JAMES WALTER, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Yokohama, 31st December, 1883.

I have examined the above statement with the vouchers and books, and find the same to be correct.

H. ABEGG.

Mr. KILBY proposed, and Mr. WHITTALL seconded, a proposition that the present committee be re-elected.

Carried.

The committee consists of Messrs. J. Dodds, T. Brewer, Jas. Walter, G. W. Playfair, E. Flint Kilby, and W. C. Bing.

The CHAIRMAN said a most cordial vote of thanks was due to Mr. Jas. Walter, the Superintendent of the Brigade, and the executive officers, more especially Mr. Walter, for his zeal and ability and also for his time and trouble.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Theological Hall, 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, February 13th, the Vice-President for Tokiyo in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Tokiyo Meeting, having been published in both the daily and weekly editions of the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

Mr. O. KORSCHULT then read a paper "On the Chemistry of Japanese Lacquer" by himself and Mr. Yoshida. The paper opened with a brief account of the source and preparation of the lacquer, and of the conditions as to temperature and moisture under which it hardens to the best advantage. The interest of the paper lay, however, in the very complete discussion of the chemical constituents of the substance, and the synthetic determination of which of these were most essential in the action. The summary of results was given in these terms:—1. The raw lacquer juice is an emulsion which contains: (a) a peculiar acid, called urushic acid, (b) a gum, (c) a nitrogenous body, (d) water, and (e) a volatile acid in traces. 2. The hardening of the lacquer-juice which takes place when the latter is exposed in a thin layer to moist air of (best) 20-27°C. is due to the oxidation of urushic acid into oxyurushic acid. 3. This oxidation is caused by the nitrogenous body which is an albumenoid and acts as a ferment. 4. The oxidation is not ac-

companied by hydration. The water must be present only to keep the ferment in solution, which else would not act. 5. The oxidation takes place within narrow limits of temperature, ranging from about zero Centigrade to the temperature of coagulation of albumen. 6. The gum seems to have a favourable influence in helping to keep the other substances in emulsion; but in the hardened lacquer its presence is injurious, causing it when in contact with water, to rise in blisters. 7. By mixture of the raw juice with urushic acid, the quantity of gum present is diminished, and the dried lacquer is enabled better to resist the injurious influence of water, besides obtaining a greater transparency. 8. The admixture of more than five parts urushic acid with one part juice weakens the action of the ferment and so deteriorates the quality of the lacquer. 9. The gum is very similar to gum arabic, but gives a sugar with two-thirds only of the reducing power of arabinose. 10. The ferment has the composition of albumen, except that it contains much less nitrogen. 11. Diastase and the ferment in the saliva cannot replace the lacquer ferment. Amongst other interesting points noted may be mentioned the following:—The difference between good and bad lacquers seems to depend mainly on the relative quantities of urushic acid and water present, the inferior lacquer having less acid and more water than the superior kind. The durable quality of lacquer is a property of the oxy-urushic acid, which is singularly negative in its actions, resisting all solvents tried, and affected by strong nitric acid only. The paper closed with a discussion of some of the salts of urushic acid, one (Potash urushiate) being shown as forming a remarkably black permanent ink.

Dr. DIVERS, in congratulating the authors of the paper upon their successful investigations, remarked that in all probability the direct effect of their work would be the improvement of the lacquer process, which was peculiarly a Japanese art.

In answer to an enquiry by Mr. J. M. DIXON,

Mr. KORSCHULT stated his belief that lacquer poisoning was due to the urushic acid, which only gradually disappeared during the hardening process. In the best lacquers and in old lacquer there was of course no urushic acid.

Mr. YOSHIDA mentioned that he had found sugar of lead the best antidote to the poisoning—washing the skin in this substance removing at once all irritation.

The thanks of the Society were then conveyed by the Chairman to the authors, and the meeting was adjourned.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

In conformity with a resolution passed at the Meeting held on the 8th of October last, to consider the subject of Municipal Reform in the Foreign Settlement of Yokohama, the following reply to the Memorandum of the Governor of Kanagawa has been sent to us for publication by the Committee:—

REJOINDER TO THE MEMORANDUM OF THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA ON THE SUBJECT OF THE MUNICIPAL CONTROL OF YOKOHAMA.

On the 27th March, 1882, a largely attended meeting of the foreign community of Yokohama was held to discuss the question of reform in the local or municipal government of the Settlement. The meeting unanimously adopted a memorial setting forth the grievances complained of and suggesting a remedy. On the 13th of April following, the memorial was presented to the Corps Diplomatique through the Consular Board. On the 10th September, 1883, the Chairman of the adjourned meeting received from the Senior Consul a communication covering a document styled "Memorandum in reply to the Memorial concerning the Municipal Government in Yokohama submitted to the Conference by the Foreign Residents of Yokohama through the Delegate of Great Britain." This document purports to be, as its closing passages imply, a statement of reasons by Mr. Oki Morikata, Governor of Kanagawa, for negating the prayer of the memorial. The adjourned meeting reassembled on the 1st and 8th October, and confirmed the appointment of a Committee, elected by the ballot of the community, consisting of Messrs. Gay, Walter, Talbot, von Hemert, Evers, and Thomas, authorizing that committee to submit a reply to the memorandum of the Governor of Kanagawa:—

1.—The Committee, in their reply, will first refer briefly to the last paragraphs of Mr. Oki Morikata's memorandum. He says:—"The urgent necessity for a uniform and enforceable system of municipal

government is recognized by none more than by myself. The means to obtain this end are, however, not far to seek. It can be secured by applying the universally accepted rule that all the inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations."

The Kenrei here touches upon a subject which is solely for the consideration of the Japanese Government and the treaty powers, and is not within the province of the Committee to discuss. The memorialists refrained from making any reference to the question of ex-territorial jurisdiction, confining themselves to a statement of the existing condition of the Settlement, and to suggestions for its better government. The treaties, under which foreigners reside within the bounds of the Settlement of Yokohama, make no provision for municipal government, and the inhabitants, believing that an improvement can be made in the present state of things, sought, in conjunction with the local authorities, to devise means to administer affairs in a manner which shall be satisfactory to all.

Mr. Oki further says—"That the foreign Settlement is at present without an effective system of control is not the fault of the Kencho, but of those who, not only claim exemption from the local administrative laws and regulations, but sometimes place obstructions in the way of their due administration."

Foreigners cannot, however, claim exemption from, and wilfully obstruct the administration of, laws which are unknown to them. Moreover, those who urge improvement in the administration are peaceful and law-abiding citizens, who desire to see the establishment of a responsible and effective local government adapted to the needs of the foreign inhabitants, in order that they may be protected against unruly persons who may come amongst them, whether they be native or foreign.

2.—Touching the statement describing the formation, and surrender of a municipal government at the opening of Yokohama. The port was opened in 1859. Five years later the necessity for local control pressed itself upon the attention of the residents. Meetings were held. On the 7th March, 1865, a scheme was proposed and approved by a meeting; it was subsequently ratified by the authorities; a Council was elected, and held its first meeting June 9th, 1865. This Council had undertaken a task for the due performance of which it soon discovered its income to be inadequate. The Japanese authorities had consented to permit the Council to receive 20 per cent. of the ground-rent: this yielded about \$6,000. There were other sources of revenue derived from the taxation of taverns, &c., and the total income of the Council was approximately \$8,000. The Council further urged the adoption of municipal regulations similar to those in force in Shanghai, but the foreign representatives failed to procure the necessary countenance and sanction of the Imperial Government of Japan.

On June 24th, 1867, the Council, unable to carry on its functions for the reasons stated, passed a resolution to the effect that, it being evident that with existing receipts only the necessary yearly expenditure cannot be met, the Council should resign office: and a suggestion was made that the land-renters should memorialize the foreign representatives to invite the Japanese Government to take upon themselves all the duties of the municipality; the Government undertaking to effectually drain the Settlement, carry out all measures necessary for sanitary purposes, maintain an efficient European police, and establish a government office specially appropriated to municipal affairs, at the head of which should be an European surveyor of roads, &c. A Committee of land-renters was then appointed, and on the 15th July, 1867, they addressed the Ministers of Great Britain, Italy, France, the United States, and Prussia, and the Consuls-General of the Netherlands, Denmark, and the Swiss Confederation, expressing the desire that the Japanese Government should be asked to receive back into their hands the control and management of municipal affairs "on the ground that the 20 per centum now returned by the Government to the community for municipal purposes, is, with all that can be collected from licenses and such other sources as are available, totally inadequate to meet the necessary expenditure."

A commission having been specially appointed by the Japanese Government to consider the application, a collective note was signed November 4th, 1867, at the French Legation, setting forth the arrangements proposed for the future municipal control of Yokohama. On the 6th November following, the Representative of Great Britain, when forwarding a copy of the arrangements agreed upon to the Chairman of the Land-renters' Committee, wrote as follows:—

[Copy.] Yokohama, November 6th, 1867.

SIR,—I am directed by H.M.'s Representative in Japan, to inform you that immediately on his return from visiting the ports

of the western coast, he took into his serious consideration the letter which was addressed to him and the other Foreign Representatives on the 15th July, by a committee of the land-renters of Yokohama, requesting them to call upon the Japanese Government to receive back into their hands the control and management of the municipal affairs of the foreign Settlement of Yokohama, and to obtain from them guarantee that the work should be efficiently done.

H.M.'s Minister has, in concert with his colleagues the Representatives of France, Holland, Italy, Prussia, and the United States, been in communication on this subject with a commission specially appointed for the purpose by the Japanese Government, and they have finally concluded an arrangement—copy of which I have now the honour to inclose to you.

You will perceive that the main feature of this arrangement is the measure recommended in the resolution adopted by the meeting of land-renters, on the 24th June last, namely—the resumption by the Japanese authorities of the municipal duties, and the establishment of a Government office, specially appropriated to municipal affairs, with an European at the head of it.

In consequence of the great difficulty of finding any other competent person willing to undertake the duties of the proposed office, H.M.'s Minister, at the request of the other Foreign Representatives and of the Japanese Commissioners, has allowed Mr. Dohmen, of H.M.'s Consular Service, and at present employed in the Kanagawa Consulate, to assume the direction of the municipal office. I am instructed, however, to observe to you that this provisional arrangement with Mr. Dohmen can only be continued until the pleasure of H.M.'s Government shall be ascertained.

H.M.'s Minister further directs me to inform you that the arrangement now concluded with the Japanese Government is not a permanent or unalterable one; on the contrary, should experience at any future time show that its revision is desirable, it will be in the power either of the Foreign Representatives or of the Japanese Government to call for a reconsideration of the question.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) SYDNEY LOCKOCK.

To WM. MARSHALL, Esq.,

President of the Committee of Land-renters at Yokohama.

On the 6th, 7th, and 9th November respectively similar communications, all uniting in stating the arrangement to be provisional only, and depending for its permanent establishment on success in its working, were made to the Committee by the Ministers of Prussia, United States, and Netherland.

The terms of the arrangement having been made operative, a very short time only elapsed before it became evident that a revision was desirable, and on April 8th, 1869, a public meeting nominated a committee to endeavour to obtain a revision. This committee relied upon the temporary character of the arrangements then in force, and proposed the formation of a properly constituted municipality receiving from the Japanese Government 80 per centum of the ground-rents. The committee urged that eighteen months' experience of the system introduced served to show "the unsatisfactory state of the streets, the marked inefficiency of the municipal police, and the deplorable sanitary condition of the Settlement." The committee added that the general conclusion at which the community had arrived was that the Japanese Government were incapable of understanding and fulfilling the municipal duties required of them; and this impression has never been lessened, for the memorialists of 1882 repeated it in similar words saying,—“the local government are not in a position to understand the wants of a well ordered foreign Settlement; or to undertake its control without the assistance of an advisory committee of foreign residents.” In support of the application that a municipality should be granted, the committee of 1869 urged that the Government of Japan had delegated part of their municipal rights by the agreement of November 4th, 1867, to a foreign municipal director acting under authority of the Governor of Kanagawa; a course which had not been satisfactory, and the proposition was that the Government of Japan should delegate to a corporation the same or fuller powers than they had delegated to an individual. That the Government could delegate such power by the grant of a charter is beyond doubt, for there is the certain evidence of the legality of the course pursued in Shanghai, where the land regulations drawn up by a committee elected by the community were approved of by a commissioner representing the Chinese Government and ratified by the joint notification of the representatives of Great Britain, North German Confederation, Russia, France, and the United States, making such regulations enforceable in the consular courts of their respective nationalities.

These details are cited for the purpose of showing that the community have never been satisfied with an arrangement which has not worked well; and that since its inauguration a series of efforts have been made to secure reform. And we believe that the share of municipal control granted to foreigners in 1865 has never been surrendered except conditionally and temporarily; that the conditions have not been carried out, and that by virtue of the understanding between the Japanese commissioners and the representatives of the treaty powers it is open to foreign residents to call for a reconsideration of the question.

In the interval to 1877 there was a nominal chief of a municipality in the person of Mr. Benson, to whom the Government of Japan delegated certain municipal powers which we now claim may be extended to a committee. His office was, however, abolished in 1877. In reference thereto, Mr. Oki says:—"This determination was duly communicated to the foreign consuls who raised no objections thereto, while the British Consul in his reply dated July 4, 1877, expressed his approval of the arrange-

ment." To this we urge, that the abolition of the office of municipal director was a most distasteful step to the foreign community, and a memorial dated May 19th, 1877, signed by the principal mercantile houses and leading residents, was forwarded to the Consular Board, stating that the proposed change in the municipal arrangements was, in the memorialists' opinion, very objectionable, as tending to depose the community from all agency in matters intimately concerning themselves. With full knowledge of the presentation of this protest to the Consular Board we are unable to find justification for Mr. Oki's assumption that the abolition of the office of municipal director was acquiesced in by the foreign community or their consular representatives.

When Mr. Oki says the memorialists seek once more to obtain municipal control of the foreign Settlement he entirely misconceives the spirit of their request. In order to meet existing difficulties they proposed the formation of an advisory board, to be composed of Japanese and foreigners, which should frame rules and regulations enforceable in Japanese courts as well as at the various consulates. The memorialists had in view only the good government of the Settlement, believing that this can best be attained by coöperation with the local authorities. They have no desire to take upon themselves a difficult task, but it seems necessary, for an effective government, that those who know best the wants of the inhabitants should take part in the direction of affairs.

3.—These remarks dispose of what the memorandum is pleased to call the inconsistency of the foreign residents of Yokohama in wishing to devise an effective form of municipal government.

4.—It is clearly stated in the memorandum that the Kenrei is unable to govern the foreign Settlement. He complains of the wilful disobedience, on the part of the residents, of rules and regulations which have never been promulgated, and of which they have absolutely no knowledge:—he accuses foreigners of harbouring thieves and other disorderly persons, and demands a general warrant to enable the police, in order to do their ordinary duty, to enter foreigners' premises, without question at any time, a power which the representatives of the treaty powers cannot grant, as it would be inconsistent with the laws and customs of their own countries.

5.—Mr. Oki says, with reference to burglary, that "it could not be expected that the [police] corps would be as effective as required because they meet with many difficulties in the proper discharge of their duties, arising from the fact that they are not clothed with any authority over foreigners." But authority over foreigners, or power to enter their premises, are not requisites to prevent burglars from breaking into godowns abutting directly upon streets which are entirely in the jurisdiction of the local government.

Mr. Oki says again, "in any honest endeavour to suppress crimes the first requisite is to drive out the thieves and other bad characters concealing themselves on foreign premises . . . but that this can never be done unless the police are empowered to enter the foreigner's premises for the purpose of arresting suspected persons." The inference is, that the police believe bad characters are concealed upon foreign premises. If they have good reason to believe this to be true, why do they not give information to the occupants of such premises and obtain permission to enter and arrest? Such permission would not be refused by the majority of foreign residents, upon proper representation. Foreigners do not hesitate to call upon the police without any formality, when they find thieves or disorderly persons on their grounds, and are always glad of their services in arresting suspected persons. It is difficult to understand the nature of a Japanese policeman's duties, if, because he is denied the unheard of permission to enter foreigners' premises at all times, he declines to protect their property from thieves and burglars, when even ordinary care would seem to be sufficient for the purpose.

6.—Mr. Oki is at a loss to understand the memorialists' complaint regarding the roads and drains, and refers to the "construction of the main drains now being carried out in the midst of the foreign Settlement." It should be pointed out, however, that the sewers in Main and Water, streets have been laid down since the memorial was written, and although the work was important and necessary, the streets referred to were left, long afterwards, in a worse condition than before, so that parts of them were almost impassable for heavy traffic in wet weather for nearly a year; and the repairs are still incomplete. The committee are unwilling to criticise adversely any improvements undertaken by the Kencho, but they may be permitted to express the opinion that the cost of the work, as stated by Mr. Oki, was far larger than it need have been, and that with better

management the roads might have been kept, as the work progressed, in a condition which would have left nothing to be desired.

The memorandum states as a "fact that foreign residents and their servants make the drains receptacles of sewerage, of all kinds or privately alter the course of such drains, thus causing them to be choked up," &c., &c. The truth of this statement must be called in question, as foreigners are not permitted, even if they had the inclination, to make excavations in the streets without which the drains cannot be reached. Whenever private drains are made to connect with those in the public thoroughfares, the work is done under supervision of officers from the Kencho, by their own staff of workmen, and if the street drains become choked, the fault is due to imperfect construction, or want of care in not keeping them free, and not from improper use of them by foreigners.

7.—With reference to "about one hundred" Japanese who reside in the foreign settlement without permission from the Kanagawa Kencho, and acknowledged to be the men "who are engaged in disreputable trades," Mr. Oki says—"In order to keep these people under control, it is essential that a strict surveillance be exercised over the servants of foreigners and the managers of servants' agencies; and it was for this reason that the proposed rules in that behalf were submitted to the Board of Foreign Consuls in July, 1876, and again in August, 1877, and although indispensable, they have never been agreed to." The proposal to the Consuls referred to, was that "the Governor should be provided with a general warrant enabling the proper officers to enter freely into the premises occupied by foreigners, of whatever nationality, when there is reason to suspect that offenders are concealing themselves therein." To this the Committee say that it exhibits great weakness on the part of the Governor if he has no power over known Japanese offenders who, as he says, have no right of residence in the foreign Settlement. If the evil exists the remedy is easy, as foreigners do not knowingly harbour Japanese or other offenders; certainly a warrant of the nature referred to is not required for its abatement. But the Consuls have no power to grant such general warrant even if it were desirable that they should do so. There is, however, a better remedy than the one proposed by Mr. Oki, and the only effective one that can be adopted to correct the many difficulties in the way of successful management of the affairs of the Settlement, and that is, a properly constituted municipal government, with authority to administer rules and regulations made under the sanction of the Imperial Government and the representatives of the foreign powers.

In closing this paper, the Committee have only to add that the memorial pointed to a method by which the requirements of the inhabitants would be met, but as the petition was not favourably received it was hoped the election of a permanent Committee, with whom the local authorities could consult, would be the means of meeting to some extent the existing difficulties, and if that Committee should have official recognition in their capacity as representatives of the foreign inhabitants, their counsel and suggestions would be useful in many ways, and be the means of bringing about a good understanding between the Japanese local authorities and the residents: the wants of the foreign community would be better understood and provided for; and many difficulties noticed in the memorandum would disappear, while the government of the Settlement would be more efficient than is possible under the existing system.

The Committee are not unmindful of the serious nature of the responsibility which falls upon the Kenrei in the care of a territory occupied by a foreign community, with whose customs he cannot be entirely familiar, and they fully appreciate the Governor's efforts to perform his difficult task with satisfaction; they readily acknowledge the improvements which have lately been made, particularly in some of the roads, and gladly take this opportunity to express their appreciation of Mr. Oki's activity and ability.

A. O. GAY, Chairman.
W. B. WALTER,
W. H. TALBOT,
J. REYNAUD,
J. P. VON HEMERT,
AUG. EVERS,
TOM. THOMAS. } Committee.

Yokohama, February 17th, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE NEW CONSCRIPTION REGULATIONS.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

Our readers will remember the articles published in this journal, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of April last, which treated of the necessity for making the National Army service the duty of all. The gist of those articles was:—(1) the extension of the scope of the service; (2) the necessity for making the service compulsory without exception; and (3) the stimulation of the military spirit of the nation. Conscription regulations, based upon these principles, are most urgently needed by Japan at the present juncture, but as there is a tendency to regard the general enrollment with disfavour, it is necessary to make it compulsory on every male of the population. Imperfect as were the old Conscription Regulations, the service was not universal, and there came to be a general feeling of "escape from the conscription" indicative of a want of patriotism. On the occasion referred to, we suggested that the service should be made obligatory, and that, instead of a fee for exemption, a duty called Military Service Tax should be levied on those who are temporarily exempted from it, and that those individuals should be drilled for three months every year.

On the 28th of December last, there were published the Conscription Regulations in the form of Notification No. 46. Although these do not entirely coincide with our views, yet they show a great improvement as compared with the old regulations, in so far as the extension of the scope of enrolment, and the compulsory nature of the service are concerned. Therefore are we right in saying that they are a great achievement of the Government. According to the old rules, deformed and crippled persons and those sentenced to penal servitude for upwards of one year, were exempt from service. Heads of families, single sons, single grandsons, adopted sons, and heirs of people above fifty years of age, and great grandsons, were not required to serve except in the Territorial Army. Heirs of people not fifty years old, and great grandsons and cadets of the Military and Naval Colleges were not liable, except in time of emergency. Those who were responsible for the support of families on account of their fathers or elder brothers having deserted them, or being deformed or crippled; also those who had completed one year's term in the Government schools, and those who were in foreign countries for commercial and educational purposes, were exempt from immediate enrolment. According to the new rules, all males, except deformed or maimed persons, are compelled to enter the Army. Even heirs of persons above the age of sixty, and great grandsons, are liable to be called upon in case of war or any other similar emergency. Priests, students of the Government colleges, teachers who have completed a course higher than the intermediate, and those studying in foreign countries, are likewise liable, the only difference being that they are not called upon to serve, while engaged in their respective pursuits. Persons, other than the heads of families, are entitled to temporary exemption under certain circumstances, provided they are not the heads of families who are registered in other families, or the head of new houses separated from the old family, or of houses re-established. Thus, the new rules are more minute than the old ones. "Escape from conscription" will be abolished for ever, and we might now say that the service has become obligatory upon all men.

The first impression conveyed in reading the new rules is that of the enlargement of the scope of enlistment. Amongst others, the abolition of the fee for exemption, and the enrolment of eldest sons whose fathers are not older than sixty years, should not only put a stop to the deficiency of recruits but bring in a large number. Under these circumstances, there can be no question that the Army will shortly undergo a marked improvement as regards both the stature and the martial appearance of the men as well as to their numbers. We may now have soldiers of much better physique and taller than previously. Sons of rich families, who would have otherwise become effeminate through the indulgences inseparable from their condition, will receive good physical training and be converted into useful men. The conscription is, therefore, beneficial, whether considered from the military or moral standpoint. And not this alone: it will go far towards the improvement of the Japanese race. In the old feudal time, the *Daimyo* and Court Ministers secluded themselves in Palaces, where no cold wind blew nor hot

weather prevailed, and they indulged in peace and plenty, almost forgetting the military arts. In consequence of this, their intellects were cramped and their physical growth was checked. They could not enjoy their gifts to the fullest extent, and the evil was transmitted to their descendants. This physical demoralization is more than significant now. Tradesmen and farmers came almost within the same category—which fact is very regrettable—though some allowance must be made for the political circumstances then existing. They amassed money, and spent it in debauchery, but knew nothing of manly accomplishments. They were frightened by the report of a gun; they turned pale at the sight of a naked sword; they could not mount a horse; and they knew nothing of out-door sports. Thus, both intellectually and physically, they have been degraded. But now we have no *Daimyo* nor Court nobles, and the class distinctions of former days no longer exist. They are all the people of *Dai Nippon* and the backbone of the nation. It reflects great credit upon the Government that the poor and the rich, the high and the low, are alike made liable. Some may say that the new conscription law is too stringent, but such an opinion is as untenable as it is absurd. The number of yearly recruits is limited and cannot be increased more than the finances admit. The intention of our rulers is to have a certain number of regulars on the muster-roll who can be increased to a larger number from the reserves in time of foreign war. The new rules do neither augment nor decrease the number of recruits. According to the old rules, many were exempted from service, so that the recruits were in the ratio of say 10,000 to every 100,000. But now this number is to be enrolled from among 150,000 or probably 200,000. In fact, the new rules are not stringent at all; on the contrary, they are much milder than the old ones. Allegorically speaking, formerly one load weighing one hundred *kuwame* was borne by ten men; whereas now it is borne by twenty men. There is no increase in the weight, but the number of persons to carry it is doubled. This is exactly the case with the new conscription regulations. We cannot see why some people should denounce them. They are probably those who have lost their chance of escape by the introduction of the new rules, and are therefore discontented.

We have a strong hope that the enlistment of a better educated class in the army will elevate the position of conscripts generally.

THE BANKS OF JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

Business is at a standstill, and money does not circulate as it should. This is the public outcry, which we hear repeated on every side. We are convinced that these complaints are thoroughly consistent with the truth. Under these circumstances traders, farmers, and manufacturers must suffer, and as the banks have to supply the financial machinery on which the whole of our national commerce turns they surely ought to feel the effects of trade stagnation more than do the mercantile communities themselves. Any other state of affairs can but surprise and astonish the public. The rate of dividends paid by the various companies and banks during the latter half of last year, from June to December, shows that, despite dull times, the banks have, with a few exceptions realised a profit of from 10 to 20 per cent. What the average percentage of the profit on the aggregate capital of all the banks is, we shall not be able to state until the publication of the report of the Banking Bureau. We may, however, in the meantime, assume that the average profit is 12 or 13 per cent. This assumption, taking into consideration the expenses of bank-management, taxes, reserve funds for the redemption of paper currency, bad debts, and salaries and annuities of the bank employes, shows that the gross profit is more than 20 per cent. per annum. This profit is, of course, derived directly from their capital. The Nippon Railway Company and the Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha have declared dividends of 10 and 9 per cent, the sole result of business transacted. The insurance companies have dividends of 10 per cent, derived from the fees charged on policies issued, while the exchange offices naturally realize a commission on all their transactions. There is a decided difference between the profits of such establishments, as they do not include the direct employment of capital, and those of the banks; nor can they be placed on a similar footing. All the banks, with the two exceptions of the Nippon and Specie Banks, are national concerns, enjoying the privilege of the issue of notes on the security of Public Loan Bonds. The profits that accrue are due to the interest on the securities and the issues. Say, for instance, that a National Bank invests a

capital of 100,000 yen in 7 per cent. Bonds; these bonds, though nominally worth 100,000 yen, may be bought for 80,000 yen, bringing in 7,000 yen annually. On the other hand, there is a further interest of 7,000 yen derived from 80,000 yen worth of bank notes at 9 per cent—issued on the security of the Public Loan Bonds. The total interest would thus amount to 14,000 yen. In this case it is not unusual for the banks to declare a dividend of 10 per cent. Though business has been at a very low ebb since 1882, the banks have always cleared a profit of more than 10 per cent. In 1883 there was a great depression in the money market, and many establishments were almost paralyzed for want of ready cash, yet the banks have, almost without exception, been able to declare large dividends. This fact is, we are persuaded, due to the privileges enjoyed by the national banks, and the skilful manner in which they employed their capital. We must indeed congratulate the shareholders upon the satisfactory working of these institutions. But whether this congratulation can be extended to the general public is quite a different question.

Glancing at the relations existing between the national banks and their customers, one is immediately struck with the absence of public confidence and the wide spread of a feeling of distrust. The true prosperity of business is founded upon the confidence which should be mutually entertained by the banks and their clients. This is the very essence of success; this is the only trustworthy condition of affairs, a fact which was thoroughly recognized and duly explained by the present Minister of Finance in the inaugural meeting of the Nippon Bank. Trade has doubtless, like everything else, undergone great changes since the days of the Restoration. But during this period of change the confidence of our farmers, traders, and manufacturers has been completely lost, and its recovery now seems a hopeless matter. The banks are decidedly responsible for the restoration of public confidence, but they hesitate to give their clients any credit whatever. Whether their customers are men of integrity and ability, and whatever the trade may be in which they are engaged, are matters of little consequence to the banks: money is lent only on the best security. The position of affairs is not very different from the mode of dealing customary with pawn-brokers, who first examine the worth of the article to be pawned before advancing any money on it. As an actual fact, our banks are really nothing but money-lending establishments which do a pawn-broker's business. Indeed, there is rather a point in favour of the pawn-shops in the fact that they occasionally lend as much as 150 yen on one article of clothing. In this respect, the banks are below the level of pawn-shops. They do not employ their capital as briskly as they might, and their clients do not enjoy much financial relief in consequence. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was recently defrauded of nearly \$200,000. The blame fell upon the manager of the bank, who gave too unlimited a credit; yet it redounds to his credit that he gave the money on the security of his client's business ability. None of our banks have done, or can do, the same thing. The dividends declared for the latter half of 1883 arise from profits made solely on loans issued on good security; the pledges being lodged in the strong rooms of the banks. Money is thus dropping steadily out of frequent circulation. Though the matter of interest on the capital may not have decreased, the demand for cash is becoming less and less, active. The fact that our banks show large profits during the last year is not at all a matter of universal congratulation; especially when the questions of political economy are taken into consideration.

CHESS.

Solution to Chess Problem of 16th February, 1884, by E. H. COURTENAY.

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—B. to Q. 2. | 1.—P. takes Kt. |
| 2.—K. to K. 2. | 2.—Anything. |
| 3.—Q. mates. | |
| | if 1.—K. to K. 5. |
| 2. { Q. to K. 3,
B. to Kt. 7,
or Kt. to B. 6, } | ch. 2.—Anything. |
| 3.—Mates accordingly. | |

Correct answer received from "TESA."

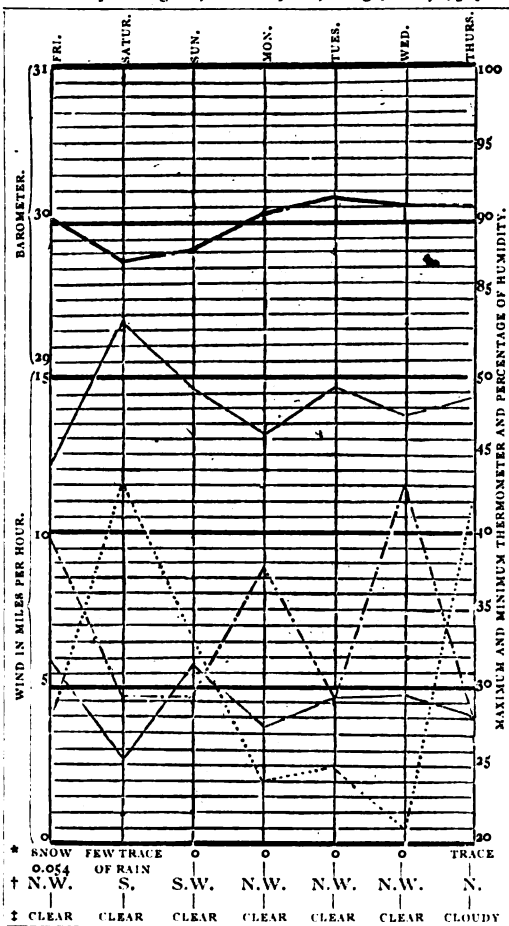
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
represents velocity of wind—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 29.8 miles per hour on Friday at 1 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.280 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.653 inches on Saturday at 11 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 53.3 on Saturday, and the lowest was 25.8 on same day. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 50.2 and 27.9 respectively.

The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 0.046 inches, against 1.790 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe per M. B. Co. Thursday, Feb. 21st.
From America per O. & O. Co. Saturday, March 1st.*
For Hongkong per P. M. Co. Thursday, Feb. 28th.†
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, March 1st‡

* Arabic left San Francisco on February 10th. † City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on February 21st. ‡ Khir'a left Hongkong on February 22nd. The Takachiho Maru (with English mail) left Hongkong on February 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe per M. B. Co. Monday, Feb. 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Feb. 27th.
For America per P. M. Co. Saturday, March 1st
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, March 1st.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, March 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 16th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Major-General Gordon has telegraphed, asking for money, arms, and ammunition.

The rebels have invested Kassala, and it is expected that they will attack Tokar before the arrival of the British troops at that place.

London, February 18th.

GENERAL GORDON IN THE SOUDAN.

Major-General Gordon has recognised El Mahdi. The Sultan of Kordofan has been to Khartoum.

London, February 22nd.

THE SOUDAN.

The expeditionary forces to Tokai are proceeding to rendezvous at Rasmala.

Major-General Gordon is very popular, and is establishing great influence.

London, February 22nd, 5.30 p.m.

Cotton, unaltered; 5½ for Mid. Uplands. Yarns, market dull and little doing. Shirtings, market steady. Silk, market very quiet and prices weak.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 8th February.

THE SOUDAN QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

The Marquis of Salisbury in the House of Lords, and Sir Stafford Northcote in the House of Commons, will, on Tuesday next, bring forward a motion to the effect that the disasters in the Soudan are due to the vacillating policy of the English Government.

London, 9th February.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

Latest advices from the Soudan state that Suakin has been declared in a state of siege.

Baker Pasha and his Egyptian troops are to be recalled.

Three British officers will reorganise the Blacks and Turks, who will hold Suakim.

DEATH OF CETEWAYO.

Latest advices from Durban announce that King Cetewayo has died suddenly.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS

A general meeting will be held in the Sanji-in to-day.

The oysters in the beds at Kanagawa have rapidly increased in size, and are in excellent condition. A large quantity was dredged the other day and presented to the high dignitaries of State.—Yubin Hochi Shimibun.

* * *

One of the Imperial Princes of Austria is expected here about the end of next April. Preparations for his reception are being made.

It is stated that the fund of the Foreign Office for the investigation of foreign affairs is to be increased. This sum is independent of the annual expenditure.

A broker of the Yokohama Bourse was arrested four days ago while walking down Benten-dori, when 3,000 yen were found on his person. His brother went at once to the Police Station in order to recover the money, but was also detained in custody. This action caused sundry vague apprehensions to be entertained by the local brokers and speculators, and materially affected business for the time. A petition has, in consequence, been dispatched to the authorities.—Fiyu Shimibun.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHT.

There have been a few charters effected here during the interval, mostly to load new season's sugar at Takao for this port, the following vessels having been taken up for that trade:—British bark *Velocity*, 460 tons, 22½ cents per picul; German brig *Minerva*, 219 tons, 23 cents per picul; German bark *Orient*, 460 tons, 25 cents per picul; British barkentine *Glenury*, 283 tons, 26 cents per picul. The demand for steam tonnage has not been great, but the supply has been fully equal to all requirements.

ARRIVALS.

Moray, British steamer, 1,427, W. S. Duncan, 16th February,—Hongkong 10th February, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Orient, German bark, 460, W. G. Roder, 16th February,—Takao 26th January, 11,500 piculs Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Solidor, British bark, 340, Lundholm, 16th February,—Takao 25th January, 6,300 piculs Sugar.—H. MacArthur.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 17th February,—Hakodate 14th and Ogino-hama 16th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 320, Amano, 17th February,—Yokkaichi 14th February, General.—Handasha.
Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 17th February,—Yokkaichi 14th February, General.—Kowyekisha.
Carondelet, American ship, 1,438, W. F. Stetson, 18th February,—New York 18th October, 48,000 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.
City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 18th February,—San Francisco 24th January, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 18th February,—Fukuda 14th February, General.—Kowyosha.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 19,70, James, 18th February,—Hakodate 16th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 19th February,—Handa 16th February, General.—Handasha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 19th February,—Kobe 16th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, P. Hussey, 19th February,—Kobe 17th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Benois, 19th February,—Hongkong 13th February, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Hermann, German bark, 444, M. Traulsen, 20th February,—Takao 13th January, 10,000 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.
Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 20th February,—Kobe 18th February, General.—Seiriusa.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 21st February,—Shimidzu 20th February, General.—Seiriusa.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 21st February,—Yokkaichi 20th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 21st February,—Yokkaichi 20th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 21st February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 42, Hirao, 21st February,—Shimidzu 20th February, General.—Todasha.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 21st February,—Yokkaichi 20th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 314, Arai, 21st February,—Kobe 20th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 21st February,—Toba 20th February, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.
Feronia, German steamer, 1,115, P. Paulsen, 22nd February,—Kobe 21st February, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Marie, German bark, 465, H. Ipland, 22nd February,—Takao 4th February, 11,700 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 23rd February,—Yokkaichi 21st February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 646, Thomas, 22nd February,—Kobe 21st February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 16th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 472, Sakai, 17th February,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 17th February,—Takao, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 17th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 646, Thomas, 17th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Velocity, British bark, 460, R. Martin, 17th February,—Takao, \$20,000.00 Treasure.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, J. Adair, 18th February,—Fushiki and Bakan via Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 19th February,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Dzukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 19th February,—Nomaka, General.—Tokai Kaisan Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 19th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 19th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 19th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 19th February,—Fukuda, General.—Hanyei-sha.

Harter, British steamer, 1,196, Grandin, 20th February,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 20th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 20th February,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 616, P. Hussey, 20th February,—Yokosuka Dock.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 21st February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 21st February,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusa.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 21st February,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 314, Arai, 22nd February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 23rd February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 23rd February,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 457, Streamer, 23rd February,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Fukase, Yoshisaki, Nagaoka, and Watanbe in cabin; and 29 Japanese in steerage. From Oginohama: Messrs. Oyama, Takata, Mayeda, Kitatani, and Sotoguchi in cabin; and 31 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco:—Miss E. Simms, Miss Grace Smith, Miss J. Stone, Messrs. M. Marians, C. P. Low, Henry Bachr, J. F. Stone, M. Weiler and wife, H. W. Tileston, and J. Rennie in cabin; and 1 Japanese in steerage. For Hongking: Miss E. Prosper, Messrs. H. S. Greeley, and M. Atchinson in cabin; and 77 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Komawawa, infant, and female servant,

Messrs. G. Gilbert, C. Baird, Geffeney, Inamura, Hanagoro, Katayama, and Okudaira in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—9 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Haack and 2 Japanese in cabin; and 93 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Whymark in cabin; and 6 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—23 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—51 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—35 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—H. E. Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Madame Inouye, and Miss Inouye, Mr. and Mrs. Koh, Mr. and Mrs. Saito, Mr. and Mrs. Kanematsu, Messrs. Eduljee, L. de Lalande, J. C. Syme, MacNagh, E. H. Murray, Reichil, Katsunada, Kaneda, Sakanouye, Yano, Sato, Fujisawa, Ishihama, Mitsuma, Yugawa, Yoshikawa, in cabin; and Mr. MacGovern, U.S.N. in second class; and 1 Chinese and 200 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. L. P. Jouett, U.S.N. in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Shimidzu:—5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—25 Japanese.

Per German steamer *Feronia*, from Kobe:—Mr. Cooke in cabin; and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain James in cabin; and 25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—52 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Kobe:—17 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* for Kobe:—60 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. H. Pagdon, Miss E. Prosper, Messrs. H. S. Greeley and M. Atchinson in cabin; and 77 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Miyasaki, Mrs. Simms, Dr. Simmons, U.S.N., Messrs. M. Ginsburg, R. Kuki, S. Tsuji, N. Nakajima, J. Sabara, N. Yamada, K. Okakura, Hiodo, Takaye, Nagai, Tsuge, and Funatsu in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Oginohama:—Messrs. M. Watase and N. Uyeda in cabin. For Hakodate: Mr. and Mrs. S. Hirai, Messrs. M. Yamamoto and K. Fujinuma in cabin; and 70 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Scribe, infant, and nurse, Rev. and Mrs. Jennings, infant, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Wieler, Captain James, Rev. H. W. Lee, Mr. Dodds and servant, Messrs. Day, Hindson, Marcus, Medwin, Tobler, Duraffour, A. L. Robinson, and Chun Kum in cabin; and 1 Indian, 3 Chinese, and 18 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—4,816 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$53,000.00.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 55 bales; for London, 5 bales; Total, 60 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 14th February, at 6 a.m. with moderate E.N.E. winds and cloudy weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 15th, at 5.45 a.m., left Oginohama on the 16th, at 1 a.m. with strong S.W. winds to Nosima; thence to port moderate N.E. winds. Arrived at Yokohama on the 17th February, at 10.50 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving San Francisco on the 24th January, at 12.15 p.m. with variable winds and fine weather to Meridian; thence to Yokohama hard westerly gales, and high sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 18th February, at 7.50 a.m. Time, 24 days and 1 hour.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A fair business continued for a few days following our last report, but it gradually died away, and during the past week the demand has been trifling.

COTTON YARN.—The eagerness to buy at advancing rates has come to an end after a very large business being done, and the Market has relapsed into a state of quiet, with quotations more or less nominal. A fair demand continues for Bombay 20's.

GREY GOODS.—Shirtings have been neglected, but fair sales of T.-Cloths have been made.

FANCIES.—Very few transactions have been reported except in Mousseline de Laine, for which trifling concessions in price have been made.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$26.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	26.00 to 27.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.50 to 33.50
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.85
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Another week has passed without further sales of Oil being reported. Holders remain firm at previous quotations, but dealers have not yet cleared their late purchases. Deliveries have been 14,000 cases. The *Carondelet* has arrived, increasing our Stocks to about 677,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.81
Comet	1.78
Stella	1.72

SUGAR.

The dull condition of the Sugar trade continues, holders making no concession, and buyers holding off.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last issue of the 14th instant, we have seen a quiet Market in this staple. About 200 piculs of various descriptions have been taken into godowns, but of this quantity half has been returned, and the nett Settlements do not exceed 100 piculs for the week. The Market may be called easier at former quotations; for, although holders still present a strong front, yet the absence of business has its effect, and some dealers who a few days ago held their Stock off sale would now be inclined to name a price for their silk.

The business done has been almost entirely confined to *Filatures*, *Re-reels*, and *Kakedas*; *Hanks* not appearing in the list. A feature in the Market of late has been the revival of demand for account of the native manufacturers. Each steamer going south takes a greater or less quantity for use in the native looms at Kiyoto, and the Stock here is thus kept down.

The M.M. steamer *Mensaleh*, which left this port at daylight on the 16th instant, carried 287 bales; of which 18 bales were entered as going to London, and 269 bales for France. These shipments bring the total Export up to 27,093 bales, against 20,961 bales last year, and 13,566 at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—This class has been almost neglected during the week, a few piculs only having been bought and sent back again. Dealers, without actually reducing their prices, are decidedly more inclined to do business, and another week of abstention may give buyers the silk at their limits. Rejections of former purchases and some fresh arrivals have brought the Stock up to 1,350 piculs.

Filatures.—Some business has been transacted at full prices, but holders are very conservative, and will not listen to, what they consider, unreasonable offers. Buyers resist as best they can, and apparently operate only for pressing requirements. Among the prices made we notice:—*Utsunomiya*, \$635; *Shinshu*, Best, \$630; *Koshu*, Best, \$610; *Yecchiu*, \$605; *Koshu* Medium, \$585; *Kanazawa*, \$570; *Mino* Common, \$565.

Re-reels.—Not much passing in these; the good qualities with recognised chops are not offered, and the little business done has been in *Matsushiro*, \$590; *Foshu*, \$560; *Bushu*, \$525.

Kakeda.—More business has been done in the Medium and lower grades at \$555, \$540, \$530, and \$500, according to quality. The higher classes are held at long prices, although holders are more inclined to be sellers than they were a week ago.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—Nothing done for Export, but some purchases are reported for use in the interior.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Hanks—No. 1½	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	465 to 475
Filatures—Extra	635 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	605 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	585 to 595
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	605
Kakedas—No. 1	585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	550 to 560
Kakedas—No. 3	530 to 540
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	480 to 490
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	430 to 450
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 21st Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
France and Italy	16,685	10,933	6,946
America	7,774	6,944	4,032
England	2,034	3,084	2,588
Total	27,093	20,961	13,566

WASTE SILK.

Business in this article has been restricted by one or two causes. In the first place the Stock on hand is mostly inferior, and does not appear tempting to buyers; secondly, dealers are asking long prices, and are even reported to be speculating among themselves in certain classes. Recorded Settlements give only 50 piculs for the week, but to this amount should be added about 100 piculs *Noshi* and 80 piculs *Kibiso* reported settled by one buyer, which transactions do not seem to have appeared in the daily list. Arrivals have been rather more plentiful, and the Stock is somewhat larger. The French mail of the 16th instant took 52 bales, bringing the total Export of Waste and *Cocoons* up to 19,648 piculs, against 18,042 piculs last year, and 16,074 piculs in 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—No fresh arrivals, and Market quite bare of Stock.

Noshi-ito.—Purchases amount in all to about 130 piculs, and prices are well maintained for anything showing fair quality. *Filatures* are held for an advance, \$157½ being asked for a few bales *Utsunomiya*. Some little has been done in *Oshu* under an old contract at \$145, but the chief business has been in *Foshu*, which is in demand at from \$90 to \$85, according to quality. A little fine *Hachoji* reported at \$120; in other sorts nothing doing at the moment.

Kibiso.—About 100 piculs have found buyers, ranging through all grades from *Tokosha* Filature down to *Shinshu Neri*. The native demand for "low curls" seems to be good; and dealers are reported to be offering foreigners a profit, if they will re-sell their recent purchases. Among the transactions of the week we observe *Zaguri Kibiso*, \$107½; *Oshu*, \$90; *Shinshu*, \$60; *Foshu*, \$35; *Hachoji*, \$25. A lot of "Tokosha Filature" *Neri* is reported done at \$15 uncleaned.

Mawata.—Still no sales; some few arrivals have raised the Stock on offer to 200 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	Nom. 65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 175 to 185

Export Table Waste Silk to 21st Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	17,483	14,929	13,067
Pierced Cocoons	2,165	3,113	3,007
	19,648	18,042	16,074

Exchange has remained much as last advised; rates, however, close firm, especially for Sterling. We quote London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 89½; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72. The *Kinsatsu* barometer would seem to have been extra-sensitive during the week, with daily fluctuations, closing at about 116 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 21st Feb., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,350	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	600	Noshi-ito	100
Kakeda	400	Kibiso	550
Taysaam Kinds	100		
Total piculs	2,850	Total piculs	850

TEA.

During the interval that has elapsed since our last Market Report, we have to advise a fair amount of business transacted, the enquiry proceeding almost entirely from one firm. The total Settlements foot up at about 850 piculs, and they consist principally of Teas grading Good Common, Medium, and Good Medium, with some lines of Fine and Finest kinds. Market at the close is pretty firm, but we do not make any alteration in our quotations. Settlements here and at Kobe are 264,193 piculs since the commencement of the season at both ports, against 268,699 piculs at the same period in 1883. Receipts for the season are about 157,560 piculs, against 166,857 piculs in comparison with the preceding year. The steamship *Moray* sails to-day for New York, via Kobe and China ports, with a fair amount of Tea cargo. The next P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* is circulated to take Tea at 3 cents per lb. gross to the United States and Canada, and at \$12 per ton for San Francisco, and is promised to be despatched on the 1st proximo.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	14 to 16
Medium	18 & up'ds
Good Medium	Nominal.

EXCHANGE.

Sterling quotations have gradually improved throughout the week, and at the close show signs of a slight rise. The amount of business transacted has, however, not been large, and the improvement has been chiefly caused by the advance in Bar Silver.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.62
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89½

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Yanagase tunnel is expected to be open for traffic in May.

THE appointment of Sinor Renato De Martino to represent His Majesty the King of Italy in Japan is announced.

THE French amateurs gave a very successful performance at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday night (25th ultimo).

H.E. FUKUOKA has been appointed chief of the Audit Bureau, and His Excellency Inouye chief of the Bureau of Letters.

THE Rejoinder of the Committee of Land-renters to the Memorandum of the Prefect of Kanagawa has been published.

A FIRE broke out in the French Legation, Tokiyo, on the morning of the 24th ult. It was speedily extinguished.

THE whole of the railway from Tokiyo to Takasaki is expected to be open to traffic next month (April). The bridging of the river Karasu, an undertaking of some difficulty, has been accomplished.

MISS YAMAGAWA, the elder sister of Madame Oyama, has been appointed to instruct Her Majesty the Empress in foreign literature. Miss Yamagawa has recently returned from America where she resided for many years.

THE organ of the Liberals (*Fiyu Shimbun*) comments unfavorably on the mission of the Minister

of War, General Oyama, to Europe, and says that no advantages equivalent to the heavy outlay are likely to be gained.

REGULATIONS with regard to stamps for legal documents have been promulgated by a Notification of the Privy Council. The stamps are intended to take the place of the ruled paper hitherto used for this class of document.

It is announced that the construction of a railway from Shinagawa to Ueno is about to be commenced without delay. This line is intended to connect the Tokiyo-Yokohama and Tokiyo-Takasaki roads.

DURING the week six fires occurred in Tokiyo. Of these, two were the work of incendiaries and were immediately extinguished. Of the remainder, none attained serious dimensions, the largest, in Fukaike, destroyed only three houses. The total number of houses burned was seven.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA has gone to Atami. His Imperial Highness' new palace is rapidly approaching completion, and a quantity of the furniture has arrived from London. It is said to be chaste and elegant, and by no means deserving of the strictures passed upon it by a London journal.

It is stated that an exchange has been opened by a Chinaman in the foreign Settlement, and that marginal transactions of an extensive character are daily carried on there, in defiance of the regulations of the Japanese Government. The establishment is exceptional in one respect. Defaulting operators are locked up in a godown and starved until they make suitable arrangements with their creditors.

A RUMOUR is circulated by a vernacular paper to the effect that the Minister for Foreign Affairs is urging the advisability of building a large reception hall at Yokohama for the entertainment of foreign guests. We believe that this rumour has its origin in an intention said to be entertained by the projectors of the public hall to complete the building with funds obtained from Japanese sources, and then turn it into a bluff hotel.

ON the evening of the 27th, the police made a raid upon a gambling house rented by a Chinaman in the foreign Settlement, and arrested twenty-three Japanese who were in the act of gambling. The Chinese proprietor and the Chinese visitors were not interfered with. This incident furnishes an interesting comment on the state of affairs that has been brought about under the present treaties. A foreign resident may carry on with impunity a degrading and immoral business which is strictly prohibited to Japanese.

THE purchase of the mining plant and the mine at Kamaishi by Mr. Fujita, of Osaka, is announced. This mine had proved a most unfortunate speculation. It had cost the country more than two million dollars when the discovery was made that a constant supply of ore could

not be looked for. The difficulty of obtaining fuel had always been serious, and when to this was added the unproductiveness of the mine, it was time to abandon the undertaking. Mr. Fujita, whose name is chiefly known in connection with some financial frauds, of which, however, his entire innocence was fully established, now becomes the possessor of a railway and a large plant of costly machinery. Presumably the prospects of the mine seem better to him than to the Government.

AFFAIRS in Tonquin are *in statu quo*. The French appear to be waiting for the arrival of all the reinforcements now *en route* before proceeding to the assault of Bac-ninh. Meanwhile, a rumour is industriously circulated in China that the assault has been already delivered and defeated with heavy loss to the invaders. So persistently is this rumour repeated, that it seems to have obtained some credence even among foreigners in China, and as reporters are not allowed to accompany the army of occupation, it is difficult to know the truth. That the French have sustained a serious reverse, we do not for a moment believe. What is very possible is that they made a reconnaissance in force, and that the troops taking part in it allowed themselves to be engaged more than necessary. It is very important for the French to determine the nature and disposition of the force garrisoning Bac-ninh. Great uncertainty exists on this point, some accounts placing the numbers of the garrison at twenty-five thousand, and others declaring that the place has been virtually evacuated. The business of a reconnoitering party would be to make the defenders show themselves and then to retire. But reconnaissance is probably an unknown art among the Chinese, and it seems not unlikely that they may have construed the appearance and retreat of a French force into a decisive defeat, especially if the French, venturing too far, were obliged to fight their way out. Meanwhile, the Viceroy T'so T'sung-tang has been allowed to retire, and the war party appears to be falling into disgrace in China.

NOTES.

THE London *Times* thinks that whatever may be the issue of the struggle in Tonquin, it must "exercise a profound influence on the relations that are in future to exist between China and her tributaries." Questions apparently calculated to determine the nature of those relations have already cropped up, as in the cases of Siam and Riukiu. With regard to the latter, the writer in *The Times* is singularly misinformed. He describes the incorporation of Riukiu into the mediatized system of Japanese administration thus:—"In 1879 the Japanese seized the Loochoo (Riukiu) Islands and deposed the ruling prince, who had always sought investiture at the hands of the Chinese Emperor. Nothing whatever has been done towards recovering the lost position, and by the time that China bestirs herself in this matter, the other Powers will have become

so accustomed to regard Loochoo as a Japanese possession that any attempt to redress the original wrong would be resented." The notion that Japan wrongfully seized islands which for centuries had formed an integral part of her possessions is about as accurate as the assertion that nothing whatever has been done by China to dispute Japan's title. These errors apart, however, it seems doubtful whether the Tonquin affair will have all the effects predicted of it. The easiest lesson to be learned from the history of China's foreign relations is, that though she were to surrender her claims of suzerainty in twenty cases without a struggle, she would assert them in the twenty-first as complacently and resolutely as ever. Her indifference to precedent has something almost sublime about it, and those that know her well have truly said of her that she tears up her records as she proceeds. We have seen her declining all responsibility with regard to Korea, and then, within a very few years, sending a body of troops there, and otherwise treating the country as an outlying province. To-day she declares that the payment of tribute by a bordering state is a mere interchange of neighbourly courtesies without any political signification whatsoever, and to-morrow she will gravely construe such payment as an incontrovertible evidence of vassalage. If the ties between herself and Tonquin are snapped without any ostensible exercise of strength on her part to sustain them, it does not by any means follow that she will consent to draw any practical deduction from the rupture, or even that she will cease to regard Tonquin as her vassal. The only safe forecast that can be formed of her conduct in a particular juncture is that it will be unlike the conduct of any other Power similarly situated.

A SUBJECT which has been rather overlooked by European journals has been recently taken up, and ably discussed, by the *Spectator*,—the attitude of the French peasantry. It is undoubtedly a matter of serious importance, not to France alone, but to all Europe. For it is questionable whether the labouring classes of France will support the present Ministry if there is any sudden check to the operations in Tongking or any serious defeat of the French arms. The English press is unanimous in its opinion on this subject, while the French periodicals observe a discreet silence, which does not tend to strengthen one's faith in the patriotic spirit of the peasantry. It is very evident that many of the French statesmen have entirely lost sight of the first dictates of political economy, if not of common justice, in neglecting to assure themselves of the allegiance of this important faction. That the peasantry are disposed for peace, and adverse to war, admits of no doubt. The aggressive wars of France have always been made by her rulers and the upper class, while the labouring classes and their opinion have been taken into little or no consideration. The aristocratic spirit, so far as the want of intimate coöperation with the peasantry is concerned, is still rampant, despite the socialistic motto of the Republic. For a moment during the revolution all classes joined the common cause, but the time was ill-chosen to found a new régime of fraternal coöperation. For the present the attitude of the French peasantry is directly antagonistic to that of their rulers, and they may at a moment's notice turn upon the Government, and upset the Ministry. Still, this undercurrent of national feeling is

apparently not strong enough, nor permanent enough, to induce the Ministry to put a stop to their so-called successful expeditions. It is possible that the labouring classes will still continue to view the operations of the French Government in Tongking with a sentiment akin to apathy; but once let some great shock, like the declaration of a costly war with China and the attendant great demand for money, arouse them, and their interference will be alike fatal to the present condition of the Republic, and injurious to the peace of Europe. Money is being recklessly sent out of the country, and a European war might find France unable to protect herself in the time of greatest need. "It is almost too disheartening," says the *Spectator*, "to believe that the Republic can continue in her present career; a career clearly opposed to the wishes of the majority of her people." The power of action may, for the moment, rest in the hands of the politicians, the journalists, and the upper classes of the capital; but the all-important *vis inertiae* of the peasantry has been left out of consideration, and may again threaten the country with a series of civil disasters.

THE SŌUL correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* writes as follows:—To-day (January 28th) the New Year was celebrated in the Palace. The American Minister, Mr. Shimamura, *Chargé d'Affaires* of the Japanese Legation, and the Chinese Consul proceeded to the Palace and paid their respects to the King. New Year's day was very rainy, which materially interfered with the out door festivities of the people. But on the second and third days the weather was all that could be desired, and large numbers of new year visitors exchanging congratulations filled the streets. Nothing of any great importance took place last year, except that the Chinese traders rapidly increased in numbers. The Koreans detest the Chinese soldiers, as they are fond of pillaging and continually do something to outrage the public. The recent murder of two people, a father and his son, by a Chinese "brave" gave rise to intense indignation. The port of Inchhōn is wonderfully prosperous, the monthly trade returns ranging from 170,000 *yen* to 180,000 *yen*. The native towns are alive with thieves, some of whom are caught and put to death every day. The other day forty burglars were simultaneously decapitated with the dull saw, the most horrible and disgusting scene it is possible to imagine.

THE proprietors of the Ice Factory in Tsukiji, Tokiyo, have started a scheme which promises to pay well. A large bath-house has been erected by the side of the Factory, the exhaust steam arising from the overflow of the condenser being used to heat the baths. Fuel and manual labour in filling the baths being thus dispensed with, the proprietors of the establishment are able to charge a smaller sum for hot baths than do all similar houses in Tokiyo: 8 *rin* instead of the usual 1 *sen* 3 *rin*. As over 2,000 people make daily use of the new establishment the returns more than cover the expense of the coal used in the Factory, so that ice can be made for a merely nominal sum, the cost of labour only.

A VERY curious story is published by the *Yomiuri-Shimbun*. The scene is laid near Kiyoto, in a village called Hidzume, where there resides an old gentleman, Nakao Shōhaku, more than sixty years of age. Of late years Mr. Nakao has

been a participator in the æsthetic renaissance of the time, and being a man of independent means, he lives at ease in a charming cottage where all the furniture is in strict uniformity with the most approved *Cha-no-yu* styles. The only constant companion of his retirement is a monkey, which he has reared from its infancy, and which is now an animal of great size and strength, but singularly docile and affectionate. On the 9th instant, Nakao having some business at the temple of Shōriu, set out in the evening with the intention of passing the night at the Abbot's house. A burglar took advantage of the old man's absence, broke into the house, and making up a large bundle of clothes and other articles, strapped it on his back and was creeping off, when the monkey observed him. Instantly the animal sprang on the thief's shoulders and attacked him with fury, biting and scratching his nose, eyes, and neck, and chattering the while as loud as possible. In vain the man struggled to escape from his active assailant. Hampered by the bundle on his back which the monkey never gave him time to throw off, he stumbled blindly about, until at last loss of blood and terror completely overcame him and he sank down fainting. The monkey, however, did not understand fainting. Seeing its enemy at its mercy, it proceeded to profit by the occasion, and would probably have killed the man, had not its jabbering attracted the attention of a passer by. According to the story told by the Japanese, it was the monkey itself that heard footsteps on the road, and, running out, made signs of some sort which induced the traveller to come in. However this may be, the thief was found in a very sorry plight, and the police had no little difficulty in restoring him sufficiently to learn that his name was Sugimoto Senjiro.

ACCORDING to some recently published statistical essays, it appears that the tendency to an increased state activity is becoming more and more apparent. The public take a more general interest in national affairs than they have ever done before; and this not merely in a flippant, emotional manner, but with a steadiness of purpose and a real anxiety that prove how deeply rooted is the popular taste for political science. The position of leading politicians is therefore one of grave responsibility. Political acumen is a most necessary postulate, and it is of the utmost importance that no state should be controlled by untrained men. An able and thoughtful discussion of this subject is the article "On the Education of Statesmen," written by Prof. Adams in the *Princeton Review*. The writer dwells upon the establishment of extended courses of instruction in political science at the leading colleges, and argues that the possibilities of the present political activity are, to a great extent, dependent upon university education. There is, he says, peculiar appropriateness, at the present time, in the careful study of questions relating to public policy and administration; as well as in view of the importance of the social problems that are still awaiting solution. Statesmen should, he contends, no longer be the mere outcome of a momentary enthusiasm, nor yet dependent entirely upon the support of the public in order to take part in legislative or executive administration. Politicians should be trained men, found worthy of their chosen career by means of unsparing examination. The need of special instruction in nearly all branches of industry, intellectual or manual, is very

generally recognized; it would be strange indeed if statesmanship were the only art for which no systematic and painstaking preparation were necessary.

SOME interesting experiments have recently been conducted by the Anthropometrical Committee of the British Association. This Committee, says the *Australasian*, has been engaged for some time past in the systematic examination of the height, weight, and other physical characteristics of the inhabitants of the British Islands. The report was based upon the examination of more than 53,000 individuals. From it we learn that a Briton of "average" height is a giant compared to the average of his race—67.66 inches. Scotchmen are taller than Englishmen, Welshmen are heavier. The Englishmen of the north and eastern parts average three-quarters of an inch more than the rest of their countrymen. Criminals and lunatics were found to be two inches smaller than the honest and sane parts of the population! From five to ten years of age boys grow more rapidly than girls, but in the next five years girls grow much more rapidly than boys. From 15 to 20 boys again take the lead, completing their growth at the age of 23, whilst girls complete theirs at 20. The common idea that the population in manufacturing towns is degenerating is not true. On the contrary, there is a slight but uniform increase in the stature, and a comparatively large increase in weight going on. At the same time, it was demonstrated that open-air engagements are more conducive to bulk and stature than indoor operations.

ABOUT half-past nine on Tuesday evening, the 26th inst., the police made a raid on a gambling house at No. 188. The house is rented by a Chinaman, and must have been doing a fine business, for no less than twenty-three Japanese were arrested. Several Chinamen were present at the time of the arrest, but were not interfered with. In the confusion that ensued, a lamp was upset and the flooring caught fire, but this was speedily extinguished through the exertions of some neighbours.

MR. WILFRID BLUNT, has written to *The Times* from Colombo, saying that Arabi Pasha looks forward hopefully to the time when he will be recalled to his Native country, to take her regeneration in hand. Mr. Blunt says that the illustrious exile and his compatriots are very well treated and highly regarded by the Cingalese, who look upon them as martyrs.

A WHALE which has frequented the estuary of the Tay for some weeks, says a home paper, and which has hitherto baffled all attempts to capture it, was again seen on Sunday (Dec. 29) and on Monday morning—on Sunday night off Broughty Ferry; and when close to the shore it leaped clean out of the water three times after the fashion of a salmon, and its enormous proportions were observed to advantage by thousands of spectators who had gathered on the beach. About nine o'clock on Monday morning it was again sighted in deep water, a little below Broughty Castle, and a steam launch and two whale-boats, manned with gun-harpoons, started off in pursuit. After an exciting chase the crew of the launch succeeded in firing a harpoon into the monster, and the two boats rowed to the assistance of the launch and were taken in tow

to give the whale a drag and impede its seaward course. Meanwhile a second harpoon was fired and seemed to infuriate the monster, which then swam off at a rapid speed towards the sea, dragging the launch and whale-boats after it. The whale-boats and the steamer returned to Dundee on Tuesday, and announced the escape of the whale. It had three harpoons in it, and it dragged the launch and boats for twenty-two hours, when the ropes broke.

ON Tuesday evening a large number of the members and congregation of Union Church assembled at the residence of their late Pastor, the Rev. W. C. Davison, where a very enjoyable sociable evening was spent. After refreshments had been served and partaken of, the following address was read by Mr. A. J. Wilkin:—

TO THE REV. W. C. DAVISSON.

We feel that we should be wanting in a proper recognition of the obligations we are under to you, if we suffered you to leave these shores without some collective expression of our sentiment of regret.

Fully occupied as you already were with the work in your own sphere, it was no light thing for you to accede as you did a year ago, to the request we then made that you would assume the duties of a pastor towards the Church and Congregation assembling in the Union Church.

It has been our happiness to see during the period of your ministrations amongst us, as at that time commenced, a steadily increasing attendance at the services, and an augmented interest in the welfare and prosperity of the cause: and in this we recognize the blessing that has followed upon the zeal and earnestness, the geniality and large hearted sympathy, with which you have laboured as our pastor. Your influence and the results of your work will remain when you have gone from us, and we know that in all this you will recognize some reward of your labours.

We are thankful to the great Head of the Church for your ministry amongst us,—for its faithful words of encouragement in the Divine life, for its sound words of instruction in righteousness, for exhortation and for doctrine.

And now we would bid you God speed. To yourself and Mrs. Davison we offer our parting and earnest wishes that you may be carried in safety to your journey's end. May the love of our Heavenly Father ever shine around your path and fill your hearts with joy: thus may you journey on in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of peace, blessing and being blest, gathering sheaves unto life eternal.

We have to ask your acceptance of a small token of our esteem in the accompanying purse, and praying that the great Shepherd of the Sheep may ever have you in His holy keeping, we bid you again farewell.

A VERY remarkable mosaic has just been discovered at Nîmes. It is over one hundred and fifty square feet in size, and represents a Roman Emperor seated on a throne, by the side of which stands a female figure. There are also two figures of men, leading, the one a lion and the other a wild boar. A warrior with a Roman helmet and a number of slaves complete this highly interesting group. The work has happily escaped injury; the lines and the colours are as fresh as if they dated from yesterday. It is declared by competent judges to be the richest mosaic yet discovered, no museum in Europe possessing one to match it. As for its value, they decline to name a definite sum, though they express the opinion that it cannot be worth less than a million of francs at the lowest. The unfortunate owner of the house in which this treasure has been discovered had just sold the property to the municipality for less than £2,000. This body will frame the mosaic, and place it in the museum of the town, already so rich in local relics of the Roman period.

THE inquisitorial character of the American journalist has just received a fresh development. From an interviewer of public personages he threatens to become a visitor and questioner of private citizens. It occurred the other day to the editor of the *New York Times* to test the interest

taken by his readers in political matters of the "first importance;" and he accordingly commissioned a reporter to wait upon a certain number of the leading bankers, merchants, lawyers, and other professional men of New York, for the purpose of ascertaining how many of them had read the President's Message, as lately delivered to the assembled Congress. The reporter made 324 visits, and had no trouble in obtaining from the persons honoured with his calls the particulars he desired. He found that out of 324 readers of the *New York Times*, belonging to the most intelligent and best informed classes, 108 had read the Presidential Message from beginning to end, while 30 had read parts of it, and 189 had not read it at all.

WRITING, last November, of the new Armstrong guns mounted in the *Tsukushi Kan*, and of the admiration they had evoked in Japan, we said:—"Since England has abandoned her prejudice in favour of muzzle-loaders, her manufacturers have taken the leading place from which her theorists have never been ousted." The article containing these remarks appears to have been forwarded to Messrs. Krupp & Co., by a Tokiyo mercantile firm, and we now receive a message from Mr. F. Krupp to the effect that "Armstrong would not be likely to assert publicly that England is the leading place in regard to artillery or that her theorists have always had the first place in the science of artillery." We have no hesitation about publishing this indirect contradiction of our statement, though we cannot see clearly what good end will be served thereby. That Sir William Armstrong's modesty would forbid him to make an assertion which might sound like blowing his own trumpet, we readily admit; and that Mr. F. Krupp would dispute any assertion of Sir William Armstrong's superiority as a manufacturer of ordinance, may be assumed with no more hesitation. But the quality of these two scientist's weapons must be tested by something more trustworthy than words. We have stated our own opinion, but we have no objection to modify it in deference to facts, should such be forthcoming. Mr. Krupp further designates as "an invention" a report copied into the *Japan Mail* directly from a London journal, to the effect that a 13-inch Krupp gun recently burst in Fort Melton, Cronstadt, during the firing of an Imperial salute. "I have never delivered any 13-inch guns to the Russian Government," writes Mr. Krupp, "so that it is impossible that any such gun could have burst." This is conclusive. We can only suppose that the English newspaper was misinformed.

WE mentioned, lately, that some difficulty was experienced in finding carpenters sufficiently skilful to be entrusted with the building of the Imperial Palace. According to a Tokiyo journal, the officers charged with the execution of the work are now perplexed about the best earth to employ for making tiles. There has, however, been found, this authority tells us, an old book describing how the tiles used for the palace when the capital was moved to Heian, eleven hundred and five years ago, were made of clay obtained from a village called Matsumoto, in the province of Omi. Whether the earth of that locality still retains the properties that caused it to be then selected is a question which the local authorities have received instructions to investigate without

delay. It seems a little strange that any uncertainty should exist about such matters, but doubtless it is all for the good of trade.

It is said that the *Kangwakuai* (Society of Pictorial Experts) of which Mr. Machida is the originator, proposes to hold a *réunion* on the 6th proximo at the large tea-house called Nakamura, near Riyogoku Bridge. The chief members of the Society are Messrs. Kano Yeitoku, Yamana Tsurayoshi, Kano Tomonobu, and Fenollosa. The last named gentleman is probably, among foreigners, the most skilled connoisseur of Japanese pictures in existence. He is at present engaged in the preparation of a work on Japanese pictorial art, and we look for its completion with much interest. It is announced that the objects of exhibit on the 6th instant will be a number of remarkably fine pictures, scrolls, and screens by the most celebrated old masters.

We learn from the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the map of the route to be taken by the railway from Shinagawa to Ueno has just been sent to the local authorities of the former place, with directions to take the necessary steps for the purchase of the land. It may, therefore, be presumed that the idea of making the line round the outskirts of the city is about to be carried into effect. Doubtless this course has advantages, so far as facility and cheapness of construction are concerned, but it really seems as though the object of those engaged in laying out the line was to make it as inaccessible as possible by the inhabitants of the capital. Both Ueno and Shinagawa are about as remote from the present business centres of Tokiyo as any places that could possibly have been chosen.

THE London *Echo* newspaper was in a West End police-court the other day as an interested party to one of the most ludicrous cases which ever convulsed a court. The defendant was arraigned upon two charges. The first accused him of being a "vagrant, without visible means of support," and the second alleged that there was good cause to suspect that he was also a "suspicious character," perhaps a Fenian or dynamite conspirator. He had absolutely refused to give the police who arrested him any information concerning himself and had declined to give his name. When the Court demanded to know the latter the prisoner said it was "Hugh MacLaughlin," and insisted upon being addressed as "Mister," "because he was a real gentleman." The grave sincerity with which this claim was put forth by the ragged and begrimed unfortunate made the Court roar, and the police significantly alluded to the "Irishness of the name." The testimony against the prisoner was that he had been detected prowling about Hanover-square and placed under "shadow." When he first attracted police attention he was disguised as a match pedlar, in which character he had secured entrance to many of the aristocratic residences of that neighborhood. He was subsequently tracked in movements under several other disguises, and was finally arrested while tramping around collecting tribute as a troubadour with a good voice and a very bad banjo. The prisoner listened to the testimony with mingled consternation and despair, but made no defence. He, however, pleaded, with choice and eloquent rhetoric, against being committed, but the contrast between his accomplish-

ments and his rags prejudiced his case. Finally, in desperation, the tramp admitted that he had been engaged in a secret mission, but claimed that he could prove his respectability by persons in the office of the *Evening Echo*. Sure of their game now, the detectives lost no time in procuring the attendance of the chief editor of the *Echo*. He failed at first to recognize the prisoner, but after a more careful scrutiny exclaimed, "Why, Mac! is that you?" and satisfied the Judge that the prisoner was no other than Mr. MacLaughlin, of the *Echo* staff, one of the best known of London journalists. He had been absent from the office for several days engaged in the task of gathering data concerning the profits of London beggars, and, unknown to his superiors, had chosen to secure a standard by playing the beggar himself. After a hearty laugh all around "Mac" was liberated.

THE writer of the following on Japanese waiting girls in the *Pittsburg Despatch* would appear to have gained his experience in the "round the road" suburbs of Yokohama:—The Japanese waiter girl is said to be an interesting creature. She has a big tub of hot rice at her elbow and fills your bowl as often as you lower the contents sensibly. The present crop of rice is unprecedentedly large and this popular grain is wonderfully cheap now. She removes the shell from your boiled eggs, the while chatting briskly, just as though you could understand what she says. She laughs pleasantly at your miserable failure with the chop-sticks, and taking them herself deftly bones your fish with them. She is inordinately curious, and has no idea of propriety. I have had them "chuck" me under the chin or slap me familiarly on the shoulder. They will look right down your throat, so frankly inquisitive are they. It is evident from their rigid and stately etiquette in other matters that they do not suspect they are shocking you.

A CHINESE speculator has, it is said, become so enamoured of Japanese umbrellas and parasols that he has conceived a project of introducing them on a wholesale scale into his own country. With this object he has engaged twenty experts of Osaka, at a salary of 380 *yen* each per annum, and carried them off to China where he proposes to set up a large manufactory. A dealer, by name Sudzuki Uhei, has contracted to export from Japan the necessary quantity of bamboo for the handles.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that on the morning of the 26th, a lad of fourteen, on his way to the Gasworks at Shinagawa, was in the act of crossing the railway near Kanasugi bridge just as the train from Yokohama came up. The boy attempted to escape, but lost his presence of mind and was caught by the engine. By a wonderful piece of good fortune, however, the train did not pass over his body but threw him outside the rails, and though considerably bruised and shaken, he received no serious injury.

THE *Alta* of the 21st ult., referring to the Robeson Navy says:—Some wit in the Atlantic States, where they have better chances than we of the Pacific to know about it, says that the navy now consists of two principal parts—"officers and water." The supply of these two essential elements to the existence of a powerful naval force is fortunately large and not likely to be diminished soon. But for the safety of our cities they seem to be rather inadequate. The

water being equally at the disposal of any hostile power, and the officers being of little or no account without a sufficient supply of ships and men. Chandler seems to have inherited much of the Robesonian policy, which consists in absorbing the public millions and leaving nothing valuable to off set them. It appears, however, that the ship *Lancaster* is achieving success in the Mediterranean as a reception hall. A proof of having the *entrée* to good society at Nice consists in being bidden to the entertainments held on board.

TRADESPEOPLE in Tokiyo complain bitterly of the bad times. They always do complain, for the matter of that, but a vernacular journal says that they have good reason to be desponding just now, as even the statistics of the telegraphs show that the number of messages sent across the wires between Tokiyo and Yokohama during last month was thirty per cent. less than the number during the corresponding month last year. The same journal says that the falling off in the post-office and railway receipts was equally marked.

A TOKIYO journal, commenting on the morbid love of novelties common to all humanity, tells a story of a little bunch of ten tomatoes exhibited, a few days ago, by a greengrocer in the capital. They made a paltry show, so far as bulk was concerned, but being the first tomatoes of the season and very early at that, a gentleman was soon found to purchase them for five *yen*. This moralizing journalist ought to go to London, where five guineas for a dish of grapes, and one guinea for a peach are not uncommon prices.

THE people at the hot springs of Arima are said to be greatly troubled by a terrestrial disturbance of some sort, which has been the means of spoiling the purity of the springs. The hitherto clear water is now muddy and offensive, and there are no signs of any improvement. Such a phenomenon has naturally reduced the number of visitors to a minimum.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* states that the gamblers recently arrested at No. 188, Settlement, have been found guilty, with the exception of one woman who happened to be arrested at the same time and who has since been discharged. Twenty-one of the gamblers were fined 30 *yen*, and sentenced to 5 months' imprisonment; four others were fined 5 *yen*, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

THE *Fiyu Shimbun* publishes a rumour that the Cabinet has resolved to sanction mixed residence and foreign trade in the interior, and states that this resolution will be put in force without loss of time. Difficulties with China are hinted at as well, and Mr. Soyeshima is said to be about starting for Peking as a diplomatic Envoy Extraordinary.

THE *San Francisco Chronicle*, in its "Art Column," devotes a laudatory paragraph to Mr. T. Kaji, spelling the name incorrectly *Kagi*, as a matter of course. Mr. Kaji, a native of Tosa, has met with much success; two of his pictures, "Winter Scene in the Yosemite," and "Pride Shall Have a Fall," being very highly spoken of. The painter, says the art critic, combines the Western with the Japanese style, the effect being most pleasing. He has recently received large orders from Chicago and Washington, and promises to enjoy financial, as well as artistic, success.

THE extraordinary tales telegraphed to America with regard to the murder of Colonel Sudeikin and the tortures to which he was subjected, appear to have been much exaggerated. The facts of the case are now believed to be these. Colonel Sudeikin, a man of great resolution and very exceptional strength and activity, was chief of the secret police of St. Petersburg. He had been one of the founders of the anti-Nihilistic league, originally formed under the patronage of Count Ignatieff, and he was one of the Emperor's special guards. Greatly feared and hated by the Nihilists, he had often been threatened with death, and was consequently in the habit of taking many precautions. He had apartments in various quarters of the city; never slept two consecutive nights in the same house; disguised himself very cleverly, and was always well armed. On the 2nd of January, he received information that a Nihilistic reunion was to be held in a house, No. 91, in the *Perspective Newsky*, that is to say, in the very locality destined for meetings of the agents of the secret police. This information was given by an agent named Jablowsky, who was himself a Nihilist, it appears, and who had only entered the police to further the plots of the revolutionists. Between five and six o'clock in the evening, Colonel Sudeikin, accompanied by his assistant, M. Gendcharoff, and escorted by four gendarmes, repaired to the house indicated. The gendarmes were left in the street, and the Colonel and his assistant went up-stairs. Suddenly a door opened and a pistol shot was heard. The ball struck the Colonel on the head and killed him at once. Gendcharoff tried to use his revolver, but was felled by a tremendous blow of an iron bar which crushed his skull. The murderer subsequently fractured Colonel Sudeikin's skull with the same bar. The crime was accomplished with remarkable celerity and address. The gendarmes standing in the street knew nothing of it, and when, after vainly waiting for their chief's return, they penetrated into the house, they found there only a corpse and a dying man. Of the murderers there was no trace. Thrust into Colonel Sudeikin's pocket was a letter promising death to Count Totstol and General Gresser, Prefect of St. Petersburg. It is feared that Nihilistic terrorism is about to be revived.

THE memoirs of Odilon Barrot, President of the Council of Ministers when Napoleon III. was still only a prince, have just been published, and contain, amongst other interesting matter, a curious story of the Prince's gallantries. Louis Napoleon had met in England one of those ladies who live by their charms, and a mutual attachment, followed by the birth of several children, was the result. She had a house not far from the Elysée, and lived on the most intimate terms with the Prince-President, who generally made her accompany him in all his tours through the provinces. Once when she was with him at Tours, travelling under the name of Madame Bacciochi, the gentleman whose business it was to find lodgings for the party, took it into his head to put her into the house of the Receiver-General, M. André, who happened to have come with his wife to the Pyrenees. The Receiver was one of those Protestant Puritans who take a pride in the strictness of their habits. He and his good lady were profoundly disturbed at the thought that their hearth, never before witness of anything

but religious practices, should be contaminated by the presence of one whom they were pleased to call a prostitute. "M. André," says Barrot, "complained to me bitterly. His letter, written under the first impulse of indignation, was even intemperate. 'Are we back again then,' he asked, 'at the epoch when the mistresses of monarchs paraded their scandals throughout the towns of France?' The President of the Council, not a little embarrassed, could only think of one plan. He desired his brother, Ferdinand Barrot, to contrive that the letter of the virtuous Procureur General should accidentally meet the eye of Napoleon. The latter replied to M. André's missive by an epistle which ended thus:—'I detest this pedantic rigorism, which always ill-conceals a cold heart, indulgent to itself, inexorable towards others. True religion is not intolerant. It does not seek to raise tempests in a glass of water, to make scandals for nothing, and to change into a crime a simple accident or an excusable fault. As for me, I do not accuse anyone, and I confess myself guilty of seeking, in an illegitimate union, the affection of which my heart stands in need. Since my position has hitherto prevented me from marrying; since, in the midst of governmental cares, I have not, alas! in my country from which I have been so long absent, either intimate friends, or acquaintances of my youth, or relations who can admit me to the pleasures of a family circle, I may well be pardoned, I think, an affection which does no harm to anyone and which I do not seek to publish. To return to M. André, if he thinks, as he says, that his house is soiled by the presence of an unmarried wife, I beg you to let him know from me that I keenly regret that a lady of devotion so pure and character so elevated should find herself, by accident, in a house where, under the mask of religion, there reigns only an ostentation of forced virtue without Christian charity.'

A CALCUTTA journal has the following:—A Dutch firm has recently obtained a concession from the Shah of Persia to work, the oil wells near Bushire. These wells are believed to be among the most bountiful in the world, and the spring is of such vitality that the oil flows spontaneously in quantity out of the earth. The supply, examination seems to indicate, is practically limitless, and the quality of the oil is excellent. The existence of the wells has been known for a long time, but hitherto the Persian Government has not only neglected to work them, but has declined to allow foreigners to attempt the task. The firm which has now at length obtained a concession proposes to bring out the best machinery and to begin work on a large scale.

THE *Echo* of the Dordogne announces the discovery of an immense bed of feldspath rock, about eight kilometres (nearly five miles) from the St. Yrieux railway station. The mass of mineral is found to be largely composed of pure kaolin or the finest white clay, for the extent of half a mile, partly covered by gneiss quartz and plates of mica. All the engineers describe the kaolin to be of the very finest substance, formed by the decomposition of the pegmatite rocks, of orthose and quartz, and consequently the only earth that can be employed in the manufacture of porcelain. The discovery is of great importance, and will prove of much advantage to the porcelain industry at

Limoges, long celebrated for its special production of enamel ware, and is not far distant from this valuable mineralogical find.

PROTECTION is a very pretty device until the nations against which it is directed begin to retaliate in kind. After the North American Colonies had established their independence, they enacted that all foreign vessels trading to the United States should pay 94 cents per ton duty beyond what was paid by American ships; and further, that goods imported in foreign bottoms should pay a duty of 10 per cent. over and above the duty payable on them when imported in American vessels. This law, avowedly directed against English shipping, had the effect of convincing Great Britain of her own errors, and led her to conclude with America a commercial treaty by which equal charges were imposed on the ships of either country in the ports of the other, and equal duties were laid upon all articles, the produce of the one country imported into the other, whether the importation was effected in ships of the one or the other. The United States have not forgotten their success on that occasion. By way of answer to the European restrictions upon the importation of American hams and bacon, Congress projects a law authorizing the President to "cause an examination to be made of the products of countries which have prohibited certain American imports on hygienic grounds, and to forbid the importation into the United States of such of those products as may be considered hurtful." In the abstract this proposal does not commend itself to common sense. It reads as though Congress said to Europe, "we don't mind how much poisonous rubbish you shoot upon us, provided you let us shoot our rubbish upon you, but if you get fastidious about ours, we, too, will begin to think about our healths." What American legislators mean to say is, however, plain enough. They declare that they recognize the motive of the French restrictions to be, not hygienic, but simply protective. And it must be confessed that the suspicion seems well founded. We find one of the stoutest supporters of the restrictive laws writing to the *Economiste Français* in these terms:—"We agriculturists attribute our sufferings to the introduction of American meats and grain. Let me ask whether it is possible in France to produce wheat and meat as cheaply as in America. * * * The decree of M. Méline (removing the restrictions upon the importation of American bacon) was presented some months ago, and it has had the effect of lowering the price of our pigs from 60 francs, a remunerative figure, to 44 francs (per 50 kilogr.), a figure which does not pay expenses." This gentleman has not one word to say about hygiene. With him it is simply a question of compelling French consumers of pork and bacon to pay a tax for the benefit of French pig-breeders. M. Paul Bert, when he tried to obtain a reversion of the decree mentioned here, took the purely hygienic line. But his success was mediocre. He compared the trichina to the phylloxera, and tried to persuade the deputies that when a local epidemic of the former establishes itself anywhere, "it constitutes an infection which goes on increasing and spreading from man to man." It appears to us that M. Bert would have been equally logical had he declared that a whole community is liable to die of hydrophobia if one of its members be bitten by a mad

dog. Science has demonstrated that the trichina can only find its way into the human body by the digestive organs, so that if people are to be attacked by it they must eat meat containing the germs. Under these circumstances, its ability to spread from man to man seems problematical except in a community of cannibals. Yet M. Paul Bert was so persuaded of the propriety of his proposal that he wanted the Chambers to reimpose restrictions which had been removed three weeks previously; to revoke a measure on the strength of which whole cargoes of American salted meats had been landed in France and others were on their way thither. It is true, as M. Bert said, that human lives are more important than commercial faith, but it is necessary to begin by proving that trichinæ are germinated in American porkers only, and to disprove the well established fact that the only trichinous epidemic certainly known to have taken place in France was caused by a pig of pure French breed. Otherwise it would be necessary to supplement the restrictions on American bacon by a law ordering the massacre of all French porkers.

REFERRING to the recent trials of the Glasgow dynamiters, the *Belfast Northern Whig* says:—"The great body of the people of the American Republic have the utmost detestation of the proceedings of these American-Irish, who abuse the rights of hospitality and of citizenship. But even the excuse made for certain trading politicians that they are anxious to obtain the Irish vote does not justify them in compromising the good relations of their country with the Government and people of the United Kingdom. As Lord Justice Clerk said, a more wicked conspiracy was never shown to exist. The cowardly ruffians and their Nationalist abettors in Ireland—one almost as bad as the other—can, however, expect very little sympathy from English or Scotch juries."

It is a significant little comment upon the state of the world in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, says the *St. James's Budget*, that there should be such a thing as the regular profession of War Correspondent. Nowadays we say that So-and-so is a war correspondent, just as we may say he is a doctor or a lawyer, the assumption being that there is enough business in his special line to keep him constantly employed. The professional war correspondent would not exist if it were not the case that there is generally a war going on somewhere or other. As a matter of fact, the practitioners in this branch have not had to complain of too many or too lengthy vacations. It is a circumstance which should suggest some pensive reflections to the surviving Radicals of the year 1850 or, thereabouts, who thought that with free trade and free government fighting would become a lost art. Free trade has not kept England out of a dozen wars little and big; and as for free government—we all know that Republican France is the home of liberty and equality, and Republican France is not a favourable example of a State at peace with all mankind. Moreover, in France it is precisely the party of "the people" which is most clamorous for war and conquest and annexation. It was the tribune of the people, Gambetta, who launched France on her present course of colonial enterprise; while the journal which represents an even more Radical leader, M. Clémenceau, once again takes up the paper

war with Germany, and warns his countrymen to prepare for another great struggle with the country of the perfidious Bismarck. The age of gold still seems a long way off.

THE vernacular press says that the Government at last proposes to do something towards the restoration of the Castle of Osaka, which is certainly one of Japan's most valuable heirlooms. The place is to be generally repaired, and it is probable that there will be built round it some sort of embankment planted with trees. The Castle of Owari, at Nagoya, has been completely resuscitated. Fortunately it suffered nothing during the troubles of 1867-68, and but for the wanton mischief done to its internal decorations by troops subsequently quartered there, it would remain to this day just as it was in the old feudal times. Nothing in Japan conveys so true an idea of the bigness of the people under their military chiefs as these massive castles with their colossal battlements and tier upon tier of huge framework.

M. FERRY's scheme for the revision of the French constitution has chosen rather an unfortunate time to achieve much success. There are, however, several changes suggested in this scheme which are, without question, of great importance to the republic. In the matter of public suffrages the new constitution proposes the abolition of the office of life senator, and the substitution of the system of voting for a general ticket instead of the present plan of voting by districts; and it is stated that the reactionists will support the latter proposition. "It would be not a little curious," comments a New York contemporary, "if in so short a time after the death of Gambetta, the very measure the persistent advocacy of which brought about his fall from power, should be successfully carried through by M. Ferry." But M. Ferry and his *clientèle* are notably over-sanguine, and it is very possible that his propositions will meet with little general favour; all the more so as the smaller French politicians are not likely to give up with alacrity the advantages secured to them by the present system.

THE death is announced of Keshub Chunder Sen, the great Hindoo religious reformer. He was a leader of the Brahma Somaj sect, which was originally founded by the Rajah Ram Mohun Roi. Chunder Sen, though not a Christian, recognized the nobility of that religion. In a speech at Calcutta in 1879, for example, he said:—"If unto any army appertains the honor of holding India for England, that army is the Army of Christian missionaries, headed by their invincible Captain, Jesus Christ. * * * They have given us the high code of Christian ethics, and their preachings and examples have distinctly influenced and won thousands of non-Christian Hindoos. Let England know that, thanks to the noble band of Christ's ambassadors, she has already succeeded in planting His banners in the heart of the nation."

A CABLEGRAM to the New York *Herald* dated London, January 8th, says:—"The government of the Dutch East Indies has sent a body of troops to the west coast of Acheen to compel the Rajah, who holds in captivity the crew of the steamer *Nisero*, which was wrecked there in November last on the passage from Sourabaya to Singapore, to surrender them. Twenty-five

of the crew are in the hands of the Rajah and his tribe, who have plundered and destroyed the vessel. Among those held by the Rajah are the second officer Moore, two Italians, two Germans, two Norwegians, and one American. The British gunboat *Pegasus*, which was sent to their relief in December, was unable to communicate with the Rajah, and British Consul Kennedy reported that if the *Pegasus* had fired upon the tribe the prisoners would have been massacred.

THE second lecture of the free series announced by the Evangelical Alliance was delivered at the Meiji Kwaido on Friday afternoon by the Rev. Dr. G. F. Verbeck. The weather was miserable, but despite incessant rain and sleet and nearly impassable roads, an audience of nearly seven hundred had assembled and taken their places in the hall half an hour before the appointed time. In the front row were several Buddhist priests, and in the gallery a few ladies, but the main body of the audience consisted of students. The Rev. C. S. Eby opened the proceedings by thanking the people for their attendance in such inclement weather, after which a Japanese gentleman, Mr. Yoshioka, addressed the meeting at some length with reference to the disturbances caused by certain students on recent occasions. Mr. Yoshioka spoke with singular candour and boldness, so much so, indeed, that he seemed at times to sacrifice tact to zeal. He frequently employed the simile of yapping dogs to describe the clamour of obstreperous listeners, and he reminded his hearers that such conduct was neither consistent with their intelligence nor creditable to their own and their country's reputation. This statement elicited various expressions of opinion, but the applause predominated. The speaker did not, however, limit himself to rebuke; he even ventured to assume a tone of defiance. For he exclaimed with considerable warmth that Christianity, having survived the rack, the dungeon, and the stake, was not likely to be checked by such paltry impediments as a few groans or hisses. This was hazardous ground to take, but Mr. Yoshioka, probably understood the temper of those he was addressing, and believed that a stout, uncompromising attitude would influence them more favorably than any gentler appeal. And certainly the result justified his method, for the audience thenceforth showed themselves thoroughly orderly and attentive. This was an agreeable surprise. It will be remembered, from our report of the last lecture, that a few noisy youths caused considerable inconvenience, although their number probably did not exceed twenty in an assembly of thirteen hundred. From some hints which these freethinkers subsequently let drop, it was believed that they contemplated a stronger and better organized effort on the next occasion, so that the perfect quiet of Friday's meeting was as unlooked for as it was pleasant. Dr. Verbeck, on rising to speak, was received with loud applause. His manner was very quiet, and his utterance, at first a little indistinct, attained, in a few moments, such force and clearness that every word was easily audible throughout the whole hall. The subject was Christianity and Science, and very soon the speaker's earnest style, well chosen language, and happy illustrations had thoroughly aroused the interest of his hearers. With the exception of an occasional reference to notes, he spoke, throughout, extemporaneously, and it was difficult to determine which was more worthy of admiration, his wonderful mastery of

the Japanese language or the force of his arguments. It is not our intention, to attempt here any analysis of the lecture, but we may mention, as a particularly happy point, the speaker's method of discussing the sectarian aspects of the Christian religion, and the discredit they have sometimes brought upon its professors. Referring to the various secular sciences, he showed, by well chosen and easily comprehensible illustrations, how extraordinary is the progress their investigation has made, and how multiform are the theories that have existed, and do still exist, about many subjects of research. Without the interchange of intelligence all this controversy caused, it was doubtful whether science could have made such rapid strides, and certainly discussions and differences of theory, though they might ultimately help to elucidate, could never change or pervert, the truth. So, too, with regard to religion, the science of all others that most exercised the human mind, while the essentials had long been placed beyond the reach of doubt, it was natural, and, as a help, to progress, fortunate, that the anxious earnestness of its investigators should lead them, here and there, into slightly different routes, which, however, all took, in the end, one common direction. For the rest, if any man objected to controversy, and thought unquestioning unanimity and apathetic acquiescence more becoming, Dr. Verbeck recommended him to take up his quarters among the negroes in Africa or in some society devoted wholly to sensual pleasures. Perfect rest from all intellectual effort might confidently be counted on there. The lecture lasted nearly two hours, and was listened to from first to last with such rapt attention that it was impossible to doubt the effect such a method of teaching must ultimately produce.

THE defeat of Hicks Pasha and the annihilation of his army took place about November 12th at Kashgate, which place lies 62 miles South of El Obeid, and 447 miles from Berber. On January 1st the presence at Berber of two advanced corps of El Mahdi's army was telegraphed. It appears, therefore, that the False Prophet's forces are moving northward at a rate of about 10 miles per diem. From Berber to Lukser is 558 miles, and from the latter place to Suez and Cairo, 310 miles. Thus from his position at the end of 1883, the Mahdi had only 868 miles to march in order to reach Egypt proper, so that unless steps are taken to arrest his progress, he may be expected to appear before Cairo early in April, if not at the end of March. There can be little doubt that his present object is Cairo, and that Mecca is his ultimate bourne. To reach Mecca his only road is by the isthmus of Suez, and every step he takes northward brings him nearer to the route which, through evil report and good report, England has struggled so hard to secure. It is impossible to comprehend, at this distance, the motives of a policy which suffers such a peril to gather unobstructed strength. The Gladstone Cabinet ordered the bombardment of Alexandria and fought the battle of Tel-el-Kebir to protect England's highway to India, and now, so far as the world can see, the same Cabinet proposes to look on quietly while there grows in the Soudan a power compared with which Arabi's puny efforts were a bagatelle. Whether or no it be wise and worthy to retire without a struggle from the vicarious contest Great Britain has hitherto maintained against

the slave dealers of Central Africa, is a question the present Government ought not to have much difficulty in answering; but that England will ever be able to retire from Egypt while the Soudan is ruled by such a potentate as the Mahdi, seems in the last degree unlikely. Hitherto the only comprehensible reason advanced in support of a policy of inaction has been that the False Prophet has neither the will nor the ability to reach lower Egypt. The telegrams are daily disposing of that theory.

THE death of Charles Delmonico, the last of the famous family of New York restaurant keepers, was attended by circumstances of an extraordinary character. The man whose name was synonymous with luxury and good cheer, and whose life had been surrounded by all conceivable accessories of comfort and elegance, came to his end in a wayside country ditch, frozen and starved, without friendly companionship, and in the more awful loneliness that separates a shattered mind from human fellowship. For several years he had shown signs of breaking under labors which were far too heavy for performance by any individual, but which he would not consent to abandon or divide. The failure of his strength was, however, so gradual and so well concealed that the announcement of his retirement, a few months ago, from the active management of his various establishments, was received with general surprise. Even then the full extent of his mental and physical ailments was known only to intimate associates. The fact that he was kept under constant guardianship during the last weeks of his life was unsuspected by those who occasionally met him in his accustomed resorts, and was, perhaps, but dimly realized by himself. Whenever he went abroad, he was accompanied, if possible, by some member of his family, and was invariably followed by one or more trained watchers. On the morning of January 5th he left his home, apparently in much better condition than usual, and so determined upon being alone that none of his relatives went with him. It is now understood that he eluded the surveillance of his keepers by rapidly ascending the steps of an elevated railway station, from which point he rode to a down-town terminus, where he was recognized by an acquaintance, who observed nothing unusual in his manner or appearance. Finding himself at the river side, he crossed in a ferry boat to New Jersey, and, it is supposed, took the cars for Newark, about ten miles distant. Here he alighted, and passed a considerable time in roaming about the desolate fields of the neighborhood, in one of which he threw aside his gloves and a number of papers. The accidental discovery of these, three days after, led to various surmises and dark suspicions, and was followed by anxious and elaborate investigations, all of which proved fruitless. He did not, indeed, long remain in this locality. Returning to Newark, he thence took a cross train in the direction of Orange. He was seen in the outskirts of that town soon after Saturday midnight, inquiring for a place of shelter; which, however, he did not find,—probably did not seriously seek. On Sunday morning he called at a house in the suburbs of Orange, asking, at the back door, for a drink of coffee. He was invited to enter, and after warming himself and eating a hearty breakfast, without exciting further remark than that his aspect and dress were not in accord with his application

for charity, he started forth again into the cold and storm. During that day and night he wandered aimlessly to and fro, and was met by no one until Monday noon, when he requested a passing stranger to direct him to a certain hotel. He was never again seen alive. Being fatigued, he presently sat down, it is believed, to rest upon a low log fence, built to protect one side of the road, which runs by a ditch, or gully, some feet in depth. Overcome by exhaustion and exposure to the bitter weather, he either dropped asleep, or fell backward, while yet alive but too weak to extricate himself, into the shallow stream. A violent tempest raged throughout the week, and the swollen current carried a mass of sand and pebbles to the spot, nearly covering the dead man's face. The body lay undisturbed until the morning of January 14th, when it was discovered by a couple of lads who were scouring the fields for wild game. But for this chance it might have remained undetected, and hidden by the heavily gathering debris, until the coming spring.

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The excitement caused by this untoward event can be easily comprehended. The prolonged disappearance of any citizen, under similar circumstances, would awaken the keenest public anxiety, and in the case of one of the most conspicuous figures in New York business circles, the interest became more vivid and universal. No man was better known, and few were personally more popular, in any station. For twenty-five years or more, he had been prominent in the management of all the houses of entertainment to which the family name was attached. The founders of the several enterprises preferred retirement and obscurity in their declining years, and were content to surrender the nominal control to their shrewd and clever heir. In course of time the control became actual and independent. The older Delmonicos would willingly have rested with the success of their down-town "stands," at the Buttery and in Beaver and Chambers Streets; but the speculative son and nephew foresaw the larger possibilities of an up-town centre, and persuaded them, almost against their will, to open, one after another, the houses on Fifth Avenue. By these operations the family fortunes were more than doubled, with great rapidity, and the honors and cares of management were ceded to the youthful partner, with as little reluctance as those of "Hardie's Bank" were transferred, in Charles Reade's "Love Me Little, Love Me Long." In his early manhood, everything touched by young Delmonico,—"Charley," as he was called by high and low, in that democratic community,—turned to prosperity; and all that he opposed drooped and withered. It was he who conceived the idea of creating a new brand of champagne, chiefly for consumption in the Delmonico restaurants,—a vineyard in France being bought and developed for that sole purpose. Such was its success that at one period of inflated currency, when the stock of beverage in question was low, it was sold at twenty-five dollars per bottle in most New York resorts, although the price was more moderate on his own lists. On the other hand, the few attempts to institute branches of the concern in other cities,—mostly inspired by Siro Delmonico, the youngest of the original band of brothers,—were discountenanced by him, and they all came to grief. It was his theory that the business should never extend beyond the superintending grasp of one person; and he

spared no effort to carry this theory into effect. It was his habit to rise regularly at four o'clock and visit the city markets, making the necessary purchases for all the restaurants, at each of which he afterward called, to see the affairs of the day duly inaugurated. His head-quarters were in Fifth Avenue,—first at Fourteenth Street and later at Twenty-fifth Street. Here he breakfasted, and subsequently gave an hour or two to what he called leisure, though it was in reality the adjustment of outside business details. In the early afternoon he overlooked the arrangements for special dinners, balls, etc., to be given under his auspices. Ordinarily he dined at four o'clock, more abstemiously than any other consumer of food within his walls. He sometimes had the fancy to impart to privileged friends what he called the secret of economical living; and it is certain that those who followed his instructions could accomplish the marvellous feat of getting an excellent meal, in the most expensive of modern eating-houses, for less than a dollar. Many a time he was heard to say that his average patrons would not touch the wine he habitually drank on account of its cheapness. It was, in fact, of excellent quality, but of more recent manufacture than the "fashionable" article. If it be thought that this encouragement of light disbursement was contrary to his interests, it must be remembered that the Delmonico establishments were visited by tens of thousands daily, and that his considerate suggestions were confined to a score or two, at the outside. It was not unfrequently said, indeed, that if his liberality had been carefully planned, with a view to profitable consequences, it could not have been better directed. As a matter of truth, he had a peculiar fondness for the society of "wits,"—men of letters, journalists, writers generally, provided that they were clever; and in the natural course of events it was frequently in their power to augment the fame and extend the name of this kindly caterer. He probably gave more than he ever received, for those who could do him the most good were of the class that would not accept many favors; while the shameless consumers of his bounty were incapable of making any return. It did not matter to him. Broken down Bohemians of the order represented in a past generation by those marvels of misapplied intellect, the outcast Clapp and the "unblushing" Evans, were sure of food and welcome wherever [he] held sway, even after their power to please had vanished; and the final sufferings of many who hardly merited his generous solicitude were assuaged by his thoughtful care, which often outlasted their wasted lives, and secured a decent burial for their ashes.

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Charles Delmonico's life was too laborious to be prolonged. His reckless outlay of physical and mental force could not have been sustained for many years, even if no other disturbing influence had acted upon him. But, in addition to early and late hours,—which left him no proper allowance of rest,—and his agglomeration of wearing occupations, he was a victim to the passion which consumed all of his name who were born and reared in America. The elders were prudent, calm, unambitious men. Those who succeeded them were gamblers, to the last drop of their blood. Siro Delmonico was as desperate a faro player as New York ever saw. Charles, though not so wild a trifle with chance, challenged fortune on a larger scale. The pro-

cesses of the gaming-houses were too sluggish for his temper. The field which fascinated him was Wall Street. Untrained in the methods of the Stock Exchange, and trusting unwisely to representations which, it is declared, were not only misleading, but frequently fraudulent, he exposed himself to risks and losses which preyed upon his resources and strained his tired and overwrought brain, until its elastic vigour was irreparably impaired, if not destroyed. From that time his happiness was clouded by visions of wretchedness, poverty, and despair. But it was hoped that delicate treatment and close attention might restore his reason, even if his more sturdy faculties were beyond recovery. There was, apparently, no violence in his derangement, but his restlessness and suspicious anxiety were incessant. The longing to evade scrutiny was what sent him on his fatal course of wandering through the meadows of New Jersey. He leaves a host of pleasant memories behind him, and it is doubtless true that no man in the American metropolis had so large a circle of acquaintance-ship in which so few ungenial shadows could be found. All the associations of his existence were agreeable, and in more ways than one his name was a token of gaiety, warmth, and plenty. His death was accompanied by the direst reversal of all the conditions of his life, and many will regard it as a pathetic feature of the tragedy, that he who dwelt in the midst of plenty and careless profusion,—upon whose career no conception of real hardship or deprivation ever intruded,—should have passed his last hours in such misery as a pauper might pity, and probably perished from the consequences, direct or indirect, of sheer starvation.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Standard* suggests the advisability of starting a battery of artillery manned entirely by sons of officers. It is a suggestion which in one shape or other has been made rather frequently before, and it is perhaps worth the consideration of the authorities. A battalion or a battery of "gentlemen" could be raised without much difficulty, and, as a sort of *corps d'élite*, strong in numbers and excellent for its physique and smartness, would be a useful body (something like the famous Potsdam Sergeants' Battalion) for other regiments to admire and envy. There would be no difficulty in recruiting for this force, we believe. There are hundreds of young English gentlemen who, in their liking for an active life and their despair of finding any career in England, have wandered off to the uttermost parts of the earth. They are to be found herding sheep in Queensland, cattle-ranching in Texas, or doing the rough work on Western farms in Minnesota and Wyoming. As "gunners" or troopers they would find their duties much easier and quite as pleasant, with the additional advantage that they would not be entirely cut off from congenial society.

HONGKONG Race Meeting is a thing of the past, and although only the results of one day's running have come to hand, these are sufficient to indicate that the great local owner, Mr. Paul, will have things pretty much his own way. Of the first day's programme, which contained eight events, the Hongkong Cæsus managed to gather in half the number, including the Derby and the Ashley Cup. The four races placed to the credit of the colours so frequently seen to the fore both in Shanghai as well as at Wong-nei-cheong, were won by four different

animals and over four different distances. This, taken with the fact that the stable had not all been out, would make it appear that Mr. Paul's string during the two following days of the meeting was sufficiently strong to enable him to pick and choose, and to win the races most to his liking.

It was thought possible that the Hongkong papers which came on Thursday might contain some news from Tonquin, but there is absolutely nothing so far as any movement towards Bac-ninh is concerned. We notice that the Hongkong journals reproduce the silly story published in a Shanghai native paper of the defeat of the French at Bac-ninh with terrible slaughter, one paper publishing news from a correspondent dated several days after the imaginary fight in which he says there is nothing moving. Rain had fallen in some places already in Tonquin, which, it is stated, augurs an early wet season.

A RECENT issue of the *Pall Mall* says that on the occasion of Mr. Gladstone celebrating his seventy-fourth birthday, a stream of congratulatory letters and telegrams were despatched to Hawarden. Among others, the following were received:—"Prince and Princess of Wales, Sandringham.—To the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., Hawarden Castle, Chester.—We offer you our best wishes on the anniversary of your birthday." From Earl Greville, Devonshire Club, London:—"On the part of the Devonshire Club and of myself, accept our hearty congratulations, and we trust you will long be spared to direct the affairs of the nation."

PROFESSOR Monier Williams tells the following story illustrative of the feeling of Egyptians on current politics:—(On reaching Suez I took a sailing boat, manned by five intelligent Egyptians—sturdy, active fellows, who were very communicative. I asked the man at the helm whether he preferred Arabi or the Khedive. He answered, "We want neither the one nor the other; we want bread." I next inquired what he thought of the Mahdi. His reply was, "The Mahdi is the devil." To understand this strong language it is necessary to bear in mind that an intense *odium theologicum* exists between the two opposing religious parties of Mussulmans, and that the Egyptians are mostly Sunnis, while the Mahdi is a figment of the Shina sect. The worst of it is that if the man at the helm were to be asked the same set of questions—say by Mr. Wilfrid Blunt or Sir W. H. Gregory—he would reply in an exactly contrary sense. The "intelligent Egyptian" is apt to show his intelligence in nothing so much as in taking the measure of the foot of his interviewer and treating him accordingly.

THE *Yomi-uri Shimbun* gives the returns of the Uyeno-Takasaki line (now opened as far as Shin-machi) for last month (January) as follows:—

Passengers (43,199).....	15,810.27 yen
Goods.....	8,186.52 yen
Total.....	23,996.79 yen

WE are informed that the Messageries Maritimes steamship *Menzaleh*, with the next French mail, bringing dates from Marseilles to the 20th ult., left Hongkong for this port at six o'clock on Thursday morning.

THE screw sloop *Nisshin Kan* (12), Captain T. Nomura, left here on Thursday for Fusan, Korea.

THE MUNICIPAL REJOINDER.

WE do not believe that the prospects of municipal reform will ever be much improved by writing memorials, memorandums, rejoinders, or any other variety of document. The parties engaged in this wordy controversy may be compared to men who spend their time disputing about the way to cut garments, the material for which they have no means of procuring. It will be time enough to discuss the method of exercising municipal power in Yokohama when the power itself has a recognised existence. At present, the position is simply this: the Japanese local authorities may enact any regulations they please, but they have neither the power to enforce them nor the means of getting them enforced. Until this farcical fashion of government is mended, all the literary and controversial ability in the universe will not bring things one jot nearer a practical solution.

In addition to the profitless waste of busy men's time involved in the preparation of such a document as the Rejoinder recently addressed by the Committee of Land Renters to the Prefect of Kanagawa, there is the still more regrettable fact that the true source of the dilemma seems to be ignored by the writers. The Prefect had declared his opinion that a sound and satisfactory system of municipal government could only be secured "by applying the universally accepted rule that all the inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations." To this the Committee reply that it is not within their province to discuss such a subject, and that they had purposely "refrained from making any reference to the question of extraterritorial jurisdiction." If this reply means anything, it means that municipal and extraterritorial jurisdiction are inseparable. The question under discussion had reference to municipal government and to municipal government only. It ought to have been quite plain that in speaking of "territorial regulations," the Prefect referred not to State, but to local, laws. When, therefore, the Committee charge him with making excursions into a domain which belongs solely to the Central Government and the Treaty Powers, they plainly infer a connection between extraterritoriality and municipal government. Yet in the very next sentence, they state that "the treaties, under which foreigners reside within the bounds of the Settlement of Yokohama, make no provision for municipal Government." So then the treaties, while releasing foreign residents from the obligation to observe Japanese "territorial regulations," release them also from the obligation to observe *any* territorial regulations whatsoever. The Committee will not readily endorse such a proposition as that, and yet their own language admits no other interpretation. In fact, while themselves stating the diffi-

culty, they apparently fail to apprehend it. The treaties have been falsely construed as placing foreigners beyond the purview of all Japanese law, whether Imperial or Local. That construction is attested by the evidence of official documents as well as by the practice of many years. Yet the same treaties "make no provision" for the local government of foreigners. Thus the issue is that, under existing conditions, foreigners in Japan cannot be municipally governed at all. That is what the Prefect evidently means when he speaks of the necessity of subjecting all the inhabitants of a country to its territorial regulations. It may be a pretty sport to play at sham government, and it may be an instructive occupation to criticise the pastime, but neither process will clean our drains or restrain our malefactors.

The statement that "foreigners cannot claim exemption from, and wilfully obstruct the administration of, laws which are unknown to them," is not more relevant than the argument that precedes it. For it is precisely because foreigners do claim exemption from Japanese laws of every sort, that those laws are unknown to them. Granting that the Prefect thought it worth while to promulgate regulations to men who deny any obligation to obey them, how is he to set about the operation? Out of the seventeen Treaty Powers, two only have endowed their Representatives with authority to make Japanese regulations binding on their nationals. These two might, if they were so minded, take steps to publish and enforce the Kanagawa Municipal Laws, but their fifteen colleagues are not competent to do anything of the sort. It would be a feature worthy of the whole farce if the Prefect were to avail himself of this partial assistance.

Had these things occurred to the Committee, their rejoinder would probably have assumed a more practical shape. Perhaps we should be nearer the truth, however, if we said that the document was not intended to serve any higher purpose than that of guarding the community against the consent implied by silence. Mr. OKI'S Memorandum demanded some sort of reply, and it has elicited one which, whatever its logical value, is happily distinguished from the original memorial by the courtesy and moderation of its language. But under any circumstances it is permissible to wish that the compilation were less vulnerable. When, for example, the Prefect complains that obstructions are sometimes placed in the way of administering the local laws, what is the use of replying that the memorialists are "peaceful and law-abiding citizens" who desire to be "protected against unruly persons"? It does not appear that there was any necessity to vindicate the character of the memorialists. Not their law-abiding disposition was in question, but the law-defying propensities of the unruly persons against whom they invoke the protection

of regulations which can neither be promulgated nor enforced. Again, what good purpose can be served by misconstruing the Prefect's complaint of the insufficient authority exercised by the police? The Prefect did not ask for anything "inconsistent with the laws and customs of foreign countries" when he desired to have transferred to himself, and to other magistrates of Japanese police, the same warrant-issuing power which is vested in every magistrate in Great Britain, but which, in Yokohama, is divided up among seventeen Consuls. These errors of apprehension are to be regretted: assuredly they will not help to unravel the complication.

Turning from incidental considerations to the final purpose of the present Committee, as explained in this Rejoinder, we find it stated thus:—

In closing this paper, the Committee have only to add that the memorial pointed to a method by which the requirements of the inhabitants would be met, but as the petition was not favourably received, it was hoped the election of a permanent Committee, with whom the local authorities could consult, would be the means of meeting to some extent the existing difficulties, and if that Committee should have official recognition in their capacity as representatives of the foreign inhabitants, their counsel and suggestions would be useful in many ways, and be the means of bringing about a good understanding between the Japanese local authorities and the residents: the wants of the foreign community would be better understood and provided for; and many difficulties noticed in the memorandum would disappear, while the government of the Settlement would be more efficient than is possible under the existing system.

It is here explained, clearly enough, that the appointment of the Committee is a substitute for the method proposed in the original memorial. We are nevertheless told elsewhere what that method is, namely, "a properly constituted Municipal Government, with authority to administer rules and regulations made under the sanction of the Imperial Government and the Representatives of the Foreign Powers." One is at a loss to understand what the Foreign Representatives have to do with the matter, since, as the Rejoinder itself declares, "the treaties, under which foreigners reside within the bounds of the Settlement of Yokohama, make no provision for Municipal Government." If the treaties are silent on this subject, obviously they cannot be interpreted as depriving Japanese of municipal authority, and equally obviously they do not confer on the Foreign Representatives any right to meddle with Municipal Government. This exception made, we cordially endorse the statement that a properly constituted Municipal Government is "the only effective" remedy for existing difficulties. The first essential, we again repeat, is a recognized source of authority. It is ridiculous to pretend that any authority can be practically exercised so long as foreigners claim exemption from Japanese local regulations and at the same time admit that they have no power to govern themselves. This very Rejoinder, now lying before us, says:—"It is beyond doubt that the Government could delegate municipal power by the grant of a charter." Plainly the Government cannot grant a power which it does not

possess. Yet if its present delegates, the local authorities of Kanagawa, were to issue, to-morrow, a code of municipal regulations for the control of the foreign settlement, would any resident obey them, or could any Consul attempt to enforce them? What we have, therefore, is an authority theoretically acknowledged but practically defied, and until this anomaly is removed, the case is hopeless. How, then, can the Committee of Land Renters help to remove it? Certainly not by asking for "official recognition." That they cannot possibly obtain, their election having been purely a private affair. But if they go properly to work, they can easily procure access to the local authorities and receive from them information as to the system of municipal government actually existing. The arbitrary obstacles which ill-advised Foreign Representatives have placed in the way of the maintenance of peace and good order cannot be endured for ever. If the Japanese are not to be allowed to promulgate or enforce their own regulations, and if the Foreign Representatives are not competent to promulgate them, or the foreign Consuls to enforce them, then it behoves the community to act for itself. We are persuaded that if the Committee ceases to invest itself with an official character which cannot belong to it, the Prefect will readily confer with it and receive its suggestions. In this way there may easily be prepared, if indeed there does not already exist, a code of municipal regulations suitable to the requirements of the Settlement. The Local Authorities and the foreign residents, thus mutually assured of each others willingness to coöperate, might then memorialize the Central Government to confer on Yokohama a municipal charter. In this charter no distinction should be made between the foreign and Japanese Settlements. Any attempt to govern the two apart must be inefficient. Due provision should, however, be made for the participation of foreigners in the municipality, on condition that they contribute, equally with their Japanese fellow residents, towards the expenses of local government. It is absolutely certain that the Japanese will not surrender their authority, and it is not less certain that foreigners will never willingly submit to Japanese control unless they have a share in its exercise. But whatever may be the disposition of foreigners and natives, neither side can solve the problem of governing without the power to govern. That is the grotesque dilemma which results from the pretence that no regulations, whether imperial or local, emanating from a Japanese source, have any binding effect upon foreigners. The first thing to be done is to remove that dilemma, and to admit frankly that when we ask the Japanese to govern us municipally, we do not, at the same time, deny their right to make and enforce municipal laws. Probably it will then be found that they are quite as willing to profit by our assistance as we are anxious to have a voice in the management of our own affairs.

HOME AND FOREIGN LOANS.

A CORRESPONDENT, "Protectionist," advocates the cause of home, *versus* foreign, loans for the construction of railways, and in doing so advances some propositions which, as they probably represent the ideas entertained by many Japanese financiers, will repay consideration.

Underlying the whole of "Protectionist's" argument, and, for the most part, vitiating it, is an apparent confusion between money and capital. "I am at a loss to see," he says, "how capital applied to the purchase of railway bonds will become 'fixed' in any such way as to prevent its availability as a circulating medium." Undoubtedly it does not become 'fixed' in that sense. The money, as money, remains, and continues to perform its functions as a medium of exchange with unaltered efficiency. But as capital available for productive purposes, it has virtually disappeared, until the slow process of accumulation converts it once more into its original form. Few questions have been subjected to closer scrutiny by political economists than the employment of capital in different enterprises under varying circumstances, and we do not know that any writer has stated the problem and its solution more clearly or in a fashion more apposite to our present purpose, than JOHN STUART MILL. Speaking generally of the sinking of capital for productive purposes, he says:—"In a country where capital accumulates slowly, the introduction of machinery, permanent improvements of land, and the like, might be for the time extremely injurious; since the capital so employed might be taken from the wages fund, the subsistence of the people and the employment of labour curtailed, and the gross annual produce of the country actually diminished. In a country of great annual savings and low profits, no such effects need be apprehended. Since even the emigration of capital, or its unproductive expenditure, or its absolute waste, do not in such a country, if confined within any moderate bounds, at all diminish the aggregate amount of the wages fund—still less can the mere conversion of a like sum into fixed capital, which continues to be productive, have that effect. It merely draws off at one orifice what was already flowing out at another; or if not, the greater vacant space left in the reservoir does but cause a greater quantity to flow in. Accordingly, in spite of the mischievous derangements of the money market which have been occasioned by the sinking of great sums in railways, I was never able to agree with those who apprehended mischief from this source to the productive resources of the country. Not on the absurd ground (which to any one acquainted with the elements of the subject needs no confutation) that railway expenditure is a mere transfer of capital from hand to hand, by which nothing is lost or destroyed. This is true of what is spent

in the purchase of the land; a portion, too of what is paid to parliamentary agents, counsel, engineers, and surveyors, is saved by those who receive it and becomes capital again: but what is laid out in the *bonâ fide* construction of the railway itself is lost and gone. When once expended, it is incapable of ever being paid in wages or applied to the maintenance of labourers again; as a matter of account, the result is that so much food and clothing and tools have been consumed and the country has got a railway instead. But what I would urge is, that sums so applied are mostly a mere appropriation of the annual overflowing which would otherwise have gone abroad, or been thrown away unprofitably, leaving neither a railway nor any other tangible result."

Nothing could be clearer than the distinction MILL here draws between the fixing of domestic capital in rich and poor countries. In the former, he apprehends no mischief from such a proceeding, "if confined within any moderate bounds;" in the latter, he thinks that it may be for the time extremely injurious." Elsewhere he is even more explicit when he says that, "in poor countries the legislator should favour to the utmost the accumulation of capital at home, and its introduction from abroad." Our correspondent quietly disposes of this by observing:—"I need not point out that, in speaking of the introduction of capital from abroad, MILL does not refer to its introduction in the shape of a loan." But that is precisely what MILL does refer to. "In the poorer countries of Europe," he says, "the rage for railway construction might have had worse consequences than in England, were it not that in those countries such enterprises are in a great measure carried on by foreign capital. The railway operations of the various nations of the world may be looked upon as a sort of competition for the overflowing capital of the countries where profit is low and capital abundant, as England and Holland. The English railway speculations are a struggle to keep our annual increase of capital at home; those of foreign countries are an effort to obtain it." We are at a loss to see how a country can obtain foreign capital for purposes of railway construction in any form except that of a loan. If "Protectionist" still entertains any doubt upon this subject, the following quotations from the same author will probably suffice to convince him:—"If the capital taken in loans is abstracted from funds either engaged in production, or destined to be employed in it, their diversion from that purpose is equivalent to taking the amount from the wages of the labouring classes. The system of public loans, in such circumstances, may be pronounced the very worst which, in the present state of civilization, is still included in the catalogue of financial expedients. There are, however, other circumstances

in which loans are not chargeable with these pernicious consequences: namely, first, when what is borrowed is foreign capital, the overflowings of the general accumulation of the world; or, etc." MILL is here speaking of loans for unproductive purposes, but even in that case he still prefers the introduction of foreign capital in the shape of a loan to the abstraction of domestic capital from the labour fund.

We have recourse thus largely to quotations because the question at issue is one of first principles, and we cannot answer our correspondent better than by referring him to the dicta of acknowledged authorities. All through his argument there is observable the same tendency to confuse money and capital. He says that if the money for the railway be borrowed in Europe, it comes here, stays awhile, and ultimately goes back with many additional millions: whereas, if it be obtained by a domestic loan, "we have, when the work is completed, a new railway in Japan and also the twenty millions required to construct it." This statement is most misleading. To be accurate we should say, that in either case Japan has the railway, but that while in the case of the domestic loan the money expended in the construction of the line is withdrawn from the available capital of the country, where, by hypothesis, it is wanted, and where its absence may be seriously injurious; in the case of the foreign loan, no demand whatsoever is made upon the country's productive capital; the railway is constructed with funds which are obtained abroad, and which, if the transaction is properly managed, are ultimately repaid out of the money earned by the line. A great writer has well said that "it is the intervention of money which obscures, to an unpractised apprehension, the true character of many of the phenomena of political economy. Almost all expenditure being carried on by means of money, the money comes to be looked on as the main feature in the transaction; and since that does not perish, but only changes hands, people think the wealth only has been merely handed over—which is simply confounding capital with money." As a matter of account the comparative results of a domestic and foreign loan in the instance under consideration may be set forth thus:—in the case of a domestic loan, Japan gets a railway, minus the industries that might have been developed and the general prosperity that might have been conferred by the funds sunk in its construction had they remained a part of the circulating capital of the country: in the case of a foreign loan, she gets a railway, plus the above industries and increment of prosperity, but minus the obligation to devote a part, or the whole, of the earnings of the line during a certain number of years to the repayment of the sum expended in constructing it.

"Protectionist" lays much stress on the hypothesis that the money obtained by a

domestic loan is "lying idle." He sums up a specious argument, founded on that hypothesis, by asking "what would be said of a merchant who, having funds to spare, and intending to set about a serious piece of work, should borrow money at any rate whatever, and hold his own capital in thriftless stagnation." It is somewhat surprising that a writer whose ideas, whether fundamentally right or wrong, are so clearly conceived and concisely expressed, should thus deliberately beg the whole question. For by his hypothesis he places Japan in the category of countries with overflowing capital, and that is precisely the description that does not apply to her. She is essentially a poor country, where accumulations are slow and rates of interest high, and she has urgent need of every cent of capital she possesses to develop her natural resources. It is not a question of a merchant who, while "holding his own capital in thriftless stagnation," borrows money abroad. It is a question of a merchant who, with very much less capital than he requires to meet the immediate calls of his business, sinks a considerable portion of that capital in an enterprise not immediately productive, and the proceeds of which will not for years be available in the form of capital. We entirely agree with our correspondent that the *Government* and the *country* of Japan cannot be considered as distinct entities. Nay, we go a step further. For while admitting that every improvement, even if for the time it diminishes the circulating capital and consequently the amount of gross produce raised, ultimately makes room for a larger amount of both, than could possibly have existed otherwise, we hold with MILL that "if the sinking of capital in machinery and useful works proceeds at such a pace as to impair materially the funds for the maintenance of labour, it is incumbent on legislators to take measures for moderating its rapidity." The responsibilities of the Japanese Government in this direction are particularly heavy just at present. If there is any capital "lying idle" in the country, it is not because enterprise is fully furnished with resources, but because the defective state of the currency opposes abnormal obstacles to the flow of capital into the ordinary channels of industry and commerce. We omit the fact that the railway scrip has been chiefly taken up by the banks. That wholly improper application of banking funds, due mainly to the false principles on which the national banks were established, is a mere incident of the situation. The general condition is, that currency appreciation, by temporarily paralyzing industrial and commercial enterprise, has checked the demand for capital. The country is in the position, not of a merchant who seeks employment for the accumulations of an active and profitable business, but of a merchant who, with his mills stopped and his factories closed, anxiously awaits the moment when it will be

possible for him to re-devote his scanty capital to lucrative operations. How much the advent of that moment must be postponed by diminishing his capital in the interim, it is surely unnecessary to point out. All experience shows that, at a time of currency appreciation, fixed securities offer exceptional temptations to investors. The Government, by placing such securities on the market at this juncture, and thus absorbing the capital which currency defects keep temporarily idle, is directly helping to perpetuate the commercial and industrial paralysis from which the country is suffering so severely.

We have gone into this subject at some length because its importance seemed to warrant a careful examination. There may be political reasons which influence Japan's choice, but we cannot discover any financial sagacity in the course she has adopted.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.

WENDELL PHILLIPS, the distinguished American orator, died in the fulness of years, at a time when he was preparing to surrender the activities of busy political life, and seek, in domestic retirement, the repose which he had denied himself throughout a long and turbulent public career. It may be doubted, however, whether his energetic and impetuous spirit would ever have reconciled itself to a self imposed tranquillity. Rest could come to him only in the grave. His best work,—that to which he devoted all his might and skill, ended with the abolition of human slavery in the United States; and his subsequent labours, in various liberal causes, failed to command the attention or exercise the influence upon which he had confidently calculated. Habituated to controversy on the broadest scale, and accustomed to wield the massive weapons which won him the leadership of a powerful wing of the anti-slavery army, he afterwards appeared at a disadvantage in the narrower arena of local disputation, and as the advocate or assailant of minor party interests. But, for a period of at least ten years before the outbreak of the war for secession, he was the most redoubtable champion that the abolitionists produced. His power over the populace was almost without limit, and if the sway which he personally exerted could have been extended by printed reproductions of his words, he might at times have led half the nation captive by his eloquence. All his great effects, however, were dependent upon the magnetism of his presence. The irresistible and consuming fire of his speech faded into a dull glow, at the best, when subjected to the critical tests of calm perusal. The secret of his mastery over an audience was not easy to penetrate. Whatever art there was in his oratory, was of the kind which adroitly conceals itself. In his youth, the idol and model of public speakers was WEBSTER, who cultivated the majestic, sonorous, and elevated style of the revolutionary fathers. Although elaborate and studied to the verge of artificiality, its loftiness, dignity, and grace were as far above rivalry as they were beyond description. If PHILLIPS'S intention had been to make himself the opposite of WEBSTER in every rhetorical device, he would have reached no other result than that which he did in

truth attain. His dignity of bearing was perhaps equal to the great senator's, but it was relieved by an equability and an ease peculiarly his own. The calmness and quietude of his delivery were unvarying. His voice seemed never to be raised above an ordinary conversational pitch. When intensely moved, his tones were still more subdued. He could raise a whirl-wind with a whisper. How he accomplished his remarkable successes, few listeners could tell. It was impossible to analyze the process while the spell was working. Doubtless the fervor of his own feeling was vividly imparted, by some mysterious electricity, to all within hearing. He sought no aid from gesticulation. An occasional sweep of the arm, or a slighter wave of the hand, were his only illustrative or emphasizing actions. His countenance was luminously expressive, and the large, mobile features added greatly to the force of each pointed utterance. On one occasion, when he was denouncing the wealthy pro-slavery class in Boston, just after the execution of JOHN BROWN, a democratic leader (himself a brilliant speaker) who stood on the outskirts of the congregation, remarked excitedly, "I can't hear what he says, but if he *looks* like that again he'll have Beacon Street all afire before morning." Beacon Street was the centre of the conservative "first families," and there is little doubt that PHILLIPS could have turned loose a mob that would have made sad work with its stately mansions. But he was never an agitator in an ignoble sense. He would have overthrown Government and Constitution to secure the emancipation of the slaves, but he would have injured no living creature in a less exalted cause. Nothing could ever induce him to resent attacks upon himself, though his life was often threatened; and, while he hated the appearance of shrinking from personal danger, he more than once did violence to his instincts by avoiding it rather than give cause for a riotous outbreak. His courage was unimpeachable, and it cost him many an effort to take the prudent path which the highest sense of honor often required him to follow. The impulses which guided him may be indicated by the course he pursued with reference to his public appearances at critical times. When announced to speak, no persuasion, no warning, no certainty of peril even, could keep him from his engagement; but having redeemed his pledge and fulfilled the appointed duty, he would not give further incitement to strife by forcing his way homeward through the opposition crowds, and thus precipitating a conflict which could have served none of the purposes he had in view. The war he longed for was that mighty war which speedily ensued. He had grown to believe that by no other means could the crime of slavery be atoned for. And when the contest came, his voice was potent in stimulating and inspiring the North to tumultuous action. When peace was restored, there was nothing for him to turn his hand to. In the work of pacification and reconstruction he lent no aid. The bitterness of his hatred for the South was undying. He could not forgive. He was, in fact, indifferent to everything but the pursuit and overthrow of giant evils. The worst of all evils being extirpated, his occupation was well nigh gone. Now and then he would lead a dashing charge against the iniquity of Indian persecutions in the United States, but for the most part he devoted himself to subjects which gave no opportunity for the display of his

brilliant qualities. Occasionally forsaking politics, he delighted intellectual audiences with lectures upon literary and historical topics; and in these the exquisite charm of his eloquence was revived. "Eloquence" we call it, although the word seems scarcely suited to a form of speech so simple and unadorned. The heat and ardor of his earlier improvised addresses could not be rekindled, nor were they to be expected. The glorious period of his career was when he rang out the cries of wrath and retribution for a nation's sin; and his lasting fame will rest upon his record as the foremost of all the band of splendid orators called forth to arraign, and to aid in vanquishing, American slavery.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

DOMESTIC VERSUS FOREIGN LOANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I ask the privilege of submitting a few questions suggested by the article in your issue of the 6th instant, on the subject of the new railway loan; and in doing so, I will endeavour to avoid financial technicalities,—in which I am wholly unskilled,—and to convey my meaning by such simple methods as would be natural to an ordinary Japanese or other inquirer upon topics new to this country, but of indisputable national importance.

It is obvious that your judgment is opposed to the issue of the railway bonds in Japan; and that you would have advised the Government to borrow the money required in some foreign market. Your reasons for this preference are, I believe, as follows:—

I.—You object to the investment of large sums in Government securities, on the ground that the money thus invested will become a "fixed capital," and will not be available for free circulation among the people.

II.—You are convinced that the Government makes a needless sacrifice in not borrowing from abroad, on account of the lower cost of money in Europe.

As regards the first of these propositions, I am at a loss to see how capital applied to the purchase of railway bonds will become "fixed" in any such way as to prevent its availability as a circulating medium. It cannot be supposed that the Government intends to keep it hoarded for any length of time. On the contrary, the bonds are to be issued in instalments, according to the need of funds for beginning the works. The money is to be expended without delay, in the construction of the road. It will go into instant circulation, on an extensive scale. On the other hand, if money holders have cash lying idle, and keep it lying idle, for an indefinite purpose, it is certainly more unprofitably "fixed," than if applied to the distributing process of railway building. You do not assert that any positive prospect is offered, at a specified time, for using the funds now "lying idle" to superior advantage. You simply point to the probability of "an industrial and commercial revival . . . so soon as prices have completely adjusted themselves to the altered value of *Kinsatsu*." But can you, or the money holders, or the Government, tell when that time is to be? We may hope and believe it will not be long delayed, but while the outlook is so uncertain, are investors to be blamed for confiding their money to an enterprise which offers immediate opportunities? Is the Government fairly open to criticism for seeking to utilize the money now "lying idle;" to remove it from its hoarding places; and to send it

through infinite channels of circulation among the populace? *

In support of your remonstrance, you quote a passage from the eminent economist John Stuart Mill. I have read that extract carefully, and I am bound to say that it seems to me susceptible of a different interpretation from that which you put upon it. Mill says that "in poor countries, the capital of the country requires the legislator's sedulous care; he is bound to be most careful of encroaching upon it, and should favour to the utmost its accumulation at home, and its introduction from abroad." Conceding the propriety of this argument, we may ask if the negotiation of a foreign loan can really be regarded as an avoidance of encroachment upon a country's capital, or as promoting "its accumulation at home." I need not point out that, in speaking of "its introduction from abroad," Mill does not refer to its introduction in the shape of a loan. He evidently speaks of capital which is to remain, and to form a permanent part of the nation's wealth. A foreign loan brings a certain sum into the country, but in course of time it must all be returned, together with the interest. Is that to be called "accumulation at home?" Let us take this very case of Japan's railway loan. Twenty millions of *yen* it is estimated, will be called for. The amount being subscribed in Japan, it will be repaid in Japan, principal and interest. So far as I can see, this is being "careful of encroaching" upon the capital possessed by a country, and does "favour its accumulation at home." But suppose the money to be borrowed in Europe. It will come here, and stay a while; but it will all go back, and with it many additional millions. If the enterprise is carried through by a domestic loan, we have, when the work is completed, a new railway in Japan and also the twenty millions required to construct it. If the interest on the bonds is high (though I may be permitted to doubt if Japan could obtain an European loan on much better terms), it is paid in Japan, and, for the most part, remains here. If this be not "accumulation at home," I fail to understand what is. In the case of a foreign loan, we have the railroad, it is true, but we keep none of the money, and we also pay away from sixty to eighty thousand dollars a year for every million borrowed. That I call "encroachment" upon a country's capital, and it passes my power to conceive why the foreign operation can be pronounced the more desirable, or the more beneficial to a nation, provided that the funds required exist and can be supplied at home.

Turning to your second proposition, I observe that you enforce it by saying that "when this country undertakes to build railways with its own funds, it is behaving like a merchant who deliberately elects to borrow capital for his business at a rate of interest twice as high as necessary." I cannot discover the just application of this figure. The case is not (as I view it) of a merchant who elects to borrow capital at a high rate, or at any rate; but of one who need not borrow at all, having the money he wants already deposited in his bank. He is engaged in steady business, and he contemplates an important undertaking, the cost of which can be supplied from his own resources. You say to him, however, "Do not spend the money you have 'lying idle,' for I am firmly persuaded you will need it by and bye, for different purposes. Better borrow an extra amount from a friend,—(never mind if your previous experience in borrowing from friends has been bitter and cruel),—pay him a reasonable interest, and let your own money go on 'lying idle,' until the time arrives for employing it in the other way." That, I conceive, is the true situation. For it will never do to separate the *Government* and the *country* of

* I may be reminded that your objections were mainly directed to investment by Japanese banks. But I shall be pardoned for not entering upon that branch of the discussion, as I am occupied only with the question of the relative expediency of a domestic and a foreign loan. Moreover, I am exempted from doing so by your statement that the objections "apply generally, and with not less force, to the case of all Japanese money."

Japan and consider them as distinct entities. In a business of this kind, the Government is the country, and it is impossible to dissociate them, even in rhetorical illustration, further than perhaps to represent the Government as the agent of the hypothetical merchant. And I think I am justified in asking what would be said of a merchant who, having funds to spare, and, intending to set about a serious piece of work, should borrow money at any rate whatever, and hold his own capital in thriftless stagnation.

With respect to the advantage supposed to be derivable from the cheapness of money in Europe, I submit that we have no evidence sufficient to warrant positive assertions on that head. You do not, yourself, claim that even in England a loan could be obtained at less than six per cent. interest,—and many, I fear will doubt the possibility of securing it at so low a figure. The interest offered by this Government is only one per cent. higher,—not “twice as high,” as might be inferred from your language, as quoted above. It may be left to financiers to decide whether the small margin of one per cent. would or would not be swallowed up in the process of procuring a loan from Europe. The suppositious “loss which may accrue by borrowing in a depreciated currency” also belongs to the region of speculative discussion; but even if it could be set forth in definite terms, it would hardly affect my view of the position of affairs, since I hold that so long as the money disbursed is paid at home,—paid by the Government to the country; by the servants of the community to the community,—there can be no real sacrifice. If Japan pays a little too much, in the course of the transaction,—(which I am not disposed to admit)—she pays it to herself, not to anybody else. Her stewards use her resources in the manner which they consider most provident, and nobody dreams of accusing them of dishonesty or indifference to her truest welfare. As she is a “poor country,” they deem it their duty to keep what money she has for her own uses,—and not to waste a fraction of it in interest payable to foreign creditors. They abstain from encroaching upon the wealth of the nation, and they accumulate its increase at home.

It is, I trust, unnecessary to say that these remarks are offered in no spirit of frivolous criticism, but with a sincere desire that all possible light may be thrown upon a question now under anxious discussion by the political and financial community. There can be little doubt that the weight of public opinion in Japan, strongly favors the course adopted by the Government. When, therefore, a friendly observer advocates the opposite plan, it will not be considered intrusive to state, as above, some of the grounds upon which the judgment of the majority of Japanese is founded, and respectfully to ask for a fuller enunciation of the principles which sustain your own adverse opinion.

I am, sir, yours &c.,

PROTECTIONIST.

Tokio, February 21st, 1884.

RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”

SIR,—Mr. A. J. Wilkin and others of his way of thinking have, at one time and another, a great deal to say about the “privileges” enjoyed by Japanese in Western countries, as contrasted with the denial of similar privileges to foreigners in Japan. According to the notions of his class, all sorts of beneficent favours are bounteously lavished upon the natives of this empire who happen to dwell in Europe or America, while no corresponding consideration of any kind is accorded to natives of the West who reside here. When asked how it happens that foreigners are exempt from numerous obligations to which the Japanese themselves are subject, the gentlemen referred to will answer that

“these are our rights.” Our freedom from contribution to the internal revenue, for example; our power to prevent the Japanese from living, or holding property, in certain parts of their own country; our non-liability to police supervision; our enjoyment of the use of roads and bridges, without paying toll;—these and a score of other advantages are simply our absolute and indisputable “rights.” The ability of a Japanese to travel all over Europe,—that is not a right, at all. Oh dear, no! that is a “privilege,” or, as it seems to be understood here, a kindly, generous, fraternal boon, the enjoyment of which ought to instantly convince the people of this country of their own moral, social, and political inferiority. Nothing is more curious than to observe how ineradicably the ideas are fixed, in a particular grade of foreign minds, that all the benefits from which they profit belong to them by a title little less than divine, and that all conventional usages followed by Japanese in other lands, in common with the world at large, are special marks of grace, for which no acknowledgment can be too fervent or humble. Notwithstanding that we are all aware of the questionable origin of these so-called “rights,” that most of them were secured by treaties extorted from the ignorance and timidity of a Government which knew little of what it was surrendering; and that not a few of them are based upon no shadow of authority, either in the treaties or anywhere else;—notwithstanding all this, the self-complacent sophists persistently say,—“Do not meddle with our ‘rights;’” they are as sacred as the decrees of Heaven. Occupy yourselves, rather, in giving thanks on your knees for the rare and inestimable ‘privileges’ which Western nations allow you, when you visit them; and having thus brought yourselves to a proper understanding of what is due us, see to it that we, aliens in Japan, are relieved from all restrictions upon our movements, inclinations, projects, hopes, and needs. Then, perhaps, you may “aspire to be considered enlightened and civilized.”

My purpose in addressing you, Mr. Editor, is to inquire,—of Mr. Wilkin or any of his school that will be kind enough to inform me,—what are the marvellous favours and blessings into the enjoyment of which a Japanese enters when he sets foot on Western soil? What “civilized and enlightened” indulgences are conferred upon him, which a foreigner does not possess in Japan? He cannot start a newspaper without leave or license, for the purpose of abusing the country in which he sojourns, and vilifying its rulers,—that I am sure of. He cannot make his private dwelling a sanctuary for real or alleged malefactors, and defy the scrutiny of the local magistrates. He cannot say (supposing him to be in England) that no Englishman shall live next door to him, or rent a floor in the house where he himself is established. He cannot make a promissory note, or draw a cheque, without affixing a Government stamp thereto. He cannot violate a single law of the land without receiving the punishment properly due to a felon. Yet each and all of these things, and many more of a like nature, may be done by any European who lives in Japan. They are his “rights,” if you please. And he possesses another, of infinitely greater range and scope, the equivalent of which no alien in a Western State has ever obtained, or dreamed of obtaining. The time has never been, and probably never will be, when England, France, Germany, or even Portugal or Greece, would consent to waive their judicial authority in certain districts of their territory, and turn it over to consuls from outside Governments. The man who should barely hint at the justice or the practicability of such a scheme, would be speedily fitted with a straight waistcoat. In the smallest and meanest of European Kingdoms or American Republics, the mere suggestion would be scouted as an indecency. Yet the class of foreigners to whom I allude think it an evidence of sagacity, and credit themselves with statesmanship, when they advocate

the indefinite extension of the system, on an enlarged scale, in this empire of Japan.

Reflecting upon these facts, I submit that a little more modesty in the assertion of the “rights” we possess, and a little less vain-glory in proclaiming the “privileges” (meaning liberal favours) we confer, might not be unbecoming on the part of our forward representatives of Western “enlightenment” and “civilization.”

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

EQUITY.

Tokio, February 23rd, 1884.

COALS AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”

SIR,—The subject introduced by your correspondent, “M.,” is undoubtedly important to all residents in Tsukiji. I wish he had been willing to give the names of the delinquent dealers, as by that means purchasers would be put on their guard. There is, however, another branch of the subject, which has not yet been touched upon. A well known Tokiyo merchant, whose transactions with foreigners are very extensive, and whose reputation is, I believe, above suspicion, is in the habit of delivering coals at the houses of his customers, charging two *yen* per ton for carriage from Yokohama. This makes the cost of American coal, thirteen dollars plus two *yen* per ton;—a cheaper rate than if it is ordered direct from Yokohama. In the early part of the winter, the coal supplied in this manner was of excellent quality, but of late it has proved very inferior, and complaints have been made by many purchasers. The explanation, suggested rather than plainly given, is that the wholesale importers no longer send the best quality to the Tokiyo agent, finding it convenient to pass off a second rate article through his hands. If it be really the case that the sellers in Yokohama keep their finest coals for those who buy from them at first hand, it would be well that the public should be informed of that fact. Persons who have dealt with the Tokiyo agent have done so more for the sake of convenience, than on account of the somewhat cheaper price; but they would naturally prefer to take a little more trouble and pay a little more money, than to be bothered by bad fuel. As this has come to be regarded as rather a common grievance, I think the Yokohama importers would find it worth their while to let it be clearly understood whether there is, or is not, any difference between the coals sold by them directly to private purchasers, and those sent to the Tokiyo agent,—whose name I do not mention simply because it is so well known to the community that no misunderstanding is possible.

Yours &c.,

A.Q.

Tokio, February 23rd, 1884.

AFFAIRS IN TONQUIN.

The following is the interesting letter has been kindly placed at our disposal. A translation is appended:—

Haiphong, 12 Janvier, 1884.

Ne m'en veuillez pas, mon cher ami, de ne pas vous avoir donné plus tôt de nos nouvelles: mais vous aurez été pris, combien, une fois arrivés ici, nous avons été pris, captivés par ce que nous avons vu se passer autour de nous, et cela sera mon excuse.

N'attendez pas de moi le récit d'événements que vous devez connaître aussi bien, sinon peut-être mieux que nous, qui, à part ce que nous voyons nous-mêmes, sommes très probablement moins renseignés qu'on ne l'est en Europe, voire au Japon. Les journaux vous auront appris tout cela. Je veux seulement vous faire part de quelques impressions personnelles, vous donner quelques détails inédits, qui vous intéresseront peut-être.

Je commencerai par vous dire que bien que menacés tous les soirs, et cela à peu près depuis que nous sommes ici, de nous réveiller le lendemain sans tête, ou grillés comme autant de St. Laurent, nous ne nous en portons pas moins à merveille. Nous jouissons depuis trois mois de la température

la plus agréable qu'on puisse désirer, le thermomètre se maintenant entre 13° et 18° centigrades. Les jardins sont remplis de fleurs : depuis le 1^{er} Octobre, nous avons vu pousser les uns après les autres, et comme par enchantement, tous les légumes d'Europe, sans exception, et sans préjudice des fruits naturels du pays, oranges, citrons, bananes, papayes, corambolles etc. Les enfants sucent à qui mieux mieux la canne à sucre, ne craignant pas d'ailleurs de mâcher en même temps le bétel auquel ils s'habituent dès le plus bas âge.

Que vous dirai-je d'Haiphong, notre résidence jusqu'à nouvel ordre ? Comme Vénus, elle sort de l'onde, mais elle est loin de ressembler à la déesse. Assise sur la rive droite du Kwa-ram, et en même temps à cheval sur un petit bras du Fleuve Rouge, le Santan-Back, qui changeant plusieurs fois de nom sur son parcours, est la route suivie pour se rendre à Hanoi, elle est peut-être appelée à recevoir un jour, des mains d'un nouveau Paris qui s'appellera l'avenir, la pomme de beauté, de préférence à ses orgueilleuses rivales d'aujourd'hui, Hongkong et Saigon. En attendant, ce n'est encore qu'un chaos, un immense amas de matériaux de toute nature, briques, pierres, bois de construction, tonneaux de ciment, fours à chaux, roseaux et feuilles de palmiers pour toitures, (les maisons couvertes en tuiles sont l'exception). Chacun travaille pour soi, sans plan préconçu, sans tenir le moindre compte de ce qui sera forcément plus tard les quais, les places, les rues, les carrefours. Cependant, de jolies maisonnettes avec jardins commencent à se dessiner çà et là au milieu d'étangs, de fossés et de boulevards, brusquement interrompus par des lagunes. Malheur à qui s'engage la nuit sans lanterne et sans guide à travers ces affreux casse-cou !

Le personnel militaire est peu nombreux à Haiphong, comparativement à l'importance qu'il a actuellement dans le Delta. Il n'est guère que de 400 à 500 hommes. Quant à la population indigène qui fourmille dans la journée, elle quitte la ville vers cinq heures de l'après-midi, pour y revenir dès six heures du matin vaquer à tous les travaux actuellement en cours. Tous ces gens-là demeurent dans les nombreux villages qui entourent Haiphong.

La population Tonkinoise, celle que j'ai vue du moins jusqu'ici, est littéralement affreuse. Il est évident qu'en pétrissant ensemble Chinois et Annamites, on obtient le plus hideux de tous les magots. Singe par la laideur, repoussant par sa saleté, couvert d'une vermine qu'il mâche toute la journée en même temps que son bétel, criant, hurlant, bavant sans cesse une salive sanguinolente, voilà le Tonkinois. Beaucoup d'entre eux sont couverts de léproses on autres plaies d'une nature non équivoque : notez en outre que nous avons ici la plus belle collection de mendiants que l'on puisse imaginer. Ils paraissent tous s'être donné rendez-vous à Haiphong.

Et cependant, cette même population paraît et est en général laborieuse, mais pour ce qui la touche bien entendu. Prenez un indigène à la journée, et comme beaucoup d'Asiatiques, sans compter du reste pas mal d'Indiens, d'Africains, etc., etc., il ne fera que le moins possible. On n'obtient quelque chose de lui qu'en le menaçant du bâton. Je crois toutefois qu'on pourra en tirer meilleur parti dans l'avenir : jusqu'à présent, les Tonkinois considèrent notre occupation comme provisoire, et agissent en conséquence. Ils changeront d'allure lorsque nous serons réellement et définitivement leurs maîtres, en même temps que leurs protecteurs.

Les femmes sont plutôt grandes : elles ont la taille bien prise et le port gracieux des Indiennes ; mais à part cela, elles sont toutes plus laides les unes que les autres. Maigres et osseuses, on les voit courir et sauter comme des chèvres. Aussi méchantes que des harpies, elles se disputent et se battent fréquemment. Ce sont de véritables viragos, qui en revendraient à nos poissardes des halles par la violence de leur geste, et le ton criard de leur voix. En somme, on peut dire d'elles qu'elles sont réellement le sexe fort : elles sont du reste ardentes au travail et infatigables. Si les Siamaises sont comme les Tonkinoises, je conçois parfaitement que dans le pays des éléphants blancs on les enrôle comme des soldats.

Une chose qui m'a frappé dans la coiffure de ces dernières, c'est l'espèce de coiffure à la bordelaise qu'elles se font avec des mouchoirs de cotonnade ou de soie. C'est assez gracieux : mais pourquoi faut-il que cette coiffure ne surmonte que de si peu séduisants visages ?

Nous avons eu une série de nuits magnifiques, resplendissantes d'étoiles : mais les chiens indigènes, qui sont bien les plus hargneux et les plus désagréables de leur espèce, ne cessent de remplir l'air de leurs aboiements, et nous marchant durement le sommeil.

Il me faut bien vous dire aussi quelques mots des *qui-vive* qui agrémentent nos promenades du soir, et ne laissent pas que de tenir quelque peu en souci, surtout si l'on songe que plus d'une fois les senti-

nelles se sont prouvées leur vigilance, en se fusillant réciproquement. Histoire de se faire la main en prévision des Pavillons Noirs.

Quant à ces derniers, ils sont loin d'être un mythe, même tout près de nous. Il est bien certain que le pays est en état complet de révolution ; que les mandarins, d'après les ordres secrets de la Cour de Hué et les encouragements de la Chine, ont excité les populations contre nous ; que des bandes qui attendent une meilleure organisation parcourent la campagne, armées de lances, de piques et de quelques fusils, agitant à l'occasion, comme des forcenés, des étendards de toutes couleurs en signe de défi et de menace, et qu'elles ont infligé à nos partisans Tonkinois quelques rudes leçons. Tous les quatre ou cinq jours de petites excursions sont organisées contre ces bandes. Nos troupes, appuyées par nos canonnières et suivies d'un *goum* de partisans, vont les traquer jusque dans leurs repaires et exercent contre elles, ainsi que contre les villages où elles se sont réfugiées, de dures représailles : mais la tâche est pénible. Les villages, emportés à la baïonnette par nos soldats, sont abandonnés ensuite à nos auxiliaires annamites qui, eux, ne sont pas tendres et se permettent bien quelques excès, sans préjudice de quelques têtes coupées. Mais comment éviter cela ? Tandis que nos troupes rentrent harassées pour chercher un repos bien mérité, les pillards indigènes arrivent triomphalement de leur côté en file indienne, portant suspendus à des bambous quelques quartiers de chèvre ou de porc, quelques sacs pleins de noix d'arack et laissant parfois tomber et rouler sur leur passage quelques têtes des bandits qu'ils ont tués, ou celles d'innocentes victimes. Tristes et hideux trophées, dont on détourne les yeux avec horreur !

Nos officiers affirment que les pirates (ce sont eux que l'on cherche à épouvanter ainsi) attendent bien rarement nos hommes. Montés à deux ou trois sur de légères barques construites en bambou, d'après le modèle du berceau de Moïse, les pillards prennent la fuite dès qu'ils les aperçoivent. On les voit traverser à la hâte d'immenses rizières submergées, et séparés de leurs ennemis par une étendue d'eau de deux ou trois kilomètres, ils regardent stoïquement flamber leurs villages.

Si ces gens-là avaient des armes pour tout de bon, je crois que nous aurions bien de la peine à nous maintenir dans le pays, étant donnée sa configuration, dont je vous envoie un aperçu, et qui en fait, selon moi, un champ de bataille vingt fois plus difficile à enlever que notre fameux Bocage.

L'ennemi n'est pas, d'ailleurs, toujours facile à mettre à la raison. Vous aurez vu que sans la résistance héroïque de deux cents de nos marins et de quelques Annamites auxiliaires, sans l'arrivée imprévue de secours providentiels, nous perdions incontestablement la forteresse d'Haidzuon : les conséquences de cette perte eussent été incalculables. Elle entraînerait forcément la prise d'Haiphong et de tous les approvisionnements accumulés dans cette place, l'isolement presque complet de la citadelle d'Hanoi et rendait peut-être impossible la prise de Sontai. Voici le fait :

Au moment de la concentration à Hanoi des troupes qui devaient tomber sur Sontai ou sur Bak-nin, on avait dégarni toutes les places du bas de la rivière. On n'avait laissé que 150 hommes environ à Haiphong et 200 à Haidzuon, qui, comme je vous l'ai dit, peut couper les communications entre Hanoi et la mer.

Les Chinois de Baknin, sentant l'importance de cette position, avaient résolu de s'en emparer à tout prix. Ils avaient, grâce à la facilité des transports par les rivières, réuni autour d'Haidzuon 2,000 à 2,500 réguliers armés de carabines de précision et de fusils de remparts. L'étendue de la citadelle n'avait permis à la garnison française, vu son petit nombre, que d'en occuper un point ou deux, la citadelle proprement dite et un blokaus séparé d'elle par une assez grande distance, ces deux ouvrages menaçant la ville et menacés par elle. La nuit de l'attaque (je ne me souviens plus exactement de la date, mais vous la trouverez dans les dépêches et les journaux) la ville fut envahie, les assaillants s'étant concertés avec les habitants Annamites et Chinois. Les pagodes et les maisons faisant face à nos retranchements étaient crénelées ou percées de meurtrières : tous les chiens avaient été éloignés ou étroitement muselés : pas un bruit insolite n'était venu prévenir nos soldats de l'approche de l'ennemi. Dès quatre heures du matin, un feu de mousqueterie des plus violents était ouvert sur le blokaus et sur la citadelle. Au jour, les Chinois s'avancèrent pour mettre le feu au mirador et planter leur drapeau à quelques mètres de la porte de la citadelle. Nos soldats résistèrent héroïquement, sachant bien que la fin de leurs munitions, qui commençaient à s'épuiser, serait le signal de leur perte. La canonnière *La Carabine* était venue à leur secours ; mais ne pouvant manœuvrer dans un bras trop étroit, elle se trouvait dominée par une berge d'où elle avait à essuyer, à bout por-

tant, le feu plongeant et oblique d'un ennemi nombreux. Elle n'était qu'à quelques mètres du rivage : son équipage était décimé ; mais les survivants encouragés par le brave commandant Bauer et notre Consul résident d'Haiphong, Mr. Marquis, parvinrent enfin à la dégager, et à lui faire prendre une position plus avantageuse. Dire qu'elle portait au retour la trace de plus de 1800 projectiles, c'est dire la façon dont elle avait été attaquée. Ses plaques en acier, de 8 à 9 millimètres, étaient percées comme des écumoires.

A ce moment, vers deux heures de l'après-midi, le commandant de la citadelle aperçut la fumée d'un vapeur. C'était le *Lynx*, bien armé, avec des canons revolvers dans sa mâture, et qui, en route pour Hanoi, était revenu sur ses pas au bruit de la cannonade. Le combat prit alors, pour les Chinois, le caractère d'une déroute terrible. Le feu du *Lynx* et de la *Carabine* démolissaient les maisons crénelées par les Chinois ; les bombes éclataient dans ces demeures, d'où les fuyards n'échappaient au feu de la mitraille que pour recevoir celui de nos soldats. De la ville d'Haidzuong, il n'est pas resté une pierre. L'église catholique seule est demeurée debout.

Il était temps que le *Lynx* arrivât. Les madriers du blokaus dans lequel se trouvaient 30 de nos soldats étaient littéralement hachés et émiettés par les balles Chinoises. Une heure de plus, et 200 têtes françaises portées au bout des piques seraient venues donner une deuxième édition de l'affaire Rivière et encourager tout le pays à un soulèvement général.

A partir de ce moment, les incursions Chinoises et Annamites sont devenues moins fréquentes, et bien que nous ne puissions pas avoir de sécurité complète avant la prise de Baknin, ni circuler entre Haiphong et Hanoi par la voie la plus prompte (nous sommes encore obligés de faire vingt à vingt-deux heures de navigation à vapeur au lieu de douze) néanmoins les jonques peuvent actuellement monter et descendre le fleuve sans escorte.

Il y a d'ailleurs dans notre situation une amélioration quotidienne : à Hanoi et à Haiphong, on est sans la moindre crainte. J'ai profité de cela pour faire une excursion jusqu'à la première de ces villes. Je suis parti le 1^{er} Janvier avec Mr. C., sur une chaloupe à vapeur lui appartenant. Mr. C. est un ancien résident du Tonkin, et connaît parfaitement le pays. Chauffeur, mécanicien, pilote, matelots, tout notre équipage était Chinois : nous avions en outre un petit serviteur annamite. Par contre, l'équipage de deux jonques, que nous rémarquions, ne se composait que de Tonkinois. La marée monte, les eaux sont hautes et nous favorisent. Le Santan-Back, qui varie beaucoup de largeur dans son parcours, est très sinueux. Après quatre heures de marche, nous arrivons à la hauteur de la montagne de l'Eléphant Blanc, ainsi nommée à cause d'une sorte de ressemblance, comme forme, avec l'animal de ce nom, ressemblance qui lui donnent les rochers qui la terminent et en sont en même temps les points culminants. Quand nous arrivons à la pointe extrême de la montagne, les rives s'abaissent considérablement, et nous ne pouvons que deviner le cours de la rivière, car les berges se confondent avec les rizières. Il nous faut sonder à droite et à gauche pour garder le lit. Je n'ai vu, dans tout le parcours, que cet endroit qui fût aussi bas. En Mars et en Avril, les eaux baissent encore ; mais pendant tous les autres mois, on peut passer impunément dans le lit ou à côté. A partir de ce point, le terrain va s'élevant jusqu'à Hanoi, ou l'eau déborde dans les grandes crues qui sont périodiques, bien qu'actuellement la différence du niveau du fleuve avec la berge soit au moins de 8 à 9 mètres.

Du Santan-Back, nous passons dans le Kwatrail, du Kwatrail dans le Taibin, et du Taibin dans le canal du même nom, lequel nous mène au Fleuve Rouge. En somme, tous ces cours d'eau ne sont que des ramifications, des bras de ce fleuve.

Notre voyage se prolonge jusqu'à six heures du soir sans accident : la nuit tombe, soudaine comme dans tous les pays inter-tropicaux. J'ai eu ce jour-là l'occasion d'admirer ces terres productives, fertiles, comme celles du Nil, par le limon qu'y dépose le fleuve qui les traverse. On peut juger de cette fertilité par le nombre d'habitants que le sol peut nourrir. Vous qui êtes à Yokohama, imaginez la plaine de Kawasaki toujours couverte d'une moisson de riz en herbe ou en épis. Aux mois de Novembre et de Décembre, j'ai assisté à la deuxième récolte ; j'assistais depuis quinze jours au moins aux repiquages nouveaux, dont on voit le vert tendre se perdre au loin, mêlés aux plantations de cannes à sucre, de patates et de mûriers. La culture de ces derniers est bien différente de ce qu'elle est en France et au Japon : mais j'ai vu cependant de très beaux spécimens de soie.

Quant aux villages, ils se dessinent à peu près, comme ceux du Japon, en tâches vert sombre sur le vert joyeux des plaines. Les cocotiers, les bana-

niers, les arekeio, les laitichi et autres arbres sont la principale richesse de leurs vergers. Ils sont tous entourés d'une ceinture de bambous, que domine gracieusement le feuillage des palmiers, et sont si rapprochés les uns des autres que de loin ils paraissent se toucher tous, et cela sur tout le parcours, et dans quelque direction que vos regards se portent. Avec leurs haies de bambous et de cactus, ces villages sont comme autant de petites forteresses, protégées par des fossés extérieurs et intérieurs, avec des relevements en terre qui constituent de véritables remparts. Si vous y pénétrez, vous trouvez la rue, ou les rues coupées par de larges canaux que le bond le plus furieux aurait peine à franchir, et qu'on ne peut traverser que sur un ou deux troncs de palmier qui peuvent être retirés en cas d'attaque. Mêmes précautions autour des maisons. Si l'on ne connaît pas les lieux, il est en quelque sorte impossible de passer sans s'exposer à être surpris par devant, par derrière ou de côté. Quand les sortes de ponts dont je viens de parler ne se composent d'un tronc, les indigènes les franchissent en se servant d'un long bambou sur lequel ils s'appuient.

Comment nos braves soldats, à la prise de Son Tai, ont-ils pu déloger les Pavillons noirs retranchés dans de pareilles positions, c'est pour moi un problème. Et cependant ils ont emporté une ceinture de ces villages avant de s'emparer de la citadelle. Il est vrai qu'au dire de tous les acteurs ou témoins oculaires de l'action, la prise de possession de ces hameaux et de leurs blokaus a été, de beaucoup, la besogne la plus rude et la plus pénible, celle qui nous a coûté le plus de monde. Ne pas oublier d'ailleurs que dès qu'on est obligé de quitter les dignes, on a de l'eau presque partout.

Mais je reviens à mon voyage. Jusqu'à six heures, nous n'avions rencontré que des gens occupés aux travaux habituels de la campagne. A ce moment, une jonque qui descend le courant que nous remontons hèle notre équipage, et avec un grand luxe de vociférations, nous apprend qu'elle vient d'être attaquée par des pirates avec lesquels elle a échangé force coups de fusil. On nous invite donc à nous tenir sur nos gardes. Immédiatement, nous sautons sur nos armes, Mr C. sur son Peabody, moi sur mon Winchester, et nous voilà à l'avant de la première de nos jonques, prêts à défendre nos biens et notre vie. La nuit était venue : néanmoins nous pouvions voir, à un coude de la rivière, le passage à peu près barré, et des hommes criant et gesticulant sur leurs embarcations, dans la pénombre. Nous étions convenus de ne faire usage de nos armes qu'après avoir essuyé le premier coup de feu, et notre mécanicien avait ordre de passer à toute vapeur et quand même. Tout-à-coup la chaloupe s'arrête au beau milieu de nos ennemis, et après un échange de nouvelles vociférations, notre interprète vient nous dire qu'on nous avertit que les pirates sont dans un village à environ huit kilomètres, et qu'on nous conseille ne pas nous aventurer plus loin dans les ténèbres. Les jonques qui nous croisent, et nous ont occasionné cette alerte, sont montées par des Chinois et des Annamites : elles sont chargées de riz venant de Namdin et appartiennent à la maison Roque. Les pirates ont essayé de s'en emparer, mais ils ont essuyé une résistance énergique de la part de leurs équipages, qui nous prient de rester avec eux pour être plus en nombre, en cas d'une nouvelle attaque. La nuit est sombre, les passages de la rivière étroits et tortueux ; nous avons avec nous deux jonques ; ma foi, nous nous décidons à prendre ce parti, et à attendre le jour au milieu de la caravane. En attendant la venue des pirates, que nous supposons plus près de nous qu'on ne nous le dit, nous soupçons confortablement, et j'engage ensuite mon compagnon à se reposer au moins jusqu'à une heure et demie ou deux heures, promettant de faire bonne garde. Ainsi fut fait, et je vis avec plaisir Mr. C. s'endormir aussi paisiblement que s'il eût été à son aise, couché dans son lit, ou à l'abri derrière les canons d'une forteresse. Vers dix heures et demie, deux coups de feu. Informations prises, c'est un Chinois qui n'ayant pu faire partir son arme dans la bagarre, a réussi cette fois à la décharger. A part ce petit incident, nuit calme. A 4 heures, j'éveille Mr. C. et m'étends à mon tour pour tâcher de reposer un peu. Je n'avais pas dormi depuis vingt-trois heures. J'avais recommandé qu'on m'éveillât avant d'arriver au village soi-disant occupé par les pirates ; ce qu'on n'oublia pas. Je saisis ma carabine et m'élançai sur le pont. Bah, silence complet dans le village ; de bandits nulle part. Il y a bien du monde pour nous voir passer, mais surtout des femmes et des enfants, ces derniers nous faisant des signes pour obtenir de nous quelques sapèques. Quant aux hommes, il y a sur leurs visages plus de curiosité qu'autre chose.

Enfin, nous arrivons à la jonction du Canal du Taibin avec le Fleuve Rouge. Il s'y trouve un Blokaus occupé par un poste de dix hommes. Le sous-officier qui le commande vient au devant de nous

dans une embarcation, et nous apprenons de lui que des bandes nombreuses rôdent aux alentours ; que le poste a été attaqué, mais vigoureusement défendu par eux et par un renfort de Tonkinois chrétiens envoyés par une mission voisine. Deux morts sont restés aux mains de nos soldats, qui nous apprennent en outre qu'une jonque chargée de sel a été pillée la veille.

Nous quittons nos compatriotes et entrons dans le Fleuve Rouge qui, dans cet endroit, déploie une splendide nappe d'eau de plus d'un kilomètre de largeur. Les rives du fleuve paraissent de plus en plus fertiles au fur et à mesure que nous le remontons. Un accident de machine nous force à éteindre nos feux : nous perdons là trois ou quatre heures, et n'arrivons à Hanoi qu'à dix heures du soir, après 24 heures de navigation effective, mais 40 heures de route. (Notre retour s'effectua en 21 heures de navigation, plus six heures d'arrêt pour attendre le jour, la lune nous ayant quittés à minuit.)

Après une excellente nuit passée dans la cabine de notre chaloupe, je suis allé visiter ville, et quelques points environnants. J'ai trouvé une cité immense, mais ruinée en grande partie par les derniers efforts des Chinois et des Annamites réunis. Depuis la prise de Sontai, tout est calme, et la confiance tend à renaître. Hanoi a dû être bien riche autrefois, car elle était couverte de pagodes et de maisons de mandarins : aujourd'hui tout cela est occupé par nos soldats.

J'ai visité la forteresse, où une compagnie de marins a dû résister, après la mort du commandant Rivière, à une terrible attaque de nuit des Pavillons Noirs, qui avaient envahi la ville, y avaient mis le feu, et avaient incendié également les magasins des quelques négociants établis en dehors de la concession.

La forteresse est un vaste quadrilatère, de 1000 à 1200 mètres de côté, entouré d'un mur de 8 à 10 mètres de haut, en bonnes briques cuites : ce mur a une épaisseur de 90 centimètres au sommet. La place est munie de demi-lunes, de redans, de 4 blokaus et d'une tour d'observation, au centre. Cette tour est très élevée et contient à son sommet un observatoire et un télégraphe optique.

A part la citadelle, dont les bâtiments sont en partie démantelés et servent de magasins et de casernements à nos troupes, la ville ne renferme aucun monument digne de remarque. Un escalier dont les murs sont en marbre sculpté en relief, dans le style indien, et surmontés à droite et à gauche par des dragons, est la seule chose digne d'attention qui me soit tombée sous les yeux.

La ville Chinoise est divisée en rues assez bien pavées, qui se croisent à angle droit. Chacune de ces rues paraît avoir un commerce spécial. Le jour de mon arrivée était jour de marché : j'ai vu une assez grande quantité de soies jaunes, de toute espèce de guindrages, pliées en carrés, assez grossières, fortement gommées et que l'on m'a dit être d'un dévidage assez difficile. Une maison française a fait venir un petit appareil de dévidage pour en tirer meilleur parti : il est, dans tous les cas, à présumer que cette industrie fera promptement des progrès, une fois que nos compatriotes, qui commencent enfin à aller s'établir un peu au loin, auront formé un bon noyau de colonie.

Pendant notre séjour à Hanoi, il y a eu une petite affaire à Batan, village de briquetiers, dont la population, très turbulente, a été sévèrement mise à la raison. Une centaine de têtes sont tombées : il faut espérer que la leçon servira. Tout est parfaitement calme actuellement.

M. Tricou, notre ancien ministre au Japon, vient de rentrer de Hué, où il a obtenu tout ce qu'il a demandé. La réception qui lui a été faite par le gouvernement du nouveau jeune roi a été, paraît-il, des plus brillantes, et a témoigné du prestige que la prise de Son-Tai a rendu à nos armes. J'ignore encore si des clauses nouvelles ont été ajoutées au traité de 1874, et quelles elles sont. Dans tous les cas, ce que je sais, c'est qu'une garnison de 500 hommes sera maintenue à Hué, et qu'elle pourra être augmentée si cela paraît nécessaire. Le jeune roi, qui a à peine quinze ans, est en quelque sorte notre prisonnier ou notre otage. Ou peut, dès aujourd'hui, considérer comme aplanie toute résistance à notre protectorat du côté des Annamites et des Tonkinois. Cultivateurs et marchands, tout ce monde là ne songe plus qu'à s'occuper de ses petites affaires. Restent les Pavillons Noirs et Messieurs les Chinois, réguliers ou non. De ce côté là, c'est sérieux. Mais on a maintenant toute confiance dans le succès de l'attaque qui va être prochainement dirigée contre Baknin. On a beau dire que le gouvernement Chinois est définitivement décidé à ne pas rappeler les troupes qu'il a dans cette place, qu'elle est formidablement armée et défendue, et que de nouveaux renforts y sont même attendus de la province de Kwangsi, tout cela ne nous impressionne pas beaucoup. Baknin tombera comme Sontai, et alors ce sera le

commencement de la fin. J'entends dire que l'Amiral Courbet a l'intention de se mettre en marche avant l'arrivée des forces qui nous sont annoncées : mais je ne le crois pas. Mieux vaut ne pas se presser, être en nombre et n'agir qu'avec toutes les chances pour soi.

14 Janvier. Une reconnaissance a été effectuée, le 11, d'Hanoi dans la direction de Baknin. Elle a confirmé ce qu'on disait des préparatifs de défense faits par les Chinois. La reconnaissance se composait de quatre compagnies de Turcos et d'une compagnie de trailliers Annamites, avec trois pièces d'artillerie. Il a été constaté que la place était fortifiée partout et que nos braves soldats auront à donner là un vigoureux coup de collier. Mais cela n'enlève rien à notre confiance à tous, et à moi en particulier. Enfin, encore un peu de patience.

Bien à vous,

L. J.

[TRANSLATION.]

Haiphong, January 12th, 1884.

Do not blame me, my friend, for not having sent you any items of interest before this, but you will readily understand that, since our arrival at this place, we have been so taken up and absorbingly interested in what we have seen around us that this fact is the best excuse I can offer for not having written.

Do not expect a detailed account of all that has taken place, for you are doubtless better informed than ourselves with regard to leading events, and we know probably less of these than is known in Europe, or even in Japan. This you will have gleaned yourself from the daily papers. As for myself, I intend only to write you of my personal experiences, and to give you some unpublished details which may be of interest.

I shall commence by stating that, as we go to rest each evening with the disagreeable apprehension of finding ourselves headless in the morning, or at least broiled as was St. Laurence of happy memory, we do not enjoy the best of health. The temperature here is all that can be desired, the thermometer ranging between 13° and 18° centigrade. The gardens are luxuriant with their floral wealth ; since the first of October we have watched one after another burst forth into flower, and, as if by magic, we have all the vegetables of the European market here as well, beside the indigenous fruits, such as oranges, lemons, bananas, papaws and carambolas. The children go around sucking the sweet juice of the sugar-cane, not disdaining at the same time to chew the acrid betel-nut, to the use of which they are accustomed almost from infancy. What shall I say of Haiphong itself, our temporary place of abode? Like Venus, it rises from the waves, yet it is far from resembling this fair goddess. Situated on the right bank of the Kwa-ram, and built across a small tributary of the Red River, the Santan-Back,—which, after undergoing many changes of name, is the water-road to Hanoi—Haiphong may yet in future receive the apple of beauty from a modern Paris, in preference to its proud rivals Hongkong and Saigon. But in the meantime it is little else than a veritable chaos, a confused agglomeration of all sorts of materials : bricks, stones, lumber, barrels of cement, lime—kilns, and tall reeds and palm-leaves for thatching purposes (tile-covered houses are the exception). Every one works independent of others, generally without any preconceived plan, and without giving the least attention to what, later on, will be quays, squares, streets, and cross-roads. In spite of all, pretty little dwellings surrounded with pleasant gardens are visible here and there in the very centre of ponds, ditches, and broad streets broken up everywhere by canals. Woe betide the unlucky wight who ventures at night-fall in these break-neck localities without a lantern or without a guide!

The garrison of Haiphong is not numerous in comparison with the importance of its situation in the delta. There are hardly more than 400 to 500 troops. The natives, who swarm like ants here during the day-time, leave the town at about five o'clock each afternoon, to return the next morning, in order to assist in the various undertakings going on. All these people live in the many little villages about Haiphong. The Tongkinese, as far as I am able to judge by those here, are literally hideous. It is very evident that a judicious kneading of Chinese and Annamese is the original type of the baboon. An ape of ugliness, repulsively dirty, covered with vermin which he masticates in common with the areca nut, loud-voiced, screeching, spitting without cessation a reddish saliva,—such is the typical man of Tongking. Many of them are disfigured with leprosy sores or other equally disgusting plagues of a non-equivocal nature, and add to this that we have here the largest and best assorted collection of mendicants imaginable. Indeed, Haiphong seems to be the rendezvous of all the beggars of Tongking. Yet, nevertheless, these very fellows are usually a hard-working lot,

when its suits their convenience. Engage a native for a day's work, and you will find that, like all other Asiatics, not to speak of Indians and Africans, he will do just so much as he is forced to do, and no more. There is no way to make him work but by the *argumentum ad baculum*. At the same time I believe that things will go along better in future; for the present the Tongkinese deem our residence here a temporary one, and act as pleases them. They will, however, change their tune when we are definitely and really masters of the country, as well as their natural protectors.

The women are mostly tall. They have a good figure, and carry themselves as gracefully as do the Indian women; but with these two exceptions each one is uglier than the other. Thin and bony, they can run and jump like deer. Wicked and quarrelsome as the harpies, they are continually wrangling and getting into a row. They are veritable viragos and could give a fishwoman of Billingsgate lessons in yelling and violent gesticulation. Altogether, one may justly call them the stronger sex. But beyond this, they are really laborious and indefatigable; so much so that I can readily believe that there is an Amazonian soldiery in the Land of the White Elephant, if the Siamese are at all like the Annamese. One thing has struck me with regard to these gentle beings: they dress their hair *à la bordelaise* and wear a kerchief of cotton or silk around their heads. It's graceful enough, but it seems like the irony of fate that this pretty head-dress should deck such unpleasant physiognomies.

We have had a series of magnificently starry nights, but the native dogs, the most snappish, cross-grained and altogether disagreeable members of the canine family, never cease making night hideous with their howls, effectually murdering sleep as far as we are concerned.

I must give you also a few of the countersigns, which add a charm to the evening promenade, even though we have just cause for apprehension. For it has already happened more than once that our sentinels have given evidence of their vigilance by shooting each other, just by way of keeping their hand in for the Black Flags. With regard to these latter gentry, far from being a myth, they are in our immediate vicinity. It is perfectly certain that the whole country is in a state of revolution; that the mandarins, acting in accordance with the secret orders of the Court at Hué and encouraged by the Chinese Government, have excited the people against us; that numerous hordes of irregulars, not yet embodied with the army, are spread all over the country, armed with lances, pikes, and a few guns, and rallying like madmen around their many-coloured standards in a defiant and menacing spirit, have inflicted not a few forcible lessons upon our allies, the Tongkinese. Every four or five days organised raids are made upon these bandit-like irregulars. Our troops, reinforced by our gunboats and followed by crowds of native allies, track these bandits to their lairs, and force them, as well as the villages in which they hide, to appreciate the true inwardness of the *lex talionis*; but the task is one of great difficulty. The villages carried at the point of our bayonets are then abandoned to the mercy of our Annamese auxiliaries, and they are not over-merciful, nor do they hesitate to indulge in occasional excesses, such as ruthlessly decapitating those that fall in to their hands. But how can this be helped? When our troops have come back wearied and in need of a well-deserved repose, the native pillagers arrive in triumph in their turn, carrying in Indian file long bamboos on which the trophies of their raid are suspended, such as quarters of goats and pigs, sacks full of the arrack-nut, and dropping here and there, it may be, the heads of slain bandits or even those of innocent victims. Sad and hideous trophies, from which one turns one's eyes in horror!

Our officers state that the pirates (for these are they whom we want to frighten off) very rarely wait for our men to come up with them. Seated in light, bamboo-made boats, something in the style of the reed-cradle of the infant Moses, they hurry off as soon as they catch sight of the troops. In their haste they paddle over immense tracts of submerged rice-fields, and one can see them, at a distance of two or three kilometres from their enemies, stoically gazing upon the flames that soon lay their villages and homesteads in ashes. If these fellows were at all well armed, I believe that there would be no staying in this country; for the glance that I have given you at their characteristics and mode of warfare is sufficient to carry the conviction that to meet them on the field of battle is twenty times as difficult as in our famous *Bocage*.

The enemy is not, moreover, easy to bring to reason. You will have already heard that, unless our little body of 200 marines and a few Annamese auxiliaries had fought most heroically, and without the unexpected arrival of a most providential assistance, we should have certainly lost the fortress of

Hai-dzuong: and the consequences of a defeat would have been almost incalculable. This action forced us to take Hai-phong and all the supplies stored there; yet the almost complete isolation of the citadel of Hanoi might have seriously interfered with the capture of Son-tai. Herewith the facts:—When the troops that were to attack Son-tai or Bac-ninh had gathered around Hanoi, all the places on the lower river were left without a garrison. There were but 150 men about Hai-phong and 200 at Hai-dzuong, which, as I have said, might cut off all communication between Hanoi and the sea. The Chinese at Bac-ninh, knowing the importance of its situation, had resolved to keep it in their hands at all costs. Thanks to the facility of river transport, they had gathered some 2,000 or 2,500 regulars around Hai-dzuong, well armed and accoutred. The great size of the citadel prevented the French garrison, on account of the paucity of men, to occupy more than one or two of the most important points; the actual citadel being a block-house, at a considerable distance from the garrison, and these two places were within range of the city. On the night of the attack the city was surrounded, its assailants having combined their forces with the Annamese inhabitants and the Chinese. The pagodas and houses facing our intrenchments were battlemented or pierced with loop-holes; all the dogs had been removed or forcibly silenced, and no unusual sound apprised our soldiers of the stealthy approach of the enemy. About four o'clock in the morning a violent musketry fire opened on the block-house and the citadel. Towards day-light, the Chinese advanced to set Mirador on fire, and planted their flag at only a few metres distance from the gate of the citadel. Our soldiers fought most heroically, well knowing that if their ammunition gave out, and it was well-nigh exhausted, they would be in a hopeless plight. The gunboat *La Carabine* had come to their aid, but, not being able to manœuvre in the narrow strait, was exposed to the heavy, oblique fire of numerous enemies on the river bank. She was only a few metres distant from the shore; her men had been decimated, but the survivors fired by the brave example of Commander Bauer and Mr. Marquis, our consular resident at Haiphong, succeeded finally in getting the gunboat under control and placed her speedily in a more advantageous position. When I say that, later on, the traces of over 1,800 shots were to be seen in her sides and planks, it may give you an idea of the furious fire to which she was exposed. Her steel armour, 8 or 9 millimètres thick, was shot through like so much glass.

Just then, about two o'clock in the afternoon, the commander of the citadel caught sight of the smoke of a steamer. It was the *Lynx*, a well-armed gunboat, carrying pivot-guns in her main-top; she had heard the noise of the furious cannonade at a great distance, and, instead of going on towards Hanoi, immediately steamed in direction of the sound. The battle hereupon resulted in a complete and terrible overthrow of the Chinese. The heavy guns of the *Lynx* and *Carabine* made short work of the Chinese battlements and shot-towers; the bombs burst in their midst with terrible effect, and the few fugitives which had escaped the grape and canister of the gunboats, fell under the fusillade of our troops. Of the town of Hai-dzuong not one stone was left upon another; the catholic church alone escaping total demolition. It was high time that the *Lynx* arrived. The wooden joists of the block-house, in which there were no less than thirty of our men, were literally hacked and torn in splinters by the bullets of the Chinese. One hour later, and the heads of 200 Frenchmen borne on the points of spikes would have given a second edition of the Rivière episode, and have encouraged a general revolt throughout the country.

Since this time the raids of the Chinese and Annamese have become less frequent, and despite the fact that we cannot enjoy absolute safety before the capture of Bac-ninh, nor travel between Haiphong and Hanoi by the shortest road (it still takes 20 to 22 hours to go by steamer from the one place to the other, instead of twelve), junks can, nevertheless, ascend and descend the river unescorted.

On the other hand, there is a daily change for the better in our situation; at Hanoi and Haiphong there is no longer the least cause for apprehension. I profited by this condition of affairs to make a trip the other day to the first-named city. On the 1st of January I started with Mr. C. in a steam-launch belonging to that gentleman. Mr. C. is an old resident in Tongking, and is well acquainted with the country. Stokers, engineer, pilot, and sailors, all the complement of our roomy launch were Chinese, and we had beside one Annamese boy. Two junks that we met while steaming up the river were manned entirely by Tongkinese. It was just flood-tide, the water was high, and everything in our favour. The Santan-Back,

which changes greatly in width in its course, is very winding and tortuous. After steaming for four hours we arrived at the foot of the White Elephant Mountain, a name given on account of a fancied resemblance between this mountain and the pachydermaton, a resemblance due to the abrupt cliffs and rocks which lie along the ridge of the hill. As we reached the base of the mountain the banks of the river began to sink gradually lower, and we could hardly follow the course of the river with our eyes, because the banks were easily confounded with the ridges of the rice-fields. We had to keep casting the lead to the right and left in order to keep within the channel. This was the flattest place I saw on the trip. In the months of March and April the waters are very shallow, but at any other time one can follow the channel in safety. After passing this point, the ground rises steadily up to Hanoi, where the river overflows only at certain periods, the general difference between the level of the river and the top of the bank is at least 8 or 9 mètres.

From the Santan-Back we steamed into the Kwatrail, from the Kwatrail into the Taibin, and from the Taibin into the canal of the same name which brought us to the Red River. In fact, all these streams are but tributaries of the one river. Our voyage continued until six in the evening without any accident; night falls suddenly in inter-tropical countries. I had that day the opportunity of admiring these fertile districts, fertilised, as is the Nile-land, by the rich mud deposited upon them during the period of inundation. One may get a fair idea of the fertility of the country by seeing how many inhabitants gain their livelihood by cultivating the soil. You, who are at Yokohama, imagine, for a moment, the plain of Kawasaki always covered by a luxuriant harvest in the blade or in the ear. In the months of November and December I watched the gathering of the second yearly crops; and for the last fifteen days I have witnessed the transplanting of the young rice, whose tender green fades away in the distance, surrounded by plantations of the sugar-cane, fields of sweet potatoes, and groves of the mulberry. The cultivation of the last-named is quite different from that in France and Japan, but I have seen nevertheless, very fine specimens of silk.

With regard to the villages, their general aspect strongly resembles those in Japan, dark green patches on the smiling green of the plains. Cocoa-nut-palms, bananas, areca-palms, lychees, and other trees are the principal wealth of the orchards. The villages are surrounded, as a rule, by bamboo groves which nod gracefully over the spreading tops of the palms, and are planted so close together that they seem to touch each other; and this sight gladdens the eyes in whatever direction one may look. With their hedges of bamboos and cactus, the villages are like so many little fortresses, protected outside and inside by ditches, with small rows of earth works which might serve as veritable ramparts. In entering these picturesque villages one finds the main and side-streets alike cut up by canals which the best jumper could hardly leap across, and these canals are bridged by one or two palm-logs, which can be withdrawn in case of an attack. The same safeguards are around all the houses. Without a thorough acquaintance with the topography of these villages it would be impossible to get by them without exposing one's self to attacks from all sides. When the rude bridges across the canals are composed of one log only, the natives jump across with the help of a long bamboo.

How our brave soldiers, at the capture of Son-tai, could possibly have dislodged the Black Flags from such a position puzzles me completely. Yet they carried a long line of these native villages before they made themselves masters of the citadel. It is true that the actors in, and eye-witnesses of, this battle, state that the capture of the native hamlets and log huts was the most difficult and hardest job imaginable; and it certainly gave us the utmost trouble. And it must not be forgotten that, so soon as one leaves the dikes, there is water anywhere and everywhere.

But to come back to our voyage. Up to ten o'clock we had met no one beside the natives engaged in the daily labours in the fields. But just at this moment a junk descending the stream up which we were steaming, hailed our launch, and with a considerable waste of vocal power informed us that they had just been attacked by pirates, with whom they had exchanged several salvos. They urged us to keep a good look out. We immediately sprang to our guns; Mr. C. caught up his trusty Peabody, while I grasped my Winchester, and we declared ourselves ready to defend our lives and property. In the meantime night had come on, but we could still see that one turn of the river had been almost completely barred, and we caught a glimpse of shadowy forms gesticulating and yelling from a number of small boats. We agreed not to make use of our fire-arms until

we were actually attacked, and our engineer was ordered to go ahead at full speed. Suddenly the launch stopped in the middle of our enemies, and, after another exchange of loud yells, our interpreter informed us that the pirates were at a village about eight kilometres distant, and that we were requested not to venture any further in the darkness. The junks that passed us, and which brought us this news, were manned by Chinese and Annamese; they were loaded with rice and were on their way from Nam-dinh, being in the employ of the firm Rogue. The pirates had attempted to get possession of these valuable junks, but had met with an energetic repulse on the part of their men, who begged us to stay with them in order to be better able to repel any new attack. The night was very dark; the passages of the river narrow and tortuous; we had with us two junks, and so, concluding that discretion was the better part of valour, we decided to accede to their request and pass the rest of the night in the midst of the little fleet. While we awaited the arrival of the pirates, which we supposed to be in our immediate vicinity, we made a comfortable supper, and I urged my companion to take a few hours' rest, promising to keep watch. This was done, and I remarked with pleasure that Mr. C. fell asleep as calmly as an infant, and as peacefully as though he had been in his own comfortable bed or behind the cannons of a fortress. About half-past ten we heard two shots; but it was only a Chinaman, who, having been unable to fire his piece in the general fight, had at last succeeded in persuading it to go off. With the exception of this little disturbance, we passed a quiet night. At four o'clock I aroused Mr. C., and stretched myself out for a short nap, as I had not closed my eyes for 23 hours; I asked, however, to be awakened before arriving at the village supposed to be in the hands of the pirates, and my request was not forgotten. As soon as we drew in sight of the village, I seized my gun and sprang to the deck. Bah! utter silence, and no bandits to be seen. We passed by crowds of natives, but mostly women and children, who begged for small coins in dumb show. As for the men, their faces showed more curiosity than anything else.

We arrived, at last, at the junction of the Taibin canal with the Red River. Here there is a wooden fort occupied by ten soldiers. The subaltern in command came within hailing distance of us, and we learnt that numerous bands of pirates had been prowling about the neighborhood; that the fort had been attacked, but vigorously and successfully defended by our men and a reinforcement of Tonkingese Christians, despatched to their assistance by a neighbouring mission. Two men fell on the side of the garrison, and a junk loaded with salt had been pillaged the night before. We bid our compatriots farewell, and entered the Red River, which at this place displays a splendid sheet of water, more than a kilometre in breadth. The banks of the river gradually grew more fertile and richer in vegetation as we ascended. A slight accident to the machinery forced us to put out the fires, and so we lost three or four hours, not arriving at Hanoi until ten o'clock at night. We had steamed 24 hours, but had been 40 hours on the river. (Our journey back took us but 20 hours, not including a stoppage of 6 hours during the night-time, as there was no moon).

After passing an excellent night in the cabin of our launch, I sallied forth to visit the city and its environs. I found an immense city, but a half-ruined one, thanks to the last efforts of the combined forces of the Chinese and Annamese. Since the fall of Son-tai, everything has been quiet, and the natives have regained a little confidence. Hanoi must have been very rich in former times, for the city is filled with pagodas and the dwellings of mandarins; all these are now occupied by our soldiers. I visited the fortress, where a company of marines had, shortly after the death of Commander Rivière, to stand a terrible night-attack at the hands of the Black Flags, who had surrounded the city and set it in many places on fire, besides burning the storehouses of several merchants just outside of the settlement.

The fortress is a vast quadrilateral structure, about 1,000 to 1,200 metres in length on each side, surrounded by a strong brick wall between 8 and 10 metres in height, and about 90 centimetres thick at the top. It is furnished with *démilunes*, redans, block-houses, and there is a watch-tower in the centre. This tower is very high, and has an optical telegraph and observatory on the top. Apart from the citadel, the walls of which are mostly dismantled and form the magazines and barracks of our troops, the city has no building worthy of remark. A broad flight of stairs, the sides of which are marble covered with sculptures in bas-relief in Indian style, and surmounted with dragons on both sides, was the only object which attracted my attention.

The Chinese town is divided into tolerably well-

paved streets, which cross each other at right angles. Each street seems to have an especial branch of trade. I arrived on a market day, and saw a large quantity of yellow silks, all sorts of silken manufactures, of a rather gross texture, well gummed, and rather difficult to reel, I am told. A French firm sent a hand-reel here in order to better the quality of this article. One can certainly predict that this industry will make rapid progress when once our countrymen, who have already commenced to settle here, have formed the nucleus of a colony.

During our stay at Hanoi there was one rather notable episode. Batan, a village of brick-makers, the inhabitants of which were most unruly fellows, was promptly brought to its senses by the decapitation of about a hundred of the ring-leaders; and it is to be hoped that this one lesson will suffice. The affair passed off without any undue disturbance.

M. Tricou, our former Minister to Japan, has just returned from Hué, where he obtained all that he demanded. His reception by the young King and his court seems to have been a most brilliant one,—an additional proof of the prestige we have gained by the capture of Son-tai. I do not know as yet whether any clauses have been added to the treaty of 1874, nor what may be their nature. But this I do know that a garrison of 500 men will be kept in Hué, and that their numbers can be increased if it is deemed necessary. The young King, who is hardly more than fifteen years old, is after a fashion our prisoner, or at least a hostage for the well-behaviour of his people. One may justly state that, for the present, our protectorate will not be rebelled against by either the Annamese or the Tongkinese. Farmers and traders and all their kind, do not think of anything but their own immediate pursuits. There remain, however, but the Black Flags and the Chinese, regulars or irregulars. The case is a rather serious one as far as they are concerned. But we have every confidence in the success of the approaching attack on Bac-ninh. It is all very well to say that the Chinese Government has definitely decided not to recall its troops stationed there; that Bac-ninh is well-armed and its defenders thoroughly equipped; that fresh reinforcements are expected from Kwang-si, etc.; all this does not disturb our peace of mind. Bac-ninh will fall as did Son-tai, and that will be the beginning of the end. I hear that Admiral Courbet intends commencing his approach upon Bac-ninh before the arrival of the expected troops from France, but I hardly credit the report. It is far better to go to work a little more slowly, to have a large number of trustworthy men, and to have all the chances in one's own favour.

January 14th.

A reconnoitring party was despatched on the 11th from Hanoi in the direction of Bac-ninh. They confirm what has been already stated regarding the extended defensive operations of the Chinese. The party was composed of four companies of Turcos, and one company of Annamese sharpshooters with three cannons. They state that the place is thoroughly fortified on every side, and our brave troops have a tough task before them. But all this does not shake our courage, certainly not mine. Only a little more patience!—Yours always,

L. J.

NOTIFICATION NO. 5 OF THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

It is hereby notified that the following Legal Stamp Regulations for Civil Cases have been enacted, and will come into force on and after the 1st of April, 1884:—

N.B.—The regulations with regard to ruled paper for legal documents, issued in accordance with Notification No. 196, in December, 1875, will be abolished on and after the above date.

Art. I.—Civil cases will be subject to the imposition of a stamp duty.

Art. II.—In presenting petitions, stamps shall be affixed to each and every document, in proportion to the amount of money demanded or the value of the case. Cases involving less than 5 *yen*, 20 *sen*; from 5 *yen* to 10 *yen*, 30 *sen*; 10 *yen* to 20 *yen*, 60 *sen*; 20 *yen* to 50 *yen*, 1.50 *yen*; 50 *yen* to 75 *yen*, 2.10 *yen*; 75 *yen* to 100 *yen*, 3 *yen*; 100 *yen* to 250 *yen*, 6.50 *yen*; 250 *yen* to 500 *yen*, 10 *yen*; 500 *yen* to 750 *yen*, 13 *yen*; 750 *yen* to 1,000 *yen*, 15 *yen*; 1,000 *yen* to 2,500 *yen*, 20 *yen*; 2,500 *yen* to 5,000 *yen*, 25 *yen*; and 2 *yen* extra for every 1,000 *yen* above 5,000 *yen*. In case of appeal to the Court of Appeal these rates will be increased by one half, and to the Court of Cassation, by double the amount.

Art. III.—Personal and other matters that can-

not be measured by a money value, will be subject to a stamp duty of 3 *yen*. This duty to be increased by one half in case of appeal to the Court of Appeal, and doubled in case of appeal to the Court of Cassation.

N.B.—This article will not apply to indigent persons who can obtain a certificate of poverty from the officer of their ward.

Art. IV.—20 *sen* stamps will be attached to each of the following documents:—Affidavits, written evidence, statements, applications for the calling of witnesses, experts, or appraisers, and for the postponement of trial.

Art. V.—50 *sen* stamps will be attached to each of the following documents:—Applications for the official inspection of real estate, etc.; for the seizure of property, or the public sale of seized articles; and for declarations of insolvency or bankruptcy.

Art. VI.—Written judgments shall be subject to a stamp duty of 5 *sen* per page; and other legal documents issued by the Court shall be subject to a stamp duty of 3 *sen* per page.

N.B.—A page of written judgment shall consist of 12 lines of 12 letters each; of other documents, 20 lines of 18 letters each.

Art. VII.—Cases of compromise shall be subject to a stamp duty of 20 *sen*.

Art. VIII.—The stamp duties shall be paid by the party or parties who have lost the case.

Art. IX.—The denomination of the stamps and the manner of affixing them to legal documents will be notified.

Art. X.—These stamps shall be sold only in places sanctioned by the local authorities.

Art. XI.—Those who sell these stamps without due permission from the authorities, shall be subject to a fine of 20 *yen* to 200 *yen*, and the stamps found in their possession will be confiscated. Those who buy stamps from such persons, being aware of the illegal sale, shall be liable to a fine of 10 *yen* to 100 *yen*, and the stamps in their possession shall be confiscated.

Art. XII.—Those who violate these regulations shall not come under the articles in the Penal Code which confer exemption from punishment and the reduction of penalty.

By Imperial order,

SANJO SANETOMI, Prime Minister.

YAMA AKIYOSHI, Minister of Justice.

February 23rd, 1884.

GAIETY THEATRE.

The French Amateurs gave another most enjoyable proof of their histrionic capabilities on Monday evening. The Gaiety Theatre was well filled, thanks to the fame of their former performance, and the audience was a most appreciative one throughout. Amateur theatricals should, it is said, rarely be subjected to severe, never to adverse, criticism, and this is more especially the case when the proceeds of such a performance are to be devoted to charity. But this rule is very evidently out of place as far as the acting of the French Amateurs is concerned: the severest criticism can but take the form of unqualified praise.

The first appearance of the talented amateurs met with such success that a repetition was requested, and last night two comedies by Labiche were again placed on the stage, the first being a new one, "J'invite le Colonel," in place of "Un Monsieur qui prend la Mouche." The comedy was well chosen, although in our opinion not quite so enjoyable as the former; yet it abounds, as do all of Labiche's comedies, in amusing situations and lively dialogue. M. The O'Flanagan took the part of *Carbonnel*, the errant husband, whose unfortunate little escapade at the Café Brébant has led to his being a most most hen-pecked mortal. The rôle is decidedly a difficult one, as *Carbonnel* is on the stage almost without a pause from the beginning to the end, but M. The O'Flanagan seemed, however, quite to the manner born, his by-play in particular being really excellent. It is also a part in which the gestures have quite as much, if not more, to delineate than the actor's words. The part of *Elisa Carbonnel* was taken by a lady whose talent truly needs no name to achieve success. If possible, the lady acted better than in the earlier performance; at any rate she appeared perfectly *en rapport* with her part, and was applauded to the echo. M. Beau Pif was the middle-aged *Colonel Bernard* to the life; M. The O'Flanagan and M. Beau Pif are probably two of the finest amateurs that have ever appeared on the local stage, but the latter gentleman, in especial cannot be too highly rated. His make-up fulfilled exactly the popular idea of the elderly French soldier,

while his carriage and manner bore the stamp of the *vieux moustache*. The minor parts of *Isidore* and *Fules* were entrusted to MM. Riflard and Barbanchu, and were well played throughout.

With regard to the second piece, "Embrassons-nous! Foileville!" it was certainly a greater success than ever. Every joke told, every sally was laughed at, and the audience was a most merry one as long as the piece lasted. *Mlle. Berthe de Manicamp* surpassed herself, and received a floral tribute from many of the audience. M. Machinsky as the *Chevalier de Folleville* showed a decided improvement; his rôle was that of the unwilling, unimpassioned bridegroom in perspective, and, as such, did not admit of any great vigour of expression or gesticulation. M. Beau Pif as the *Marquis de Manicamp* was very fine; no professional could have made more out of the character. In the altercation between *Vicomte de Chateau* and himself, as well as in the dinner scene, he showed his really remarkable talent to the best advantage, while M. The O'Flanagan was most excellent, as always. The actors were called before the curtain after each piece, and several encores were demanded, to which they kindly responded. The music of the songs in the latter comedy was well chosen, pretty, and pleasing; altogether decidedly better than the songs in "J'invite le Colonel," although these were taken from such melodious operettas as "La Périchole," "La Mascotte," and "La Vie Parisienne."

The Amateur Orchestra played several selections during the course of the evening, one or two of which were new to us. Giorza's "Daghela avanti un passo" is very tuneful, but not very high-class music. Prettier is the Serenade, a Spanish waltz by Metro, although we missed the cornet-duet at the opening. Both of the overtures—Rossini's "Tancredi," and "Italiana in Algieri"—were rendered with grace and precision, and were highly appreciated. Altogether the evening was in every way a delightful one, and we are quite willing to embrace the cause of charity in future if it always finds such talented exponents.

REVIEW OF THE YOKOHAMA TEA TRADE FOR THE SEASON 1883-4.

With the approaching end of the tea season, we publish, as usual, a review of the trade at this port from the 1st of May, 1883, to 29th of February of the present year, as follows:—

MAY.

A few hand musters of New Tea appeared on the 12th of April, but they were then too trivial to be any criterion, and gave no indication of the coming crop. However, on the 2nd May, and from this date, the season can be said to have fairly opened, New crop began to come in in small lots up to the 4th, and after that date sizeable parcels began to arrive from the producing districts. By the middle of the month, some 11,484 piculs had changed hands at prices ranging from \$29 to \$34 per picul for Finest, Choice, and Choicest kinds. The general character of the leaf was not so good as the preceding year, many parcels showing carelessness in their manipulation, but the cup drawings of these different lots was on the whole generally pretty good. The steamship *City of Peking*, which sailed on the 15th of the month, was the first steamer that took new Tea to the United States and Canada Markets. About the 18th Teas grading Good Medium and Fine sorts arrived on the Market. Good Medium was purchaseable at \$22 to \$25, and \$26 to \$27 per picul for Fine, or about four or five dollars under last year's quotations respectively for both classes. This class of Tea cannot be considered as fully equal to that of the year previous in make, but the cup quality was satisfactory. Total settlements from the commencement of the season to the end of the May footed up to about 41,007 piculs. Receipts from the country for the month aggregating about 48,341 piculs. Tea in stock in Yokohama, on the 31st, was about 7,300 piculs. The following were the shipments of Tea during the month of May to the United States and Canada from Yokohama:—For New York 762,220 lbs., for Chicago, Canada, and elsewhere 674,835 lbs., and for California 221,806 lbs., making a total for the month

of 1,658,861 lbs. Fired Tea. The average quotations for the month ruled as follows:—

Good Medium...	\$22 to 24	Fine	\$25 to 27
Finest	\$28 to 30	Choice	\$32 to 34
Choicest			\$36 & upwards.

JUNE.

The market being now pretty well supplied with nearly all grades of Tea, both buyers and sellers had settled down to hard work, holders were firm and prices generally were well maintained. This state of things continued up to the 20th of the month. But after the 21st unfavorable telegraphic information from New York and other American markets caused settlements to fall off, and prices gradually dropped, from one dollar to one dollar and half all round for Teas on offer. Notwithstanding this discouraging news, the total settlement for the month showed a very extensive business. There were six Suez Canal steamers on the berth for New York *via* the usual ports during the month, and the amount of Tea shipped on those, besides the regular mail steamers was specially heavy. The highest rate of freight paid for Tea to New York *via* Suez Canal was £3.15 per ton of 40 cubic feet and the lowest for this month was £3.10 per ton. The aggregate settlements amounted to about 49,420 piculs, making a total for the season of about 90,427 piculs, against 97,987 piculs at the same date in 1882. Receipts for the same period were about 52,034 piculs, leaving a stock on hand of about 10,000 piculs. The market closed weak with a drooping tendency. The following were the number of pounds of Tea shipped during this month:—To the United States and Canada, for New York, 4,776,755 lbs.; for Chicago, Canada and beyond, 1,909,301 lbs.; and for California, 159,988 lbs., making the total of Fired Tea for this month 6,836,044 lbs. The average quotations ruled as under.

Good Common	\$14 to 15	Medium	\$17 to 19
Good Medium	\$20 to 21	Fine	\$22 to 25
Finest	\$27 to 29	Choice	\$31 to 33
Choicest			\$36 & upwards.

JULY.

The animation which characterised our market during the previous month, did not resume its wonted channels on the opening of the month now under review, as buyers showed but little disposition to purchase. The same desultory state of affairs continued throughout the whole month, prices drooping and buyers only purchasing as rates declined. Good Medium, Fine, and Finest grades attracting most attention, their values showed but little alteration on rates ruling during the end of June. By the middle of July the second crop leaf began to arrive pretty freely, the quality of many parcels was not altogether very good, but the drawings were as a rule, satisfactory, especially for those grading Good Common to Good Medium kinds which generally possessed nice clear liquor and sweet flavor. Settlements in July totaled 19,960 piculs. Shipments to the United States and Canada markets, were as follows:—For New York and Boston, 1,342,038; for Chicago, Canada and Western parts of the Union, 1,063,288 lbs.; and 535,868 lbs. for California bring up the total for the month to 2,941,194 lbs. Fired Tea to America and Canada. Receipts during the period were about 17,375 piculs, making the stock in Yokohama 7,200 piculs at the end of the month. The market remained steady at the under-noted quotations.

Common	\$12 & under	Good Common	\$13 to 14
Medium	\$15 to 17	Good Medium	\$18 to 20
Fine	\$22 to 24	Finest	\$25 to 27
Choice	\$28 to 31	Choicest	\$33 & up'ds.

AUGUST.

Prices continued easy during this month, in the course of which some 11,392 piculs changed hands, purchasers having if anything the advantage. The higher grades were now met with difficulty and many parcels as usual proved wanting in freshness and fragrance. All grades of Tea on offer were represented, although Teas grading Medium and Good Medium kinds were principally dealt in. Some cheap purchases were made in these classes of Teas. The better kinds were held for full market value, Tea producers apparently not very anxious to part with higher grades unless better offers were made for them. Most of the business transacted was for California trade. During the early part of the month, receipts from the country began to be very light and consequently stocks were much reduced and were something like 6,000 piculs against 7,200 piculs at the same time in 1882. After the 18th, and to the end of the month, receipts from the country were more liberal and the unsold stock was somewhat augmented. The aggregate receipts during the month was 12,299. Estimated Tea in stock here was 7,500 piculs. Tea exported from Yokohama to the Home Markets were as follows:—for New York and Boston, 1,459,325 lbs.; for Chicago, Canada, &c. 647,025 lbs.; and for California 816,333 lbs.; making

the total for the month some 2,922,683 lbs. Tea. Quotations at this period ruled as follows:—

Common	\$10 & under	Good Common	\$12 to 13
Medium	\$14 to 16	Good Medium	\$17 to 19
Fine	\$21 to 24	Finest	\$25 to 27
Choice	\$28 to 31	Choicest	Nominal.

SEPTEMBER.

This month opened with a very small demand, also to the continued unfavorable telegraphic information from American markets, and partly owing to the difficulty of securing the better grades, which were in limited supply and not freely offered. A steady business ruled throughout the balance of the month. Settlements for September footed up to some 12,230 piculs, and Good Common, Medium, and Good Medium grades attracted most attention and showed an advance of one dollar per picul on the quotations ruling in the early part of the month. Receipts from the country during the month were light in proportion to the demand, the aggregate receipts being about 9,682 piculs leaving a stock estimated roughly at 5,500 piculs to be carried over for October business. The following were the shipments of Tea to American and Canada markets during the month of September from this port:—For New York and Boston, 494,970 lbs.; for Chicago, Canada and beyond 366,050 lbs.; and 829,876 lbs. for California. Prices now averaged as under, but the values obtained were hardly so good as in the preceding month.

Common	\$10 & under	Good Common	\$11 to 12
Medium	\$15 to 17	Good Medium	\$18 to 23
Fine	\$22 to 25	Finest	\$27 to 29
Choice	Nominal.	Choicest	Nominal.

OCTOBER.

Business generally fell off, purchases averaging only about 210 piculs per day, and the total settlements for the month showed a marked falling off as compared with the previous months. Prices gradually weakened by half a dollar for Teas grading Good Common to Good Medium sorts, but Fine continued to advanced owing to the demand for them, and were quoted \$23 to \$26 per picul, and being scarce maintained their position throughout the month. Total receipts from the country were about 5,403 piculs, making a total of 144,555 piculs since the commencement of the season, against 152,811 piculs in the preceding year. Stocks on hand were about 4,850 piculs, against 6,200 piculs at the same time in 1882. The aggregate settlements effected during this month were 6,537 piculs, making a grand total for the year of 141,271 piculs against 146,597 piculs in the year previous. Tea export from Yokohama to the United States and Canada markets were as follows:—318,832 lbs. for New York and Boston, 356,849 lbs. for Chicago, Canada and the Western States, and 319,520 lbs. for California; making a total of 1,195,201 lbs. Tea shipped during October. The following quotations show the course of our market during that period, the market closed very firm:—

Common	\$10 & under	Good Common	\$11 to 12
Medium	\$14 to 16	Good Medium	\$17 to 19
Fine	\$22 to 26	Finest	\$28 & up'ds.
Choice	Nominal.	Choicest	Nominal.

NOVEMBER.

Less desire to operate was manifested by purchasers up to the 11th of the month and combined with depressing telegrams from home, the market relapsed into extreme quietness and the buying done was confined to but few houses. After the 12th, however, a better feeling sprung up, and the increasing scarcity of stock on offer caused prices to advance by fully \$2.00 per picul over last month's quotations for Teas grading Medium to Fine. Settlements for this month, were about 7,000 piculs, against 5,893 piculs in 1882. Receipts during the same time were only 4,442 piculs or about 872 piculs more than the preceding year. Estimated stock on hand was 2,700 piculs, against 3,800 piculs at the corresponding date in 1882. The Tea shipments during this month were as follows:—for New York and Boston 152,468 lbs., for the Western States and Canada 342,805 lbs., and 208,811 lbs. for California. This month's shipments aggregated 704,084 lbs. of Fired Tea. The closing rates ruled as follows, and were very firm:—

Common	\$10 & under	Good Common	\$12 to 14
Medium	\$16 to 18	Good Medium	\$19 to 21
Fine	\$24 to 26	Finest	Nominal.

DECEMBER AND JANUARY.

The months of December and January present no marked feature to report; a steady business with moderate rates was transacted, and everything seemed to point to a quiet and sluggish course of the market for the remainder of the season. These calculations were, however, soon upset, for about the 21st January, telegraphic advices of a rather better feeling on the New York market was received by several firms, causing them to operate pretty generally for all grades of Tea on offer. Owing to the limited supplies from the

country during the month, business altogether was not very large in proportion to the amount done in 1882 for the same month. Prices had been somewhat irregular, and an advance of one dollar per picul over previous quotations must be noted. Transactions done were principally in Teas grading Good Common and Medium classes. The total settlements for both months amounted to 7,060 piculs, against 10,110 piculs at the corresponding date in 1882. Receipts during the same time were 5,485 piculs, against 8,080 piculs as compared with 1882. Estimated Tea in stock was about 800 piculs. Tea shipments during the same time were 1,179,741 lbs., distributed as follows:—For New York and Boston 426,331 lbs., for Chicago, Canada, &c., 255,524 lbs., and for California 497,886 lbs. Average quotations ruled as follows:—

Common.....\$10 & under | Good Common.....\$12 to 14
Medium\$16 to 18 | Good Medium.....\$20 & up'ds.

FEBRUARY.

With the exception of 10 days during the first half of the interval, when the settlements of each day only reached about 13 piculs, transactions during that period show indifference on the part of buyers. Since the 15th better news from the Home markets have arrived, and the business done for this month, considering the scarcity of Tea on offer, shows fair purchases. Very little has been done in Common Teas, the grades chiefly dealt in being Good Common to Medium, with few lots of higher class. It would seem that the approaching close of the season, which promises to be considerably earlier than last year, and the general belief that there is but a very small quantity of leaf to come forward from the country, have stimulated purchasers to operate at advanced prices. It is not expected that the future receipts from the country will exceed more than 2,000 piculs, and if this proves to be the case the total supply for the season will be considerably short of the previous year's. The total settlements for this month foot up to about 2,030 piculs. The grand total settlements for the year 1883-4 are 157,531 piculs, against 165,505 piculs, during the previous season. Total receipts since the commencement of the season come up to 158,245 piculs, against 167,814 piculs at the corresponding date in 1883. The steamship *Moray* sailed for New York via Kobe and other ports on the 24th instant and will be the last Tea steamer from this port via Suez Canal for the season 1883-4. Stocks here are very small, most dealers having sold their entire supply, and daily receipts from the country do not amount to anything of importance. Tea shipments from Yokohama during this month for the American and Canadian markets are as follows:—For New York and Boston 197,613 lbs., for Chicago, Canada, and beyond 125,647 lbs., and for California 54,168 lbs., making in all 377,428 lbs. The total export during the season 1883-4 to the United States and Canada stands as under from Yokohama:—For New York 10,208,296 lbs., for Boston, Chicago, Canada, and other States of the Union 5,743,525 lbs., and for California 3,644,256 lbs., making a grand total of 19,596,027 lbs. Fired Tea, against 20,192,218 lbs. at the corresponding period during the season 1882-3. The average quotations during this month are as under, but they are all nominal, as they have been regulated more by the actual requirements of buyers than any regard to a recognised standard of value:—

Common.....\$12 & under | Good Common.....\$14 to 16
Medium\$18 & upwards.

THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT, SHOWING THE VARIOUS GRADES OF TEAS SETTLED IN YOKOHAMA DURING THE SEASONS 1876-77 TO 1884.

SEASON 1876-77.									
DATE.	COM.	G. C.	MED.	G. M.	FINE.	1 ST .	CHOICE.	TOTAL	
May 1 to									
Feb. 29...	9,178	8,848	21,676	32,789	22,703	13,330	12,805	121,329	
Total...	10,089	9,062	21,996	33,422	23,002	13,395	12,812	123,779	
SEASON 1877-78.									
May 3 to									
Feb. 29...	13,118	7,133	18,430	29,263	22,676	7,769	10,301	108,585	
Total...	13,374	7,340	18,937	30,721	23,163	7,868	10,402	111,848	
SEASON 1878-79.									
April 25									
to Feb. 29...	11,912	14,025	22,769	35,220	15,316	8,935	7,486	115,663	
Total...	14,006	14,060	22,826	35,227	15,439	8,955	7,486	117,999	
SEASON 1879-80.									
April 7 to									
Feb. 29...	17,176	19,098	33,022	38,329	26,377	17,832	12,930	164,762	
Total...	19,154	19,218	33,257	38,774	26,562	17,877	12,955	167,797	
SEASON 1880-81.									
April 14									
to Feb. 29...	25,996	22,371	38,397	42,690	29,510	17,672	14,658	191,304	
Total...	26,361	22,566	40,777	43,692	30,205	18,117	14,738	196,497	
SEASON 1881-82.									
May 1 to									
Feb. 29...	12,865	15,002	25,229	46,055	37,384	21,022	19,391	176,948	
Total...	14,240	15,508	25,824	47,239	37,562	21,135	19,573	181,081	
SEASON 1882-83.									
April 18									
to Feb. 29...	5,030	7,760	24,708	44,239	36,802	22,204	24,760	165,503	
Total...	5,595	8,315	25,923	45,224	37,136	22,364	24,835	169,392	
SEASON 1883-84.									
May 2 to									
Feb. 29...	8,635	14,781	27,630	36,665	36,080	21,002	19,543	157,531	

AN ENGLISH JOURNALIST IN JAPAN.

The following is one of a series of letters, which recently appeared in the *Daily News*, from the pen of Mr. H. W. Lucey, one of the editors of that journal, who has been making a tour round the world:—

Yokohama, Nov. 1.

As we steamed into the bay of Yeddo, Yokohama was dimly discernible under lowering skies and through the mist of incessant rain. In crossing the Pacific we had been cheered by the sight of many sunsets of ever varied beauty. However dull or wet the day might be, the sunset was rarely missing. Now the sun seemed to have set for ever. It had, we learned on landing, been raining for a fortnight; which was a little hard on Yokohama, since it had its rains in June and July, and this was its season for fair weather. One of our fellow-passengers was from Glasgow, and as we stood in the Custom-house, sheltering from the pitiless rain and wondering how far we should be successful in making a dash into a jinricki-sha without getting wet through, he was visibly affected. "It is just like Glasgow," he murmured, thinking of the many months that had separated him from home and friends, fog and rain. But the rain was the only thing home-like in the scene. As the *Coptic* steamed up to the buoy we caught some indefinite glimpses of Yokohama with the Green Bluff which Europeans have wisely marked for their own, and where they live in pretty bungalows set in cool gardens flanked by tennis lawns. Even through the rain the bay was a fine sight. All the navies of the world might ride at anchor here safe from the winds that mock at the name of the Pacific. Half a dozen men-of-war were already anchored, notably a Russian ironclad, one of the most beautiful things afloat. England was represented by a single ship, two having been ordered off to Hongkong in view of possibilities that might be created by the trouble still agitating France and China. There were ships of larger or smaller tonnage from American and British ports. A Mitsu Bishi steamer came puffing in our wake, arriving from one of the southern Japanese ports and going north at daybreak. One smart steamer moored to the buoy must have been an object of special interest to the Mitsu Bishi people. She is the first comer of a splendid fleet of sixteen steamers now building on the Clyde, and intended to run in competition with the Mitsu Bishi line. By October in next year this fine fleet of steamers will be coasting round Japan.

Long before the *Coptic* was made fast to the buoy the bay was alive with sampans, the heavy-looking native boat, with the crews clamorous for fares. The boatmen, standing in the stern vigorously working the colossal oar that sculls the sampan, were dressed for a wet day. It is not many years since the Japanese native costume amongst the lower orders was limited to a hand's-breadth of cloth tied about the loins. The new order of Japanese, impregnated with Western ideas, sternly sets its face against this habitude. The upper classes, laying aside the graceful Eastern robes which their fathers wore, have attired themselves in European dress, which they wear without grace. There seems no reason why, given a capable tailor, a Japanese gentleman should not look well in broadcloth. As a matter of fact he never does. From the Mikado down to the merchant or tradesman, a Japanese who wears European dress seems to have bought his suit at a ready-made clothing establishment. Happily the ladies, with instinctive good taste, more generally retain the native costume, with its graceful lines and soft colours. When they lay it aside for European clothes they lose all their natural taste in colours, and come out with painful contrasts. The lower classes, compelled by Imperial edict to go about clothed, keep to the native dress, and so obtain a vast advantage over their superiors in station. In fine weather this dress is with the men exceeding scanty, consisting of a blouse and blue cotton drawers, tightly fitting and extending halfway down the thigh. On a day like this they put on wonderful straw cloaks, reaching to the knee, whilst their heads are thatched with wide straw hats of saucer shape. Thus arrayed with bare brown legs, and brawny arms wielding the gigantic oar, they looked like a regiment of Man-Fridays expectant of Robinson Crusoes' arrival in the *Coptic*, and eager to welcome him back to island life. Presently, when the rain ceased, the cloaks were dropped off, straw hats pitched aside, and they stood there some forty or fifty of the stalwartest men in either hemisphere. They do not run much to height, but their limbs are magnificent and their energy tireless. All ages were represented in the

sampans, from boys of eight or ten with tremendous biceps and stout calves, to men so old and wrinkled that they would seem past the time at which these heavy oars could be usefully wielded. One old gentleman, a priceless subject for a painter skulled in with the first of the fleet with a bright blue cotton handkerchief tied round his wrinkled face, a straw cloak on his shoulders, and apparently nothing else. The object of attack was the coolies who might be going ashore, and the victory was to the boatman who got his sampan nearest to the ship's side, and so secured the chance of the first coolie disembarking. There being no provision for holding on to the steamer, the only way of keeping in place among the heaving mass of sampans was to keep sculling. Old Blue Cotton Handkerchief, after racing across the bay, stood in the stern of his sampan with brawny muscle, corded legs set wide apart, sculling for his life; whilst in the bows, thrown out in skirmishing order, was his grandson, perhaps his great grandson, fishing for coolies with a boathook. I was on the steamer for nearly two hours after she was attached to the buoy, during which time the crowd of sampans were struggling and heaving on the port side, amid an incessant din of voices. Whenever I looked over the side there was the blue cotton handkerchief bound about a wrinkled face that seemed to be carved deep out of mahogany, the old man, with lips firmly set and eyes anxiously fixed on the throng of coolies, sculling as if he had just taken the oar in hand, and it was feather weight.

The coolies had an uncommonly lively time of it. I could not make out upon what plan selection was made, whether the coolie chose the sampan or the sampan-man the coolie. All that was to be seen at brief intervals over the bulwarks was a coolie bundling into a sampan, where half-a-dozen brawny arms seized him, and amid a fearsome clamour handed him about till he was finally deposited in a boat and was presently rowed away. One who had evidently got himself up with great care, probably having a circle of visiting acquaintance in Yokohama, had undergone this process of selection, and was sitting, pale and heated, smoothing out his umbrella, wiping his spectacles, and shaking his clothes into shape. He had had a bad time of it, but it was over now, and he would soon be on dry land. Suddenly the clamour recommenced. He was seized upon, and hustled, spectacles, umbrella, and all, into a sampan three boats off, where five of his compatriots were already seated. From this and one or two other incidents, I surmised that the sampan men arranged among themselves to take parties of coolies who were going together to various parts of the town, and that they were sorting them out as if they were a consignment of apples.

We had two Japanese passengers in the saloon, young fellows who had been travelling and studying in Europe and the States. They had all the amiability and gentleness of the Japanese, modest, retiring, and almost pathetically polite. In rough weather they were always being blown about the decks, pulled short up by running against portions of the rigging and, in various ways being made light of. Coming on deck shortly after we were anchored, I beheld a strange transformation scene. The elder of the Japanese was leaning in easy, dignified attitude against the gangway. The younger one was standing talking to him bare-headed, and before him in a semi-circle at respectful distance stood an extraordinary group of Japanese. They were five in number. Each man had a large paper umbrella stuck under one arm, and a hat of straw under the other. Three wore straw cloaks: one had a musty brown cloak; and the fifth, the beau of the party, wore a pair of top-boots and a gorgeous green blanket. I noticed—and the accuracy of the observation has been abundantly confirmed in various parts of Japan—that when a native draws on a pair of top-boots he thinks he has done all that can be fairly required of him in the way of dressing. But the law is stern, and as the day was wet the green blanket had been superadded. Nevertheless, as he moved about and bowed, unexpected glimpses were caught above the top-boots of sun-tanned flesh. Whenever the elder Japanese spoke, all the five men bowed down to the ground. If, without speaking, his glance wandered in any particular direction, the individual so honoured bowed and smiled, "and chortled in his joy." After this scene the secret about the elder Japanese could no longer be kept. He was a prince in disguise. Young as he was, he had been a Daimio at the time of the revolution, and had been endowed with vast wealth and almost boundless power. He had never stirred abroad without an escort of two-sworded men. When the revolution came the Daimios accepted the situation with praiseworthy philosophy. They abandoned their rank and state, took Government bonds in part payment of

the value of their lands, and this young Prince, like some others, contentedly went forth to see the wonders of the Western world. The five men were some of his old retainers, probably two-sworded men, who, hearing of his arrival, had come to do him homage.

The Custom House at Yokohama is based entirely upon European models, except in the matter of roughness or incivility. One of my trunks, the least battered after running the gauntlet of the American baggage service, they asked to have opened. But the whole thing was over in a few minutes, and we were at liberty. Jinricki-sha men were patiently waiting, not pestering passengers with demand for preference, but standing quietly in a row, dumbly hoping they might obtain it. The jinricki-sha is perhaps the most prominent and certainly not the least useful institution of Japan. It is like an enlarged perambulator placed upon two light wheels; there is a hood, movable backwards or forwards at pleasure, and on a day such as that on which we landed the fare is covered in from the rain with a curtain of oil-paper let down in front. For steed you have a little Jap, all bone, muscle, and good temper, who trots along with you at about six miles an hour, and can, if you will hire him, take you forty or fifty miles in the day, coming up smiling in the morning for another journey. The fare inside the bridges of Yokohama, practically the length and breadth of the city, is equal to a trifle under fivepence. You can hire a jinricki-sha by the hour for 7½d. The mode of locomotion is pleasant and convenient, and with lingering reminiscence of the London cabby and the United States hackman it is a positive pleasure to have for companion a jinricki-sha man. He takes his poor pittance with a smile and a bow, and cheerfully trots off without thought or contingency of a supplementary copper. He is as merry as a child, and when two or three run together they laugh and talk like schoolboys. In common with their nation they have a keen sense of the humorous or the ridiculous, and, to judge from the frequency of their laughter, they are constantly finding it. Robinson Crusoe, in saucer hat and short straw cloak dripping over bare legs, took me to the hotel, and all the way I could hear him, amid the gusts of wind and the patter of the rain, chatting and laughing with his companions. On a day like this there was nothing to be done but shopping, and after delivering a few letters of introduction we went out to the silk stores. This time my jinricki-sha man was a butterfly being, with a bright blue cotton handkerchief wound about his head and a yellow oil-paper waterproof which glistened transparent in the pouring rain. The five retainers of the deposed prince wore white stockings, with the big toe in a place all to itself for convenience of tying the straw sandal. The people walking about the streets with paper umbrellas, and paper or straw cloaks, wore wooden pattens, standing fully three inches off the ground. To Western ideas it would have seemed better if there had been less clog and more trouser. But it was very wet, and there was no use in spoiling any clothing that might possibly be dispensed with. The jinricki-sha men wore nothing on their feet but straw sandals, with which they gaily splashed through the mud, the water running down their bare legs in never-ceasing streams.

The next morning Yokohama underwent a glorious transformation. The clouds had rained themselves out, and the sun, like the Mikado breaking the bonds in which he had long been held by the Shoguns, had a complete restoration. We rose early, got into jinricki-shas, and gaily bowled along for a trip round the Bluff. As we crossed the bridge over the canal a few paces to the right there was Fuji, with snowcap on, lifted far up into the blue sky. This famous mountain of Japan is seventy miles distant from Yokohama, but it seemed close enough to invite us to a run there and back before breakfast. Before mounting the steep to the Bluff we passed down a street wholly occupied by the Japanese. Yokohama is a foreign settlement. It was a fishing-village when, in 1859, it was selected as the site of one of the treaty ports. Foreigners, among whom English predominate, have built its principal streets, its hotel, its shops, its banks, and its club-house. Walking along the Bund, there is nothing except stray Japanese or a group of jinrickishaw men to contest the assumption that this is an English colonial street. But for the same striking feature in the scenery, Main-street might pass for a British thoroughfare. But cross the bridge, follow this street that skirts the canal, and you are in a new world. The street swarms with its residents in a manner peculiar to Eastern life. In an English street, there are to be seen the people who may chance to be passing, whilst glimpses are caught through windows of others in the shops and houses. In Japan the people in the houses are as much on view as those actually in the street. The first duty of a Japanese householder or his deputy

on rising in the morning is to take down the front of his house. It is literally slid away and the interior left in full view with whatever domestic operations may be going forward at the moment or through the day. This peculiarity of house architecture is not confined merely to the front. The inner rooms are made up on the same principle. There is a groove in the floor along which a panel slides. When night comes and bedrooms are required the panel is slid along, and there is the room. In the morning when it is time to get up, and sometimes, as travellers in the interior find to their embarrassment, before it is time to get up—the panels are slid back, and what was a bedroom is an unenclosed space. These panels (called *shoji*) are made of lattice-work of wood, the open spaces being covered with paper tightly stretched. This is the only wall of the inner rooms, the outer wall, front and back, being composed of sliding shutters all wood. The shutters were drawn back, the bedroom walls had disappeared, and all the houses were open as we drove through in the fresh early morning. All the men and women were at work, and all the children carrying babies. In this street, as in all other Japanese thoroughfares, the number of children is astounding. Salt Lake City is childless as compared with any Japanese quarter, whether in town or country. The stranger is startled by the first impression that all the girls are born double-headed. To see a girl from three years old up to twelve is to make the discovery of a second and smaller head apparently growing on her right or left shoulder. On closer inspection this turns out to be a baby, which she is carrying strapped to her back, no portion of it visible except its head and face. I could not learn at what age a girl is held to be capable of carrying a baby, but I have seen scores whose age did not exceed four staggering along under the weight of an infant brother or sister bound to its back. This is the national form of carrying what in England are known as infants in arms. The Japanese equivalent to the phrase would naturally be infants on back. I do not know how it is for the infant, but it is evidently a very convenient way for the bearer. Women carrying children can and do go about their daily work as if they had no incumbrance, whilst the children play about the streets just as if the baby on their back were a wart or other insignificant natural excrescence. I never saw in Japan a baby held in other fashion, with the single exception of a man in Oyama who dandled one in his arms, and he, I subsequently ascertained, was a man of weak intellect.

Amongst the most striking of the costumes in the moving scene was that of men in blouses, with a sort of white brick dado below the belt and between the shoulders a circle, also of white, marked with cabalistic signs. From a back view they looked like movable targets for archery practice. But they were merely labourers in particular trades, or engaged by firms, whose badge they wore. There was among the population a larger proportion of trouser than obtains among jinricki-sha men; but this article of dress, considered indispensable in some countries, is held in but light esteem in Japan. Where it is worn there is an evident desire to make as little of it as possible. It is cut off short with surprising determination, and where worn down to the ankle a compromise is effected by having the cloth made almost skin-tight. When the waiters at the Grand Hotel brought me my first meal, I thought I was about to be entertained with a saltatory performance. They wore black serge tights of the cut familiar in the stage costume of male members of the Vokes family. I should not have been at all surprised if one had incontinently passed his leg over the head of the other. But they had only brought in tiffin, and left the room in the usual fashion after placing it on the table. Many of the women had added to their natural charms by blacking their teeth. This is the sign of the married state and has a particularly hideous effect. I am told it is now going out of fashion. The younger girls when dressed for the day touch the front of their under lip with a brush dipped in vermilion. Our jinricki-sha men made their way through the throng without running over any children, a feat accomplished only by dint of incessant shouting. We walked up the hill and finally came out on the reccourse, on the way obtaining a bird's-eye view of Yokohama. Coming back one of the jinricki-sha men politely invited us to visit a "garden shop." Not desiring to buy anything we were reluctant to enter, but yielded to pressure, and were received by the nursery gardener with profound courtesy, not abated by one jot when we left without a chrysanthemum pot or a flowering shrub under each arm. Yet the temptation to buy was very great. There were wonderful chrysanthemums, familiar as home friends in colour and shape, but in size and variety exceeding our choicest growths. Besides these, the chief growth

of the garden, there were a variety of clever and artistic arrangements of ferns and grasses in china pots and dishes of diverse shape, with pieces of rock or tiny stumps of trees standing in cool water, and presenting within the space of a few hands'-breadth a charming bit of sylvan scenery. We skirted the Bluff, looked down on the harbour, its quiet waters glistening in the morning sunlight, and reached the level road by a steep hill, in which was a Joss House. Looking in we saw kneeling before a tinselled altar two men, one reciting prayer in a monotonous voice, and the other beating a drum, whose tireless tum-tum-tum, tum-tum-tum, we could hear half-way down the hill.

Returning through the narrow street by the canal, the busy scene had grown in colour and motion with the advancing day. The houses were full of people, and yet the street was thronged. The domestic arrangements in a Japanese shop trench closely upon those of trade. The family sit in a group on the floor, the men, and not unfrequently the women, smoking. A small square box, containing burning charcoal and a receptacle for tobacco ash, is an indispensable article of furniture in every sitting room, whether it be shop or kitchen. The pipe, made of metal, has a bowl about as broad and deep as the nail of the little finger. It holds sufficient tobacco to afford the gratification of three whiffs. These taken, the ashes are knocked out, and the pipe laid down with as much satisfaction as if the owner had had an honest smoke of an hour's duration. Out of doors the Japanese carries his pipe in a leathern case, which, together with his tobacco pouch, is fastened at his girdle. Many, even among the poorer classes, have at the end of the cord on which pipe and pouch are slung, a piece of carved ivory or bone. The tobacco smoked by the Japanese is home-grown, and to the British taste flavourless save for a *soupsçon* of chopped hay. Tiny whiffs of smoke were going up from many of the groups squatted on the shop floors waiting for custom. Here was a woman washing vegetables in water drawn from the street well, with barrel top and pulley and rope overhead to haul up the bucket. Next door was a cooper's shop with an attractive store of the buckets and dippers which abound in Japanese households. Further on was a man mending tins. On the opposite side of the road a woman was spreading out rice to dry on mats. Her neighbour, equally industrious, was carefully stretching on a board the blouse she had been washing for her husband. Here was a butcher's shop with chrysanthemums blooming among the shoulders of mutton and ribs of beef. Many of the joints had attached to them long strips of paper, on which Japanese characters were traced in a bold hand. They probably stated the price and recommended the quality of the meat. But to the new comer there was a strange incongruity between this learned-looking calligraphy and a plate of mutton chops. The tailors in the shop next door seemed familiar enough as they sat cross-legged on the floor busily stitching. Of course the sixteen-shilling trowser is unknown in Japan; but the Japanese when fully dressed wears a surprising number of garments, the making of which keeps the tailors busy. Another thing that had a homelook was the fruit shops, which, as in many parts of London, were open to the street. But in the fruit shops as in all the others the floor is raised only a few inches from the pavement, which gives the general idea that the people are sitting in the street itself. There was a grocer's shop with father, mother, and three children squatted round the hibachi, each with a hand over the glowing charcoal, for though the sun was up the morning air was keen. The man pounding rice next door had no need of artificial means to keep him warm, nor had the man carrying water in two tubs slung on a bamboo pole and carried across his shoulder. This seems an uncomfortable way of getting along with portable property; but it is an ancient habit with the Japanese, and he makes light of it. If the weight be unusually heavy, he eases the burden on his shoulder by thrusting a smaller bamboo under the larger one, using it as a lever which rests on his other shoulder, the end being held in his hand. All kinds of things are carried in this way. There passed us in the street what seemed like a bed of chrysanthemums, but was really a coolie carrying innumerable pots on two trays slung from bamboo in the manner described. There were several cake and sweet shops, whose contents were more curious than toothsome. But they had attractions for the countless double-headed children who stood around and with the larger head looked longingly at the bountiful stores, whilst the smaller one stared out into space, its owner not yet having reached the age when it could covet sweet-meats. Through this bright and bustling scene the jinricki-sha men ran to and fro, laughing and chattering as if it were rather fun than otherwise to be beasts of burden.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 24th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

4,300 British troops have landed at Trinkitat, and are preparing to advance. The cavalry have reconnoitred, and found the enemy 10,000 strong.

London, February 25th.

REPLY TO THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The House of Commons has voted the address in reply to the Queen's Speech from the Throne after a long debate.

MUTINY OF EGYPTIAN FORCES.

The Blacks at Suakim have mutinied, and will be sent to Cairo. Suakim is thus dangerously denuded of troops and but weakly garrisoned by Marines.

London, February 29th, 6.10 p.m.

Cotton, $\frac{1}{8}$ higher; Mid. Upland, $5\frac{1}{2}$. Yarn, prices firmer. Shirts, prices firmer. Silk, Market dull and prices weak.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 13th February.

VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT.

The House of Lords last night, by 181 to 81 votes, agreed to the motion of the Marquis of Salisbury, "that the disasters in the Soudan are due to the vacillating policy of the English Government."

London, 15th February.

EGYPT.

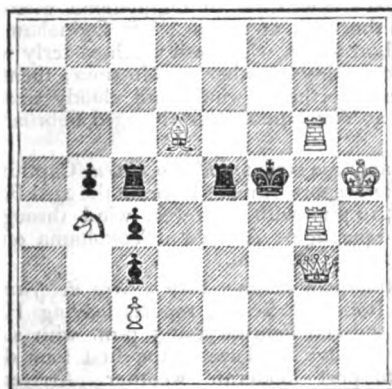
The British Troops are expected to arrive at Suakim on the 19th February.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question, said that he will ask for a vote for Egypt.

CHESS.

By J. ELSON.
From American Chess Nuts.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

EXCHANGE.

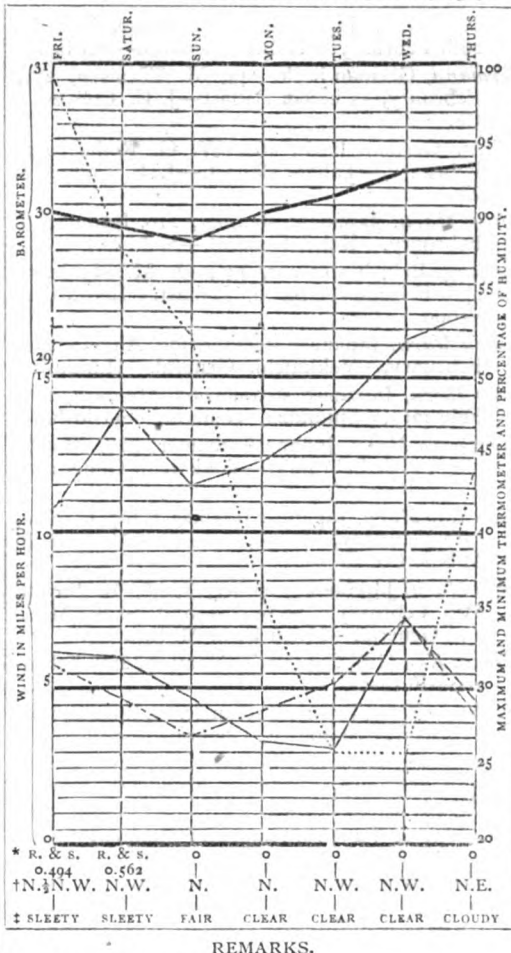
There has been a fair demand for Bank Bills since last mail, but transactions in Private Paper have been small. Rates at the close are weak.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Paris—Bank sight	4.62
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	$\frac{1}{2}$ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89 $\frac{1}{2}$

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Line with dots—represents velocity of wind.
Line with crosses—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 16.8 miles per hour on Tuesday at 11 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.420 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.853 inches on Sunday at 11 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 54.1 on Thursday, and the lowest was 25.3 on Tuesday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 47.0 and 28.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain and snow was 1.06 inches, against 1.640 inches (rain and snow) for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, March 1st.*
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, March 1st†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ...	per M. B. Co. Thursday, March 7th.
From Europe, via Hongkong. per M. M. Co.	Thursday, March 7th.‡
From America ... per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, March 12th.§

* Arabic left San Francisco on February 10th. † Khiva left Nagasaki on February 27th. ‡ Menzaleh (with French mail) left Hongkong on February 28th. § City of Peking left San Francisco on February 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co.	Saturday, March 15th.
For Hakodate ... per K. U. Co.	Saturday, March 1st.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co.	Sunday, March 2nd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ...	per M. B. Co. Wednesday, March 5th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, March 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The guests and subscribers to the grand wrestling match to take place at Fukiage Park on the 3rd inst. will be admitted by ticket only. Two thousand tickets have been issued.

Mr. Matsumoto, of the Naval Department, has resigned, in order to accompany Prince Sankai-no-Miya to Europe.

It is reported that Mr. Takei, Chief of the Forestry Bureau, will not go as Commissioner to the International Forestry Exhibition in London, as the Japanese Consul has been detailed for that duty.

The command of the Kiyôdoden Artillery will in future be held by a Lieutenant-Colonel (*Shosa*) instead of a Captain, as it has been made into a battalion.

The Nippon Bank gave a banquet to the high dignitaries of State on the 28th of last month.

There are no less than one thousand Japanese women in Shanghai, while the men number hardly two hundred.

The *Rikkan Seito Shimbun*, an organ of the Liberals, has been suspended by order of the Government.

The Court of Compromise (*Kankai Saibansho*) has hitherto been little else than a petty bill-collecting office. Now that the Stamp Regulations have been issued, each case of compromise requiring a 20 *sen* stamp, the plaintiffs in cases involving small sums only, such as petty money lenders, have decided to refuse lending small sums in future, as the expenses of the cases would more than take up the amounts claimed. The immediate result of all this is that poor people are no longer able to obtain small pecuniary advances, and are sadly inconvenienced in consequence.

In accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Education, that children under six years of age are to be sent to Kindergarten (*Yochi-yen*), an establishment of this kind has been inaugurated in the prefecture of Shidzuoka.

There are, at present, fourteen Koreans in the Military College. They are very industrious and make rapid progress in their studies, a remarkable fact, when one remembers that they are not perfectly acquainted with the Japanese language. One of these students is a Korean noble of high rank. The nobility in Korea usually lead a life of luxury and are rather effeminate, but this young noble is an exception to the rule, and much is expected of him after his return to Korea.

Although many prominent firms have of late failed at Shimonoseki, the Shurui Kiyoshiu Kwaisha—a company formed by brewers on the joint-stock system—paid last year a dividend of over 30 per cent. The tobacconists and ship-chandlers are taking steps to form similar companies with an eye to future successful trade.—*Choya Shimbun*.

A rumour is current to the effect that the Cabinet, a few days ago, finally decided to sanction foreign residence in the interior at an early date. It is also reported that serious difficulties have arisen between China and Japan, and that Mr. Soyeshima will be sent to China as Envoy Extraordinary, accompanied by a vice-minister.

Eight Koreans, said to be traders, arrived at Ashiya, Toka-gori, Fukuoka Prefecture, having been driven thither by stress of weather from their native province Chôl-la-do. Their junk was loaded with rice, beans, and other cereals. They left Chôl-la-do on the 12th of last December (lunar calender), en route for Pusan, but met with stormy weather and adverse winds on the second day out, being finally driven to Yudamaura, Toyoura-gori, Yamaguchi Prefecture. On the 9th of January the junk started on her home trip, but, meeting heavy weather again, drifted to Ashiya. At that place the Koreans engaged a Japanese pilot to navigate the junk, and bring her safely back to a haven of Korea.—*Jiyu Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 23rd February,—Hakodate 20th and Ogino-hama, 22nd February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 24th February,—Kobe 22nd February, General.—Seiriusha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 25th February,—Kobe 23rd February, Mails General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Amano, 25th February,—Handa 21st February, General.—Handasha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 26th February,—Yokkaichi 24th February, General.—Kowyekisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Eckstrand, 26th February,—Nagasaki 12th February, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 26th February,—Handa 24th February, General.—Hanyeisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 26th February,—Yokkaichi 24th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 27th February,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 27th February,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 28th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 28th February,—Yokkaichi 26th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, B. E. Gall, 28th February,—Kobe 26th February, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 28th February,—Hongkong 21st February, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 28th February,—Yokkaichi 26th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 29th February,—Hakodate 26th and Ogino-hama 28th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 1st March,—Yokkaichi 28th February, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Arai, 1st March,—Yokkaichi 27th February, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 23rd February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tamura Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Dithlefsen, 23rd February,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Glenury, British barkentine, 283, Thomson, 24th February,—Takao, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 25th February,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,254, James, 24th February,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 460, Arai, 25th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Moray, British steamer, 1,196, W. S. Duncan, 25th February,—New York via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 25th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Kilgour, 25th February,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Dsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 26th February,—Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisan Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 26th February,—Hakodate via Ogino-hama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Feronia, German steamer, 1,115, P. Paulsen, 26th February,—Hamburg via Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Kamschatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 26th February,—Kobe, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 470, Taneda, 26th February,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Hermann, German bark, 444, M. Traulsen, 27th February,—Chefoo, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Orient, German bark, 460, W. G. Roder, 27th February,—Takao, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 27th February,—Kobe, General.—Seikisha.

Ingeborg, British steamer, 436, O. M. Meldrum, 27th February,—Kobe, Ballast.—Bernard & Wood.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 27th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 27th February,—Shimidzu, General.—Seisinsha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 27th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 27th February,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 27th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Nisshin Kan (12), Captain T. Nomura, 28th February,—Fusan.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 29th February,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 29th February,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 1st March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 1st March,—Fukuda, General.—Hanyeisha.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Benois, 1st March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Ogino-hama:—Mr. and Mrs. Bachelor, Rev. Andrews, and Mr. Fujikawa Sinsuke in cabin; and 120 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Kobe:—41 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Tsuda and Moroto in cabin; and 104 Japanese in steerage. From Ogino-hama: 5 Japanese. From Hakodate: 81 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—37 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—24 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Walker, Mrs. Rush, child and servant, Lieut. R. Hunt, U.S.N., Paymaster J. A. Ring, U.S.N., Rev. M. L. Gordon, D.D., Messrs. G. Sale, Sagel, Kitagaki, Yasuda, Takagi, Naiki, Nakamura, Furukawa, Oku, Ikeda, Awoki, Ayanokoji, Yamaguchi, Hamakoa, Morikami, and Kusakabe in cabin; and 6 Europeans, 5 Chinese and 204 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—55 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Yoritomo Maru*, from Kobe:—20 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. R. Anglin in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. F. Mayo Blackwell, and Mr. Fong Sue Long and servant in cabin; and 70 Chinese in steerage. For Honolulu: 602 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Ogino-hama:—Mr. and Mrs. Imai, and Mr. Noshiro in cabin; and 108 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—24 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—29 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, for Hakodate:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Messrs. K. Tsumagi, M. Toganai, and M. Kawamura in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Kobe:—45 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. S. Hayashi, K. Sakurai, and S. Shishido in cabin; and 400 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—60 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, for Kobe:—100 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Blissett, Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Symes, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, Miss Krebs, Miss Murray, Major-General Fukushima, Rev. P. Fyson, Rev. W. Andrews, Captain Osaka, Messrs. Jas. Ellerton, K. Okakura, Mitsui, Nose, Hashimoto, Matsuda, Kagawa, Niimiya, Hamaguchi, Sano, and Hirose in cabin.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Franz Wilh. Keichel, William P. Brown, and A. Nagamatsu in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure for San Francisco, \$51,694.00.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 11 bales.

Per British steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	80	—	—	80
Shanghai	12	—	—	12
Nagasaki	—	—	522	522
Hiogo	133	81	1,037	1,901
Yokohama	1,884	19	1,252	3,155
Total	2,159	100	3,411	5,670

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	21	—	21
Shanghai	—	96	—	96
Yokohama	—	288	26	431
Total	—	288	26	431

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 20th February, at 6 a.m. with fresh north-westerly winds and fine weather to Ogino-hama where arrived on the 21st, at 8 a.m.; left Ogino-hama on the 22nd, at 6 a.m. with fresh north-easterly winds and thick rainy weather to No-sima; thence to port fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd February, at 11 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 23rd February, at 5.16 p.m. with fresh west wind throughout the whole passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 25th February, at 6 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robert R. Searle, reports leaving Hongkong on the 21st February, at 5 p.m. with strong winds and heavy head sea on the first four days; thence to port moderate weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 28th February, at 10.30 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 28th February,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October,—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Amaki Kan (6), Commander I. Miura—Yokosuka.

Fuso Kan (12), Captain R. Inouye—Yokosuka.

Kongo Kan (13), Captain R. Aiura—Yokosuka.

Tsukushi Kan Captain M. Matsumura—Yokosuka.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has not been any feature of special interest in the Market since our last report, but from all accounts the native trade seems to be going on steadily, and unattended by any excitement.

COTTON YARN.—Dealers appear to have satisfied their requirements during the early part of the month, as the Market is now quiet; the demand has been limited to small transactions in English spinnings, with a fair demand for Bombays.

GREY GOODS.—Small sales have been made of common make of both 8½ and 9 lbs. Shirtings, as well as 7 lbs. T.-Cloth, and some large sales of Bombay T.-Cloth.

FANCIES.—Turkey Reds have been sold to a fair extent at full rates. Velvets have become quieter. Victoria Lawns have been in good demand at rather better prices, and large sales of Mousseline de Laine are reported.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$26.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	26.00 to 27.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.50
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½ lb per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Business in Oil still remains at a standstill. Holders are firm at quotations, but dealers are unable to clear their previous purchases, and the Market must therefore be looked upon as weaker. Deliveries have been 15,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.80
Comet	1.77
Stella	1.72

SUGAR.

Prices remain unchanged, except for Brown Formosa, which has been done at a reduction on the rate quoted in last report, a parcel of 2,000 bags having changed hands yesterday at \$3.73. Trade generally is dull, and White sorts in small request. Stocks of Formosas are accumulating, arrivals of new crop far exceeding sales.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was issued on the 21st instant, since which date we have seen more business in this Market, resulting in a list of Settlements giving a total of 250 piculs for the seven days. The approach of the American mail has apparently stimulated enquiries for *Filatures* and *Kakeda* sorts, nearly all the trade running on these kinds,

Telegraphic news is not particularly favorable at the moment, especially from European Markets; and it would seem that the threatened scarcity of prime qualities here during the next few months is the chief reason why prices are so well maintained. The native manufacturers are still in the Market to some extent, but on the whole things may be called easier, without much actual change in prices. Sellers have shown themselves more willing to meet buyers, and the result has been a fairly current business for the time of year.

The P. & O. steamer *Kashgar* on the 23rd instant took 60 bales only: of these 55 bales were destined for France and 5 bales for England. This vessel brings the total Export up to 27,153 bales, against 21,071 bales to same date last year, and 13,737 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—Again a week has passed with but very few transactions in this description. Settlements are given as 40 piculs only: embracing *Shinshu* at \$482½, *Foshu* \$480, and *Hachoji* \$465. Holders, without actually offering their Stocks freely, are decidedly more easy to deal with, and doubtless in some cases would concede a turn in price.

Filatures.—Something has been done in these, and purchases have been made in sizes suitable for the United States Markets as well as in finer kinds. Among the sales we notice *Shinshu* \$625, \$615, \$605, according to quality. *Oshu Yamagata*, \$610; *Mino*, \$610; *Hida*, \$600; *Koshu Best*, \$612; *Yechigo*, \$570; *Nihonmatsu*, \$645.

Re-reels.—No transactions reported. High class *Re-reels* are not plentiful at the moment, and demand for Medium grades has apparently gone off.

Kakeda.—These have again met with a fair enquiry, especially for "Medium to Good Medium." The demand for the better kinds holds off in spite of the fact that dealers are more disposed to be current. Business has been done in sorts costing \$580, 560, \$550, \$540.

At closing, demand has come with a rush, and dealers are holding their goods off the Market for extreme rates.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—With the exception of a few bales *Hamatsuki*, nothing has been settled for Export. The internal trade take a small quantity, and small supplies come to hand at intervals.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Hanks—No. 1	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshi)	465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3	450 to 460
Hanks—No. 3½	635 to 645
Filatures—Extra	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	605 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	565 to 575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 620
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 570 to 580
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3	500 to 505
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	480 to 490
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	430 to 450
Sodai—No. 2½	430 to 450

Export Tables Raw Silk to 28th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,740	10,966	6,996
America	7,774	6,944	4,032
England	2,639	3,161	2,709
Total	27,153	21,071	13,737

WASTE SILK.

Business in this department has apparently taken a fresh departure, sales for the week being returned as 550 piculs. The most noticeable feature has been the transfer into foreigners' hands of nearly the whole stock of *Mawata*. Beyond this there has been a good current demand for *Noshi* and *Kibiso*, purchases being restricted by the paucity of the Stocks on offer. Considerable purchases are reported to have been made by natives from foreigners in *Kibiso*, but it is understood that these were at once transferred to other foreign godowns without the goods re-entering the native town. The figures of Settlements and Stocks are therefore not disturbed by these transactions. Arrivals from the interior have not been more than 150 piculs, and Stocks are accordingly reduced to a lower point than for many months past.

The English mail of 23rd instant carried 131 bales; outside steamers have taken something, and the total Export now stands at 20,144 piculs, against 18,063 piculs last year, and 16,266 piculs to the end of February, 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing to report beyond the stereotyped phrase:—"No Stock." It would seem that this class may be left out of all calculations for the rest of the season.

Noshi-ito.—Settlements for the week reach 130 piculs at full rates, and Stocks are further reduced. In *Filatures* but little has been done beyond a few *Shinshu* at about \$135. For the parcel *Utsunomiya* mentioned in our last \$152½ has been offered and refused. In *Foshu*, "Best" are held strongly at \$115 per picul, perhaps \$112½, while "Fair to Good" assorted is in request at from \$88 to \$90. The trade done has been chiefly in *Foshu* with a sprinkling of Common at \$77½, and *Kawamuki* at \$55.

Kibiso.—Purchases in this class are fully 250 piculs, and some kinds show a marked rise on quotations ruling a month ago. Reported sales comprise all grades from *Tokosha Filature* at \$124 down to Common *Foshu Neri* at \$6½. The best qualities both of *Filature* and *Hank* curlies are now very scarce indeed. Among the Settlements we observe *Sendai*, \$87; *Zaguri*, \$108; *Sandan-shu*, \$60; *Foshu*, \$35; *Hachoji*, \$34 to \$27½; *Neri*, \$14½ to \$7. These prices are all for the rough Stock, while those given in our list of quotations below are for "picked and cleaned."

Mawata.—After a long period of stagnation we have to record an extensive purchase, one large buyer practically clearing the Market at prices ranging from \$164 to \$175 according to quality. Sales are about 140 piculs and arrivals have been very light.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	Nom. 65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshi, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 35
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 20
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 28th Feb., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	17,949	14,950	13,137
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,113	3,129
	20,144	18,063	16,266

Exchange has been slightly on the rise during the greater part of the week, closing a trifle under the highest point. We quote London 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; New York, 30 d/s., 89½; 60 d/s., 90½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72. *Kinsatsu* have steadied somewhat at about 115 to 116 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 28th Feb., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,300	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	600	Noshi-ito	40
Kakeda	400	Kibiso	340
Sendai & Hamatsuki	350	Mawata	60
Taysam Kinds	50		
Total piculs	2,700	Total piculs	440

TEA.

Business began in earnest during the first half of the week, and at the close, there is no desire to purchase, buyers apparently seem to be satisfied with their transactions for the present. Telegraphic information from the Home Markets continue to be favorable. Settlements amount to 605 piculs, and including this week's business, the total Settlements to date now stand 157,531 piculs, against 165,505 piculs last year for the same period. All grades of Tea on offer have participated. Receipts during the interval have just about balanced the demand, and consequently Stocks at this port are about the same as they were a week ago from to-day. The Market closes very firm, and we must quote one dollar rise in Good Common and Medium sorts over our last week's quotations, as prices are regulated more by the actual requirements of buyers, than any regard to a recognised standard of value. The *Moray* left here on the 24th instant for New York, via Suez Canal and other ports, and will be the last steamer through that route for the remainder of the season, her cargo consisted of 207,672 lbs. Tea, distributed as follows:—For New York, 192,708 lbs., and for Canada, 14,964 lbs.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	15 to 17
Medium	19 & up'ds

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

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PERFUMERY,

celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained Nine Prize Medals, including London, Vienna, Philadelphia,

ONLY GOLD MEDAL—PARIS, 1878,
TWO SILVER MEDALS AND "FIRST ORDER OF MERIT,"
MELBOURNE, 1881.

ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis, Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet, and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,

a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Exotics

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,

a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

ATKINSON'S
ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,

a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,

a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,

and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the manufacturers

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PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a "Golden Lyre."

ESTABLISHED 1799.

Dec. 29th, 1883.

20 ins.

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KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,

THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins only.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
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KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEET-MEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.
January 4th, 1884. 20in.

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Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*

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* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

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May 1st, 1883.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Gold

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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Plain and Ornamental for Rain Water and Building purposes.

Railings,	Standards,	Fountains,	Verandahs,
Gates,	W.H.Basins,	Lamps,	Covered Ways,
Balconies,	Urinals,	Spandrils,	Bandstands,
Panels,	Closets,	Columns,	Conservatories,
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WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

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3^d, 6^d, 1/2, 2/6 & 4/-

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LONDON

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 10, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 8TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH, 1884.

DEATH.

In Washington, D.C., on January 11th, ANNIE E., only daughter of Elisha E. Rice, formerly of Hakodadi.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A NEW war vessel, the *Kaimon-kan*, has been launched at Yokosuka.

THE question of treaty revision has been widely and ably discussed by the vernacular press.

A CHINAMAN and a Japanese woman have been detected in an attempt to smuggle opium.

THE formation of two sub-departments within the Council of State, is announced, the one for education, the other for commerce.

THE time of departure of the Mitsu Bishi steamers from Yokohama for Shanghai has been altered from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

A STEAMER built for the Union Navigation Company (*Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha*) has been launched at the Kawasaki Dockyard.

THE plum blossoms in Tokiyo are now in their prime, and the comparatively genial weather has procured them large number of visitors.

A DECORATION has been presented to His Majesty the Emperor by the Spanish Minister on behalf of the King of Spain.

MR. EARNEST SATOW has been appointed British

Agent and Consul-General at Bangkok. Mr. Satow proceeds direct to his post without revisiting Japan.

SOME disturbances have taken place at Nagoya, owing to a quarrel between the Liberals and another political party known as the *Ai-doku Kojunsha*.

Six fires occurred in Tokiyo during the week, of which three are supposed to have been incendiary fires. The total number of houses destroyed was 587, and one life was lost.

SOME idea of the magnitude of the business carried on by Japanese druggists is furnished by the fact that, during the course of 1883, one firm employed 1,400 pedlars of patent medicines and paid a stamp duty of 34,900 yen.

RUMOURS, entirely without foundation, have been circulated by the vernacular press, to the effect that complications have arisen between China and Japan and that His Excellency Soyeshima is about to proceed to Peking on a special mission.

MR. SHIODA, hitherto Assistant Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been transferred to the Council of State. Mr. Shioda's services in the former post have made his name familiar to most foreigners in Japan.

IN Tonquin, General Millot has assumed command, and it was confidently expected, at the date of latest advices (18th February), that the assault on Bac-ninh would take place by the 5th of March, at latest. A desperate resistance was anticipated, and doubtless the Chinese forces may make a stout stand if they are so minded. But good authorities declare that China has no intention of offering any real opposition to French designs upon Bac-ninh.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued over the signatures of the Ministers of Home Affairs, and of Agriculture and Commerce, directing that growers of and dealers in tea throughout the empire shall form themselves into guilds, in each locality. The purpose of the guilds is to contrive a system for the prevention of adulteration, and their transactions are to be governed by regulations which shall have received the approval of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

THE Yokohama Gas Committee held its annual meeting on the 4th instant. The accounts showed a balance in hand of \$950.91. The total receipts for 1883 were \$5,146, against \$5,854 for 1884, and the total expenditures for these years were \$5,246 and \$5,542 respectively. It was explained that several people declined to contribute their quota to the lighting of the Settlement on various pretexts—another illustration of the painful state of helplessness to which all local government in Yokohama has been reduced by diplomatic obstructions. Lighting is certainly not among the duties that devolve upon the Japanese authorities. There ought, therefore, to be no doubt about the competence

of the foreign community to accomplish it, but in the present confusion of all competence and authority everything is doubtful. The duties of the Lighting Committee were transferred to the Committee of Land-renters recently appointed for purposes of municipal reform.

SEVENTEEN Japanese seamen, the crew of the British schooner *Otomé*, which vessel was seized by the Russian authorities off Behring Island last August, sued the owner, Mr. J. H. Snow, for wages said to be due to them from July 1st to November 14th, the latter being the date of their return to Yokohama. The owner contended that his responsibility ceased on the 25th of August, the day of the schooner's seizure by the Russian authorities, and the Court upheld this contention, but ordered that the men should receive the money which they had been obliged to borrow for the purpose of defraying the expenses of their journey from Vladivostock to Yokohama.

NOTES.

THE Society of Art Critics (*Kangwa-kwai*), recently formed in Tokiyo, is an undertaking which promises to be of great value. Its primary object will be to afford the public an opportunity of getting pictures criticized and certified by competent authorities. At its public meetings there will be arranged, also, a loan collection of selected paintings, exhibited and labelled in such a way as to cover special periods as adequately as may be. Later, it is proposed, we understand, to hold a course of lectures, historical and critical, which will be open to the public. The membership of the Club, though limited, comprises a number of specialists, among whom are the acknowledged heads of the Kano and Tosa schools; also an artist who has been trained to appreciate and practise both native and European methods of drawing; an accomplished scholar in the field of Japanese antiquities; and a young student of history of great promise, who has been trained in European methods of research and writes English like his native language. The declared object of the Society is to rescue criticism and taste from the pitfalls of blind tradition, on the one hand, and shallow enthusiasm on the other. It intends later to extend its influence in the direction of helping to form that public opinion which is to mould future artistic production. The encouragement of young artists of promise, if means permit, also forms part of the programme. It is possible, also, that the Society may publish its papers on history and criticism. It undertakes to correct confused genealogies, to collect full lists of seals and signatures, and to make catalogues of all known works of ancient artists. If success attends these early efforts, other lines of activity will doubtless be entered upon. At the first public meeting of the club to be held next Sunday, the exhibition of old paintings will be unusually large. It will cover, so far as as possible, the history of the whole Kano school from the beginning to the present day

The specimens will be arranged chronologically, and labelled. This will be the first time, we believe, that Japanese have had such an opportunity for systematic study afforded them. The opening exhibition will be limited to works of the Kano school; but at subsequent meetings other schools will be similarly illustrated. The Criticizing Committee, consisting of the two Messrs. Kano, Mr. Yamana, and Mr. E. F. Fenollosa, who occupies the first place among foreigners as a critic of Japanese paintings, announce that they will be prepared, on the 9th inst., to pass judgment on any old Japanese or Chinese pictures (*bunjin-gwa* excepted) that may be brought for the purpose. This verbal criticism will be the result of the joint deliberation of the Committee. If, however, certificates are desired, they will be supplied by either member of the Committee designated by the owner. The certificates, though given by individuals, will be distinguished from private certificates in the following respect:—first, they will be of uniform pattern; secondly, their phraseology will be special; thirdly, they will be granted only to paintings ranking as high as 2nd class; fourthly, they will be stamped with the Club seal and inscribed with the date of the public meeting at which they are issued; fifthly, they will be numbered and registered; and sixthly, careful miniature copies will be made of the pictures certified. In this way it is hoped that a general improvement may be effected in the standard of certificates, the giving of which has become so much a mere mercenary matter that inferior, and even false, specimens are often certified for fraudulent purposes. We understand that at the first meeting no charge will be made for certificates; but that there will be an entrance fee of 20 *sen* to cover incidental expenses. At subsequent meetings verbal criticisms will be given without charge; but for certificates, charges are to be made at the rates hitherto customary in the Kano family. The money so obtained is not to go to the individuals certifying, but to the common fund of the Club. On next Sunday it is announced that Mr. Fenollosa will deliver a lecture on the "Philosophy of Criticism." It will begin at two o'clock, and last probably an hour, being interpreted into Japanese sentence by sentence. In it, we understand, mention will be made of the aims of the Club; of the difficulties and dangers involved in the ordinary methods of criticism practised in Japan; of the value of European methods, and of the importance of considering spiritual depth and treatment of a subject in a picture as well as the technique of touch. We gladly welcome the formation of this Society, not only for the sake of the impetus it will probably give to Japanese pictorial art, but because it will afford the public some protection against the numerous frauds at present practiced.

ACCORDING to a London paper, the scarcity of recruits has led to an extraordinary proposition to obtain men as follows:—The War Office authorities have followed up their brilliant suggestion about employing the Post Office as a recruiting agency by proposing that the police should be used for the same purpose. The justices at the Oxfordshire Quarter Sessions were agreeably surprised the other day, by receiving a circular from his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief inquiring "if the services of the county police could not be utilized for the purpose of making generally known the advantages and

conditions of entering the regular army and militia. The fee for the regular army to be five shillings and for the militia half a crown." The notable suggestion was not received with much enthusiasm. One of the magistrates said that he could hardly conceive anything more objectionable than to employ the police as recruiting agents. Recruiting means public-houses and the drinking of beer, and all the other arts and artifices familiar to Sergeant Kite. It is hardly likely that a police-constable instructed to act the part of an amateur crimp, with his faculties stimulated by the prospect of possible half-crowns and five-shilling pieces, will have much attention to spare for burglars and pickpockets. An officer who gets hold of a too jovial drunkard will be distracted between his duty of locking his captive up and his own obvious interest—which is that of taking advantage of the gentleman's condition to press the Queen's shilling upon him. And how popular it will make the army, to be sure, when men know that they can pass into it *via* the police-station! The whole expedient is a pitiful one. The authorities will have to make up their minds to face the question of better pay, and abandon such miserable experiments as these.

THE final football match of the season was played on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock between the "Ojisans" (or residents of over 5 years in Japan), and the "Wakai-hitos" (or residents of under 5 years). The former had the advantage of the wind during the first half of the game and scored a goal and two tries against one try obtained by the "Wakai-hitos" just before half time. Unfortunately for the latter, the wind somewhat dropped after ends were changed, and although they rather pinned their opponents at times, no further score was made by them. Just before time was called Durant scored a third try for the "Ojisans," after taking the ball nearly the length of the ground. The game ended therefore in a win for the early settlers by one goal, dropped by Sutter, and three tries, obtained by Durant (2) and Hamilton (1), to one try obtained by Baggallay. The sides were:—"Ojisans"—Sutter (Captain), Hamilton, Merriman, Fraser, A. Vivanti, Durant, C. Martin, Snow, Hawkins, Abbott, and Hepburn. "Wakai-hitos"—Melhuish (Captain), Read, Bing, Baggallay, Wilson, Willoughby, Cameron, Thomson, McLaren, Ostermayer and another. The Club may be congratulated on having had a very successful season, notwithstanding that no foreign matches could be arranged. In all, nine matches have been played, exclusive of the opening game, and all have been well contested.

THE Government of Korea is said to have decided that the peninsula must have a standing army of respectable strength, and measures are accordingly in progress to raise the present establishment to ten battalions. It is, perhaps, inevitable that a country emerging from its isolation and entering the comity of nations should immediately prepare the means of defending itself against aggression, much as a child when it goes to school to be educated recognises the necessity of paying some attention to the pugilistic art. We do not know the strength of a Korean battalion, and cannot, therefore, tell exactly what force ten such bodies represent, but whether many or few, a standing army of these dimensions appears to overtax the resources of the country. The Japanese news-

papers gravely observe that Korea suffers from a temporary scarcity of circulating media, and is slightly embarrassed about the clothing and arming of her new badge of civilization. In this dilemma Japan has come to the rescue of her *protégé*, and Korea is to be supplied with the cast-off weapons and accoutrements of the Japanese army until such time as the sinews of war become plentiful in the peninsula.

IN the village of Jindaishi, Kanagawa Prefecture, there is an old shrine, known as Chinjiu-hikawa-jinja, and beside it grows a huge *criptomeria*, many hundred years old. The tree, despite its sacred character, has begun to show signs of decrepitude. Four or five years ago, an autumnal typhoon tore off one of its largest limbs, and in the wounded place there was gradually formed a large hollow. During the early days of the present year the snow and rain, lodging in this hollow, attracted the attention of some worshipper at the shrine, who, stirring the little cistern of clear water, fancied that he detected a peculiarly pleasing odour. Tasting the liquid, he found that it could scarcely be distinguished from the best *saké*. This marvellous discovery was soon bruited abroad, and the simple country folks, concluding that the god of the shrine had turned brewer in his old age, came from all directions to procure some of the holy liquor, so that the priests drove a roaring trade while the contents of the hollow held out. Strange as the tale sounds, it is not impossible that the resin of the tree, assisted by some fungous growth, may have imparted to the water a taste closely resembling that of *saké*, which, after all, is not unlike a decoction of toad-stools and pine-cones.

THE *Times* Ottawa special says:—A home member of Parliament for New Westminster, B. C., states that Chinese immigration into that Province has ceased. He estimates that during the past year fully 1,000 Chinamen have crossed over from British Columbia into the United States. He says that they, as a rule, smuggle themselves over in canoes, and when once on land and mingled with their countrymen it is impossible to distinguish them from those who have been residents for some length of time. During the hop gathering season they also cross over with the Indians into Washington Territory. The Provincial Legislature will shortly introduce a bill restricting Chinese immigration, upon which, however, he thinks the Dominion Government will exercise their veto power and disallow it.

THE temple of Monzeki in Tsukiji is one of the largest in Tokijo. Its immense roof constitutes the most remarkable feature in the district, and thousands of people assemble within its walls, from time to time, to listen to the homilies of the Monto priests. The Buddhist *sekkijo* is perhaps the most attractive form of moral discourse delivered by the representatives of any creed. It admits all sorts of anecdote and illustration, and combines the grave and the gay after a fashion that seldom fails to command the attention of an audience. Connected with the sermons preached in Monzeki, however, there is a feature of special interest. It has been remarked that of late the doctrines they inculcate bear a remarkable resemblance to the teachings one may hear daily in the churches and lecture halls of Tsukiji. Whether the proximity of their principal place of worship to the missionary colony has

exercised some subtle influence upon the exponents of the Monto creed, or whether they are gradually coming to recognise that the permanence of their faith depends upon the timely adoption of a nobler morality, it is certain that within the past year they have begun to speak to the people of the immortality of the soul, of the joys of heaven, and of a personal existence hereafter. We do not deny that there may be warrant for these doctrines in some of the diverse forms which Buddhism has received at the hands of its many manipulators, but it is a singular coincidence that, at the lectures delivered by the missionaries in the Meiji Kwaido, Buddhist priests are always to be observed among the most attentive listeners, and that in the sermons subsequently preached by the priests of Monzeki, not the least important principles of Christianity find unequivocal expression.

THE farmers living in the neighbourhood of Lake Biwa have conceived the idea of utilizing the lake for purposes of irrigation. At present the great sheet of water has no available outlet, and it is proposed to construct a tunnel, somewhat after the fashion of that by which Hakone Lake is made to communicate with the rice valleys on its southerly side. The expense of the work is estimated at a million yen. The Prefect of Kiyoto, in company with several delegates from the farmers of Omi, arrived in Yokohama by the *Gembu Maru* on the morning of the 28th ult., and proceeded at once to Tokiyo to consult about the best means of obtaining the necessary funds.

OUR Saigon exchanges, up to date of February 14th, bring no news of interest from Tongking. Everything is quiet, and reconnoitring parties are sent out rather to keep the troops occupied and in good spirits than to frighten the enemy. Reinforcements are anxiously awaited. The health of the garrisons at Hué, Thuân-an, and Tourane is in a bad way. Dysentery and low fevers have broken out, and many fatal cases are reported. The *Indépendant de Saigon* strongly condemns the want of proper sanitary precautions. A report is published that the young King at Hué intends sending an embassy to Paris, in order to arrive at a definite settlement of some important questions; but, as the *Indépendant* wisely remarks, the metropolitan government will probably have greater and more pressing affairs to look after than the solution of diplomatic problems in Annam.

GENERAL OYAMA and *suite*, which comprises 14 Japanese military officers of various ranks, arrived from Japan last evening (says the *Hongkong Telegraph* of the 23rd ult.) per the M. M. Co.'s steamer *Menzaleh*, en route to Europe to enquire into the different military systems in force there. The General and party, together with 11 Japanese students, who are also proceeding to Europe, and will be distributed amongst Paris, Berlin, Vienna, &c., landed about 4 o'clock yesterday evening, and took up their quarters in the new Hotel de l'Univers. There was a considerable "sell" in connection with General Oyama's landing. Colonel Barton, Assistant Military Secretary, Major Coffin, Brigade-Major, and Lieut. Porter, A.D.C. to General Sargent, assembled at Murray Wharf towards 10 o'clock this morning, in full uniform to officially receive the General, Lieut. Vyvyan, the Governor's Aide-de-camp, going off to the *Menzaleh* to take him ashore in the police launch.

The Governor had also sent down his carriage to the wharf to convey General Oyama to Government House, and four stalwart European constables and two mounted Sikh troopers were sent down to the pier to impart *éclat* to the reception, a Guard of Honor of 30 Sikhs, under the command of a Jemadar, being sent to Government House to meet the General when he should arrive. Lieut. Vyvyan, however, upon going on board the *Menzaleh*, learned, to his great chagrin, no doubt, that the General and his *suite* had landed the previous evening, and so there was a general break-up for the reception party at the wharf. Later, however, General Oyama, accompanied by his *suite*, paid a visit to Government House, and was received by the Sikh Guard of Honor, who were kept waiting there until the General arrived. General Oyama, goes first, we understand, to Italy to investigate the Italian military system, after which he will visit France, Germany, Russia, Austria, and England, winding up with the United States.

A FRENCH chemist says that the chemical knowledge applied to the concoction of spurious food and drinks is of a very high order, and would suffice to make the fortunes of the adulterators a dozen times over, if applied in an honest capacity. The matter which seems to have aroused him of late is a peculiarly ingenious thing in gooseberry jelly. It appears that the article is made entirely of seaweed. The coloring matter is fuchsine, and the flavor is given by a compound of acetic ether, tartaric acid, aldehyde and cœnanthic. Inspectors often recognize it from the fact that it is "a little more elegant than the genuine article." What a pity that it does not take more education to mix water and milk. The standard of popular education would rise perceptibly.

A FRIGHTFUL catastrophe has happened at Hongkong in the explosion of a boiler on the *Potsai*, a steamer plying between Canton and Macao, belonging to the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, which formerly belonged to the late Kwok Acheong. The vessel was proceeding to Macao from Hongkong, to take up her berth on the Canton River, and had just come out of dock after extensive repairs. The explosion occurred whilst the Secretary of the Company, the Captain, the Government Marine Surveyor, and a number of invited guests and officials from the Dock Company were at tiffin. These with the firemen and crew were all blown into the air and several killed. Excepting the case of the *Pesso*, whose boiler burst alongside Lapraik's wharf, on the 22nd November, 1877, and killed 86 Chinese passengers, no such explosion has ever occurred on a vessel at Hongkong. The full particulars are published in this issue.

THE New York *Shipping List* thinks that there must be ways to guard against such an enormous destruction of property by fire as that which is recorded in America the past year—\$103,000,000—which is larger than in any previous year, except those of the great Chicago and Boston conflagrations. A system of better and more faithful construction of buildings is one way, and the exercise of more carefulness on the part of employées is another. There are many conflagrations that will, from the nature of things, happen from unavoidable or unforeseen causes, but the great bulk of our conflagrations

might be lessened by the exercise of an additional amount of vigilance in large manufacturing establishments, and the erection of buildings with a view to safety as well as profit.

THE racing men in Hongkong were favoured with fine weather for the third day's sport, and Mr. Paul was again in great form, and of the nine items on the card he won no less than five and had four ponies "placed." This makes fourteen races in the three days' running, out of 26 events, that have been placed to the credit of the "straw jacket;" but it is apparent by a perusal of the racing as recorded in the Hongkong journals that Mr. Paul had this year a very strong stable, whilst the opposition was more than usually weak. There seems to have been some dissatisfaction with regard to the result of the Champion Stakes. The race, which was run in the dark, was won by Mr. Paul's Rose, but Mr. Brandt, who rode Odawara, lodged a complaint against Mr. Allen on Bandsman, the nature of which did not transpire. A local owner, however, who writes over the signature "Nunquam Dormio," publishes a letter in the *Daily Press* in which he says:—"There are so many rumours circulating round the colony in connection with the Champions' Race, which are scandalous, and likely to bring racing in this colony into bad repute, that I consider it is the duty of the Stewards of the Race Fund to make a thorough investigation into the matter, and sift it to the bottom. These rumours should either be proved or denied officially."

THE valley of the leech (*Hirudani*) among the diamond hills (*Kongōzan*) is the curious name of a place celebrated in Japanese history as the site of a castle where the great warrior Kusunoki Masashige was besieged, and where assailants and assailed alike performed prodigies of valour. The changes of time have induced men to look for something more than relics in the now desolate spot, and they have found what rumour describes as a very rich vein of gold and silver deposit. Trial diggings are now in progress, and the aristocratic valley is not unlikely to be put to vulgar uses before long.

SINCE France, writes M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, committed the unparalleled fault of silently abandoning the rights bequeathed to her in Egypt by her glorious history and confirmed by formal treaties, events have succeeded each other with wonderful rapidity. The facile victors of Tel-el-Kébir have found the means of disorganizing almost completely, in eighteen months, the grandiose work of Mehimet-Ali and the practical work of the Anglo-French control. One might have believed, three or four years ago, that the north-east of Africa was thenceforth finally won over to European civilization. France and England together had restored order and good administration on the banks of the Nile. Credit, the first proof and the indispensable condition of a state's prosperity, had been established. The Egyptian funds were capitalized at 4 per cent. Their redemption was proceeding energetically. Public works were in progress, and institutions were beginning to be founded which would have gradually emancipated the Fellahs, and substituted for loans contracted at usurious rates of 25 to 30 per cent., loans at the relatively moderate rates of 7 to 10 per cent. Egypt in short, was fairly on the way to prosperity. Suddenly the schemes of an obscure

plotter, seconded by "ignorance, pusillanimity, and absolute lack of political spirit on the part of the French parliament," compromised all these germs of well-being. England, "abandoning France to her puerile apprehensions," stepped in, dispersed Arabi's army, and took possession of the banks of the Nile. "We had lost Egypt," says M. Leroy-Beaulieu, "without making the slightest attempt to preserve this precious jewel. History will say that during the 19th century few political faults so grave and so inexplicable were committed by a great people." Master of Egypt, the English could not make up their minds what to do with it. They might have annexed it, given it independence, established a protectorate there, or reverted to the Anglo-French control. They tried a mixture of all these plans. Gladstone would gladly have abandoned an acquisition so inconsistent with his avowed principles, but English public opinion and English traditions forbid a British Government to give up an important position once secured. The troops were nevertheless recalled, little by little, till only 3,000 men remained to guard a country from four to five hundred miles long. Meanwhile, everything Egyptian was disorganized; the administration, the finances, the army. At the elbow of each Egyptian Minister was a British adviser, who, not knowing what course his Government would definitely adopt, did not attempt to reconstruct, but confined himself to daily demolitions. In the midst of this confusion the Mahdi made his appearance, raised the Soudan to rebellion, and is now marching upon Egypt proper, while Abyssinia takes advantage of the situation to renew a war which cannot be said to have ever terminated. In a word, it is plain that Egypt, disorganized as she is, must fall if left to herself, and that the responsibility of saving her from decomposition devolves entirely on the Power by which her capabilities of self defence have been paralyzed. "As for France's rôle," writes M. Leroy-Beaulieu, in conclusion, "it is clearly indicated. After having abandoned Egypt when it was so easy to maintain ourselves there, we could not well prevent England from establishing an effective protectorate, or even carrying through an annexation, more or less disguised. There remains to us, however, the duty of protecting our nationals. Arrangements have been made with reference to the Egyptian creditors. England, perhaps, will demand some modification of them. We must not grant it. If England desires to alter, however little, the conventions relating to the reserved revenue, let her do what we are doing in Tunis—buy up the Egyptian debt and take charge of it. Having been evicted by this wealthy country, we must not, in addition, let the rights of our nationals be disturbed."

ACCORDING to announcement the second, third, and fourth lectures of the course of free lectures now being given in Tokiyo were delivered in the Union Church, Yokohama, on the evenings of the 4th, 5th and 6th instant, the lecturers being Drs. Gordon and Verbeck, and Rev. Hugh Waddell. The attendance on each evening was large, and the last evening larger than any before. The effect of the lectures to give enlarged and liberal views on all the subjects treated of could not be doubted. The lectures on Buddhism and Confucianism, in the main, gave great satisfaction to select and intelligent audiences which listened with great attention to the course. The more difficult subject of science and religion, set off as it was by apt illustration

and finished speech, by Dr. Verbeck, who was taken by an English gentleman in the audience for a Japanese, was most highly appreciated by all classes—as enabling even the illiterate to see what are the true aims and necessary limitations of science and religion, and that, they so far from being mutually antagonistic, they treat of entirely different departments of human knowledge, and are necessary adjuncts to each other. The opening of the lectures by prayer and singing, and their closing by singing and the benediction, as befitting an assembly in a sacred edifice, as well as the absence of any expression of approbation or dissent, save some clapping of hands at the close of the lectures was somewhat in contrast with the reception the same lectures received in Tokiyo. Nor can this difference be owing to want of appreciation on the part of the Yokohama audiences. If any one observed closely the features of the intelligent gentlemen occupying the front seats during the lecture on Buddhism, for example, he would have seen that not a word or syllable escaped their notice; and if he cast a glance at the large number of young ladies, members of the Girls' schools of Yokohama, seated near the organ to aid in the singing, their puzzled look at Gotama's deliverances on Nirvana, and their amusement at his condemnation of woman to servile obedience to their husbands, showed plainly that they were interested listeners, and that a better-day had dawned upon woman in Japan than Buddhism could ever have imparted, and that the lecturer did well to emphasize the new state of things Christian civilization has inaugurated when H.M. the Empress herself is patroness of female education in the Capital. The introduction of the speakers by the native chairmen was very happy. That by Mr. Takahashi Goro of the lecture on Buddhism was very pleasingly and appropriately done, he himself being a writer of some note on Buddhism. He compared the claims of Buddhism and of Christianity to the Chinese and European Schools of medicine:—Both had supporters, but the practical test was in the cures effected. And their relative merits were best understood by comparison, nor was there need of this being done in a spirit of detraction. The closing of the lectures, also, by prominent gentlemen rising in the audience and moving a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturers must have been more agreeable to them than any amount of noisy demonstration. The announcement was made that an interval of some weeks might intervene before the remaining lectures of the course would be given, and a hope was entertained that a larger place might be obtained for the accommodation of the increased audiences which the subject of the remaining lectures and the fame of the lecturers, Rev. Mr. Eby and Dr. Verbeck, might reasonably be expected to attract.

SOME very interesting remarks are reprinted in the *Independant de Saigon* from an essay contributed by M. Le Myre de Vilers, ex-Governor of French Cochinchina, to the *Nouvelle Revue*. The essay deals with the position of affairs in Tongking. The writer is thoroughly acquainted with the subject, and can afford to speak authoritatively. His advice is sound, and it is easy to see that he appreciates the difficulties of the conquest of Tongking at their full value. "If the state of our finances," he writes, "the condition of Europe, the actual necessity for defending our own interests, and public opinion

are in favour of the massing of a large number of troops in Indo-China," if the probable result of our efforts is really worth all the great expenditure of men and money, then dare we hesitate no longer; for the lessons of the past have proved the utter uselessness of half-way measures. We stand in need of at least fifty thousand men, of numerous gunboats, and of a powerful fleet; in all probability we shall be forced to declare war with China, and we must be prepared to attack her vulnerable points. The annual cost will not fall short of *one hundred million francs*, and this outlay will continue for ten years at least. This sum is by no means exaggerated; Cochinchina cost us comparatively very much more, and even then we left the Chinese element out of consideration. To-day we hold all the ports of Tongking in our hands: Namdinh, Hai-duong, Kwang-yen, Hong-gay, Tourane, and Thuân-an. We cannot abandon these places without endangering the lives of those natives whose services we have either accepted or solicited; let us therefore still retain them in our possession. All these places can be easily defended, and as they are situated in navigable waters, our gunboats could readily keep them supplied with food and ammunition. We shall not conquer a great territory, but we shall be assured of an important stronghold in the delta. The expense of maintaining these posts will be inconsiderable: 1,500 to 1,800 men stationed in the garrisons, with an active corps of say 2,000; altogether about 4,000 troops, with a dozen gunboats and a few larger war-vessels. All this represents an annual outlay of eight to ten million francs, the larger part of which might be covered by the customs-revenue in Tongking and the surplus of the colonial budget. At least this is the way the English managed in the Straits Settlements. This plan may be condemned as insufficiently explicit; as nothing but a return to the invariable policy of the Foreign Office, a policy which leaves us in an unsettled state of neither peace nor war; finally, it may be urged that this plan will but renew the difficulties which attend the execution of the treaty of 1874, and that Tongking will be far from secure from harm. All these objections would be reasonable and based upon sound argument; but, as we must needs have Asiatic colonies, we must conform to Asiatic necessities, and, in Asia, everything rests upon vague traditions or is the outcome of mutual compromise, so that distinctness, or exactness, in the European acceptance of these terms, is something entirely unknown."

THE banking firm of Messrs. Ghislain, Cahn, Painvin, and Drion, at Antwerp, has suspended payment. The liabilities are stated to be 10,000,000 f., and the assets 4,000,000 f.

AMONG the six largest sugar-producing countries in Europe—Germany, Austria, France, Russia, Belgium, and Holland—Germany, during the campaign of 1882-'83 carried off the palm with 800,000 tons or 39 per cent. of the whole. Next comes Austria with 475,000 tons, France with 425,000 tons, Russia with 250,000 tons, Belgium with 75,000 tons, and Holland with 25,000 tons. Not only has Germany relatively the greatest number of refineries (357 out of 1,204, equal to 29.6 per cent.), but she has also the largest establishments, the annual production for each refinery averaging 2,235 tons, while the average of Austria is only 2,039 tons, and that of France as low as 895 tons.

THE telegram recently received announcing that an attempt on the life of the King of Italy had been made at a railway station, now appears to have been based upon insufficient data. The telegram was sent to the Foreign Office in Tokiyo by the Japanese Representative in Rome. It was not in French, as a local contemporary stated, nor was the French version published by that journal a translation of the message actually received. The telegram was, however, sufficiently clear to induce His Majesty the Mikado to forward a congratulatory message to the King of Italy. The latter's reply, received on Friday, intimates that the occurrence at the railway station was probably accidental. As to the details of the accident, no information is to hand, but it may be presumed to have been something of the nature of an explosion of gas or steam. The Italian Internationalist is doubtful just as much a reality as the Russian Nihilist, but the probability of his raising his hand against King Humbert seems exceedingly remote.

A SPIDER large enough to be the original of some of the traditional monsters that strangled warriors and performed other murderous feats in former days, is said to have been discovered near the village of Sawanuma, in Ibaraki prefecture. A farmer, by name Unosuke Kameda was engaged last December digging a pond when he came upon the insect and succeeded in effecting its capture. The spider's body is declared to be 1 foot 7 inches in width, and it measures 5 feet 9 inches across the legs. It is to be sent to Tokiyo for exhibition.

AFTER all, there is no better argument in favour of a system than its success. Political economists have always been puzzled to fix the limits of official functions, and some of the wisest of them subscribe to the general postulate that whatever can be accomplished by private enterprise ought to be independent of Governmental interference. The postal service is, perhaps, the only universally recognised exception to this rule, but the telegraphic service ought certainly to be added, if English experience may be taken as a guide. A message may now be wired from the South of England to the north of Scotland at a cost of about a cent per word, and yet the net profits of the post-office and telegraphic departments amounted, in 1882, to nearly nine millions of dollars. Such results as these could scarcely be shown if the services were in the hands of close corporations.

A CORRESPONDENT of *L'Italie* tells an amusing anecdote of Vignaux, the French champion billiard player, who recently defeated the American, Schaeffer. In Vignaux's youthful days he was challenged to play a partie with an amateur of great strength, on condition that both men should have their right eyes bandaged during the match. Vignaux accepted the challenge and was beaten. "Confound this bandage," cried he, "it prevents me from judging my cannons." "Take it off, then, for the return match, if you please," said his adversary. "I, however, will keep mine on." Vignaux thought himself in honour bound to forego this apparent advantage, and playing again as before, was beaten as before. Some time afterwards he met a friend of the conquerer and told the story of the partie. "My adversary was an uncommonly strong player," he observed. "Yes," the

other assented. "All the more so that since he was a child he has been able to use his left eye only."

THE second day's running at Hongkong Races has come to hand, and as was anticipated in this column on Friday, Mr. Paul made a big bid for a clean sweep of the items on the second day's card. Out of the nine events contested, Mr. Paul had one or more starters in eight races, with the result that he won five, ran a dead heat for the sixth, and had second place in the other two. This is rather warm for the other stables, and if the straw jacket is carried into the enemy's country at the Shanghai Spring Meeting, the northerners will have as much as they can do to hold their own on their own ground. The dead heat was for the German Cup, and was between Messrs. Kerfoot and Mouat's Cowboy and Mr. Paul's Ruby, and the owners agreed to divide. The weather, which had been wet previous to the opening day, cleared up on the second day, and large crowds of natives and foreigners found their way to Happy Valley. There was an accident in the first race, the Scurry Stakes, in which Mr. Hutchings, on Filbert, was forced over the rails, both pony and rider coming to grief, the latter getting a severe shaking and badly injuring his ankle.

It is worthy of note that the abolition of Consular tribunals in Tunis and the submission of British, Italian, Austrian, and German subjects to French jurisdiction there, has evoked from English residents complaints precisely similar to those we hear constantly in Yokohama with reference to a possible modification of extraterritoriality. "The Maltese colonists," writes a correspondent of the *London Times*, "regard with considerable apprehension the prospect of a surrender of their persons and interests to the tender mercies of the French tribunals. Many of them told me they would prefer to quit their adopted home rather than tamely submit to such a fate." It may be some consolation to the people of this country to learn that the prejudices which inspire so much dislike and distrust of Japanese tribunals, and which are ostensibly based upon the incompleteness of Japanese laws and the incompetence of Japanese judges, are not less openly expressed when French laws and French judges are concerned. The truth is that men everywhere prefer what they know to what they do not know, and think the institutions of their own country better than those of any other. From a Japanese standpoint nothing could be more unsatisfactory than Western justice as it is administered in Japan under the extraterritorial system. If the old saying, "the man who acts as his own lawyer has a fool for his client," applies to an Englishman in an English Court, how much more must it apply to a Japanese in a foreign Court? Yet a Japanese, appearing as plaintiff in Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan, must not be represented by a Japanese lawyer. The etiquette of the Court, more careful of form than of justice, refuses to permit anything so undignified as the pleading of a professional who does not hold an European or an American diploma. The Japanese must either conduct his own case or go to a foreign barrister. If he adopts the latter course, he knows that his preliminary outlay will be enormous, while the difficulty of explaining himself is scarcely less; if he adopts the former, he has to do everything through an interpreter, and probably finds him-

self, at the very outset, bewildered by the innumerable technicalities and formalities that have to be complied with. We doubt whether foreigners ever take the trouble of attempting to realize the great inaccessibility of Western justice by Japanese. We doubt whether they ever think how they would fare themselves if, when bringing an action against a Japanese, they had to choose between employing a Japanese lawyer at an expense twenty or thirty times greater than they have ever contemplated before, and conducting their own case through an interpreter. Most people scout at the notion that the difficulties and disabilities of which foreigners complain in their intercourse with the Japanese, exist in any corresponding degree for Japanese in their intercourse with foreigners. But this self-complacency disappears when we come to consider the actual facts of the case, as well as the nature of most of the tribunals which the Treaty Powers have set up.

A FEW days after the death of Mr. E. C. Kirby, the twenty-fifth steamer built at the Ono Iron Works during his connection with the establishment was launched and got ready to hand over to the owner, Mr. Nakamura Jiuichiro, an enterprising citizen of Kioto. The day before yesterday Mr. Nakamura went on a trial down the bay, and it was proved that the *Asahi-maru*, as the steamer is called, more than fulfilled all the requisitions of the contract. On this occasion an average speed of ten knots was maintained, although the agreement only called for nine, and this too with 60 lbs. of steam and 85 revolutions, while the boiler is intended to work at 75 lbs., being tested to double that pressure. The *Asahi-maru* has the distinction of being the first iron steamer built in Japan for deep sea work, the only other iron vessels constructed in this country having also been built by Mr. Kirby, but for plying on Lake Biwa. The dimensions of the *Asahi-maru* are:—Length on keel, 152 feet; beam, 23 feet; over all, 161 feet; depth of hold, 12 feet; between main and hurricane decks, 6 feet. She will carry 400 tons of rice cargo under the main deck, and will be placed on the berth between Kobe and Yokohama. The engines are of the usual compound surface-condensing type, and of 55 horse-power, nominal. It will be gathered from the particulars we have been able to furnish, that this last vessel built under Mr. Kirby's auspices has well maintained the reputation won by his shipbuilding establishment, and it is to be hoped that the present owners will be equally successful.—*Hiogo News*.

EMPEROR WILLIAM has written a letter in reply to the address of congratulation sent by the magistrates of Berlin upon the occasion of the recurrence of New Year's Day. The letter of the Emperor especially dwells upon the unveiling of the monument of Germania at Niederwald and the festival on the anniversary of the birthday of Martin Luther, and closes with the prediction that the maintenance of peace throughout the Empire is assured. The text of the letter is as follows:—"I praise God that in His goodness it has still been vouchsafed to me to inaugurate the proud monument on the banks of the Rhine, which is destined not only as a perpetual commemoration of the happily regained unity of Germany, but also as an earnest sign of the invigorated and true might of the united German Empire. The grand

festival in honor of Martin Luther's birth, in which after four centuries the whole of evangelical Christendom united with me, will not less ever remain for me an elevating reminiscence. It affords me the greatest gratification that the new year has come under circumstances which verify the hope of quiet, undisturbed times. I am convinced that under the blessed protection of peace, of the maintenance of which I have obtained fresh guarantees through personal intercourse with friendly princes, the nation will in the future find a prosperous development." Replying to an address from the Town Councilors, the Emperor said he had been able to devote himself to the constant services of the Fatherland with renewed vigor. In recognizing it as one of his missions to foster the friendship of foreign Powers, and thereby bring about a greater intimacy among the nations, he hoped those relations would not remain without a lasting influence for the safety and welfare of the whole country.

THE third lecture of the free series announced by the Evangelical Alliance, was delivered in the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, on Friday last. The weather was everything that could be desired, and this, added to the interesting subject of the lecture—Buddhism and Christianity—as well as to the growing popularity and reputation of the gentlemen engaged in the work, attracted a very large audience. By three o'clock the hall was completely filled, even the galleries being so crowded that standing room could scarcely be found. The capabilities of the building are unfortunately limited, and when sixteen hundred persons had been admitted, it was found necessary to close the doors. Despite this very practical step, and the assurances of the door-keepers that every available spot was occupied, numbers of people remained for a long time at the outer gates, hoping against hope that some means of gaining ingress would be found. The Rev. C. E. Eby opened the proceedings with a forcible appeal to the audience to give the lecturer a fair hearing. He read from the *Fiji Shimpō* a letter recently addressed to that journal by an English layman on the subject of the disturbance made by some students during the delivery of the first lecture of the present series. The letter pointed out that Christian morality is just as much a part of Western civilization as steam or electricity, and that, while adopting the latter, to refuse even to examine the former, is inconsistent with the national intelligence of Japan. The writer then went on to say that freedom of speech and thought is one of the highest privileges of civilized men, and that although this privilege is not yet fully enjoyed in Japan, the interval which separates the people from its enjoyment is daily growing narrower. Probably none were more desirous of bridging that interval than the student class, yet by way of establishing their fitness to be freed from all restrictions, they displayed at the Meiji Kwaido something of the intolerance and bigotry which are everywhere regarded as evidences of the need of control. If Christian philosophy was unworthy to compare with Buddhism or Confucianism, the intelligence of the Japanese people might be trusted to discriminate without the assistance of such devices as the students resorted to. The letter concluded by observing that the world has been in search of truth for many centuries; that it would better become the Japanese to assist, than to impede, the search,

and that the people's title to self-government would not be strengthened did it appear that the effect of their contact with Western systems was to develop a spirit of intolerance and a disposition to stifle honest enquiry. The reading of this letter was received with many noisy demonstrations of applause or dissent, but it was plain that the unruly spirits were not in the ascendant, and when Mr. Eby told his hearers that nothing was asked of them but a fair hearing; that if any could not agree with what they heard, they were welcome to maintain their own views, and that the missionaries not only had no desire to control, but were even ready to respect, their opinions, the whole audience settled quietly down and listened to the lecture with the utmost decorum and attention. It was curious to compare the reception given to Dr. Gordon with that accorded to the Rev. Mr. Verbeck at the previous lecture. The former gentleman resides in Kiyoto, whence he had come for the purpose of delivering this lecture. He was consequently an entire stranger to the people of Tokiyo, and his appearance on the platform elicited no demonstration of any sort. Dr. Verbeck, on the contrary, whose blameless life and earnest labours have made his name as familiar to, as it is respected by, the citizens of the capital, was greeted with a storm of applause. We mention this difference, not by way of contrast, but because of the significance it ought to have for those who profess to think that missionary work has not yet begun to appeal to the Japanese through the example of the workers. Dr. Gordon's manner was very quiet and self-possessed. A little more deliberation would have improved his enunciation and imparted to it the distinctness aimed at by practiced speakers, but any defects that might have arisen from this cause were compensated by an excellent accent and great clearness of style. The lecture was, for the most part read. One might have expected to detect something of the Kiyoto mannerisms or dialect, but if these were present at all, it was in a degree too slight to be perceptible by ordinary ears. Nothing could exceed the attention paid to the lecture. Conspicuous in the front rows of the audience were several Buddhist priests, one of whom, a young man, exhibited at times great excitement; and once, springing to his feet, denied the accuracy of the speaker's views in two or three vehemently ejaculated words. His comrades, however, soon restrained him. They, on the contrary, appeared to be rather edified, than exasperated, by what they heard. Dr. Gordon began by disavowing all desire to speak ill of Buddhism, acknowledging frankly that it contains much which is worthy of admiration and respect, and that a religion so widespread is deserving of careful study. That study, however, is difficult, he explained, because the Buddhism of Ceylon, which most resembles that taught by Gotama, is very different from the Buddhism prevailing in more northern lands. Following the example of Dr. Oldenberg and Rhys Davids, the enquirer's first object should be to learn what Gotama really did teach. Only a small portion of the traditional accounts can be accepted as trustworthy, the northern Buddhists making, for example, a mistake of fully four centuries as to the time of Gotama's death. With regard to his teaching, there is clear evidence, first, that it inculcated self-deliverance coming from self-culture; secondly, that it did not recognise a soul in man; and thirdly, that it consequently denied any real personal existence

in the future. Without discussing at length the existence or non-existence of a saint who has entered Nirvana—a question which Shaka evaded—it may be safely asserted that the original teachers of Buddhism gave us positive hope of a future state. The Great Vehicle, of which Nagarijuna may be regarded as the founder, rose centuries later in a different part of India, where a different language was spoken and different conditions of life existed. The tenets of this new creed, which included salvation for others and was embellished by the addition of many fictitious beings, was taught in writings passed off as the work of Shaka. Thenceforth freer rein was given to the imagination, and there resulted the Japanese Buddhism of to-day, with all its diversities of doctrine, and its variety of Buddhas, of whom those worshipped by one sect were despised by another. The lecturer went into details of this part of his subject at some length, and deduced the conclusion that the Buddhists themselves feel the insufficiency of their faith, just as the physician, who goes about seeking new medicines for a disease, shows his dissatisfaction with the remedies he already possesses. Dr. Gordon anticipated a possible application of this same argument to the sectarian aspect of modern Christianity by pointing out that all the sects have virtually one Bible and all worship one God. Not even a Roman Catholic or a Greek Christian denies that the New Testament is God's revelation or countenances the worship of another deity. Buddhism leaves its followers without any satisfactory account of the origin of the universe: it does not recognise a benevolent creator, but bids its disciples look upon this world merely as a place of suffering, a world to flee from. Disbelieving in a creator, they necessarily have low ideas of sin, and are prone to lapse into immorality. The lecturer dwelt with much force upon the false relationship of Buddhism to women, and his reflections upon this point seemed to meet with the hearty approval of his hearers. Indeed, it would have been difficult to find a more attentive or appreciative audience, and it cannot be doubted that the depth of study and thought displayed by Dr. Gordon made a lasting impression on all those present. Probably the Buddhist priests themselves heard much that was new to them, and carried away a considerably modified idea of their creed. We are persuaded that these lectures will be found to have opened a route leading to very marked results.

THE Paris *Figaro* gives some interesting details respecting a Frenchman named Soulie, who is believed to be the Mahdi's right-hand man, and to have taken a leading share in the defeat of the Egyptian force under Hicks Pasha. Soulie is described as having haunted the cafés and beer-shops of the Quartier Latin some seven years ago. He was then a young fellow of about 24 years, very dark and wiry, loud in talk, and exuberant in gesticulation. He was born at Algiers, where his family still reside. When the war broke out his family, dreading lest his adventurous spirit should lead him into danger, summoned him home to the Algerian Capital, where he does not appear to have pursued any settled occupation. Devoured with impatience, restless from inaction, he endeavored to find a vent for the fury of his temperament by the most perilous exercises of the acrobat and circus rider. On his return to Paris, about seven years ago, he attended the lectures of the School of

Mining Engineering and studied law; but quiet life did not suit him, and he returned to Algiers, whence he wrote letters to friends in Paris, breathing a violent hatred to England and the English, whom he conceived to have used Germany as an instrument to "crush France." One fine morning he disappeared, and his friends were at a loss to know what had become of him, when they suddenly heard that he had joined Arabi, to gratify his passion by fighting the English. After the collapse of Arabi he migrated to Kartouan, and subsequently joined the False Prophet, in whose operations he is believed to have taken a leading part. The story, as told by the *Figaro*, may be pure romance, but there is this foundation for it, that there are many adventurers with the False Prophet, and that among them there is a Frenchman named Soulie.

A LONDON paper says:—It is a little disappointing to find that the efforts made by cultured Europe to civilize the natives of the United States are not always appreciated as they deserve. It is melancholy, but it is nevertheless true, that the public which came to hear Oscar Wilde in its thousands is hardly present in hundreds when Mr. Matthew Arnold preaches the gospel of sweetness and light to it. Moreover, while an American actress is filling Mr. Irving's own theatre nightly with enthusiastic crowds, the success of the eminent tragedian himself is not beyond cavil or question. He and Miss Terry are pronounced a great "social success;" but critical America is by no means convinced that they are supremely excellent on the boards. In Baltimore the Marylanders did not appreciate his "Hamlet" (there have been people in England who have shared these feelings), and they disrespectfully "roared" at the ghost. This was sad, but of course easily accounted for. "Mr. Irving said he was favourably impressed with the Americans, but they were not yet fully educated to appreciate true artistic ability." However, what with the missionary journeyings of chief justices, poets, eminent actors, æsthetes, and others it is felt that things are improving in the benighted land.

THE *Yeiiri Shimbun* says that accurate measurements have been taken of the various dimensions of the celebrated statue of Daibutsu at Nara, with the following results:—Length of back, 38 feet; length of face, 8 feet; breadth of face, 6 ft. 7 inches; long diameter of ear 2 ft. 3 in.; length of eye, 2 ft. 5 in.; length of nose, 3 ft. 5 in.; height of nose 2 ft. 6 in.; diameter of nostril, 2 ft.; length of mouth, 2 ft. 6 in.; length of hand, 4 ft. 8 in.; circumference of waist, 25 ft.

TUESDAY night was an unfortunate time for Tokiyo. Probably not one man in a thousand went to bed without an apprehension that he would be roused by the fire-bell, for the spring-like temperature of Sunday and Monday had been succeeded by a bitter wind from the north-east which blew throughout the day and showed no disposition to go down with the sun. One would fancy that in such a time the citizens would be doubly careful to guard against fires; and so they are, doubtless. But, on the other hand, the opportunity for incendiarisms is rare, and as this variety of trade has been under a cloud lately, owing to the vigilance of the police, the blustery weather of the 4th was speedily turned to account. At a little after eight o'clock,

flames were discovered issuing from an empty house in the rear of a cook-shop near Nihon-bashi. The firemen were soon on the spot, and the people, who have been taught by recent experience to think that a conflagration need not extend beyond one or two roofs, worked with a will. But the wind was too much for them. It carried the sparks to a neighbouring timber-yard, and, in little more than two hours, four hundred houses were in ruins. This is the most destructive fire by which Tokiyo has been visited during the present winter.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives the following particulars:—The fire originated in a dwelling close to a restaurant known as Yoshidaya. A strong N.W. wind was unfortunately blowing at the time, so that the flames were speedily carried to Kawasogoku-cho, Sanai-cho, Shinyemon-cho, and thence to the creek. The fire at one time threatened to cross the river, and in that case there would no doubt have been a second edition of the fearful Hakuya-cho conflagration. But just at this point the fire-proof buildings of the Thirty-third National Bank effectually checked the progress of the flames. About 11.10 p.m. the fire was at last under control, after having burned fiercely for three hours. The Thirty-third National Bank distributed 200 yen among the sufferers from the fire.

A few hours later, at 20 minutes past 5 in the morning, another incendiary succeeded in setting fire to the lumber house of a maker of wine measures in Minami-Shimbô-chô, Kanda ward. The conflagration spread in both directions destroying 77 houses in the street leading to H'totsu-bashi and 102 in the opposite side. This fire was got under by half-past six o'clock, so that in little more than an hour's time, it reduced 179 houses to ashes and half destroyed nine. Unfortunately the affair was not without loss of life. A fireman who carried the *matoye* of one of the companies was caught by the flames and burned to death. Yet another conflagration occurred the same night in the suburb called Maye-no-mura. The flames broke out in a gate-house and destroyed five houses. Thus the total loss suffered in the capital between sunset on Tuesday and sunrise on Wednesday was 584 houses.

FROM what wonderful sources the vernacular newspapers derive their information, we are often at a loss to divine. The latest rumour circulated by them, and readily taken up by the foreign local press, is that trouble has occurred between this country and China, and that His Excellency Soyeshima is about to proceed to Peking for the purpose of negotiating with the T'sung-li Yamên. The whole of this story is a baseless fabrication. There is no trouble with China, and Mr. Soyeshima is not about to proceed to Peking.

SAYS the *New York Times*:—"Mr. Arnold dreamed of meeting the farmer in some pleasant field, guiding the plow with one hand and holding wide open in his other some such work as the 'Iliad' in the original Greek, the 'Prophecy of Isaiah,' in Hebrew, or perhaps 'Culture and Anarchy,' in exquisite English. With this man Mr. Arnold would engage in conversation, and, without once checking the progress of the plow, the farmer would speak with decorous enthusiasm of the Hellenic spirit, and would suggest—in a parenthesis—that alkaline soil might

be improved by treating it with sulphuric acid, or that zeit-geist is unequalled as a fertilizer. Sweetness and light would exude from every crevice of the farmer's straw hat, and Mr. Arnold would beg the favor of sitting reverently at his feet during 'nooning' and listening to the wisdom which, under the stimulus of snowy bread and golden honey, this king of men would impart." The *Times* adds that farmers like this don't grow in America.

ACCORDING to the records of the Police Department, the number of houses where thefts were committed in Tokiyo and its suburbs during the month of January was 1,063; the number of suicides was 41; the number of houses burned, 53; the number of murders, 2; of attempted murders, 1; of rapes, 2; of money-forgers, 1; of forgers of official seals, 1; of thieves arrested, 162; of houses robbed with violence, 38; and of burglars arrested, 20.

THE receipts on account of revenue, says a home paper, from April 1, 1883, to January 5, 1884, were £61,273,255, against £60,716,410 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year. The net expenditure was £66,616,694, against £68,861,712 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on January 5 amounted to £1,801,152, and at the same date in 1883 to £1,758,096.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the value of the deliveries from foreign firms to Japanese in Yokohama during last month (Feb.) was 1,355,293 dollars, while the deliveries to foreign firms from January 26th to February 27th amounted to 636,087 dollars, the balance in favour of imports being, therefore, \$719,206.

IT is said that the applications for railway bonds, up to the 20th instant, amounted to 8,300,000 yen, whereas the quantity to be sold was only five millions. One of the Tokiyo journals, mentioning this, says that if such a sum can be collected in less than a month, the railway will probably be completed in five years instead of ten.

IT is now stated that the trains have been crossing the new bridge over the river Karasu, on the Tokiyo-Takasaki line, since the 23rd of last month, and that the building of the station at Takasaki has been commenced, so that the road will be open for traffic throughout before the end of the present month.

HIS Excellency Tanaka, President of the Council of State, has presented to the Armoury at Kudan two swords; one by the renowned Masatsune and the other by the scarcely less celebrated Sukemune.

A TOKIYO newspaper tells of a wonderful *Tai* caught by some fishermen of Tobashiri in Higo. The fish measured six feet two inches from head to tail and four feet across the body. Such a *Tai* was never before heard of in Japan.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Kashgar* left Hongkong at 1 p.m. on Thursday for this port, *via* Nagasaki and Hiogo, and that the English mails of 25th January are on board the *City of Tokio*. The Pacific Mail steamer was to leave Hongkong on the 3rd inst. at 3 p.m.

WE read in a vernacular journal that Japanese kites have become fashionable in Europe and that 120,000, of various descriptions, were recently exported from Yokohama.

JAPAN TEAS.

THE Notification issued over the signatures of the Ministers of Home Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce, for the purpose of encouraging the formation of guilds to deal with fraudulent practices in connection with the manufacture of tea, is perhaps the only step which can be officially taken in this most important matter. Among persons engaged in the production of both tea and silk, we have been accustomed to hear, during the past two or three years, constant complaints of the reckless adulteration carried on by unprincipled dealers, to the virtual extinction of honest commerce. The effort made by the Ito-gwaisha, in 1881, to accomplish a reform in the case of silk failed, owing to causes which need not be discussed now. It requires, however, no gift of prophecy to see that the greater part of the scheme contemplated by the promoters of the Ni-adzukurisho will, sooner or later, be carried out, and that the trade in the noble article will be freed from the clumsy abuses which at present disfigure it. But this result will probably be deferred for some time still. The initiatory experiment, made three years ago, exercised a sort of paralytic effect upon producers and dealers throughout the country, and left them neither strength nor inclination to recombine, whether for a good or a bad purpose. The false principles on which the tea trade is conducted are, if possible, more injurious to its development and vitality, while being, at the same time less capable of correction under purely private auspices. Tea producers have, at present, no effective incentive to improve or purify their methods. The better the parcels they send to Yokohama, the larger margin is left for profitable mixing. As a rule Japanese traders in the foreign settlements do not want the best and least adulterated article only. They want varieties which can be craftily mixed, and sold at a price considerably above the average of the united parcels. It does not much matter, either, whether a tea comes to market well fired or ill fired, well packed or ill packed, damp or dry. It must all undergo the same processes of re-firing, colouring, and re-packing. The identity of every Japanese, whether producer or dealer, concerned in preparing or bringing forward the tea, is completely obliterated before the staple leaves Yokohama. Whatever it was originally, it goes forward under a foreign chop and in a foreign name. Nothing more conducive to fraudulent practices could be conceived. Expediency is the parent of commercial probity. If merchants were not persuaded that honesty is the best policy, very few of them would remain permanently honest. History contains no instance of a national effort to check abuses in any particular trade. In the competition of individuals the public has its only guarantee against wholesale adulteration. But in the Japa-

nese tea trade the competition of individuals and the rivalry of districts have no practical existence. All distinctions disappear in the foreign godown. The scheme mapped out in the Notification of the two Ministers is evidently designed to correct this fault. Each prefecture is to have its central guild and branch guilds, in which will be enrolled everybody engaged in the tea business. The measures adopted by the guilds for the prevention of adulteration and the introduction of improved methods of firing and packing, are to be devised by themselves, and embodied in bye-laws which will be submitted for the approval of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Every parcel of tea will be stamped with the stamp of the guild and marked with the name of the producer or dealer, the intention evidently being to send it forward to the place of export ready for immediate shipment. The conception is very thorough. There will be no outsiders; no free-lances watching for an opportunity to shoot worthless rubbish upon the market. Parcels not properly stamped and marked will be effectually excluded. A spirit of rivalry will thus be quickly educated in the various districts, and we may soon expect to see guilds as jealous of their stamps as an European manufacturer of his trade-mark.

On the other hand, will the benefits of this system extend beyond the open ports? That is a question upon the answer to which depends in a great measure the ultimate success of the scheme. If the parcels of tea go forward without re-firing or re-packing, and bearing the marks of the Japanese producers in combination with those of the foreign exporters, the trade will be placed upon a sound and satisfactory basis. We have pointed out before now that the re-firing carried on in Yokohama ought to be quite needless. Unquestionably it is necessary at present, but the necessity arises entirely from the faulty methods of firing and packing employed by the Japanese, and it is precisely to correct these methods that the guilds are to be formed. Here, however, the Japanese must be prepared to encounter resolute opposition. They are probably prepared to encounter it. For they know as well as we that the tea-firing godowns in the open ports are a source of considerable profit to commission merchants. The money actually spent in re-firing, colouring, and re-packing the tea is often little more than a moiety of the charges entered against these operations. Apart from this, too, few houses will be willing to risk the experiment of shipping Japanese teas by muster. Confidence sufficient to justify this will be very slowly established and reluctantly acknowledged. That it will ultimately be established, we do not entertain the slightest doubt, because the true interests of both sides suggest the advisability of freeing the trade from a superfluous tax, for that is the only term properly applicable to the re-firing and re-

packing at the open ports. Even if these operations had not created an expensive custom, an immense saving could be effected by performing them once for all at the places of production, where labour fuel and wood are much cheaper than in Yokohama or Kobe. But habits which have become sources of profit are difficult to eradicate. The first experience of the Japanese in this matter will be disappointment. They will be told that their teas were good enough already, and that if they choose to spend money on guilds and reforms they cannot expect the tea to bear the charges. Probably their best plan will be to send some parcels forward on consignment, through foreign merchants of repute if they can find men willing to interest themselves honestly on behalf of the scheme. Once let the reputation of the pure, uncoloured tea, retaining its original aroma, fresh from the hands of the producer, and free from the dirty additions it receives in Yokohama—once let that reputation be established beyond the water, and the rest is easy. Of course there will be some outcry about official interference with commerce. We can easily foresee the peculiar directions interested criticism will take. But the tea trade has got into a groove which is fatal to its healthy development and from which nothing but governmental action can rescue it.

TREATY REVISION AND THE
"HOCHI SHIMBUN."

RIGHTLY or wrongly it is generally supposed that relations of an intimate nature exist between Mr. OKUMA, and the *Hochi Shimbun*. That journal, at all events, gets the credit of representing the political party which has acknowledged the leadership of the former Minister of Finance since the autumn of 1882, and internal evidence is not wanting that the paper is better versed in the mysteries of officialdom than most of its contemporaries. The article which we reproduce from its columns to-day may therefore be regarded as an expression of powerful opinion on the subject of treaty revision. Indeed it probably embodies the policy endorsed by the whole Liberal party, if not by the whole nation. A very simple policy it is; so simple that the gist of it may be expressed in half-a dozen words: namely, the country must not be opened to foreign trade and residence until Japan recovers her judicial authority. The writer surrounds this, the kernel of his ideas, with a great many shells of needless argument based on a false hypothesis. He assumes that there has been officially submitted to the Treaty Powers and accepted by them a scheme for opening the country on the condition that jurisdiction over foreigners in the interior shall be exercised by mixed courts. Enough has been divulged of the proposals advanced by the Japanese Government to enable us to know

that this is a wholly false conception. Mixed courts have never been contemplated. What has been proposed, we believe, is that a number of competent European and American experts should be appointed to the Japanese judiciary, and should constitute a majority of the judges in every case where a foreigner is concerned. This is something altogether different from mixed courts, a species of tribunal which, as the *Hochi Shimbun* justly points out, is open to many grave objections. The laws administered by these foreign judges, in conjunction with their Japanese colleagues, would be Japanese laws, though pending the promulgation of the civil and commercial codes now in course of preparation, there would necessarily be vested in the foreign judges a certain discretionary power sufficient to prevent any failure of justice as Westerns understand the term.

It cannot be denied that in making this proposal the Japanese Government concedes a great deal. The appointment of aliens to positions of such importance and involving the exercise of such powers is in itself a convincing evidence that there exists an earnest desire to guarantee justice and protect the interests of foreigners. The principal arguments advanced by those who oppose any modification of the existing extraterritorial system, are two: first, that the criminal codes, promulgated in 1881, however excellent in themselves, cannot yet have found efficient administrators; and secondly, that the civil laws at present existing are imperfect and not fit to be applied to Westerns. Both these arguments possess much validity from a foreign standpoint, but both are met by the measure mentioned above. If the very limited amount of criminal jurisdiction which it is proposed to entrust at first to Japanese tribunals were virtually controlled by Western experts, and if a foreign suitor in a civil case knew that the universally acknowledged principles of justice would be dealt out to him by lawyers of his own race, possible misapplications of the criminal, and failures of the civil, codes would cease to be worthy of consideration. A great deal of what is written on this subject is calculated to obscure the judgment of the public. People forget that half of the civil jurisdiction is already exercised by the Japanese, and that it is exercised in a way which for the past two or three years has elicited warm encomiums from foreigners themselves. If, further, its exercise were presided over by Western judges, there is difficulty in discovering any rational cause for apprehension. Were there no grave disadvantages resulting from the present system, to continue it until the laws of Japan and her judiciary were such as to satisfy the highest standard of civilization might be the safest course on the whole. But there are grave disadvantages, and not the smallest of them is well illustrated in the *Hochi Shimbun's* article.

The mediatization of the Government in 1868 was effected by men who had applied themselves to the work originally with a double purpose: namely, the overthrow of the Shogunate and the expulsion of foreigners. The latter object was motivated in part by traditions which had descended from the days of Spanish and Dutch intrigues, but chiefly by an altogether mistaken conception of Western civilization. Among the foremost promoters of this erroneous antipathy in the early times were some who, before the Restoration was accomplished, had happily learned by foreign travel how false were their notions, and what large advantages were to be gained by cultivating the intercourse their country had hitherto refused to permit. Made wise by experience, these statesmen lost no time in applying to their conservative colleagues the same medicine that had cured their own blindness. Thenceforth the utmost resources of an ill-furnished treasury scarcely sufficed to defray the expenses of foreign tours, which, were regarded by the superficial observer, as the mere gratification of a costly curiosity, but were in reality an important factor in the wise policy that so speedily dispelled the country's prejudices and led it to pursue the path of progress with eager feet. Our present purpose does not require that we should dwell upon this phase of Japan's history farther than to note the two deductions it suggests: first, that her anti-foreign feeling thirty years ago was mainly the outcome of ignorance; and secondly, that it was consequently a feeling which the Government could, and actually did, adopt successful measures to dispel. But for some time past there has been growing up among the people a different feeling; a feeling which is the consequence of knowledge, not the issue of ignorance, and which is entirely beyond the reach of any remedy the Government may devise. The Japanese are learning to think that whatever solid advantages the material civilization of the West may possess, its moral civilization is incompetent to endure the test of practice, and wholly powerless to regulate the intercourse of nations. The *Hochi Shimbun's* article is not singular in the epithets it applies to foreigners. Other journals of various political creeds have been telling us, during the past two or three years, that Westerns are selfish, masterful, and arbitrary in their treatment of Easterns; that they set might and profit far above right and justice in their international dealings. But the *Hochi Shimbun's* article, though not singular in the use of these terms, is singular in its manner of using them. It does not attempt to demonstrate their applicability. It does not even hint that there is need of demonstration. It quietly assumes that the description applied to foreigners and their moral fashions will be accepted by the public as an incontrovertible premise. Perhaps, on the whole, foreigners them-

selves will not be disposed to deny the propriety of this assumption. The most ardent advocates of the *status quo*, the most violent opponents of any modification that would permit extended intercourse, have never thought it necessary to base their objections on any higher ground than their own selfish apprehensions. Approach the question how we may, we always arrive at the same conclusion, the same terminus of every conservative contention:—"Your systems are not worthy of our confidence. Formerly you distrusted us too much to throw your country open; now we distrust you too much to let you throw it open." That, being the interpretation put upon their conduct by foreigners themselves, is, not unnaturally, the view taken of it by Japanese. The *Hochi Shimbun* reflects the opinion of nearly all the educated classes when it says, that the treaties which suited Japan's condition a quarter of a century ago are not suited to her condition to-day, and that if justice alone were considered, their provisions would have been revised long ago.

To some minds it may possibly seem a small matter that a conviction of this sort should take possession of the Japanese. It may seem a small matter that the progress of Western civilization in this country, and therefore throughout the Orient, should be checked by the unworthy aspects that civilization presents when justice demands any sacrifice of it. It may seem a small matter that there should spring into life again a desire to keep foreigners at arm's length, and a wish to circumscribe their intercourse. It may seem a small matter that the nation should revert to prejudices no longer prompted by ignorance, and no longer within reach of the remedies that formerly softened them. These, we say, are contingencies which many persons will point to with disdain as visionary and impractical. But we venture to think, on the contrary, that they are eminently practical. On the value attached to them now must depend, in a great measure, the nature of our political and commercial relations with Japan in the future. At present the policy of the nation is still moulded by the men who were chiefly instrumental in dispelling the traditional antipathies of former years. How long will the influence of these men remain paramount for good if the nation learns to believe that the conciliatory attitude they have adopted only encourages foreign arbitrariness, and that the reforms they have advocated receive no practical recognition abroad? Underlying the utterances of the conservatives who would withhold from Japan every independent power she does not already possess, there is an easily discernible conviction, that should her policy at any time assume an unsatisfactory aspect, the violent methods of former years will always be available to correct it. But if Japan's progress has not yet persuaded European States to treat with her on an equal footing, it has at last

deprived them of all willingness to revert to their masterful methods. We shall never again see English ships and English soldiers employed to support a policy such as that pursued towards Japan between 1860 and 1870. That resource may be finally dismissed as unavailable. Whether or no our relations with this country are to be mutually comfortable, must depend upon the spirit educated by our intercourse, not on any fresh exercise of the strength we once employed so freely. Under these circumstances it may be worth while to consider whether the illiberal policy so freely advocated by a section of the foreign community is even selfishly sensible, and whether the best way to make this country a pleasant place of residence is to justify the epithets applied to foreigners by the *Hochi Shimbun*.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON TREATY REVISION.

THE *London and China Express* writes about Japanese treaty revision in a studiously moderate tone but with a lamentably small appreciation of the situation. "The desire to abolish the distinction" (between Westerns and Easterns in Japan) "is purely sentimental," says our contemporary, "and although we can sympathise with the sentiment, we are persuaded that the friction caused by disregarding it is less dangerous, than the friction that would be caused by subjecting foreigners, against their will, to a system of judicial procedure which they view with suspicion and dislike." The more this comparison is considered, the more wonderful does it appear. On one side we have the sentiment of a nation of 37 millions; on the other, the sentiment of two or three thousand aliens. For in whatever self-complacent garb the "suspicion and dislike" of foreigners be dressed, they are just as much matters of sentiment as the desire of the Japanese to recover their rights of jurisdiction. Nay more, the Japanese sentiment is a worthy sentiment; it is a sentiment which every independent people ought to feel and with which every independent people ought to sympathise. Can the same be said of the "suspicion and dislike" which constitute the ingredients of the foreign sentiment? Can it be pretended that these spring from any noble impulse or have their origin in any better instinct than race prejudice? By all means let us get our premises clearly defined, however hurtful to our pride the process may prove. Here are a handful of strangers declaring, in one breath, that they will not submit to the jurisdiction of the country in which they reside, because they have a suspicion and a dislike of everything Oriental; and, in the next, that they regard any attempt on the part of this country to assert its independent rights as a mere matter of sentiment unworthy to be classed with their own race

antipathies. This is our contemporary's humiliating version of the situation. Let us follow him a step farther and see what Japan's "pure sentiment" amounts to. "It is admitted," he continues, "that the system of extraterritoriality must be modified before either Japan or China can be fully thrown open; that foreigners cannot be allowed to travel and reside at will throughout a country by whose magistracy they decline to be tried. But that is a question for the future; and we are persuaded that it will, for some time to come, prove a stumbling block in the way of completely free intercourse." It appears, then, that until this "pure sentiment" of the Japanese is gratified, their country cannot be thrown open. That, too, is a small matter, we presume, not comparable with the friction that might be caused by preferring the rights of a nation to the "suspicion and dislike" of a few strangers, whose only interest in the country is a commercial interest. Japan is daily assured that the material gain which must accrue to her by the removal of all restrictions upon foreign intercourse would be enormous. She is daily assured that by its commerce alone can a nation acquire wealth and respect. She is daily assured that the speediest way to develop her commerce is to throw her ports open to the ships of the world and her territories to the capital and enterprise of all nations. She wants to follow this advice. She has an incontrovertible right to follow it. There is not a power in the universe that has any claim to perpetuate her isolation, or to limit the liberty she accords to her visitors. Yet when she tries to take this step so materially important, she is told that her endeavour is purely sentimental. Equally, too, it was pure sentiment that induced Western Powers to send fleets and envoys, a quarter of a century ago, to force foreign intercourse upon Japan. Material interests had nothing to do with that proceeding. From the first it has been a pleasant jest to tell this nation what a member of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce told it the other day, that "it cannot aspire to be considered enlightened and civilized while it closes the land as it is closed at present." The more sedulous and importunate a country shows itself in its endeavours to remove the obstacles from its path to enlightenment and civilization, the more it is to be regarded as sentimental and impractical, especially if these obstacles take the form of foreign suspicion and dislike. Little by little we shall arrive at a correct definition of the situation. The *London and China Express* has helped us along considerably. It has shown that Japan cannot be opened, cannot have intercourse with the rest of the world, cannot carry on an unrestricted commerce, cannot attain civilization and enlightenment, because the dislike and suspicion of two or three thousand foreigners, who have nothing to do with the country except to make money out of it, might develop inconvenient friction in the process.

FRANCE, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

IN an article chiefly directed to show that Japan's recent refusal to take part with France in a war against China was a grave error, the *Echo du Japon* says that the *Japan Mail* is written by a "prostituted pen" and calls its editor a "reptile." This language, unknown among educated men, and scarcely becoming a professed vindicator of France's honour, would relieve us from any obligation to notice M. TRICOU's champion, did not our contemporary's excitement take the form of an accusation that we do "not let any opportunity escape to attack France and insult her representatives." The proximate cause of the *Echo's* outburst appears to be an article reproduced by us from the *Pall Mall Budget*, in which "that horrible nightmare of Sedan" is mentioned. This vicarious evidence of our "hatred for France" is of a piece with the other proofs advanced by our contemporary. He charges us, for example, with refusing to see any reason in China's claims of suzerainty over Riukiu, while fully recognizing the validity of similar claims advanced by her with regard to Annam. He might, with equal justice, have accused us of asserting that Annam belongs to Great Britain. We have repeatedly and in the most distinct terms declared that, in our opinion, China's suzerain rights over Annam do not deserve practical consideration, and are only to be regarded as worn-out traditions. But of her right to have a voice in the foreign occupation of a territory which touches her own, and through which runs the chief line of communication with one of her wealthiest provinces, we entertain an altogether different idea. That is a right connected with the integrity of her empire; a right which she has the strongest motives to defend, and which France has no title to ignore. If to entertain and express this opinion is to exhibit "sentiments of hatred" against the French nation, we regret the inference but cannot, for that reason, alter our views. It would appear, however, that the gravamen of our offence is contained in our occasional criticisms of M. TRICOU's policy. That official, as his champion, the *Echo du Japon*, acknowledges, expended a great deal of diplomatic energy in an attempt to entangle Japan in an offensive alliance with France against China. "He essayed," we quote from the *Echo du Japon*, "to make the Japanese Government comprehend that there was an advantage to be gained by seizing this favorable opportunity to force China to recognize, as an accomplished and definitive fact, the annexation of the Riukiu Islands." Such an essay, and above all the methods adopted to further it, were unworthy of the representative of a great nation. France is able to fight her own battles with China. She has no need of Japanese aid. If M. TRICOU knew anything of the sentiments Japan

entertains towards her neighbour, his scheme was a deliberate attempt to convert wise friendship into profitless enmity. If he knew nothing, nor took the trouble to ascertain anything, about those sentiments, he made the strange error of attempting to deal with materials which he did not understand. Japan is not in any way concerned to obtain from China a recognition of the present status of Riukiu. She might as well ask the Court at Peking to authorize the recent conversion of Yezo into a prefecture. The Riukiu Islands had formed an integral part of the Satsuma fief for more than two and a half centuries when the rulers of this country brought them, in common with other fiefs, under the administration of the mediatised government. What happened was simply a change of polity, not an "annexation" of territory. The plan, attributed to M. TRICOU by the *Echo du Japon*, of persuading Japan "to force China to recognize the annexation" of the islands, showed a ludicrous misconception of the situation. Japan's action with regard to Riukiu was an exercise of her own sovereign rights. It needed no recognition at the hands of any foreign Power. It is true that, in deference to China's request and General GRANT'S mediation, she consented to a settlement proposed by the former. But China having withdrawn from her own proposition, and the Riukiu Islands having been part of a Japanese fief for 268 years and a Japanese prefecture for 9, this country neither is under any obligation, nor has any need, to consult the Peking Government about their status. So far as the Riukiu question was concerned, M. TRICOU could not have offered Japan any counsel more opposed to her interests than to assume an aggressive attitude towards a passive neighbour about a matter in which she has always denied that neighbour's right to interfere. On the other aspect of his counsel; on its reckless indifference to the friendly relations that ought to exist, and which Japan earnestly desires to establish, between the two empires, and on its cruel callousness to everything but the selfish interests of his country's aggressive vertigo, there is no necessity to dwell. We are informed now that Japan will rue her lost opportunity when she finds the Black Flags sweeping down upon the Riukiu Islands; for that, according to the *Echo du Japon's* prediction, is to be the final escapade of those valiant free-booters. They are to be headed for Riukiu by a process which we cannot pretend to appreciate. China will not dare to take them in, we are told, and yet cannot refuse to give them asylum. Therefore she will bid them go and take what they can get in Riukiu. This is the chimæra to guard against which Japan ought to have waged a precautionary war on her neighbour! With France's assistance she might have contrived to beat back the onset of these few hundred bandits: single-handed she

will be helpless. Such is the apology offered for M. TRICOU'S policy; a mischievous policy of intimidation and intrigue; a policy as unworthy of the great name of France as it is suited to the intemperance of its advocates. We believe, and have always expressed our belief, that every province added to the French possessions in Cochin-China, will be a distinct gain to the cause of civilization. For this reason, and because of the friendship Englishmen in general bear for their natural ally, our inclinations are all in favour of the speedy and complete consummation of French plans in Annam. But between our wishes for France's success and our ideas of the abstract justice of her proceedings, there is a wide interval; while, so far as M. TRICOU is concerned, in his attempts to plunge the Orient in war and in his diplomatic tactics generally, we recognise nothing that Frenchmen are concerned to defend. The *Echo du Japon* apparently thinks that it can establish M. TRICOU'S reputation for statesmanship and sagacity by calling the editor of the *Japan Mail* a "reptile." We have no objection whatsoever to the process. It is harmless, characteristic, and not altogether unbecoming to the principles which our contemporary advocates.

THE TOKIYO HARBOUR SCHEME.

CONSTANT allusions are made by the vernacular press to the projected construction of a harbour at Shinagawa. The idea has been entertained for many years, but hitherto its practical fruits have been confined to occasional desultory discussions and surveys. So far as we know, the plan is feasible enough. Its main feature is the banking off of the River Sumida, which constantly carries down inconvenient quantities of mud and silt. If this were effected, ships of considerable size could come alongside wharves built at Tsukiji and Shinagawa. One consequence of such a work would be a great appreciation in the value of the foreign concession at the former place. Lots on the sea front especially would command high prices. Owners of real estate there may find in this outlook some consolation for the certainty that so soon as the interior of Japan is thrown open to foreign residence, the present colony at Tsukiji will be scattered to the four winds of heaven. It is essentially a missionary colony, held together only by the difficulty of living outside treaty limits. Many of the houses have been built under the auspices and with the funds of American or English missions, while others have been purchased by missionaries from merchants who found that foreign trade declined to take root in that part of the capital. There is at present a certain air of comfort and compactness about the place. The southerly breezes blow in freshly enough from the sea in the summer, and in the winter the north wind expends half

its bitterness among the streets and alleys of the city before it reaches the little congregation of churches and churchmen. The residents, too, though few of them receive, for lives of untiring toil and wearing brain work, salaries that would compare favorably with the stipend of a clerk in a merchant's office, nevertheless manage to banish from their neighbourhood every evidence of the financial struggle in which one fancies they must always be engaged. Thrift and economy go a long way when they are supplemented by the absence of any desires which the plainest fare will not satisfy. Still, though at first sight it looks as though the missionaries had settled permanently at Tsukiji, and would reluctantly exchange the conveniences they have accumulated there for the hardships of life in a remote Japanese village, the truth is that they are eagerly watching for the time when it will be possible for them to make the change. Tsukiji will then be virtually untenanted, unless, in the interim, the harbour scheme has sufficiently matured to offer fresh attractions to the mercantile class. We have our own doubts about the latter contingency. Many a year of stout opposition will be needed to rob Yokohama of its present supremacy as the centre of Japan's foreign trade. If it were less accessible from the capital, the case might be different; but communication of every sort between the two places is now so easy that the mere addition of a harbour would scarcely elevate Tokiyo to the position of an invincible rival. If, again, the anchorage at Yokohama were unsafe or inconvenient, Tokiyo's chances would be better, but in the course of years the harbour regulations will probably find their way through the seventeen-chambered labyrinth of diplomacies which now obstruct the passage of any useful measure, and it may reasonably be hoped that Kanagawa Bay will not have silted up entirely in the interim. Therefore, on the whole, we incline to the belief that Yokohama will hold its own for many a year to come, and that its monopoly of foreign trade will not be seriously challenged even by such a combination as Tokiyo plus a harbour at Shinagawa. On the other hand, looking at the question in the abstract, there appears to be more speculation than sapience about this plan of bringing the deep sea up to the streets of Tokiyo. The instinct of all nations has been to place their capitals beyond immediate reach from the coast. Tokiyo, indeed, may be quoted as an apparent exception, but Tokiyo was not born to the greatness it subsequently attained. In its origin it was only the castle town of a powerful feudal chief, whose stronghold, virtually impregnable in the days of spears and matchlocks, was nevertheless well retired from the water's edge. Nature, too, has been kind to the city, for the three great rivers that water the plain in which it lies, have gradually filled up the bay until the near approach of vessels of war is

impossible. But the citizens are not content to profit by the protection nature provides for them. They wish to have wharves where big ships can lie comfortably, and for the sake of this gain, they are willing to bring their warehouses and streets within easy range of floating batteries. We live in what is called a commercial age. There will doubtless be found many practical persons ready to laugh at the notion that a city should weigh the chimera of bombardment against the acquisition of quays and an anchorage. It is not, however, a question of harbour or no harbour, but of choosing between two harbours. Yokohama is the natural harbour of Tokiyo; neither too far away to be inconvenient nor too near to be dangerous. If Tokiyo is resolved to fight against nature and have a harbour of its own, it can, of course, indulge the freak, but while the profit is problematical, the loss of security is certain. Considered strategically, the capital of Japan is well circumstanced now; and so far as commercial convenience is concerned, if the port of Yokohama is not sufficiently accessible, a canal can easily be added to its means of access. But we find it a little inconsistent that the Japanese, while busying themselves about coast defence and erecting batteries to command the approaches to the capital, should at the same time proceed to demolish the defences which nature herself has provided for Tokiyo and which furnish a better guarantee against attack than the most elaborate system of fortifications.

REVIEW.

The Protestant missionaries have added to their numerous publications a carefully compiled translation of the Heidelberg Catechism. The preface, written by Dr. G. F. Verbeck, whose name is sufficient guarantee for the thoroughness of the work, says that there has long been felt the want of "a small hand-book containing the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Religion, stated in clear and precise language, with prominent passages from the word of God, upon which such doctrines are founded." This want the Heidelberg Catechism is excellently adapted to satisfy. It consists of 129 questions and answers, setting forth all the essence of the Christian faith, and to each answer is appended a number of carefully selected texts, bearing directly on the subject under consideration. The questions and answers have been translated into easy colloquial Japanese by the Rev. Ambrose Gring, and revised by the Rev. E. R. Miller and his assistant Mr. Tsune Ishikawa, while the translations of the proof texts are taken from the Japanese Standard Edition of the New Testament and the *Kunten* edition of the Old Testament. There are also added an index of subjects, and the names of the books of the Bible with their Japanese pronunciation. The translation seems to be done with great care and accuracy. The style is simple and the printing of the characters, with the *Hiragana* attached, is exceedingly clear. An idea of the methods adopted in translating the Catechism may be

gathered from the following example selected at random:—

ORIGINAL.	TRANSLATION.
Question 114. Can those who are converted to God keep these commandments perfectly?	Kaishin sh'te Kamisama ni kisuru mono wa kayo naru imashime wo jibun ni mamoru koto ga dekimasuka.
Answer. No: but even the holiest men, while in this life, have only a small beginning of this obedience; yet so, that with earnest purpose they begin to live, not only according to some, but according to all the commandments of God.	Iye. Mottomo kiyoki h'to nite mo kono yo nite wa tada wadzuka kono sunao naru koto wo hajimemasu bakari de gozarimasu. Shikashi sono h'to-bito wa aru imashime bakari de naku isshin ni Kamisama no subete no o-imashime ni shitagau yo ni yo wa watari-hajimemasu.

We have never seen any religious work translated into Japanese after such a fashion as to conceal the fact that it was a translation. From this defect, if it be a defect, the Heidelberg Catechism is not free. Even the extract we have quoted seems capable of being recast so as at once to render the original more fully and to better conform with the canons of colloquial Japanese. But it seems wiser, on the whole, to preserve the utmost simplicity in work of this description: greater elegance and fullness may only be obtainable at the risk of liberties which a thoroughly conscientious translator of religious books would scarcely care to contemplate.

Of a somewhat different character from the Heidelberg Catechism is another volume just issued by the Religious Tract Society. It is a collection of lectures delivered in Japanese by the Rev. S. G. McLaren, M.A., to the students of the Union Theological Seminary in Tokiyo. The Heidelberg Catechism scarcely touches on the miraculous aspects of the Christian faith. It passes over the marvel of the Immaculate Conception by simply saying that "the eternal Son of God took upon Him the very nature of man, of the flesh and blood of the Virgin Mary, by the operation of the Holy Ghost," and its explanation of that not less wonderful doctrine, the Atonement by blood, is equally a collection of postulates. Dr. McLaren, on the other hand, deals directly with the miracles. To explain the standpoint from which his book is written, he tells us that he "regards the account of the creation, of paradise, the temptation and fall of man, the longevity of the earliest generations of men, and the flood, contained in the beginning of the Book of Genesis, as authentic history and neither allegory nor fable." That this view involves a belief in the miraculous character of the narrative, he does not consider any objection. On the contrary, "the Bible," he says, "is a miraculous book from beginning to end. It is like our Saviour's coat, woven of a piece throughout. It begins with an account of the stupendous miracle of creation; it culminates in the no less wonderful miracle of the incarnation of the Son of God; it closes with a prophesy of his second coming to judge the world. It is not surprising that around these greater miracles lesser miracles should cluster, and while the greater are acknowledged, it is ridiculous to strain the text of Scripture in the anxious endeavour to get rid of a few of the minor." This statement has at least the merit of thorough candour. Mr. McLaren asks for implicit belief in the whole Bible from cover to cover. We know not whether to admire his courage or to regret his temerity. The miracles, we believe, will be the great obstacle to the spread of Christianity in Japan. It is true that the earth and the sky are full of miracles, and that the power which works them is as illimitable as it is incomprehensible. But the miracles that have descended from the mythological era of our faith neither ennoble nor

strengthen Christianity. As proofs of the omnipotence of God they are wholly unnecessary, because incomparably greater and more sublime exercises of creative and governing power are daily before our eyes. Moreover, their character and conception are, for the most part, essentially human and petty. They are, in short, just such tokens as semi-civilized teachers would offer to minds still preferring superstition to science. The growth of intelligence and the progress of research have revealed a deity whose existence does not depend on the evidence of supernatural traditions. Christianity will gain, not lose, when it acknowledges that religion, like all other sciences, is progressive, and that the marvels which were needed to prop up men's creeds thousand of years ago were only suited to the age that conceived them. Holding these views, we cannot sincerely welcome the appearance of Dr. McLaren's *Kiuyaku-Seisho-Rekishi*, great as are the evidences it affords of the author's industry and research. Yet, at the same time, it cannot be denied that Old Testament history had to be presented to Japan under some aspect, and in Dr. McLaren it has found an exponent of no common ability. His work is of the greatest interest, and can scarcely fail to find readers, but whether, on the whole it will much help the cause he has at heart, is a question about which we feel very doubtful.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A WARNING VOICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—According to the prognostics of the *Japan Herald*, the extra-territorial privileges that have been enjoyed by the foreigners in Japan are about to be abrogated, by and with the consent of the Governments having treaty relations with this empire. It does certainly appear as if that dire calamity would overtake us. There is great cause for fear in this direction, and it stands us in stead to lift up our voice and declare that this thing shall not be. Our fellow sufferer in the flood of evils to follow the abolition of the exemption from Japanese jurisdiction, Mr. Wilkin, has tooted his horn, and the *Echo* is being reverberated by the *Herald*. Why is it that the entire community, beginning with the constituency most largely represented, the Chinese, followed by the other nationalities, do not make haste to do battle against the infamy that is contemplated by their respective governments with the passive consent of the ministers resident? Is all public spirit dead? Are we content that this thing should be? Why is it that a remonstrance is not formulated wherein would be set forth the burning wrongs we all must submit to at the hands of the Japanese should our extra-territorial rights be swept away? Surely we might be able, if we could show to a candid world the horrors in store when Japanese laws are extended over us, to arouse a sentiment that would cause the directors of affairs all over Christendom to pause and reflect, and hesitate to perpetrate the contemplated infamy. Why do we not detail the horrible tortures we will surely have to endure to make us declare the truth before the courts? For surely we shall all be made to appear before the tribunals of justice. We cannot expect that there is a man, woman, or child that will not be wantonly made to feel the galling tyranny of the inhuman monsters who have control of the courts established throughout the land. We shudder as we contemplate the depth of misery to which we shall be consigned. The merchant should leave his business; the me-

chanic, his tools; the banker, his finance; the frequenters of Blood Town should forsake their pastimes; keepers of unlicensed places where debauchery is practised should forego their trade; the missionary should forget his mission, and lovely woman and prattling child should devote themselves to the defeat of the nefarious crime that may be perpetrated. It is full time that we were up and doing. Let the tocsin be sounded. Let the Bluff and the Settlement raise such a howl of angry determination that the sound thereof shall extend to all the open ports and arouse the supine denizens who reside therein. We should prepare a petition written with blood, and sign the same, with the purple fluid from our veins, and send it to the foot of the throne, that we be not molested in this way. At the same time we should frame a defiance so plainly worded, and truly constructed, that the most obtuse could not misunderstand its import; declaring that we will all, each and every one of us, leave the country, shaking the dust from our feet, in the event that our petition be passed unheeded. Yes, let us declare that we will abandon this home of heathenish rites, not our own; that we will withdraw ourselves, and the Christian influences flowing from our presence; that we will leave this people to their own devices, and the ruin that will overtake them from the presence of the men who will surely take our places—when we vacate them. A crusade should be preached. The *Herald* should be the Peter to lead the hosts in the battle of words. We should cry aloud and spare not. The bastions of the citadel of Extra-Territoriality should be filled with patriotic defenders. Surely there are other men than Mr. Wilkin who will put on the armor of offence and defence to do valiant service in the good cause. Certainly there must be others besides the *Herald* staff, who can be found to pour contempt and contumely on the Japanese; who can charge them with vice and corruption, and hold them up as wanting in all the essential attributes of a well ordered community. If it is not so, then indeed, extra-territoriality is doomed to become a legend of the past.

Yours, &c.,

ANXIOUS WARNER.

Yokohama, March 3rd, 1884.

[Our correspondent is scarcely just to Mr. Wilkin. It is that gentleman's misfortune, having publicly enunciated views which identify him as a supporter of the present system, to be indirectly associated with writers who have laboured to make English generosity a by-word in Japan. But, for the rest, there is, and can be, nothing common between him and them.—Ed. J.M.]

A FRIEND IN NEED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In undertaking to act once more as the guiding star of Japanese politics, the able Yokohama editor does not exhibit those winning and engaging qualities which—as indicated in my letter of February 19th—were understood to distinguish his early efforts in the same honourable pursuit. It has, perhaps, occurred to him that the garb of perfect *suaviter in modo*, which used to pinch in the back and strain his shoulders even when his frame was most pliant and supple, could not by any effort be made fitting and becoming in these later days; and that he may gain a point or two by trying to dovetail the functions of stern censorship—which he has been practising for the past six or eight years—upon the processes suited to the bestowal of frank and sturdy counsel. The objects now in view are undoubtedly different from those which seemed attainable at a former period. Then, the intention was to inspire such unlimited faith as to enable the trickster, in his character of genial philanthropist, to roll comfortably through existence upon a gilded inside track of salaried sympathy and subsidized support. Now, the idea appears to be, to produce a state of feeling which shall facilitate the release of at least one foreign resident from all the burdens that have accumulated upon him during the last dozen years of his career. Therefore, the accent of critical severity is to a certain extent sustained,

though modified into a tone of earnest admonition. The rod of chastisement continues to be waved with one hand, while with the other a new way of pleasantness and a purchasable path of peace is pointed out. There is one course left, we are informed, by which the Japanese authorities may yet retrieve the woful errors of the past, and in following which they may enable themselves to start afresh upon their task of Government, wholly untrammelled by alien obstacles of any description. In plain words, the plan proposed is to buy the foreigners out;—bribe them to vacate;—pay the troublesome fellows whatever they may ask as a riddance fee, and have done with them. Let them be offered "compensation for their landed properties, their goods, and their incomes. . . . A commission, composed of a member of each nationality, could determine a basis for calculating such compensations,—say, by so many years' purchase for real property, so much per cent. on invoices for goods; and so many years' purchase for incomes, with a valuation for anything that might be thought not to come within this category." There is the scheme,—simple, broad, and comprehensive. Or, if you choose, intricate, narrow, and exclusive. All depends upon how it is looked at. In any other country, such a proposition, emanating from a mind to which ordinary measurements of morality might be applied, would be set down as a barefaced bid for hard cash, payable in exchange for the voluntary withdrawal of an obnoxious individual from a locality where he has long been regarded as an encumbrance. One of the most effective devices for raising the wind, in Western lands, consists in converting one's premises, one's vocation, one's personality, into such aggravated forms of nuisance as to enable the crafty operator to command his own terms for "vamosing" the vicinity. The consideration given and received in transactions of this kind certainly goes by very ugly names. Sometimes it is called "black-mail;" sometimes "hush-money." In almost all cases it is an imposition upon the one who pays, though it is disgraceful only to him who receives. Society is familiar with infinite varieties of the latter species,—from the organ-grinder who declines to "move on" under a shilling, to the obstinate statesman who refuses to resign for less than a peerage. They are all of the same kidney,—alike derided, detested, and despised.

I take it for granted that the most innocent of readers could not for a moment be deluded by the pretence that the "buying out" proposal is really applicable to the whole foreign community in Japan. It is better to believe that no such sweeping imposture was contemplated. The promulgator of the scheme is not so utterly and irredeemably a fool as to suppose that everybody else in the world is a fool. Among the milder, and perhaps less interesting, of the two great constituencies into which cynics divide the human race, he has not usually been classed. In order, therefore, to get at the true meaning of his published plan for clearing foreign obstacles away from the course of Japan's progress, it is necessary to narrow down all his broad generalizations until they are concentrated upon his personal identity. The vast mass of barnacles which he professes a desire to see removed from this fine ship of the Orient must be reduced to the single shell which contains his fortunes. The "Gordian knot of the treaties" which, he says, needs cutting, is simply a snarl in the twine that ties up his insignificant baggage. The landed estates he magnificently refers to, resolve themselves into the thinnest kind of air, and the "properties" to be transferred to Japanese possession are composed of a second-hand printing press or so; a few founts of old type, and a limited supply of paper and ink. These are the real goods and movables which the author of the project wishes to see handed over to this Government, in exchange for a comfortable balance to his credit. That they have any value worth speaking of, he probably would not attempt

to prove. The real inducement he would offer, if it were possible that his plan could ever be contemplated, would be quite independent of the marketable worth of all his "landed properties," "buildings," "invoices," "merchandise" and other articles "not within this category." His demand for compensation would rest upon precisely the same base as that of the organ-grinder aforesaid, who calculates his "squeeze" according to the amount of annoyance he can inflict. If we could examine the current of his thought, it would doubtless be found to run thus:—The Japanese certainly hate me. They ought to, for I have lost no opportunity of giving them cause, and during half a dozen years have heaped upon them all the contumely, outrage, and insult I have been able to invent on my own account or borrow from the invention of others. Not knowing, so well as my own countrymen, the utterly contemptible character of my proceedings, they would be likely to give a good deal more than I am worth, to get rid of me. I can't offer to sell myself outright, and be shot out of the country like a heap of condemned rubbish; but I can set forth a pondrous project of wholesale transfer, including foreigners of all sorts and conditions, and if they are as keen as I used to find them when they got the better of me in my confidence games, they will at once see my hidden purpose, and meet me half way. If I know myself at all, my merits are of a kind to which distance lends the greatest possible enchantment. A very little of me goes a great way and lasts a long while. Twelve years of me ought to be enough for any country, and if the Government do not jump at the chance of "buying me out," they don't know their own interest. For my part, I would give such a fellow as I esteem myself to be all he could ask, to get him ten thousand miles away."

There, Mr. Editor, in a nut-shell, is the essence of this pompous and bombastic contrivance for "cutting the Gordian knot" of foreign complication, and solving the mighty problem of Japan's relations with the Western world. There is the "*ridiculus mus*" which emerges from mountainous columns of editorial labour. I do not think much time need be wasted in exposing the fallacy upon which the projector's hopes are based. Moralists in all ages have tried to teach the lesson that the power to disseminate mischief and propagate evil is measured not by the desire or intention of the agent, but by the strength and ability which nature has conferred upon him;—and mankind in general has recognized the truth of that axiom. But there are yet a few by whom the useful fact is not appreciated, and for such, the only proper treatment is to let them alone. The farmer who, when clearing new ground, finds a corner of it occupied by one of those curiously endowed creatures which resent an approach of less than eighteen feet, and which, like the ghost recorded by Aubrey, celebrate their exploits with "a quaint perfume and a melodious twang;"—the farmer who encounters one of these undesirable neighbours, does not, as a rule, proceed to build him a snug domicile; to supply him with artificial warmth in winter, and cooling moisture in summer; to provide him food, and otherwise gratify him with the various comforts and luxuries appropriate to his appetite. He does not conciliate him in any manner. He never thinks of "buying him out." He knows that the animal's ejaculatory pungency extends over a range of only six yards, and that his most pointed utterances possess no piquancy outside of that limited circulation. Therefore, he simply lets him alone. This, it will generally be admitted, is the only rational course to pursue; and those who regard it as wise and judicious will have little difficulty in divining the treatment in store for the ingenious inventor of the latest device for eradicating the ills which foreign contact has brought upon this empire of Japan.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

GOOD MEMORY.

Yokohama, February 25th, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Yubin Hochi Shimbun*.)

On the sixth inst. the British Parliament was opened, when H. M. Queen Victoria, according to an ancient custom, made a speech recapitulating the principal events at home and abroad, to which the attention of the representatives was called. In the Royal message we find the following words:—"The revision of the treaty with Japan has been nearly completed." This news reached us by Reuter's telegram and was published in our foreign news' column. As regards our international relations, treaty revision is a most important question; all the more so as it is closely associated with our national interests and honour, as well as with a stigma and certain disadvantages. It is not to be wondered at that, as the news has come unexpectedly from a far-distant country, announcing, as it does, the near completion of the treaty revision—a source of consuming anxiety to both our government and our people—it should be received with some incredulity, and that there should have been speculations as to its truth. Although we give the closest attention to the domestic and foreign policy of the government, yet we cannot always attain a certain knowledge of the course pursued, as a thick curtain of clouds separates us from the Cabinet. This is particularly the case with regard to external relations. And occasionally when we do penetrate into the secrets of the Government it is necessary to refrain from divulging what we know; but, in this instance, we are at a loss to account for the real meaning of Her Majesty's words.

The position of Japan is that of a petitioner, and the Treaty Powers must either reject, or comply with, our demands. But now that the British Government announces that the treaty negotiations have very nearly been concluded, it seems reasonable to assume that they have agreed to our proposals. What proposals were made by our Government? Was the right to fix the tariff and exercise jurisdiction over aliens among the postulates? Or was the abolition of extrterritoriality alone complied with? Or was the present five per cent. *ad valorem* tariff altered to a higher basis? And, if the right to regulate the tariff has been conceded us, can we use that right without any restriction? These are questions we cannot answer. Apart from enquiry into the proposals put forward by our Government, we are anxious to know whether the British Government has fully consented to our demands; whether counter-proposals were made, and, if so, what is their nature; whether the mixed residence of foreigners and natives in the interior was required; and whether an intention to restrict Japanese jurisdiction was expressed. The Royal Address, delivered at the opening of the British Parliament, is usually of no great length, and in this instance it has been still further curtailed in order to admit of transmission by telegraph. But so long as the Queen has informed Parliament of the approaching completion of treaty revision, we may confidently look forward to details.

The public has been hitherto told that the treaty nations have refused to comply with our demands under various pretexts, and that, persistent as the Government has been in its efforts, the question of mixed residence under certain defined conditions was constantly being brought forward. This state of affairs came to our knowledge during the course of last year, but, until quite recently, we did not know whether or not the Government was in favour of mixed residence. A recent number of the London *Daily News* contained a doubtful paragraph, said to have been telegraphed from Tokiyo by a special correspondent of that journal. "The Japanese Government," says the paragraph, "has drawn up

a scheme for the installation of Courts of Justice, where, in the event of the opening up of the interior, foreigners may be tried." These are understood to be mixed tribunals, with a Court of Appeal, in which foreign judges will be in the majority. This scheme has been confidently submitted to the Western Powers. America and Germany are said to have replied favorably, though Great Britain has not yet answered. The arrival of Mr. Plunkett is, therefore, anxiously awaited. The *Daily News* telegram is nothing more than the upshot of a private conversation between the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the correspondent in question, and so we cannot state whether the report is really true or not. The similarity between the Royal Speech and the report in question, however, excites our curiosity. Should the above telegram be a faithful representation of facts, then must our Government have resolved to throw open the whole country to foreigners, and to establish Courts of Justice in which foreign judges will be in the majority, and Japanese judges in the minority.

What we demand from foreign powers is the right of tariff regulation, and that of jurisdiction over aliens. We aim simply at the recovery of these two rights, which are, and should be, the legitimate claim of every independent nation. We offer the opening-up of the whole country for foreign residence and trade in return for the restoration of these rights. Should we open up the country and give the same privileges to foreigners as we ourselves enjoy, before the complete abolition of extrterritoriality, then shall we never be able to recover the rights of an independent nation, while aliens can obtain all and what they will. Foreign residence and trade in the interior can only be allowed simultaneously with the entire abolition of extrterritoriality. So long as foreigners cling tenaciously to their extrterritorial privileges, we cannot permit them to live and trade in the interior. But if the country is once opened before this baneful custom is done away with, then can we never obtain the right to regulate the tariff, nor will our jurisdiction ever extend to foreigners. Far-seeing as our functionaries are, they cannot but be aware of this fact, and there is no reason why the Government should recklessly throw open the land. Hence the impossibility of arriving at the true import of the telegram published in the *Daily News*; and even with regard to the Queen's Speech we cannot discover a satisfactory explanation.

Considering the course of action taken by the Japanese and British Governments in reference to treaty revision, we find that unless extrterritoriality is abolished by the latter, the former will not permit foreign residence and trade in the interior; and that the latter will not concede this abolition unless the privilege of residence and trade in the interior be sanctioned. We have thought hitherto that, tenacious as is the Government of Great Britain of the interests of its subjects, it would object to the recovery of our legitimate rights, even though the prohibition of internal residence and trade were removed, unless an improvement take place in our internal administration. In the event of the said restriction being withdrawn and mixed courts established, aliens will be the gainers alone; for, even if the few paltry rights contemplated under those circumstances are restored to us, our gain as compared with theirs is a mere bagatelle. As this is the case the Government of Great Britain can hardly raise any objection, and we can thus grasp the true import of the Queen's Speech. Our gain would be far from counterbalancing our loss. Treaty revision was proposed only in order to recover the rights which were wrested from us at the outset of our intercourse with foreign nations, and to restore us equal rights with them by removing certain illegitimate and undeserved restrictions. If we cannot vindicate and maintain our rights, it is far better to let treaty revision alone. This is particularly the case when it is found that the attempted vindication of our rights leads to

the real aggravation of our wrongs. Our Government cannot surely agree to such a preposterous bargain, if the establishment of mixed courts and the withdrawal of all restrictions on residence and trade in the interior lead to the surrender of our just claims and the non-abolition of extrterritoriality. Implicit as is our confidence in the Government, we cannot believe that it would permit the revision of the treaties to be based on such an agreement. And for this reason we doubt the accuracy of the information supplied by the correspondent of the *Daily News*.

Freedom of residence and trade in the interior are the last concessions we can make to foreigners, and, once given, they have nothing more to demand from us. These concessions we must employ as a weapon against extrterritoriality. If once we accede to their requests before our rights are thoroughly restored, they will never, selfish and egotistical as they are, listen to our demands. Applying this case to individuals, we see that it is because our neighbour makes sundry demands of us that we, in return, can make requests of him. For if we ask a favour of a man who wishes nothing of us, we are then nought but begging petitioners. If we but once bend our knees before foreigners, then shall we have lost our right to stand with them on an equal footing. If we ask others for a favour, we must be possessed of something which they desire of us, or else we lose our dignity. How much more forcibly is this the case in reference to international relations! The right of residence and trade in the interior is the one thing we possess which European nations want to see in their hands. When they have this there will be nothing else which they can ask for. And in that case, how can we expect to stand on a par with them? Even though we should kneel down and bow our heads before them, they would then be deaf to all our entreaties. The restrictions on residence and trade must not be removed until extrterritoriality is abolished. Our honour as a nation is at stake, and if the government is seriously interested in the country's welfare, it must avoid all such one-sided negotiations. Hence is the information sent to the *Daily News* misleading and probably without foundation. The burning question still arises,—on what conditions is the treaty revision, now so nearly completed, based? The British Government is eager to promote the best interests of its people, and will not surrender their extrterritorial privileges unless they receive a more than sufficient compensation. This compensation, so far as we are concerned, means only the withdrawal of all restrictions imposed upon residence and trade in the interior. As a matter of strict justice they should long ago have given up extrterritoriality in exchange for the freedom of trade and residence. But, self-willed and arbitrary as they are, they will not, we fear, admit this obligation. This, we presume, is because they consider that our laws are different from those of foreign nations in point of severity; that our rights and privileges as a people are small, while theirs are great; and that the protection afforded to life and property in this country is not so perfect as in Western nations.

Treaty revision is a question which should not admit of much argument. In a word, the rights of tariff regulation and jurisdiction over aliens are the legitimate property of every independent nation. If foreigners deem our laws imperfect and no true safeguard of life and property, they had better not come to this country at all. Since they derive benefit from sojourning in this land, they must observe and come under its legislation. We did not ask them to come here: they themselves requested us to open our ports. During the time of national isolation we wanted nothing of them, but they asked a great deal of us. That they now should refuse to submit to Japanese jurisdiction is extremely unreasonable. The treaties stipulated a future revision of their provisions, but more than ten years have elapsed since their ratification, and yet

nothing has been done. The existing treaties were compiled at the time of the downfall of the Tokugawa régime, when the country was in a state of chaotic confusion, and so they are necessarily unfit for the present condition of the country: a fact which cannot be denied by any man of ordinary intelligence. With the Restoration, all national institutions underwent great improvement, an improvement recognized and acknowledged by all foreigners alike. The present treaties are as unsuitable for Japan as is a child's dress for a full-grown man. As the subject is, however, really outside the limits of reasonable discussion, we must be prepared to meet the argument of foreigners advanced from purely selfish motives. Let us look at the position of foreigners. We find that the withdrawal of restrictions on trade and residence is not sufficient to make them yield up their extraterritorial privileges. The Chinese, indeed, would derive signal benefit from Japanese jurisdiction, for their government is despotic. On the other hand, Europeans and Americans firmly believe that they are safe only under the jurisdiction of their own governments, and that their laws are excelled by none. If extraterritoriality is abolished, they must observe the laws of this country, in which case they would have to abide by the Press and Public Meeting Regulations, the violation of which might involve both fines and imprisonment. We have Criminal Codes; but compared with the codes of western nations there are necessarily differences, nor would it be easy for foreigners to exchange the systems and laws to which they have always been accustomed for those of Japan. The English and French say that their law is vastly superior to that of our country; and the instincts of mankind forbid one to abandon things superior for things inferior. We have no Civil Code, no Commercial Law, no Law of Property: foreigners have all these. We can easily understand, therefore, that the reluctance they feel to abandon the protection of these various laws and come under systems where that protection is not available, may be even greater than we are capable of appreciating. As a question of justice the position they take is untenable, but as a question of feeling, its rationality must be admitted. Foreigners, being essentially self-willed and arbitrary, will not budge for right's sake, though they will move readily enough for the sake of passion or profit. It is to be feared, therefore, that the opening up of the country to trade and residence will not suffice to obtain the abolition of extraterritoriality. The Government, also, seeing that to remove the existing restrictions upon trade and residence would not be thought an equivalent for the abolition of extraterritoriality, and yet desiring above all things to compass that abolition, may possibly have concluded that some additional concession is necessary, and in consequence devised the scheme of establishing mixed courts.

The advocates of that scheme, however, not only mistake the true purpose of the Government, but also ignore the proper spirit of international intercourse as well as the relative positions of the parties concerned. We will endeavour briefly to explain our reasons for this assertion.

Even though extraterritoriality be abolished, if mixed courts be established and lawsuits tried by a bench of foreign and native judges, the position of our country, so far as its independence is concerned, will not be one jot improved, and the difficulty of recovering our judicial rights will be seriously augmented. Though Europeans and Americans be subject only to their several jurisdictions, so long as we withhold the privileges of unrestricted trade and residence, we have something to offer in exchange, but if once we surrender those privileges, and at the same time establish mixed courts, we shall be absolutely without anything to offer, and the difficulty of recovering our jurisdiction will be far greater than it is at present. This is

self-evident. No lengthy demonstration is required to show that our Government would never consent to such an arrangement. Even supposing, for the sake of argument, that the establishment of mixed Courts were better than the preservation of the existing extraterritorial system, it can be shown that when those Courts come into operation, they will give rise to more serious evils than any we have now to contend with. This, indeed, follows directly when we consider the reasons which foreigners advance against submitting to our jurisdiction. If freedom of pen and speech were enjoyed by us; if we had civil codes, commercial codes, and property laws, it would be hard for foreigners to refuse to submit to our jurisdiction. But with our laws as they are now, it is a difficult task to overcome the selfish prejudices of foreigners and to persuade them to come under our systems. Or even granting they did submit to our jurisdiction, the result might be dangerous to the security of our foreign relations. For if, hereafter, some question arose, involving the applicability of this or that code, the foreign judges, relying on the strength of their country, might pervert our laws; or the foreign residents might complain to their governments of the severity of our codes, and we, on our side, intimidated by the strength or instance of our opponents, might consent to alterations or renderings which would have the effect of utterly confusing the administration of law, or, refusing to consent, might find ourselves involved in endless disputes with self-willed, obstinate men who would take views diametrically opposed to our own, so that in the end our relations might be disturbed and our foreign intercourse imperilled. For these reasons we are persuaded that the Government has not agreed to the establishment of mixed Courts, and that persons who spread such a report are entirely mistaken. That foreigners would agree to abide by our laws because we established such courts, is quite uncertain. If they did agree, the plan might be feasible. If they did not, the resulting complications would not be confined to those we have outlined above.

If aliens refuse to submit to Japanese law on account of the imperfections they see in its present condition, it would be necessary to frame special laws suitable to their ideas. In that event Englishmen would desire to have laws as like those of England as possible; Frenchmen would want French laws; Germans, German; Russians, Russian; Dutch, Dutch; Austrians, Austrian, and Americans, American. Which of these various systems would be found to satisfy the people of all the treaty countries? Would it be possible to satisfy them if we copied the Civil Code from Great Britain, the Criminal Code from France, the Code of Criminal Procedure from America, Commercial Law from Germany, and the Law of Property from Holland, making our laws a *mélange* of those of all the world? Or might we hope to avoid their dissatisfaction by framing laws for the Government of our country in accordance with the advice of all the Foreign Representatives? Were we indifferent to our own honour and interest, and concerned only about conciliating foreign opinion, it might not be impossible to accomplish these things. But such is not the object with which our Government has undertaken the revision of the treaties.

Let us assume for the moment the mere feasibility of enacting special laws suitable to foreign opinion and not repugnant to the reputation and interests of our country. It would certainly not redound much to our credit that we had enacted various codes, civil, criminal, commercial and so forth, simply for the sake of foreigners; while, on the other hand, the confusion that would ensue when those laws went into operation would be interminable. Just suppose, for the sake of argument, that the restrictions upon trade and residence had been removed, and that a number of foreigners were travelling or living in the interior. And suppose,

again, that for the protection of these foreigners special codes of law had been enacted, and mixed courts established. And suppose again, that these codes, enacted for the sake of foreigners, were more liberal than the original codes applicable to Japanese. Then in these days of equal rights, we should have created a specially privileged class of foreigners whose rights would not suffer comparison with those of our own people. We should have for foreigners, for men whose social intercourse with us is of the most intimate nature, a code of laws which would place them in a far higher position, and confer on them larger liberty and rights, than our own people occupy or enjoy. What sort of effect would that produce upon the feelings of our countrymen? Men of even a little spirit would be angered by foreign arbitrariness, and finally come to regard foreigners with bitter hostility; while spiritless people without any sense of shame, would become subservient to foreigners and think of nothing but the security of their own persons. In the former case, our foreign relations might be seriously disturbed; in the latter, our people would lose their patriotic feelings, would come to respect foreign merchants and artisans more than their own officials, and would invoke the protection of strangers against their own rulers. Such a state of affairs, if it attained large dimensions, would prove subversive of law and order. It is characteristic of low-minded men to sacrifice right to profit. So soon as the vulgar shameless classes saw that the laws applied to foreigners were lenient and the protection they enjoyed complete, they would become eager for foreign protection, would carry on trade in the name of foreigners, and would even change their nationality for the sake of eluding the operation of Japanese law. Such would be the disgraceful results, both for rulers and ruled, of having two different systems of law in operation. Is anything further needed to show that if liberal codes were framed for the control of foreigners, and severe codes for the control of Japanese, the people would learn to feel envious and discontented? Granting even that the laws for the jurisdiction of the various nationals were to be drawn up without difficulty, and that no abuse would arise from their enforcement, we foresee fresh trials in the selection of the judges presiding over mixed courts. If all foreigners belonged to one great nation there would be little difficulty in picking out a fair company of representative jurists; but we have to do with no less than *seventeen* different nationalities, each one of which would insist upon the appointment of judges from their own lands. If we appoint an English judge, it would be impossible to refuse the requests of France, Germany, Russia, and other countries, for similar appointments. This trouble might be avoided by drawing up an international agreement among European Powers, to the effect that England and America alone should be represented in the mixed courts, and that all the other powers should entrust the rights of their subjects to the jurists of these two nations. Should, however, each country insist upon being represented by its own judges, we could not do otherwise than yield to this demand. There is still one important question in connection with the establishment of mixed courts,—the question of expenditure. If the establishment of mixed courts were beneficial to this land, and truly necessary to our national interests and honour, we should not grudge the cost, however great it might be. But since their establishment, so far from contributing to our national reputation, would have the very opposite effect, the Government will never consent to a heavy outlay for such a purpose. [The writer then recapitulates the evils he has demonstrated in his article, and concludes by urging the absolute necessity of not opening the country, until Japan recovers complete jurisdiction over foreigners residing within her limits.]

THE NEW TEA GUILDS.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*).

The Ministers of Home Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce, with the object of preventing the preparation of spurious and adulterated teas, which are detrimental to honest trade and injurious to the public health, issued a Notification on the 3rd instant, urging persons engaged in the tea trade to form Guilds, in accordance with regulations specially enacted by the Government for that purpose; and directing the Guilds, so soon as their bye-laws shall have received official sanction, to forward detailed reports to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. This Notification, embodying Regulations for the formation of the Guilds, was addressed to all Cities and Prefectures throughout the Empire.

According to the Regulations, all persons engaged in the tea trade, whether producers or dealers, must establish associations, under the title "Tea-trading Guild," with the name of the locality prefixed. The members of the Guild are forbidden, first, to manufacture or sell teas coloured or mixed with spurious leaves or other adulterations; secondly, to perform the processes of drying and packing in an honest and thorough fashion; thirdly, to provide that every package of tea shall be marked with the names of the Corporation, the manufacturers, and the dealers; and fourthly, to appoint committees to oversee and keep a record of the circumstances of the Corporation, and to establish offices in convenient places for purposes of control.

These provisions make it plain that the primary object of the organizations is to check the manufacture of spurious and adulterated teas. How the Guilds will set to work and what methods they will adopt to correct existing abuses, it is impossible to predict, pending their actual organization. Persuaded as we are, that the abuses in question must be corrected, if the tea-trade is to prove a profitable enterprise, we are not disposed to criticize adversely any measures that may conduce to that end. Tea occupies a prominent place among our staples. Its importance may be judged from the fact that it is annually exported to the value of fully five million *yen*. The growth or decline, increase or decrease, of such a trade bears a significant relation to our foreign commerce. In the year 1878, the export of this staple realized 4,280,000 *yen*; in 1879, it reached 7,440,000 *yen*; and in 1880 and 1881, respectively, the figures were 7,490,000 *yen* and 7,020,000 *yen*. During the past two years the returns, though less satisfactory, did not fall short of five millions. From Yokohama alone the quantities exported since 1876 were as follows:—

YEAR.	CHESTS.	YEAR.	CHESTS.
1876	123,779	1880	196,497
1877	111,848	1881	181,081
1878	117,999	1882	169,392
1879	167,797	1883	157,531

This table shows that, in 1880 and 1881, Yokohama alone exported teas to the amount of nearly twenty million catties. Even during 1883, a year distinguished by reduced production, the export from that port reached fifteen million catties. The steady increase in the quantity of tea sent abroad is a sufficient proof of the demand that exists for it. America offers the largest market to our teas and is our best customer for them.

Despite a gradually increasing export, much anxiety was recently expressed by some of our contemporaries with regard to the decreasing value of the staple. We, however, were of opinion that no pernicious results were to be apprehended from a temporary depreciation, and we are now persuaded that one of the consequences of depreciation has been to develop the American demand and increase the area of consumption. America not only wants more tea but wants it of better quality. To this circumstance is doubtless due the increased export, as well as an augmentation of gross returns.

The Government of the United States issued, last year, a law forbidding the import of coloured and spurious teas. This law, enforced at the Custom-houses, was not without effect upon the Japanese tea trade, though we now know that its chief, if not its main, purpose was to check the influx of adulterated teas from China. Ultimately, therefore, it cannot influence our export. Yet we have to note that the practice of colouring teas with deleterious drugs is not confined to China. It is resorted to in Japan, also, to satisfy American orders. Probably, too, the inferior grades are often mixed with willow leaves or old teas. To these classes of adulteration the two Ministers allude in their Notification, when they say that of late teas are coloured, or appear to be coloured, in the process of preparation, and that spurious leaves are sometimes added. At all events, it is certain that some fraudulent methods have been employed of late years, and that to them is due the loss of reputation Japanese teas have suffered. Beyond doubt these practices, if left unchecked, will have the effect of diminishing the export of the staple to America and of discouraging foreign consumption. The inevitable result will be the loss of a trade from which we derive an annual revenue of from five to ten million *yen*. In view of such a prospect, it is scarcely necessary to insist on the importance of adopting precautionary measures to check these evil practices. The subject demands immediate and earnest attention. Some persons, indeed, assert that the colouring is the work of foreign merchants, not of Japanese. Whether or no this be the case, it is certain that, under the present system, our teas are first bought by foreigners in Yokohama and then re-fired and packed by them for export. These processes are said to be unavoidable, because the teas sent to Yokohama from the various producing districts are of too uneven quality, as well as too badly fired and packed, to be shipped at once. If, therefore, the teas be properly fired and packed in the interior, so that their quality may be judged by the samples, and their sale effected on the credit of their manufacturers' names, not only will the foreign merchants be saved a great deal of trouble, but the evils which are tending to destroy the trade will be checked. We cannot too much emphasize the necessity of immediately adopting active measures to put an end to fraudulent processes of manufacture, and we trust that the tea-producers in the various districts will spare no pains to attain that end in accordance with the Notification issued for their benefit.

(Translated from the *Meiji Nippon*.)

(The article, having referred briefly to the recent Notification and its import, proceeds as follows:—) No demonstration is needed to show that tea occupies the same position as silk among our exportable staples. It follows, therefore, that the prosperity of our foreign commerce depends, to a great extent, on the export of tea alone. In view of this fact, thinking men have, from time to time, urged the advisability of trying to gain the confidence of consumers by correcting abuses and introducing improved methods of preparation. Regulations enacted last March, in the United States, forbidding the import of spurious teas, had a considerable effect upon the trade in this country, and the action of the American Government served, further, to given weight to the opinions which had been expressed by far-seeing merchants on the subject of adulteration. More earnest steps were consequently taken to encourage improved methods and maintain the reputation of Japanese tea. Writing at that time, we showed the close connection that exists between American consumption and Japanese production, and drew the attention of our authorities as well as of producers to the necessity of adopting improved methods. The Government subsequently issued several proclamations on the subject to cities and prefectures, and

repeatedly recommended growers of tea to devote their energies to raising the quality of the staple. Some years ago, England, too, passed a law prohibiting the import of teas medicinally coloured; and this example was followed by the Government of Victoria, in Australia, in 1881. But as the export of Japanese teas to both these countries did not reach any considerably amount, the restrictions had little or no effect on our trade. When, however, a similar step was taken by America, last year, the effect was immediately felt here. Indeed, it could not well be otherwise, for America is our best customer. Our producers have to compete against the black and green teas of China and India, and did they lose the custom of the United States, their trade would be virtually monopolized by the merchants of those two countries. Upon this point we wrote at length last April. * * * It behoves producers to export leaves of such excellent quality that no inspection, however rigorous, need be shunned. If this object be kept in view, the more careful the examination our teas receive, the more will their reputation be augmented. * * * There can be no doubt that, as the Ministers say in their Notification, the manufacture of coloured teas and the sale of adulterated leaves are detrimental to honest commerce. A further reason for dealing with evil practices is to be found in the fact that they are deleterious to the public health. From a moral, as well as an industrial point of view, improved methods of production and preparation are indispensable. Japanese traders must spare no pains to bring this about. Individual effort is scarcely competent to correct the abuses that have sprung up. Union and coöperation are the only efficient agents. This consideration doubtless motivated the first article of the new Regulations, wherein it is provided that traders and producers alike must enter the guilds. To produce superior tea, efforts must be made to maintain the colour as well as the flavour of the leaves by directing attention to the method of fertilizing and of plucking. Colouring and blending with foreign matters or spurious leaves must be strictly prohibited. The same is true of sun-drying, for which proper firing should be substituted. All these points having been duly observed in the preparation, it is necessary to adopt such precautions in the packing that no loss of colour or aroma may be suffered. * * * The arrangements with regard to marking and stamping are doubtless intended to promote competition among producers and dealers. All these regulations show that the Government has devoted much care and attention to the improvement of the tea trade. We trust that the local authorities, on their side, will urge the various persons engaged in the trade to lose no time about forming guilds, and that the members of the guilds will observe the regulations, and devise measures which will be at once conducive to their own profit and in sympathy with the purpose of the Government.

LIGHTING OF THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENT.

A meeting of the Gas Committee was held on the 4th inst. at No. 3, when there were present, Messrs. Gay, Evers, Brooke, Wolff, and Wilkin. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Wolff, submitted a statement of accounts for the past year, showing a balance in hand of *yen* 950.91. The entire statement is subjoined.

It was proposed by Mr. WOLFF, seconded by Mr. BROOKE, and carried:—"That the Gas Committee hand over the charge of the lighting of the foreign settlement to the Municipal Committee, if they will accept it."

It was moved by Mr. BROOKE, and seconded by Mr. GAY:—"That the present assessment be reduced 15 per cent., on subscriptions due from the 15th instant." Carried.

A list of persons who refuse to contribute their

quota, upon various pretexts, towards the expense of lighting the foreign settlement, was submitted, but a hope was expressed that, as the benefited in common with the rest of the community, they would no longer cast upon other contributors a burden which ought, in common fairness, to be shared equally by themselves, and which they would have to bear if rating were compulsory, and not voluntary.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wolff for his services as Hon. Treasurer:—

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE YOKOHAMA GAS COMMITTEE, DURING THE THIRD YEAR, FROM 16TH FEBRUARY, 1883, TO 15TH FEBRUARY, 1884.

RECEIPTS.		YEN. SEN.	YEN. SEN.
To Balance brought over from second year.			1,050.31
To Subscriptions for 1st and 2nd months.	916.70		
To Subscriptions for 3rd and 4th months.	832.35		
To Subscriptions for 5th and 6th months.	892.35		
To Subscriptions for 7th and 8th months.	837.00		
To Subscriptions for 9th and 10th months.	881.90		
To Subscriptions for 11th and 12th months.	785.45		
		5,146.25	
		6,197.06	
EXPENDITURE.			
By payments to the Gas Works:—			
4½ months at Yen 410.....	1,845.00		
6 months at Yen 400.....	2,400.00		
1½ months at Yen 310.....	465.00		
	4,710.00		
By payments to Secretary, 10 per cent. on amount collected.....	514.62		
By payments for Stationery.....	21.53		
	5,246.15		
Balance in hands of Treasurer.....		950.91	
E. & O. E. A. WOLFF, Hon. Treasurer.			
Yokohama, 4th March, 1884.			
MEMO.			
The total amount collected last year was..	5,854.80		
The total amount collected this year was..	5,146.25		
Reduction in amount collected this year.....	708.55		
or about 12 per cent.			
The Expenditure last year amounted to...	5,542.32		
The Expenditure this year amounted to...	5,246.15		
Reduction in expenditure this year ...	296.17		
or about 5½ per cent.			
Arrears paid up on the 4th March, 1884...	27.00		
Secretary's commission 10 %	2.70		
	24.30		
Arrears due on 4th March.....	118.60		
of which doubtful about.....	48.60		
	70.00		
Secretary's commission 10 %	7.00		
Arrears to receive, about	63.00		
Total arrears about.....	87.30		
The present income per month is about...	416.78		
Of which doubtful	10.78		
Actual income about	406.00		
Less Secretary's commission, Stationery, &c., about 11 %	44.66		
Net income per month	361.34		
Amount due to Gas works per month.....	310.00		
Surplus	51.34		
being about 12½ per cent. on the amount of subscriptions now collected, but as it is hoped that the number of subscribers will be increased, the reduction on the present assessment will no doubt be larger than 12½ per cent. only.			

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Apropos to the very emphatic testimony borne by Cheshub Chunder Sên, to the commanding influence of Christian Missions in India, referred to in your journal recently announcing that great religious reformer's death, may I ask the reproduction in your columns of an "Address by Sir Richard Temple, Bart. G.C.S.I., D.C.L., before the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, New York, Nov. 7th 1882." Not less than twenty five years' experience in India in connection with the India Civil Service in which he held office in nearly every province, having been governor of both the Bombay and the Bengal Presidency, gives the greatest possible weight to Sir Richard's testimony both for its impartiality and thoroughness of knowledge. Stirred by the injustice and misrepresentation which the haters of Christianity have put upon the mission work, he has felt called upon to come to the defence of the truth. He has repeatedly spoken on the

subject in Exeter Hall, London, and elsewhere. On a visit to America in 1882, at the invitation of the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, he met them at their rooms, and addressed them as follows:—

I take pleasure in meeting your Missionary Board on this occasion, and in giving my testimony to the value of Christian missions in India.

And in what I have to say I would speak of Protestant missions in their totality. While we trust that the Church of England will be found to have taken her full share in the missionary operations, yet we fully appreciate the great work done by the Presbyterian Church, and especially by the Free Church of Scotland, which I regard as having done as much in proportion to its numbers and resources for the cause of missions in India as any community in Christendom. We regard with gratitude and respect the assistance obtained through the piety and generosity of the several Protestant churches of America. Certainly the American missions of all denominations in India are working thoroughly well. That I can testify, having seen them. At the same time I would give full credit to the Roman Catholic missionaries in India who certainly are earnest laborers, and have devoted themselves to the heathen. Whatever they may be in Europe, they show their best side when laboring as missionaries in India. I would not desire to disparage them, and yet even they cannot keep pace with Protestant missions so far as the result can be gauged by statistics. I apply my remarks, then, to Protestant missions in their integrity, their totality, in which the Presbyterian Church, on both sides of the Atlantic, has borne so prominent a share.

ANSWER TO DISPARAGEMENTS.

1st. In the first place I would allude to the disparaging reports often made by travellers with regard to the missionary work in India, which reports are often current in England, and have, I am sorry to hear, found their way to America. Some gentlemen, and ladies, too, returning from India after travelling or residing in the country, deride the results of missions. Now, statements like these are made either by persons who never took the trouble to obtain information, perhaps never enjoyed the opportunity of obtaining it, or by those who have no interest in religion and no care for religious work. You well understand how difficult it would be for a person passing through your great city (New York) to form a just estimate of its various institutions of charity and public beneficence. How imperfect is the knowledge of one just residing only for a time in city or country! How much more does this hold good of the observations by European travellers or temporary residents in a country so vast as India. The work of missions does not strike the casual observer. You have to inquire and investigate, not only at the great centres, but in the interior of the country. You must not suppose that because a lady or gentleman has happened to reside or travel in India, he or she must necessarily know all about the missionary work going on in that land.

Those who undervalue missions will belong to one or other of two categories, either persons who do not care for religion, or persons who, while caring for religion, are not experienced in the interior in India. On the other hand, those who have examined the work are those who give a favorable testimony. The favorable witnesses are not mere casual or superficial observers, but men of the highest character, statesmen, civilians, politicians, and soldiers, men on whose judgment their government and the civilized world depend with confidence on other subjects, and whose opinion may be safely trusted on this great subject of missions.

The evidence depends, moreover, not on mere personal statements and impressions, but on statistics and facts, liable to be checked by witnesses with local knowledge and subject to verification in many collateral respects by official men who are not likely to deceive themselves.

ACTUAL SUCCESS.

2nd. Objectors are fond of saying, what, after all, is the actual success of missions? Have they done anything in India? The answer to this must come from well-verified figures and facts. No blow is so effective as one given straight from the shoulder, and no argument is so effective on this subject as that drawn from the official documents. I have not my papers and figures with me while travelling in America, but I could give you an array of facts of which all Christendom would be proud. They read like the statistics of some great governmental undertaking, but they really constitute the result of private enterprise undertaken in the most sacred of causes. The fear is not that we shall be discouraged by the small result already attained, but that the result is becoming so great, and increasing with such rapid

growth as might be well styled, in view of the rapid development of your great country, an American growth, that it may ere long so grow on your hands that you cannot cope with it. It is now advancing fifty per cent. every ten years during the generation (thirty years) ending with the year 1880. If it goes on at that rate, during the present generation there will be by the year 1910 about 2,000,000 of native Christians on your hands, and any organization you can make with European agency will be inadequate to deal with them. Your only hope will be in organizing a native church. And this work is already receiving due consideration. Natives of acknowledged ability and piety are entering the Christian ministry, and the government have already had to sanction, in conjunction with the English missionary societies, three additional bishops to examine and ordain the native ministers and deacons. There are now in India three hundred native ministers with four hundred European missionaries, and we hope that ere long the natives will outnumber the foreign missionaries.

But for a long time to come the prime movers in these operations must continue to be European. And we hope that a great Christian, and if we may use the term, ecclesiastical army will be raised, the rank and file consisting of natives while the leaders and generals are highly qualified Europeans.

3rd. Again we are sometimes asked by objectors—Is there any chance for Christianity to make headway against these antiquated systems of false religion?

THE BATTLE WITH ANCIENT SYSTEMS.

(a) In the first place with regard to Buddhism, that religion is not extensively prevalent in India, but it is met with in the mountainous regions of the eastern Himalayas, and however excellent and attractive the poetic accounts of Buddhism, as given in the well-known poem, "The Light of Asia," the actual Buddhism of India is as degraded and degrading as can well be imagined. It is liberal toward other faiths, but when you have said that you have exhausted the catalogue of its merits. It is very picturesque to the fancy in its ceremonial rites, but is far otherwise in doctrine and discipline.

(b) Then, as to Mohammedanism. It is a much more formidable adversary, and yet converts have been made from among the Mohammedans, and these converts are among the best yet made in India. Mohammedanism presents us a nut which is hard to crack. It had the advantage of Christianity in coming after it, and it borrowed many of its teachings. The Mohammedans say willingly that they revere "the Book" as they style the Bible. They have the idea of God, of one God. No uninspired book has so fully formulated the attributes of Deity as the Mohammedan writings in the Arabic language, and that is perhaps the most elaborately constructed language ever known.

Yet as a religion Mohammedanism establishes a narrow exclusive character. It withers human character as with a blight, warps all the feelings and sentiments, crystallizes everything which it touches, and rivets all customs and opinions in a groove. Though it inculcates the duty of almsgiving, it is in several respects uncharitable. It is utterly intolerant. Anything more sanguinary than its fanaticism cannot be imagined.

Benevolence toward those who differ from us, love to our neighbor, and charity in the Christian sense of that most noble term, are wholly alien to the Mohammedan religion. I know the Mohammedans well, from long and familiar acquaintance, and their peculiar character only convinces me the more of the necessity of giving them the freedom of Christianity.

(c) Then as to Hindooism. The Hindoos number one hundred and fifty millions of souls, about two thirds of the population of India.

Do not suppose because you hear and read of the pristine purity of the early Vedic faith that this is the Hindooism of the nineteenth century. The Hindoos who strive in our day to purify their faith are thinking themselves out of Hindooism. Though the educated classes are soaring toward the light, yet the masses of the people to-day are as devoted to a corrupt religion as in the darkest ages of the East. I cannot give you an exact idea of the vicious orgies which occur constantly in the Hindoo temples. There is a considerable amount of abominable immorality, which is practically the outcome of the religion; though, on the other hand, there are many domestic virtues practised by the people, showing how much of goodness would be produced, if the religion were purer.

The practical instruction given by Hindooism to the young is grossly defective. All the ideas of truth and honor are not inculcated. The parent in training the child does not say, Never tell an untruth but rather says, in effect, Do the best you can, in the circumstances, thus teaching expediency, not morality.

When contemplating the Hindoos you recall the

absurdity of their superstitions, and the immorality of many among their practices, you will see the need of carrying on missionary work in India.

I have heard in England and even in this country, that many think there is not much need for Christianity in India, and even if there were need that there is no chance for its success.

There is the need as seen by the character of the three great religions of the land, and that there is a chance of success is abundantly proved by statistics of the work already done.

CHARACTER OF THE MISSIONARIES.

4th. Again I have been asked what is really the character of your missionaries in India. I have heard at times the other side of the Atlantic as well as here, the remark that the missionaries of our day are far from being of the apostolic type, that they only go to earn a living and draw salaries without zeal for doing good, and with little hope of accomplishing anything.

Now all these insinuations are incorrect. They are the careless and thoughtless remarks of men who do not know the qualifications and idiosyncrasies of the missionaries now becoming an extensive body of men. I have, during my life in India, been the local governor of 105,000,000 of people, in different provinces. Thousands of Europeans have served under me, and I ought to know something of the value and the character of men. I have also been acquainted with the missionary stations throughout the length and breadth of the country. I believe that a more talented, zealous, and able body of men than the missionaries does not exist in India. In a country abounding in talent and learning they fully hold their own.

But it is said, the present missionaries are not equal to those of former years. Now, is it likely that the present and future missionaries will be less able than the past, when they now profit by all the experience of that past, and beside have professional and technical instruction to give them especial preparation for their work, thus possessing advantages which their earliest predecessors never enjoyed? In England we have excellent missionary training schools at Islington, at St. Augustine's, under the very shadow of Canterbury Cathedral, and at other places. Of course, genius is not to be evoked by examinations, and whether some of the historic originators of the missionary work will, as individuals, be equalled, we cannot say. But, with the means of preparation now in use, I can promise confidently that the average missionary in the future will be equal to if not better than the past.

I have seen the missionaries in every province, from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas, and I know their high character. I do not say that there are no failures; but the percentage of failures is as small as in any other department of the public service.

5th. Remember that you want two kinds of missionaries. In the first place, you need practical "parish priests," to do the work of visiting and directing several thousands of simple-minded people, namely, native Christian peasants—missionaries always prompt, thoughtful, patient, able to despatch details rapidly, and yet in a work not requiring the highest intellectual exercise. A man highly qualified intellectually might not succeed in this labor.

Next you need men of another kind thoroughly versed not only in the religion, but also in the literature, philosophy, and poetry of India, to enter into the subtle fallacies and twistings of Oriental reasoning, and also versed in religious dialectics and trained in Christian theology.

Just as in an army there must be men of all arms, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, so here in this Christian warfare, we need men of varied gifts and culture.

In the mother land there are the Oxford Mission to Calcutta and the Cambridge Mission to Delhi, which are organized to train missionaries of this higher kind. These efforts are specially connected with the two ancient universities.

CHARACTER OF THE CONVERTS.

6th. Inquiry is naturally made regarding the character of native converts. It is often carelessly said that they are no better after than before their conversion. These taunts may have come from some lady or gentleman who, at some time has been deceived by a native Christian in the capacity of a domestic servant or a camp follower. But the native converts in India must not, as a whole, be judged by the casual misconduct of individuals. Those who attempt to apply such a test should remember that the efficacy of Christianity even among ourselves would be discredited by the application of so unreasonable a standard. The native Christians are no longer obscure and unknown, scattered here and there like "Rari natu in gurgite vasto," but they are numbered by tens of

thousands and occupy whole tracts and districts of country. You should see them in their rural homes, but such a visitation takes time and trouble, and is seldom undertaken by those who disparage missions. You then would find these Christian communities remarkably well conducted. I do not claim for them any unusual display of Christian graces, but they behave as well on the average as Christians in any land. If you appeal to the magistrates in India, they will give the native Christians everywhere a good character. These Christians are obedient to their religious guides, attend faithfully the ordinances of religion, the services of the church, the Holy Communion and Confirmation, and send their children to school, during the week and to the Sunday-school on the Sabbath.

It would be well, if all white Christians contributed as well as the native Christians for the support of the Gospel, and their religious institutions. In their villages you see the rustic chapels and the little schools which they have reared by their own contributions.

Again, they have never scandalized their Christianity nor put their religion to open shame. We must admit that India, like other countries, has had scandals reflecting unfavorably on Christianity. But unhappily these scandals which have been brought on the faith have been chiefly from white men calling themselves Christians. We do not hear of apostates among the native Christians. When the Sepoy revolt and the consequent war spread over the land, and many were tempted to apostatize, were threatened, and exposed to danger, yet they stood firm to their faith, and there was no noteworthy instance of apostasy whatever.

7th. You sometimes hear that the Christians in India have become so for pecuniary gain. They have been called "rice Christians," as if they became Christians to be fed with rice. They are rice Christians no doubt, but in a different sense from what the term was intended to convey. Truly, they are rice Christians, because they work industriously and produce the finest rice crops for themselves! They are largely of the peasant class, peasant proprietors who cultivate the land they own and hand it down to their children. They are by nature attached to everything ancestral; and those whose families have been Christian for more than one generation, begin to feel an hereditary attachment to Christianity. Everything hereditary is by them steadfastly cherished.

I have often heard the native Christians speak affectionately of the missionaries who first instructed their fathers in the Christian faith.

CONVERTS FROM ALL CLASSES.

Again it is said that the Christian converts are only the humbler classes. "Show us one of the higher class!" I accept that challenge. Let us go through the list of the native ministry and we shall find that most of the able preachers who have done most to vindicate Christianity have been of the high caste.

Yet we should remember that the mass of the people belong to the humbler castes, and the majority of the Christians must be of the lower caste if Christianity be diffused as it ought to be among all castes equably. And the humblest people are after all the most needy and most appeal to our Christian sympathies. We believe that their souls are as valuable as ours, and we should gladly labor for their salvation.

Then there is a body of men in India who belong to no caste at all. They are regarded by all others as out of caste. They are the aborigines and the Pariahs. They number, according to the census, twenty-three millions of souls, and it may be encouraging to recollect that while in a large part of India you encounter, caste, priestcraft, and bigoted hostility, yet among these you have a clean surface on which to write; hearts unsullied by guile and superstition, and presenting a "tabula rasa" on which you may inscribe the doctrines of eternal truth. Here then you have a field on which may be won an encouraging success.

Believing in the inviolability of the Divine command to "preach the Gospel to the every creature" you would doubtless persevere even in the absence of present success, trusting in the ultimate fulfilment of the Scriptural promises. Yet we cannot but feel our energies stimulated if we see success attending our labors. Now you have in India a success before you which will be certainly augmented in proportion to the labors put forth and to the resources brought into play.

THE EFFECTS OF EDUCATION.

8th. It will occur to you to ask what effect is the system of public instruction to have on the temper and disposition of the Indian people? You will be told it is producing discontent and irreligion, taking away from the people the religion of their forefathers and giving them nothing in return.

As to loyalty or disloyalty, England will do her best without fear. I believe education will produce loyalty. But, be the political consequence what it may, we must be just and fear not, and give India the education in those arts and sciences which have made England herself what she is. Even if a certain sort of disloyalty were to be the consequence we must persevere, for we could not consent to keep the people ignorant in order to keep them loyal.

As regards religion, the government has to be very careful not to mix religion with the State education. But we give the same educational grants of State aid to the schools of all communities alike, and the missionaries come in for their share, the pecuniary assistance being given on the well-known system of "payment by results." Thus indirectly the missionaries obtain a modicum of public aid which they win in open competition.

Irreligion might be the consequence of the secular teaching under the State, but the contrary is the case. The highly educated Hindoos almost invariably break away from their heathen religion. I do not say this is true of Mohammedans, but the Hindoos on receiving western education do, with scarcely any exception, cease to believe in the ancestral faith. They do not, however, become atheists. They rather become theists, believing in the immortality of the soul and in human accountability to a Supreme Judge for deeds done in this life.

If you look at the sermons of the Hindoo religious reformers, styling themselves the Brahmo Somaj, and the addresses of welcome lately given by them to the missionaries of the Oxford Mission to Calcutta, you can judge whether they are not on the high road to Christianity. Then if you can send out missionaries intellectually able to cope with these men, a rich harvest may be reaped.

THE ELEVATION OF WOMEN.

I must now say a few words regarding female education; the importance of this is acknowledged by the British Government in India. We encourage the opening of female schools in every direction. Formerly females were kept in degradation and seclusion, yet there have been manifold instances of female heroism and genius in Indian history. Even to this day, widows would be quite ready to burn themselves on the funeral pyres of their husbands, were they not prevented by the strong hand of the British Government. They certainly are not lacking in what we call grit of character. Hence we may infer that a great future is in store for the women of India, when properly educated. Both the high and low are anxious to go to school. But the daughters of the rich and noble do not attend school, as they cannot break the bar of public opinion which prevents girls of more than eleven or twelve years from appearing in public. Hence you must teach them in their homes, in the Zenanas or female apartments. For this reason, European ladies of special training are becoming teachers in the households of the wealthy and the great. I suggest to you that American gentlemen cannot do better than advise some of the young ladies now being educated in the ladies' colleges and the normal institutions of the United States, to go out as teachers to the daughters of the great Indian houses, and so carry western enlightenment into recesses heretofore secluded from the light. Female education is already advancing in India. I know hundreds of educated natives whose grandmothers could not read at all, whose mothers could read but slightly, and whose wives can read and write imperfectly. But their daughters are being brought up with an education conducted upon the western models.

In conclusion then, gentlemen, the result thus far in India is relatively inconsiderable, though absolutely it may be large. But the smallness of its proportion arises from the vastness of the country and the immense population, a consideration likely to be fully appreciated by Americans. Still there is every ground for encouragement. A shining goal invites your Christian efforts. Such efforts are not indeed put forth with a view to political effect. Still, as matter of fact, the political effect of the Christian missions in India is excellent. The spectacle of private enterprise undertaken in this disinterested manner, does not render the natives jealous, but rather edifies them. The natives are but too apt to imagine that British policy is governed by political ambition or national aggrandizement. Let them see in our missions something higher and nobler, a benevolence disinterested and pure, a sunny spot with no shadows or earth-born cloud to rest upon it.

The result of missions thus far is nationally and politically good. We Englishmen feel our responsibility. We thankfully acknowledge the aid sent from the religious world in the United States with a truly disinterested liberality, and we cordially welcome the co-operation of our American kinsmen in this noble work.

FEARFUL DISASTER AT SEA.

THE STEAMBOAT "YOTSUI" BLOWN UP.

The following is taken from the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 25th ultimo:—

The Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company's steamer *Yotsui*, which had had her preliminary trial trips, passed through the harbour yesterday about one o'clock on her way to Macao to resume her station on the line between that port and Canton. The vessel was in command of Captain Hoyland, and had on board as passengers Mr. J. S. Brewer, Mr. D. E. Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser-Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Smith, Mr. P. A. da Costa, Mr. G. Frizell, and Messrs. Scott and Pinker, of the Dock Company. After the vessel had been under weigh about half-an-hour it was observed the boilers were priming, but that irregularity was corrected. The passengers sat down to tiffin shortly after two o'clock, when the Cap Shui-mun was passed. During the meal a large escape of steam from the steam pipe was remarked, and Messrs. Brewer and Pinker left the table to investigate the cause. They came back shortly afterwards and ten minutes past three a frightful explosion of one of the boilers took place, which blew away the whole of the after part of the vessel, including the after deck house where the captain and passengers were seated, with the result that the whole of them were hurled into the air, and of the number of those named only Captain Hoyland, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser-Smith, Mr. Brewer, and Mr. Caldwell were saved. The survivors were saved by climbing out of the water upon the roof of the after deck house, which had been precipitated some distance from the vessel, except Mrs. Fraser-Smith, who was rescued by a Portuguese sailor who had found his way into a boat. Amongst the crew there was also a large mortality, comprising Mr. Woods, the chief engineer, two stewards (Chinese), six firemen, and one seaman. Two Chinese fishing junks bore down to the scene of the disaster, and picked up the survivors, whom they brought on to Hongkong, where they arrived about half-past ten o'clock last night. Before leaving the wreck two or three small native boats were seen to go alongside the main portion of the hull, which lay grounded with the roof of the upper fore deck awash, and commenced to pillage. The funnel was blown clean away, and the sea around was a mass of floating debris. Mr. da Costa was unconscious when rescued, and died on board the junk about seven o'clock. Every attention possible was bestowed on him both by the survivors and junk people, but he never regained sensibility.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

We give to-day further particulars and detailed narratives, by some of the survivors, of the disastrous explosion on Sunday afternoon of the boilers of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.'s steamer *Yotsui*.

The *Yotsui* was, it appears, making about eight knots at the time of the disaster, and was, as nearly as we can determine, some fifteen miles from Hongkong, a little beyond the West Brother island and almost abreast of the island of Chulakok. With regard to the causes of the disaster, we do not intend to speculate. The evidence at the inquiry, which will doubtless shortly be held, will probably clear this up, and we suspend all judgment meantime. The *Yotsui* was only insured against fire, and stood on the Company's books at a valuation of \$25,000, to which must be added the cost of her repairs. Last night Captain Benning, who had been despatched to the scene by the directors, returned from the wreck of the *Yotsui*, with the bodies of Messrs. Frizell, Scott, and Pinker, and that of the Chinese steward. He left a boat in charge of the wreck, and will to-day see what can be done to recover the other bodies. A gunboat was, at the request of the Company, sent by the Commodore to the wreck yesterday afternoon. The following is a complete list of those killed:—

Mr. P. A. da Costa, Secretary to the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company.

Mr. G. Frizell, draughtsman to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company.

Mr. W. L. Scott, Superintendent Engineer to the Kowloon establishment of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company.

Mr. Stuart M. Fraser-Smith, sub-editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*.

Mrs. S. M. Fraser-Smith.

Mr. G. F. Pinker, foreman engineer, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company.

Mr. Jno. Wood, chief engineer, steamer *Yotsui*. The Commodore of the steamer.

Two Chinese Stewards.

Nine Chinese Firemen.

One Chinese Sailor.

The news of the untimely death of Mr. P. A. da Costa, the able and indefatigable Secretary of the Steamboat Company, has been received with widespread and profound regret. Conscientious, hard-working, devoted to his work, to which he brought excellent capabilities, Mr. da Costa was invaluable to the Company, whose interests he served so faithfully and well. He was also exceedingly popular among his community, his amiable character and courteous manners endearing him to all who knew him. His charitable disposition was well known and scores of the poor of this Colony will have good reason to mourn the loss of a benefactor and friend. Mr. da Costa had literary abilities of no mean order, and always took a keen interest in education. A few months ago, in recognition of services rendered by Mr. da Costa, the King of Portugal conferred upon him the distinction of the Order of Our Lady of the Conception and Villa Viçosa, and about the same time he was made a member of the Geographical and Anthropological Society of Stockholm. Mr. da Costa was a Portuguese scholar of eminence and only recently examined the pupils of the Victoria School in that language. It is not too much to say that all his countrymen were proud of him for his abilities and uprightness and esteemed him for his good disposition. Nor was Mr. da Costa less respected by the other sections of community, who have not been slow to recognise his good qualities and talents. The funeral will take place this afternoon with Masonic rites, according to a wish once expressed by the lamented gentleman. The brethren will assemble at the Masonic Hall at 3.45 p.m. It is to be regretted, in this connection, that the Catholic clergy should have intimated that they intended to refuse to perform the last rites of the church over the body of this estimable gentleman because he belonged to the Freemasons.

In the deaths of Messrs. Frizell, Scott, and Pinker the Dock Company have sustained the loss of three valuable assistants. Mr. Scott leaves a widow and one child. His two colleagues were single. Mr. Frizell was a young man of great promise. He joined the service of the Company in April, 1883, and was a very skilful draughtsman. He had, during his brief residence here, made many friends. Messrs. Scott and Pinker were also very popular at the docks.

Of the survivors, Captain Hoyland, Mr. R. Fraser-Smith, and Mr. J. S. Brewer are the most injured, all of them having sustained several severe cuts and contusions, and numerous bruises. Mrs. Fraser-Smith, though very much bruised, is doing fairly well. Mr. Caldwell was very severely shaken, but only slightly cut on one side of the head. He is, however, covered with bruises. All of the survivors are in sad need of rest and quiet, the shock having been so violent and the scene so harrowing.

The occurrence of the disaster has thrown quite a gloom over the Colony, and has led to the postponement of the Race Ball to Thursday next.

Captain Hoyland was taken to the Government Civil Hospital on his arrival at Hongkong, and his friends were much disturbed by a rumour set in circulation by some unaccountable means, during the morning, that his injuries had proved fatal. We are happy to state, however, that such is very far from being the case, having seen that gentleman during the forenoon. He is bruised, and cut and strained very considerably, and is compelled at present to keep to his bed, but no bones are broken, and it seems that no serious injury has been done. He was cheerful when we saw him, and expects to be about again in a few days.

During the morning we visited Mr. Brewer, Government Marine Surveyor. That gentleman was compelled by doctor's orders to keep to his quarters, but he is able to get about the house, though very stiff and sore. His face and head are much cut, and his body and limbs greatly bruised, but he hopes to be able to go out again in a day or two. Mr. Brewer has kindly supplied us with the following narrative:—

The *Yotsui* had been undergoing repairs for some time past at Kowloon Dock, and was fitted with two boilers that were purchased by the Company from the steamer *Yottung*, her old ones having been condemned. Those boilers were thoroughly overhauled by the Dock Company, additional stays were put in, and they were entirely re-tubed and strengthened, and fitted with a new superheater. The Dock Company's engineers tested the boiler by hydraulic pressure to the extent of 60 lbs. and I tested it myself up to 50 lbs., which I considered certainly ample for the working pressure to be put upon the boiler, which was to be limited to 25 lbs. The vessel was tried about a week ago, and the trial not proving quite satisfactory, some slight alterations were made, after which another trial took place on Friday, when it was reported that the steamer would be ready to run over to Macao on Sunday to take

her place on the Canton and Macao line. This trip was also to be a trial trip to test the steaming qualities of the boilers, and also to adjust the Government safety valves, for which purpose I was on board. The boat left Kowloon Docks at a quarter to one, and took a party of guests invited to go with her from the launch *Hilda* at T'sim T'sa T'sui Point. As the *Yotsui* was proceeding through the harbour, there was a strong tide against her, and the boilers were not steaming well for the first hour, which caused her to go very slowly, and it was decided to take her through the inner channel, where there was smoother water, and this would give her speed a better testing. It was also decided not to take tiffin until after we were through the Cap-shui-mun Pass. When near the pass a large quantity of steam escaped through the waste steam pipe behind the funnel, accompanied by a quantity of water, which fell all over the deck like rain. Mr. Scott, of the Dock Company, was standing by the funnel at the time, looking into the engine-room, and he said this was due to the boiler priming, and that it would soon be all right. Things went on smoothly in a little time, and at two or two fifteen the captain and guests went into the deck-house aft to tiffin. At this time the engines were working slowly, and the pressure gauge in the engine room, which could be seen from the upper deck, only indicated twelve or thirteen pounds of steam. About three o'clock, or a little before, steam was again heard rushing out of the waste steam pipe, and Mr. Pinker, of the Dock Company, left the table and went down to help Mr. Wood, the engineer of the steamer. I also went out with him, but did not go down, merely looking down the skylight. The roaring of the steam ceased, and after a few minutes Mr. Pinker and I went back. The roaring soon commenced again, and Mr. Pinker again went down to the engine-room, but I remained in the saloon. Shortly after he had gone there was a fearful explosion, and we were all hurled away for a considerable distance. I think we must have been all blown through one side of the deck-house from the way we are bruised and cut. We were all thrown a considerable distance into the water, and I went down a long way below the surface; it seemed a long time before I came to the top, but I was much stunned by a blow I received on the back of the head, and do not recollect the matter well. When I came to the surface I saw the top of the deckhouse floating close by, and a large amount of debris covered the water all around. I saw one or two men on the roof of the deckhouse, and was pulled on to it by Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Fraser-Smith, and then we helped Capt. Hoyland up. I saw Mr. da Costa lying there, but I do not know how he got there. I saw the steamer 200 or 300 yards away; it might even have been 500 yards away. The whole after part of the vessel was shattered, the deck, awning deck, and deckhouse aft of the engines being carried away, and all the gear. I also saw one boat which had been blown off, and a Portuguese seaman had got into it, and was drifting away, having no oars. The crew on board the wreck lowered a boat, into which two or three got and came to us. It took us on board a junk which came up, and also took the other people off the wreck. In the meantime another junk picked up the man who was drifting off in the boat, and also picked up Mrs. Fraser-Smith, whom I saw floating away with her arm over a piece of wreckage. This boat came alongside ours, and I got on board with the Portuguese boatswain of the *Yotsui* to act as interpreter to the Chinese. I found Mrs. Fraser-Smith lying on the deck almost insensible, and very much bruised and shaken. We took her down below, and got what things we could from the crew to make her as comfortable as it was possible to do; the crew of the junk were very good to us; they made hot tea for us and gave us samshu, and what clothes they could let us have they gave. The quartermaster took his own coat off and put it on one of the sailors who had been picked up. Before I left the first junk Mr. da Costa had been carried into the cabin, and Capt. Hoyland and Mr. Fraser-Smith were also there; Mr. Caldwell was then walking about. There were two Hongkong sampans alongside the wreck, the crews of which were looting it. We arrived in Hongkong after ten o'clock, the wind having nearly failed until we got into the harbour, and we were all extremely cold in our wet clothes. Capt. Hoyland, at the head of the table, sat nearest to the engines, and on either side were Mrs. R. Fraser-Smith and Mrs. S. M. Fraser-Smith. Mr. da Costa and myself were the next in order facing each other, then Mr. R. Fraser-Smith and Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Frizell and Mr. S. M. Fraser-Smith, Mr. W. L. Scott, and Mr. Pinker, the latter being down the engine-room at the time of the explosion. As to the cause of the explosion, I think it may, perhaps, be made apparent, but at present I would rather say nothing

about it as the matter will probably be investigated officially, and I shall have to give evidence, I suppose.

M. R. Fraser-Smith is perhaps the most battered of all the survivors; he is cut and bruised from head to heel, and sustained a most severe blow on the head, which caused a large scalp wound, and gives some ground for anxiety as to its effects. His legs also are much hurt, though fortunately no bones are broken, and he is unable to walk. Mrs. Fraser-Smith is confined to her bed, and her condition yesterday morning was such as to cause some grave uneasiness, but we are glad to learn on inquiry yesterday evening that the patient was progressing as favourably as could be expected considering the shock she had sustained, the bruises and cuts inflicted, her long immersion in the water, and subsequent exposure to cold. Mr. Fraser-Smith has a clear recollection of what took place; he says he was the first to rise to the surface of the water, and to scramble upon the roof of the deck house. He assisted Mr. Brewer, Mr. Caldwell, and Capt. Hoyland on to the wreckage, and also helped to drag Mr. da Costa on to it. The deceased gentleman was then floating helpless and insensible on the water. How he was able to do all this, Mr. Fraser-Smith says he cannot now think, for before he was taken off the wreckage his limbs failed him, and he was helpless.

An inquest was opened on the bodies of Mr. da Costa and the two Chinese at the Government Civil Hospital yesterday afternoon, and after viewing the bodies the inquiry was adjourned, no evidence being taken.

No more bodies of victims of this sad calamity were recovered up to last night, but it is reported that one body has been seen. Mr. Murphy, Chief Engineer of the steamer *White Cloud*, informed the police that while on the passage from Macao to Hongkong yesterday morning, he saw the body of a woman floating in the water outside Green Island. It was face upward, and the face appeared to be that of a European, and some white clothing was seen about the corpse. The second engineer also stated he saw the body. Strangely enough, neither took any further notice of the matter then; they did not inform the captain, and he, not seeing the corpse, came on to Hongkong and left it behind. The body was probably that of Mrs. S. M. Fraser-Smith, the only lady who fell a victim to the disaster, and it is most unfortunate Mr. Murphy did nothing more in the matter, for though the police, acting on his information, were searching about the place indicated for the rest of the day, they did not succeed in finding the body, which may now never be seen again. The bodies discovered on Monday were not found near the wreck; some gentlemen sent out by the Dock Company found them in a bay some three miles or so distant, whither they seemed to have drifted on a piece of wreckage. All the bodies were considerably knocked about, but not scalded, and those of Messrs. Scott, Pinker, and Frizell had been under the hands of Chinese, for their watches and jewellery were missing with the exception of the sleeve links, which appeared to have been overlooked.

We understand that the survivors of the occupants of the saloon are doing as well as can be expected.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest on the bodies recovered on Monday was resumed at the Magistracy yesterday afternoon before the Coroner, Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, and a jury composed of Messrs. Hormusjee, C. E. Hyndman, and J. S. Judah.

Mr. Wotton stated that he appeared to watch the case on behalf of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, and he understood his Worship did not intend to proceed with the inquiry then.

His Worship—No. Gentlemen, we yesterday took the preliminary step of viewing the deceased bodies—those of Mr. da Costa and the two Chinese male adults—supposed to have met with their deaths in the accident which occurred to the *Yotsai*, and we are therefore now in a position to go on with the inquiry at once. I have some doubts, however, as to whether as Coroner for the Colony of Hongkong, I possess any jurisdiction to inquire into the causes of deaths occurring on the high seas in the way these deaths are supposed to have occurred. I therefore think it would be better for me to adjourn this inquiry in order to ascertain my position on this point, and as soon as I get an authoritative answer we will proceed with this inquiry, supposing I find I possess the jurisdiction to hold it. Under any circumstances, of course, an occurrence of this kind would have to be inquired into, and whether it is for the Coroner to do it or not is a matter of small importance. The matter must in any case be the subject for a close investigation.

The inquiry was then adjourned to Wednesday next at 2.30.

THE FUNERAL OF THE VICTIMS.

The bodies of Messrs. da Costa, Scott, Frizell, and Pinker, who lost their lives in the lamentable explosion, were buried yesterday afternoon, and the wide-felt sorrow their sad fate has created was evidenced by the large crowd which assembled to pay the last mark of respect to them. In Mr. da Costa's case the ceremony was conducted entirely according to the Masonic ritual, and under the auspices of the Perseverance Lodge, of which the deceased was a member. The brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall at a quarter to four o'clock, and the body of the deceased having been placed in the lodge room, the lodge was opened by Wor. Bro. E. Georg, Master, who then handed over control to Right Wor. Bro. C. P. Chater, the District Grand Master, who read the funeral service, assisted by the Very Wor. Bro. W. S. Adams, M.D., Deputy District Grand Master, and Wor. Bro. J. S. Cox, District Grand Chaplain. Bro. J. Orange presided at the organ. On the conclusion of the preliminary part of the service, a procession was formed and the body was conveyed to the cemetery. The order of the procession was as follows:—

Members of the		
ST. JOHN'S LODGE, 618, S.C.		
Members of the		
UNITED SERVICE LODGE, 1341.		
Members of the		
VICTORIA LODGE, 1026.		
Members of the		
ZETLAND LODGE, 525.		
Members of the		
PERSEVERANCE LODGE, 1165.		
Oldest member (Bro. J. M. Armstrong) with		
HOLY WRITINGS.		
MASTER PERSEVERANCE LODGE.		
SENIOR WARDEN.	THE BODY.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
TREASURER.		SECRETARY.
SENIOR DEACON.		JUNIOR DEACON.
PRINCIPAL MOURNERS.		
GRAND LODGE OFFICERS		
D.G. MASTER.		DEPUTY D.G. MASTER.
D.G. Steward.		D.G. Steward.
D.G. Pursuivant.		
OTHER MOURNERS.		

Borne on the coffin were the crossed swords of the Knights Templars, the jewels of the deceased, and his apron and collar with his badge of office as Past District Grand Secretary. The coffin was also covered with floral wreaths and a cross. All the brethren present were provided with sprigs of oleander, which they threw upon the coffin after it had been lowered into the grave. The impressive service was brought to a close by the singing of the dirge "Solemn peals the funeral chime."

Messrs. Scott, Frizell, and Pinker were buried according to the rites of the Church of England, the service being impressively read by the Rev. W. Everingham, the funeral taking place immediately after the conclusion of the service over Bro. da Costa's body. Messrs. Scott, Frizell, and Pinker were also Masons, and the District Grand Master, Deputy District Grand Master, the Grand Lodge Officers, and the members of various lodges met the bodies at the gate of the cemetery and followed them to the grave. The coffins were borne by employes of the Dock Company and friends of the deceased gentlemen.

In addition to the Masons there was a large number of other persons present, amongst whom we noticed the Hon. F. B. Johnson (Chairman of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company), Mr. E. R. Belilios (Chairman of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company), Hon. F. Stewart, and Mr. Justice Russell. The Hon. P. Ryrie was present as a Mason.

NOTIFICATION NO. 4 OF THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

TO CITIES AND PREFECTURES.

Whereas: there is a quantity of coloured, impure, and otherwise adulterated tea in the market, not only interfering with legitimate trade, but injurious to the public health, those engaged in the tea trade are ordered to conform with the following bye-laws, and to report the establishment of Tea Guilds to the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

BYE-LAWS CONCERNING TEA GUILDS.

Art. I.—Those engaged in the tea trade, be they producers or sellers, must establish Tea Guilds in each of the urban or rural wards in which they reside.

N.B.—The production of tea for individual consumption does not come under these bye-laws.

Art. II.—The Guilds shall bear the name of the prefecture, city, urban, or rural ward in which they are established.

Art. III.—The Guilds shall frame rules with a view to achieving the following objects:—(1) that tea adulterated with bad and impure stuff shall not be manufactured; (2) that tea-leaves shall be properly fired and packed; (3) that the names of the producers and, or, sellers shall be marked on every package.

Art. IV.—Every Guild shall appoint a Committee to regulate and manage its own affairs.

Art. V.—The members of a Guild must be furnished with certificates proving their membership. These certificates must bear the stamp of the local authorities.

Art. VI.—A Committee shall examine into, and report upon, the condition of all the Guilds.

Art. VII.—A head Guild for the supervision and control of all other Guilds shall be established in each prefecture.

Art. VIII.—The officers of the head Guild shall be elected by vote from among the members of the subordinate Guilds.

Art. IX.—The expenses consequent upon the maintenance of the head and sub-Guilds shall be mutually determined by all the Guilds.

Art. X.—Each Guild shall be at liberty to frame such rules as may be considered expedient for the attainment of the above objects.

YAMAGATA ARITOMO,

Home Minister.

SAIGO YORIMICHI,

Minister for Agriculture and Commerce.

March 3rd, 1884.

NAVAL COURT.

On the application of Mr. William Mackie, Master of the British ship *Ben Nevis*, a Naval Court sat at H.B.M.'s Consulate on Monday and Tuesday last. The constitution of the Court was:—James Troup, Esquire, H.B.M.'s Consul, President; Walter Strugnell, Esquire, Navigating Lieutenant, H.B.M. *Sapphire*; and John Charles Felgate, Esquire, Master of the British steamer *Lord of the Isles*. The hearing of the various matters brought forward occupied a great deal of time, and on Wednesday the Court made the following order:—

The Court finds that William Mackie, Master of the British ship *Ben Nevis*, has omitted to enter in the Official Log the fact of Antonio Matthews being more or less deranged on the passage out, before arriving at Yokohama, and his having been put in irons, as also to enter or procure an entry of the conviction of the first mate, Martin J. Burke, the second mate, Kelly, Dennam, Stenson and Murphy, at Yokohama, and Nagasaki.

The Court finds that the evidence does not support a charge against the Master for assaulting Matthews, while the latter was in irons after leaving Yokohama; and that the ship was not in port when Matthews was put in irons.

It is further shown that Matthews disappeared from the ship on the 30th December last in Kaneda Bay.

There is evidence to show that in Yokohama Matthews had made an attempt to desert; also that on several occasions he had suicidal thoughts in his head.

The Court does not feel in a position to pronounce a decided opinion as to what became of him.

The Court warns the Master to be more careful of making the necessary entries in the Official Log in future, and directs that he pay two-thirds of the costs of these present proceedings, amounting to \$38.40.

The Court convicts Robert Moran, steward, of an assault on the Master on or about the 2nd October last, and finds further evidence to prove that his duties as steward were not satisfactorily performed by him.

The Official Log does not show to what reduction of pay it was the intention of the Master to disrate him.

Robert Moran is sentenced for the assault to be imprisoned for fourteen days, and it is directed that he be discharged from his ship and pay the expenses of his imprisonment.

The Court convicts Michael Stenson, James Murphy, and Charles Dennam of drunkenness and absence without leave, and finds that they were previously convicted of similar offences in Yokohama and Nagasaki.

The Court sentences each of them to thirty days' imprisonment with hard labour, to be discharged

from their ship, and to pay the expenses of their imprisonment.

The Court convicts Martin Joseph Burke, first mate, of drunkenness in the port of Nagasaki, on the 9th February, 1884, and also at this port on the 25th February, and finds that he has been convicted at Nagasaki of absence without leave.

The Court directs that his Master's Certificate, No. 011502, now in the hands of the Court, be cancelled and transmitted to the Board of Trade, with a recommendation that it be returned to him in two months, on his producing certificates satisfactory to the Board of Trade of good conduct for that time.

Further, that he be discharged from the ship, and the balance of wages found due to him be paid into the hands of H.M.'s Consul, and he be treated as a distressed seaman.

Further, that he pay the expenses of his confinement yesterday at this place, amounting to 80 cents, and pay one-third of the expenses of this Court, amounting to \$19.20.

The total expenses of this Court are fixed at £10. 16s., or \$57.60.

Given under our hands, at the British Consulate at Hiogo, this twenty-seventh day of February, 1884.

JAMES TROUP,
H.M. Consul, Hiogo and Osaka,
President of the Court.
W. STRUGNELL,
Navigating Lieutenant, R.N.
H.M.S. *Sapphire*.
JNO. C. FELGATE,
Master of the British steamship
Lord of the Isles.

—Hiogo News.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The work in connection with the construction of the new Imperial residence is making rapid progress. As one of the sawing-machines has been found defective, three others have been ordered from England.

Up to the 29th of last month, four hundred applications had been made for shares in the Infantry Drill School, recently established in the metropolis. The subscriptions amount to 20,000 yen.

A Chinaman and his Japanese consort attempted, on the 1st inst., to smuggle a quantity of opium, but their little plans were frustrated by the vigilance of the police. The man was handed over to the Chinese Consulate, while the woman found shelter in the snug quarters of the police station.—*Fuyu Shimbun*.

The Fashions are very changeable. In 1870-71, gold and silver mounted swords both large and small, were high in the popular estimation; but with the abolition of the custom of wearing swords, European dress, and the European style of cutting the hair came into fashion. The mercantile community subsequently enjoyed greater influence than did any other class. In 1874-75, the *sencha* (a tea ceremonial) became quite fashionable, and, in connection with the popular taste, tea bowls manufactured by Shutei were in great demand. Soon afterwards the public had an art-craze, and pictures by Minbatsu Shosei, as well as sketches in sepia (*bunjin-gwa*), were all the rage. With the outbreak of the cholera plague, patent medicines and quack nostrums began to be highly fancied. Shortly after the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion, the *Cha-no-Yu* at once reasserted its former wide spread influence. With the arrival of General Grant, the halcyon days of actors and singing girls seemed to have returned. In 1880-81, the game of *go*, sword-collecting, and a taste for ballad writing, as well as lyric poetasters, came into vogue. Kano's excellent pictures also enjoyed a large portion of the public esteem. The latest popular fancy has manifested itself in the revival of fencing and wrestling.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

Mr. Shioda, of the Foreign Office, who has been transferred to the Sanji-in, has been assigned to the foreign department of that body.

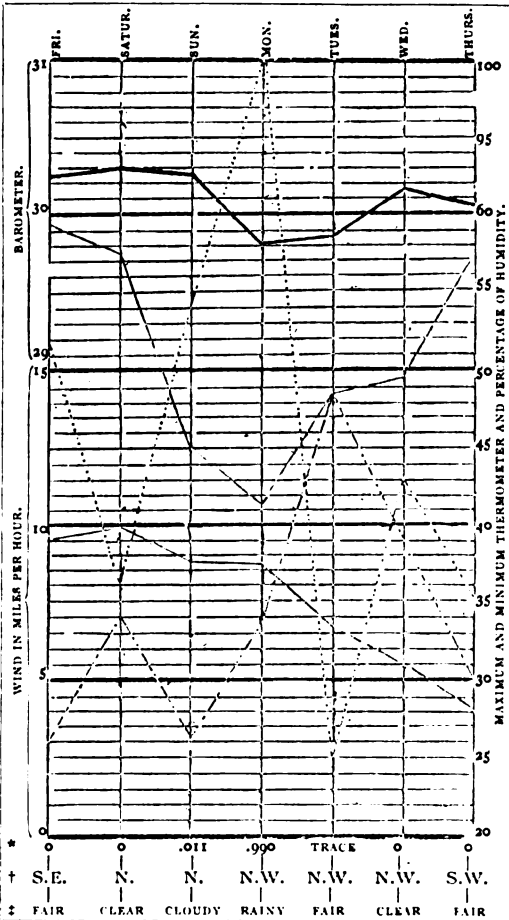
The province of Osumi is noted for the production of vegetable wax. The quality of the article has, however, considerably deteriorated, seriously affecting the sales. Some public-spirited men have lately attempted to restore the former excellence of the article by opening a competitive exhibition. Their efforts met with a satisfactory degree of success.

The Tramway Company have built thirty-six new carriages. Forty strong horses are to be bought in Awomori.—*Tokyo-Yokohama Mainichi Shimbun*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 32.3 miles per hour on Tuesday at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.373 inches on Saturday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.523 inches on Tuesday at 6 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 59.1 on Friday, and the lowest was 28.1 on Thursday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 50.0 and 27.5 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 1.002 inches, against .695 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Monday, March 10th.*
From America ... per P. M. Co. Tuesday, March 11th.†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, March 13th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Friday, March 14th.‡

* City of Tokio (with English mail) left Hongkong on March 3rd.
† City of Peking left San Francisco on February 21st. ‡ *Kashgar* left Hongkong on March 6th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Monday, March 10th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Mar. 12th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Friday, March 14th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, March 15th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, March 22nd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 1st.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The Transvaal Convention has been signed. The Convention provides for the abolition of suzerainty, but England reserves the power to veto foreign treaties.

London, March 3rd.

OCCUPATION OF TOKAR.

The British troops have occupied Tokar.

THE DYNAMITERS.

American infernal machines have been discovered at the railway stations at Charing-cross, Paddington, Victoria-street, and Ludgate-hill.

London, March 5th.

ELECTORAL REFORM.

Lord John Manners has given notice of an amendment that any reform will be unacceptable which does not provide for a redistribution of seats.

London, March 7th, 5.25 p.m.

Cotton, unchanged; Mid. Upland, 5½. Yarns, steady. Shirtings, firm. Silk, dull; but not quotably lower.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 22nd February.

MR. BRADLAUGH.

Mr. Bradlaugh has resigned his seat for Northampton and been re-elected. The House of Commons has adopted a motion excluding him from the precincts of the House.

London, 23rd February.

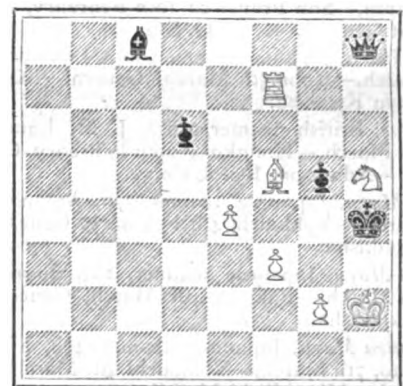
SURRENDER OF TOKAR.

Latest advices from Suakim state that Tokar was surrendered to the rebels.

The surrender was due to the disaffection of the garrison, half of whom submitted and the rest escaped.

CHESS.

By the Rev. F. R. DREW.
From the *Illustrated London News*.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 4 moves.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 314, Arai, 1st March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 1st March,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwai-sha.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 666, Dithlefsen, 1st March,—Oginohama, General.—Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 2nd March,—Hakodate 1st March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 2nd March,—Hongkong 22nd February via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 3rd March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 2nd March,—Kobe 1st March, General.—Seiriusha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,330, J. Ross, 4th March,—Nagasaki 1st March, 2,500 tons Coals and General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,970, James, 4th March,—Hakodate 1st March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, P. Hussey, 4th March,—Yokosuka Dock.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 5th March,—Yokkaichi 3rd March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 5th March,—Yokkaichi 3rd March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 5th March,—Hongkong 28th February, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 6th March,—Hakodate 3rd and Oginohama 5th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 414, Arai, 6th March,—Kobe 4th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 6th March,—Kobe 3rd March, General.—Seiriusha.

Frank Pendleton, American ship, 1,362, E. P. Nicholas, 6th March,—New York 5th October, Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, E. Wilson Haswell, 6th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 6th March,—Kobe 4th March, General.—Nakamurasha.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 6th March,—San Francisco 10th February, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, J. Adair, 6th March,—Kobe 5th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ashburne, British steamer, 1,613, J. M. Lambert, 7th March,—Hongkong 29th February, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 7th March,—Yokkaichi 4th February, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 7th March,—Fukuda 4th March, General.—Fukudasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 7th March,—Yokkaichi 4th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 8th March,—Kobe 6th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 646, Thomas, 22nd March,—Yokosuka Dock.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Dsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 3rd March,—Shimoda General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, B. E. Gall, 3rd March,—Kobe and Osaka General.—Kido Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 3rd March,—Kobe General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 492, Okuma, 3rd March,—Hakodate and Otaru Generala,—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 4th March,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 5th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 5th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Alma, American schooner, 45, J. Boyd, 6th March,—Guam, General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Eckstrand, 6th March,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Dithlefsen, 6th March,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 6th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 460, Arai, 6th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 6th March,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,254, Steadman, 6th March,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, Captain Allen, 7th March,—Yokosuka Dock.—Light-house Department.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 7th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 8th March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 8th March,—Yokosuka Dock.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 8th March,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Hakodate:—36 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva* from Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Miss Kashiwara and servant, Mrs. Wallace and two children, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Cutter, Messrs. A. G. Botelho, Koch Sin Chin, Poon Gin, Fuld, Letourner, Wauchope and servant, J. Ruyter, T. Schluter, O. Voigt and servant, J. Doring, Underhill, Ah Sing, J. Burton, Morita Tami, in cabin: 20 Japanese and 7 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain Hubenet, Messrs. J. D. Hutchison, Abi, and Yamawaki in cabin; and 84 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Sugizaki Taki, Messrs. Yegi, Futamatsu, and Wadagaki in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Miss Shaw, Miss Fukushima, Miss Hoya, Miss Tanaka, Messrs. Jensen, Fukushima, Tanaka, Narikawa, and Kibara in cabin; and 75 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Kobe:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Captain and Mrs. Wilson Walker and child, Mr. and Mrs. Farrell and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hori, Mrs. Dithlefsen and 2 children, Miss E. Sugiura, Dr. Ernest Norfleet, U.S.N., Messrs. William Barrie, Yoshikawa, Shima, Okura, Nomura, Sasaki, Tsunekawa, Imoto, Furuta, and Nishi in cabin; 2 European, 5 Chinese, and 159 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Conrad, Miss Conrad, Messrs. G. H. Rhodes, W. J. Manifold, W. R. Dunn, James Quick, and G. Takagi in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss Lucy Hoag and Miss Mary C.

Robinson in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. R. D. Wilson in cabin; and 171 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Asahi Maru*, from Kobe:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe: date:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—24 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. T. Mayo Blackwell, and Mr. Fong Sue Long and servant in cabin; and 14 Europeans and 70 Chinese in steerage. For Honolulu: 602 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Lieut. L. P. Jouett, Lieut. Ridgely Hunt, Lieut. W. L. Field, Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Davison, Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Walker, Messrs. Y. Tajiro, Y. Bronisans, and Y. Sicart and servant in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. J. C. Syme in cabin. For Paris: Messrs. Chas. Ziegler, A. Alioth, and F. Abegg in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Bishop, Messrs. E. J. Maunson, J. D. Huchison, T. Orita, M. Kozaka, T. Nakamikado, M. Inouye, S. Shibayama, and S. Oshimaru in cabin; and 65 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. and Mrs. Kurahashi, Mr. and Mrs. Kubo, Messrs. Y. Nakamura, N. Ogura, T. Nakajima, and S. Tsuda in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Tai, Mrs. Mori, Mrs. Hioka, Messrs. J. Martin de Pallières, A. J. L. R. Mulder, Max. Vorwald, M. Marians, J. Gergen, Kawano, Oura, Hoshiyama, Uchida, Sato, Tamba, Ugawa, Murakami, and Sato in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—75 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. N. Kakimoto and R. D. Wilson in cabin; and 171 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. F. S. James, 2 children, and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Bissett, Miss Murray, Miss Vincent and servant, Miss Kashiwagi and servant, Rev. Gordon, Mr. S. Straus and servant, Messrs. E. Whittall, G. B. Berrick, E. J. Nanson, Popp, Letourneur, and J. L. Ruyter in cabin; and 2 Chinese and 11 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Treasure, \$300.00; 6,303 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$112,000.00.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 77 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 22nd February at noon, with fresh monsoon to Turnabout, then light N.W. and S.W. to Nagasaki, arrived at 10.30 p.m. on the 26th February and left at 3 p.m. next day, between Nagasaki and Shimonoseki fresh N.E. winds and thick rainy weather, hove to 3 hours off the Siro Sima, the weather being too thick to proceed. Fresh easterly winds and cloudy in the Inland Sea to Kagitori Saki, then calm and hazy; arrived at Kobe on the 29th February at 7 a.m., and left at 4 p.m. same day; light northerly winds in the Kii Channel, fresh N.W. and westerly winds to Omai Saki, and the rest of the way moderate and fresh easterly winds and cloudy weather.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 29th February at 5.15 p.m., with fine weather throughout. Arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd March, at 6.40 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 3rd March, at 10 a.m., with moderate to fresh northerly wind and snowy weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 4th, at 0.30 p.m., and left on the 5th, at 6 a.m. with moderate N.W. to S.N. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 6th March, at 9 a.m. On the 5th March, at noon, passed the company's steamer *Niigata Maru*, 64 miles south off Oginohama.

The British steamer *Arabic*, Captain W. G. Pearne, reports leaving San Francisco on the 10th February, at 2.45 p.m. with heavy westerly gales throughout the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 6th March, at 6 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Quietness has prevailed throughout the Market without any marked change in quotations.

COTTON YARN.—The business has been small of all descriptions of English Yarn as well as Bom-bays, but holders seem very firm in their prices.

GREY GOODS.—Few transactions have been reported, and prices may be quoted more or less nominal.

FANCIES.—Mousseline de Laine are the only goods that have been sold to any extent. Small sales have been reported in Italian Cloth, Turkey Reds, and Victoria Lawns.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$26.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.50
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	26.00 to 27.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.50
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches... ..	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches... ..	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches... ..	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches... ..	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER PICUL.
Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches ...	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches... ..	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches... ..	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches... ..	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

The firmness in our Oil Market has been broken during the past week by the sale of some 13,000 cases Devoe at \$1.77 per case. Deliveries have been 15,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 680,000 cases, including the cargo per *Frank Pendleton* (48,500 cases) which arrived on the 6th instant.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.77
Comet	1.73
Stella	1.70

SUGAR.

Stocks are firmly held, prices are unchanged, and but a small business has to be reported for the past week.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 28th ultimo, since which date there has not been quite so much doing in this Market, and the list of Settlements does not exceed 200 piculs. There have been enquiries for various kinds of Silk, but with one or two exceptions the ideas of sellers and buyers have been divergent. As we expected there was considerable business done for the American mail of the 1st instant but the French mail of the same date took an insignificant quantity and the demand for Silk suitable for Europe has been very small: telegraphic news from thence not being encouraging.

The demand has been chiefly for *Filature* and *Kakeda* descriptions: *Hanks* again giving rise to no business whatever. Prices are much as last advised; while some parcels continue to be held off the Market altogether, in other cases dealers have shown themselves fairly current.

The M.M. steamer *Volga* which sailed on the morning of the 1st carried but 11 bales—all for France. The P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* which left port also on the 1st, had a shipment on board of 314 bales for the United States markets—of these 44 were entered as "Direct shipments" on Japanese account. The cargoes of these vessels bring the Export up to 27,478 bales against 21,955 bales to same date last year and 14,091 bales to 6th March, 1882.

Hanks.—We have no transactions to chronicle during the week. In the absence of business to test prices all quotations must be considered as more or less nominal.

Filatures.—More than half the business of the week has been in this class at prices ranging from \$650 to \$560. The principal demand has been in coarse sizes, the enquiry for Europe holding off. Among the sales we observe a small parcel *Yamagata*, \$650; *Tokosha*, \$630; *Shinshu Kaimeisha*, \$627½; *Hida*, \$615; *Mino*, \$607½; *Ueen*, \$605; with *Koshu*, sorts \$575; and *Bushu*, \$565.

Re-reels.—Very little has been done in these. Some few No. 1, reported sold at about \$600 with a few Common at \$560. Good *Re-reels* are scarce and supplies are not expected before the end of the month.

Kakeda.—This class has again divided honors with *Filature* kinds and some considerable parcels have been settled. Best kinds are still neglected and sellers would probably abate something of their pretensions to bring about real business. Demand has continued to run on sorts at \$580, \$560, \$540.

Oshu and Coarse kinds.—Again no business on foreign account. The internal consumption still requires a few and the Stock in Yokohama gradually decreases. Arrivals have been next to nothing.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Hanks—No. 1½	Nom. \$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. 500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 450 to 460
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 635 to 645
Filatures—Extra	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	605 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	595 to 605
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	565 to 575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	550 to 560
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 620
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 1	570 to 580
Kakedas—No. 2	540 to 550
Kakedas—No. 3	500 to 505
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	480 to 490
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	430 to 450
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	430 to 450
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 430 to 450

Export Tables Raw Silk to 6th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,751	11,324	7,221
America	8,088	7,441	4,032
England	2,639	3,190	2,838
Total	27,478	21,955	14,091

WASTE SILK.

Business in this article has been fairly brisk for the time of year, reported Settlements being nearly 350 piculs. In addition to these figures there has been another purchase by natives from foreigners in *Kibiso* of about 150 piculs. On this occasion the purchase has found its way into the native town, and has increased the Stock accordingly. Without this contribution the Stocks on offer would have been again reduced, as Settlements have exceeded arrivals by more than 100 piculs: as the matter stands the figures show a slight increase.

The French mail steamer of 1st instant had on board 64 bales only, and the total Export now reaches 20,338 piculs, against 19,046 piculs last year, and 17,605 piculs to same date in 1882.

Pierced Cocoons.—Again a dead letter, I though in recent seasons business has continued until April.

Noshi-ito.—This has continued of current sale at about late rates. Some few parcels have come in, but the Stock is practically unchanged, even

the fresh arrivals being reported "under offer." In *Filatures* some little done at \$137½, and *Shinshu* kinds are wanted at \$135. A little *Utsunomiya* reported sold at \$155. In ordinary *Noshi*, business is noted in *Shinshu* at \$100, Fine *Foshu* at \$95, *Foshu* Assorted at \$87 to \$84, according to quality, which at present is capable of some improvement. With milder weather better reeling is expected.

Kibiso.—There has been some business done, but good qualities are exceedingly scarce; the bulk of the present offerings are very low quality, and full of spent cocoons. On the whole we think that sellers have not quite succeeded in establishing the desired rise in prices. Settlements include *Shinshu* at \$65, *Yechigo* and *Foshu* at from \$40 to \$37½, *Hachoji* \$27½ to \$20. Nothing done in *Neri* beyond a small parcel at \$15. In *Kuzuito* a purchase or two at \$75.

Mawata.—The buyer mentioned in our last has continued picking up stray lots and the Stock is yet further reduced. Arrivals very small and but little more is expected.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 6th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	18,143	15,903	14,446
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,143	3,159
Total	20,338	19,046	17,605

Exchange has drooped throughout the week and closes about as follows:—LONDON, 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 89; 60 d/s., 89½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.68; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.71. *Kinsatsu* have further declined, and close at say 116½ for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 6th March, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,350		Pierced Cocoons ..	—
Filature & Re-reels	600		Noshi-ito	60
Kakeda	400		Kibiso	400
Sendai & Hamatsuki	250		Mawata	20
Taysam Kinds	50			
Total piculs	2,650		Total piculs	480

TEA.

The purchases for the week have been on a very limited scale, the total Settlements reaching only 315 piculs, for which buyers have been found at unaltered quotations. Receipts from the producing districts during the interval have been more liberal and consequently Tea in Stock at [this port is now somewhat augmented and may be estimated at about 1,200 piculs. Buyers at the close are purchasing freely for the American mail, which is advertised on the 12th, and we will probably see a larger business than the past week. The cargo of Tea shipped on the P.M. steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, despatched on the 1st inst., took 134,090 lbs. Fired Tea to the United States and Canada, and is distributed as follows:—757 lbs., for New York; 13,203 lbs., for Chicago; 18,834 lbs., for Portland (Oregon); 64,393 lbs., for California; and 36,903 lbs., for Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	15 to 17
Medium	19 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

With only a small business doing during the interval, rates have again declined, and close as follows:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.59
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.70
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand ..	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand ..	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight ..	89

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, MARCH 15TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A VIOLENT epidemic of small-pox is said to be raging in the Riukiu Islands.

It is stated that a submarine cable is soon to be laid between Kagoshima and the Riukiu Islands.

BAC-NINH has been captured by the French with a loss of only 72 wounded.

SIR HARRY PARKES has been appointed to represent Her Majesty at the Korean, as well as the Chinese, capital.

It is stated that the railway from Tokiyo to Takasaki will be opened for traffic in the beginning of April.

AN outbreak is reported to have occurred among the prisoners employed in the Miike Mine, on the 9th instant. Order was restored without much difficulty.

OFFICIAL returns show that, during 1883, the number of daily newspapers suspended by order of the authorities throughout Japan was 49 and the number of periodicals 3.

THE construction of a Japanese Consulate at Pusan, as well as the rebuilding of a part of the Japanese Legation at Sôul, are said to have been contracted for by Messrs. Okura & Co., of Tokiyo.

AN instance of the want of additional educational machinery in Japan is afforded by a recent re-

port from the Prefecture of Shidzuoka, where, out of 300 candidates who applied for admission to the normal school, only 30 were admitted.

THE obsequies of Brother H. N. Tileston, of the Yokohama Lodge, were performed by his fellow Masons, with Masonic honours, on the 10th instant. Mr. Tileston had formerly been in the service of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. His death took place a few days after his return to Japan from America.

THE latest addition to the Japanese Navy—the *Kaimon-kwan*—which was recently launched at the Yokosuka Dockyard, has made her trial trip, attaining an average speed of 12.37 knots with four boilers and 8.79 knots with two. The *Kaimon-kwan* will be completed in a few days and transferred to the Marine Bureau.

THE foundation stone of a new Theological College was laid at Osaka by the Right Rev. Bishop Poole, on the 3rd instant. The College is to be erected by means of a donation of £72,000, made by Mr. William Charles Jones, of Warrington, in Lancashire, for the extension and development of the native churches in China and Japan.

PUBLIC attention has been much directed, of late, by notes and articles in the vernacular press, to an apparent revival of the taste for many customs which fell into disuse after the Restoration. Prominent among these is wrestling, an exhibition of which was given at the Yenriyokwan on the 16th instant, in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor, and many high officials both Japanese and foreign.

KOREA, having spent the money she borrowed from China, is said to be again in embarrassed circumstances, and to be casting about for economical devices. Among her projects one is to replace the foreigners employed in her Customs service by Japanese, on account of the lower salaries which would suffice for the latter. It is thought that steps of this nature will soon cease to be optional and become imperative.

THE returns of Korean trade show—according to the vernacular press—that the total value of the exports and imports during 1883 was 852,695.74 *yen*, against 1,400,237 *yen* during 1882. The decrease was entirely on the side of imports, these having fallen off by 695,117.49 *yen*, while exports increased by 147,575.49 *yen*. Commercial depression is said to be severely felt, though fair profits were realized on the trade of the year.

FORGED *Kinsatsu* of small denominations are said to be in circulation in Yokohama in some numbers. The most favorite method of counterfeiting is to change the Japanese numeral 10 into the ideograph signifying "half." This can easily be effected by the addition of four strokes. A recolouring of the obverse of the note is also necessary, however, and the consequence is that the forgery is easily detected. A vernacular paper states that notes of this nature are frequently

presented at the Osaka railway station, and that as many as three persons offering them have been arrested in one day.

A COMPANY with a capital of 150,000 *yen* has been formed to promote emigration to the Hokkaido. The programme of the projectors is to pay the expenses of persons willing to emigrate, on condition that the latter agree to work for a certain time at fixed wages and in employments determined by the Company. Great difficulty is experienced in overcoming the reluctance of the Japanese to emigrate, though Yezo offers remarkable inducements and could, doubtless, be soon converted into a thriving colony.

ON the 13th instant, an action was commenced in the Ministerial Court of the United States in Tokiyo at the suit of the United States Consul-General Van Buren against Dr. T. H. Tripler of Yokohama for libel, the gist of the charge being that the defendant had wilfully misrepresented the circumstances under which General Van Buren came into possession of the buildings now occupied as the U.S. Consulate. The case for the prosecution was concluded on the 13th instant, and that for the defence, postponed until the 17th instant.

THE British barque *Sattara*, which went ashore at Omaye-saki and was subsequently abandoned, has been refloated and towed safely into Yokohama harbour. She is said to be quite uninjured. The affair has excited much comment. The master of the *Sattara* had reported to the underwriters that the vessel's back was broken and that there was no hope of getting her off. She was consequently sold by auction as a wreck, and her hull was purchased by Messrs. Kildoye and Robertson for \$1,750. It appears now that she is perfectly sound, and worth a good many more thousands than there were hundreds paid for her.

THE Hongkong journals have published some official correspondence which took place between the Colonial Office, the Admiralty, and the local authorities at Hongkong, with reference to the disposition of Her Majesty's naval forces in Chinese waters. The Lords of the Admiralty record their opinion that "Vice-Admiral Wiles has shown good judgment in arranging for the adequate protection of British interests, while duly exercising the squadron under his command at sea." The correspondence shows that in June last the British Consul at Shanghai requested the Admiral to detach a corvette and a sloop to guard the settlement during the visit of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang. With this extraordinary requisition Vice-Admiral Wiles wisely refused to comply, saying that he considered such a measure would be an "insult to that distinguished and enlightened statesman."

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Cricket Club was held on the 11th instant. The accounts showed that the expenditure of the Club during 1883 had been \$844.66 and the income \$974.66. The rules were amended so as to

permit practice on Sundays. Some opposition was made to this change, but the feeling of the members was evidently in favour of removing restrictions which have no rational basis. The Rev. E. C. Irwine justly pointed out that the probable result of the modification would be to deprive of their usual holiday many Japanese bettoes, gardeners, &c. It may fairly be assumed, however, that the members of the Cricket Club and others interested in the sport will take care, when extending their own sphere of recreation, not to abridge the legitimate leisure of their employes.

NOTES.

THE vernacular papers, from which we take the following report, are full of accounts of the great wrestling exhibition which was held in the Yenriokwan on the 10th inst. The matches had been arranged by the members of the Senate, and everything was conducted after the fashion of the olden time when the champion wrestler Kiyobashi held his athletic court at the Imperial residence at Nara. The arrangements and decorations were very fine, and more than three thousand dignitaries and persons of rank were present. The ring was marked out in the garden of the Yenriokwan, the seat of H.I.M. the Mikado being in full view of the arena, facing southwards. One step below and on either side of the Imperial seat, were galleries for the Princes, Ministers of State, the Foreign Ministers, and Privy Councillors. A little farther to the right were the seats of the *Chokunin* officials. The eastern and western galleries were reserved for the *Kwazoku* and *Sonin*. Red blankets were spread over the ground around the ring, where at least 2,000 spectators were seated. Perfect order was observed from first to last, and the quiet, manly carriage of the wrestlers was a matter of admiring surprise to all present. The umpire first called out the names of the rival wrestlers, and as they entered the ring again repeated their names. As soon as the one or the other proved victorious, a second umpire advanced and presented the umpire in the ring a bunch of flowers on a fan; this umpire then called out the name of the winning wrestler, and handed him the flowers in token of his prowess. The same ceremony was observed in all of the sixty bouts. The principal winners were as follows:—Yawatayama, Idzutsu, Ichinoya, Takachiho, Chiwagatake, Tsurugiyama, Umegatani, Kashiwado, Inenohana, Tomotsuma, Tomonohira, Takamiyama, Onaruto. The presiding umpires were Kimura Shozaburo, Shogara, and Kiyoji; all wore the ceremonial dress of olden time.

A HOME paper says:—A really exciting ceremony was that carried out beneath the Mersey yesterday (Jan. 17.) In making a tunnel between Liverpool and Birkenhead the contractors have been boring from both ends. At the early part of the week it was made known that very few feet of the rock remained to be drilled, while at mid-day yesterday but a single foot of obstruction remained to separate the two parties. Shortly before noon a number of gentlemen connected with the Mersey Railway Company descended the shaft on the Liverpool side, and proceeded along the tunnel as far as it had been cut. The jarring noise of the boring machine could be heard driving away at the partition on the Birkenhead side. In a few minutes the

intervening layers of rocks fell away, and the face of Col. Beaumont, the engineer, was seen peering through. A loud and hearty shout from all present echoed through the long corridor as the opposite parties grasped hands. Then, struggling through the opening, the chairman got into the opposite tunnel and ascended the Birkenhead shaft with his friends—the first human beings who ever walked under the Mersey. The boring has thus been successfully completed, and nothing now remains but to put the tunnel into ship-shape, and the busy boring machine which has been delving and grubbing away in the dark bosom of the rocks for so many months will have a rest. The engineer may well feel proud of his work, for it is no little feat to drive a headway from opposite sides of a big river like the Mersey, and meet in the middle exactly to a foot.

IN the year 1491, three or four designs for the façade of the Dome of Florence were presented to Laurent le Magnifique. He put them aside saying, "*J'examinerai cela, rien ne presse.*" Laurent appears to have been right. The work was so little pressing that it waited four centuries. For one reason or another nobody thought it worth while to complete the monument commenced by Arnulf and Brunelleschi. After the establishment of Italian independence in 1860, people began to think of finishing the great cathedral. A large sum was raised by private subscription, and the façade was built, with the exception of the crown, which remains to be added. But a tremendous dispute then arose about the form of this crown-piece. One party wanted to have it basilic; another, tricuspidal. Both were equally resolute in maintaining their views, and the difficulty of deciding seemed so great that they were on the point of submitting the question to the Government when a third party stepped in, declaring that it made very little matter whether the cathedral at Florence had one cusp or three, but a great deal that the Government should not be betrayed into meddling with matters which did not concern it. So there is another delay about the Dome, and some persons suggest that as "*rien ne presse,*" three or four centuries more may be employed in determining the shape of the crown-piece.

AN event which reminds one of mediæval times and the horrors of the inquisition is said to have occurred recently in Madrid. A carriage with two gentlemen drove up to the house of a mason, and desired the man to accompany them immediately on pressing business. He complied, and made no objection to have his eyes bandaged on consideration of an ample *douceur*. Ultimately he found himself in a room where a lady was lying, gagged, bound, and weeping piteously. The mason was then threatened with a terrible death unless he built up with bricks the alcove in which this woman was lying. His story is that he had no choice but to consent, and that he was afterwards conducted back to his house with the same precautions as before. He lost no time in informing the police who are now searching for the place of the crime.

FOR the past two years or so the attention of stenographers and shorthand writers in general has been attracted by the performances of a little machine called the stenograph. This instrument, the invention of an old Pittman reporter, Mr. M. M. Bartholomew, of Belleville, Ill., is operated by means of ten keys, nine forming

the characters, the tenth being the space-key, separating each word similar to the type-writer. By placing the hands in a natural position on the table before you, fingers spread a little apart, thumbs close together, you will get a tolerable idea of the working plan of this machine. As these nine keys are joined together at one end forming a V-shaped rod, it will be seen that only five characters are thereby formed. These are all that is necessary, however, to form the thirty-one different letters and combinations used in writing. The other four keys are merely used to obtain speed by alternating the movement of the hands. It writes on a strip of paper the same as the stock and produce machines, the letters being determined by their position on the strip. It is claimed to have been used successfully as a medium for verbatim court reporting, lectures, sermons, speeches, etc., and to require much less time in learning than any other system. It is very simply and neatly constructed, being about 7½ inches long by about the same width, and weighs only 3½ pounds, case and all.—*Bradstreet's*.

IN connection with the establishment of the Customs' Service in Korea, it is very evident that the Government authorities are regretting that they paid so dear for their whistle. The correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* throws considerable light on the present situation, which seems to savour strongly of a muddle. "In November last," he writes, "many foreigners were engaged in the newly-established Customs' Service. Owing, however, to the great falling off in trade, the Customs' revenue has not sufficed to cover the working expenses, and the salaries of the foreign employes are sadly in arrear. The Korean Government has, in consequence, proposed to engage Japanese employes instead of European, on account of the lower wages. But Mr. von Möllendorff has positively refused to sanction this idea, stating that it would be most unfair to cast off the foreign employes after only six months' service. No further steps have been taken in consequence."

* * *

This is, however, not the end of the matter. Only a few weeks ago we were informed that Mr. von Möllendorff's popularity was decidedly on the wane; and, despite his influential position as Vice President of the Foreign Office, his authoritative interference in the little plans of the Korean Government is certain to become decidedly distasteful to the authorities. The Chinese loan of \$200,000, brought mainly by the exertions of the energetic Vice President, has "softly and silently vanished away" in the establishment of a Customs' Service and a few other ornamental etceteras. The people are suffering severely from the great decrease in trade, and the foreign trade is gradually coming back to its one-time status—Zero. *Ex nihilo nihil*: 'tis a wise saying, and not without a moral.

REFERRING to the new Chinese Restriction Bill, the San Francisco *Chronicle* says:—We are not disposed to be too captious about the new Chinese Restriction bill, though it may not embody every feature which we might wish therein incorporated. As approved by the California delegation it was in some respects better than in the form reported to the Senate, with the changes inspired by philanthropic and not very well informed members from the Eastern States. Still, it is a great improvement on the present

law, which has proved so inefficient, and if the *New York Times* is to be believed, it will, if passed, have the peculiar effect of compelling the Americans to do their own washing. We should have no particular objection to this, for if we were brought back to the laundresses and laundry appliances of 35 years ago—that is to say, before the Chinese invasion commenced—we might still succeed in maintaining our reputation as a clean and wholesome people. The new bill endeavors to obviate the difficulties of the present day by requiring every Chinaman, other than laborer, who intends to come to the United States, to be identified thoroughly by the Chinese Government or the Government of which he happens at the time to be a subject. The identification must take the form of a certificate in which the name of the intending emigrant is written, together with his age, his family, his occupation, and a description of his physical peculiarities. This must be vided by the diplomatic representative of the United States at the port of embarkation, who must be satisfied by personal investigation that the allegations contained in it are correct. The efficiency of this portion of the law will depend on the honesty of the Chinese officials of the provinces and the intelligent activity of the Consul whose vise is required; but we believe it will prove generally satisfactory. This certificate so given, and with its consular indorsement so appended, is to be received as prima facie evidence of the right of the holder to enter an American port. Should it be found after a person has effected an entrance into the country that he has done it fraudulently, he is liable to arrest, with a fine of \$100 or six months' imprisonment. He is then to be sent back at the expense of this Government. Shipowners or shipmasters proved to have violated the law are to be fined, but this may be attended with difficulty, since once having landed a lot of fraudulent emigrants they may never again enter a port of the United States. The only other new provision of importance is that providing for the return of those Chinamen who were in the country between November 18, 1881, and August 4, 1882, which is also to be effected through the medium of certificates. The coming of emigrants is hedged around with so many difficulties that few probably will be able to evade the law, while the fact that most of the immigration is, and must continue to be, by regular lines, precludes the escape of most of the offending shipowners or shipmasters. The Chinese laborers who here and there manage to creep into the country in spite of its prohibition will not affect its general welfare. The bill as it stands is probably the best we can hope for, and we shall be glad to see it speedily become a law.

"*La France*," says a telegram dated at Paris, February the 1st, "reasserts that Admiral Courbet lately attacked Bac-ninh and was repulsed with losses equal to those sustained at Sontay. The same paper says that the French met 25,000 well armed and strongly posted Chinese regulars under the walls of Bac-ninh." There is just one possibility that this rumour is correct. Admiral Courbet's natural desire to terminate the campaign before his successor's arrival may have induced him to deliver an assault prematurely and therefore unsuccessfully. But Admiral Courbet has shown himself too good a soldier to justify us in believing such a theory without very strong proof. In determining the dis-

tribution of the troops under his command, it would have fallen well within his province to learn as much as possible about the actual state of affairs in Bac-ninh, and with that object he may have ordered a reconnaissance in force. Without assuming that the troops employed in this operation allowed themselves to become unnecessarily engaged, their appearance and retreat may easily have been misinterpreted; while, on the other hand, it is very conceivable that the officers in charge, ready enough to seize Bac-ninh at once if any occasion offered, may have slightly exceeded their instructions. Now that the French have directed themselves in earnest against the place, the result may be foretold with tolerable assurance.

THE story of General Gordon's last week in England before starting for the Soudan has been compiled by a correspondent of the *Overland Mail*, and, together with various intemperate comments on the policy of the Government, is given to the public in the following interesting form:—

MONDAY, Jan. 14.—Chinese Gordon having sent in his resignation of his commission in her Majesty's army with a view to taking service under the King of the Belgians, the Government decides to accept it.

TUESDAY.—The Government change their mind, and recognising the public scandal of turning so distinguished a soldier adrift after thirty-one years' service without a pension, decide not to accept his resignation, but that he may take service with the King and go to the Congo. The King informed accordingly.

WEDNESDAY.—Gordon having bade adieu to his friends, leaves England for Brussels to make final arrangements with the King previous to his departure for the Congo. Arrives in Brussels and sees the King, who is much pleased with the decision of her Majesty's Government, which has enabled him to secure Gordon's services.

THURSDAY.—Her Majesty's Government telegraph to Gordon at Brussels to ask if he would go to Egypt, and if so when? Reply returned, "Ready to go at once." Her Majesty's Government telegraph orders to him to return to England. King informed that her Majesty's Government have changed their minds, and as they require Gordon themselves he cannot go to the Congo. King very much annoyed, and with much reason. Gordon leaves Brussels by evening express.

FRIDAY.—Gordon arrives in London at 6 a.m.; at noon has an interview with members of her Majesty's Government; at 4 p.m. receives instructions to proceed to Egypt; at 8.30 p.m. leaves Charing Cross for Souakim and Soudan; the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Wolseley being at the station to see him off and wish him God speed on an expedition which, in consequence of delays, waste of time, and injudicious public utterances by some of the members of her Majesty's Government, may be regarded almost as a forlorn hope, and beyond the powers even of the unselfish, resolute, and courageous Gordon. The object being to save the lives of thousands of human beings, including all nationalities, to say nothing of the English Consul and a good many British subjects, Gordon has not hesitated to respond to the call of his country. God grant him success and a safe return, and that thereby Mr. Gladstone and his Council may be spared from the blood-guiltiness which will attach to them if the garrison of Khartoum and other places in the Soudan fall into the tender clutches of the Mahdi.

SATURDAY.—Chinese Gordon crosses the Alps and enters Italy.

THE Marquis of Hartington, addressing his constituents, said in reference to the Ilbert Bill:—"We are greatly attacked for the Indian policy embodied in what is known as the Ilbert Bill. I have already, on the part of the Government, in my place in Parliament, taken the responsibility of that measure, and have, to the best of my ability, defended the policy of Lord Ripon's Government in regard to it; but knowing the obloquy and the unfounded abuse to which Lord Ripon is exposed, not only in India, but, I am sorry to say, also in this country, I can scarcely reconcile it to myself to allow any opportunity to pass without once more protesting against the injustice of that abuse, and of assuming on the part of the Government the responsibility of that policy. The European British subject has had, continues to have, and will have numerous

privileges, judicial privileges, as compared with his Native fellow-subjects, and the Government of India have not proposed to touch one of those privileges. We have for a considerable time past been admitting Natives to a share in the administrative offices of India, and the question is whether, having adopted this policy, we shall trust those selected Natives whom we have invested with large powers, whether we will entrust them with equal powers with those which are possessed by their comrades of the same rank, of our own race."

RECENT experiments in illuminating railway trains in the United Kingdom with the incandescent electric lamp have proved very successful. So much so has this been the case that the one company on which the new light was tried (the London, Brighton & South Coast) will use the system to the exclusion of all others. The *Daily News* says the system employed is a combination of dynamo machines and accumulators. When the train was in motion the electricity was stored and given out as required. Thirty twenty-candle incandescent lamps were used. The apparatus was entirely under the control of the "front guard," who, by means of a handle, turned the current on and off at pleasure. For example, while the train was running in broad daylight the electric light was not used, but the moment a tunnel was entered it was employed to great advantage. The electricity was generated by means of a belt connecting the dynamo machine with the axle of one of the wheels. The system is the invention of Mr. Stroudley, of Brighton (locomotive department), and Mr. Edward Houghton, the superintendent of the telegraph department. It is said to be "much cheaper than gas and only a trifle dearer than oil." The *Daily News* also makes the announcement that the first town to be lighted entirely and have its street railway cars driven by electricity will be Montreux, on Lake Geneva. A company has obtained a concession for the purpose, and motive power will be derived "from the water of the lake." Extensive works "will be erected immediately."

ONE of the main features of a new literary periodical called the *Révue Internationale*, which is published in England by Messrs. Trübner and Co., will be a regular literary correspondence from Paris, London, Berlin, Vienna, Pesth, Bucharest, Constantinople, Prague, Sophia, Athens, Zanté, Geneva, Brussels, Leyden, St. Petersburg, Kieff, Moscow, Warsaw, Stockholm, Christiania, Copenhagen, New York, Lisbon, Madrid, South America, India, China, and Japan. Each correspondent will closely follow the literary productions of the country relating to which he writes, and will give numerous extracts and translations, so that the readers of the *Révue Internationale* will have placed before them every fifteen days "a perfect mirror of the current literature of the world."

THE following story of the origin of Worcestershire sauce is given by "Atlas" in the *World*:—Although inferior in money-making power to a pill, a sauce, too, can make the guineas roll briskly in, and notably has this been the case with Lea & Perrins' Worcestershire. A scrutiny of the label will show that it is prepared "from the recipe of a nobleman in the county." The nobleman is Lord Sandys, and Messrs. Lea & Perrins' connection with the sauce came about

rather curiously. Many years ago, Mrs. Grey, author of *The Gambler's Wife* and other novels, well known in their day, was on a visit at Ombersley Court, when Lady Sandys chanced to remark that she wished she could get some very good curry-powder; which elicited from Mrs. Grey that she had in her desk an excellent recipe, which her uncle, Sir Charles, Chief Justice of India, had brought thence and given her. Lady Sandys said that there were some clever chemists in Worcester, who perhaps might be able to make up the powder; at all events, when they drove in after luncheon they would see. Messrs. Lea & Perrins looked at the recipe, doubted if they could procure all the ingredients, but said they would do their best, and in due time forwarded a packet of the powder. Subsequently the happy thought struck some one in the business that the powder might, in solution, make a good sauce. The experiment was made, and by degrees the thing took amazingly. All the world, to its remotest ends, now knows of Worcestershire sauce as an article of commerce; and, notwithstanding that, in common with most good things, it is pirated, an enormous trade is done in it. The profits, I am told, amount to thousands of pounds a year, and I cannot but suppose that liberal cheques, bearing the signature of Lea & Perrins, have passed from that firm to Mrs. Grey, to whom it is so heavily indebted for its prosperity.

An inquest has been held at Bath on the body of Mr. George William Herman, aged nineteen, the brother of the last Senior Wrangler. The deceased took part in a football match recently between Oldfield Park and the Bristol University. The game, which was played under Rugby rules, was an exceedingly rough one, no less than four men receiving injuries, and Mr. Herman had several falls. The medical evidence showed that a large artery had given way within the skull, producing apoplexy. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence, and strongly condemned the Rugby rules.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at the Mauritius, amongst the subjects which came before the Chamber for consideration was the following in relation to His Excellency the Governor:—"An address of welcome voted by the Chamber was presented by a Deputation to His Excellency the Governor, on his arrival, in which hopes were entertained that His Excellency's experience and ability in Colonial Administration would greatly aid in solving satisfactorily those questions which awaited His Excellency's decision and in which the vital interests of the Colony were involved. It is with extreme satisfaction that the Chamber has to record that all the representations which it has considered necessary to make to Government for the benefit of commerce, have met with prompt and favorable consideration from His Excellency Sir John Pope Hennessy, and that several impediments to Commerce and Shipping have been promptly removed by legislative enactments, whilst a favorable consideration has been promised by His Excellency to the important question submitted by the Chamber to Government of a further reduction of Harbour Dues. His Excellency has also been pleased to ask the opinion of the Chamber on several important points including the question of Ocean Telegraphic Communication; and the Chamber desires to record its

respectful thanks to His Excellency for the evident desire manifested by him, during his short term of residence in Mauritius, to further by all means in his power, not only the interests of Commerce, but those of the Colony in general."

MR. MIN-YONG-IK has been having a good time in Paris. The ladies there elected to call him "Mignon," having persuaded themselves that he is destined one day to reign over a country very rich in gold and silver mines and all sorts of precious metals, without counting that on his return there he is to marry the King's only daughter. The King, not being yet twenty years of age, could not have a marriageable daughter if he were an European, but being a Korean, nobody knows what he may not have. It has been a blow to the people of Paris that Mr. Min-Yong-Ik dressed *à la Européenne*, and a blow that he could not speak a word of French. Nevertheless, he was interviewed successfully, when the following conversation is said to have taken place:—

Mignon—I am enchanted at being interviewed. It enables me to tell the gentlemen of Paris how wise I find them, and the ladies how pretty they look. I am neither a Chinese nor a Japanese, but a Mongol. I fear nothing nor anybody, and I defy my enemies as I respect my friends. If I am not dressed in the robes of silk and gold that men of my rank wear in Korea, it is because I was robbed of them at the station at Lyons, where a man took them to carry to my carriage. For the first time in my life I am to-day wearing European clothes. They are convenient, but they lack distinction, and the trousers are very uncomfortable.

Interviewer.—May I be permitted to ask whether your Imperial Highness is not charged to propose a treaty of commerce with France?

M.—We have treaties with Germany, England, and America. The French have not yet asked for one. We have not yet seen any Parisians in Korea. It is a pity, for they are very amiable. They are not tall, like the Koreans, but they have superb houses. I don't mind telling you, however, that the Parisians have done well to stay at home, for we used not to like strangers in my country. For four centuries we cut off their heads when they risked them among us, and impaled the Ministers who let them in.

I.—And to what does your Highness attribute this change of attitude towards strangers and your Ministers?

M.—To the rivalry which exists between us and the Chinese. They are very annoying. They have been trying for several years to absorb us under the pretext of civilizing us. But we claim to be quite as well educated as, and infinitely braver than, their long-tailed Mandarins. Our King has decided, in his wisdom, that we should place ourselves *en rapport* with the nations which carry on commerce with China, and that we should see what must be done to secure our independence and preserve the integrity of our nation. But I wish they had not stolen my portmanteau from me at Lyons. These trousers do not suit me at all.

An American contemporary gives the following as a full, particular, and true account of an incident that recently occurred at San Francisco:—While five of the Pioneer Club six-oar crew were sitting in their shell and swearing vigorously at the non-appearance of the sixth man, who was half-an-hour late, a well-dressed and modest young stranger strolled into the boat-house and began inspecting the equipments with great interest. "I'll tell you what we'll do, fellows," said the stroke; "as No. 4 isn't coming, suppose we coax that dude there to take a row and bust him all up." The perpetration of this time-honoured joke upon a "softy" was received with approbation, and the newcomer was, with a grand show of hospitality, invited to take the vacant oar. "Well, I don't know, gentlemen," said the young man, looking at his watch doubtfully, "I'm a stranger here. I do need a little exercise, though." "Oh, get in," said No. 2, winking at his companions, "a little spin will do you good," and they finally persuaded the victim of their kindly scheme to take off his coat and assume a club cap. "Now keep your eye on me, and try to keep time," said the captain. "You'll never, never make

an oarsman unless you watch the stroke." "I'll do the best I can, gentlemen," said the guest, meekly. "I'm always willing to improve." The boat went down towards Hunters' Point a couple of miles at an easy, three-quarter stroke, the new comer pulling away manfully with the rest, and when they eased off to turn back they were surprised to observe that the stranger did not appear to be quite so much blown as they expected. "Now, then, young feller," said the stroke, with a grin, "try to keep up with the procession. Hit her up, boys. Hard all!" But, somehow, the stranger scratched along with the rest, and though the pace was something like forty-six as they passed Butcher-town, the victim serenely sawed away, and the bowman even imagined that he splashed less than any oar in the boat. When they finally drew up to the float, and while they were panting for wind, spitting cotton, and wiping their dripping faces, the "passenger" looked around, with a childlike smile upon his unflushed face, and softly remarked, "Why didn't you spurt her!" "Spurt!" panted the stroke; "why—er—what the—er—I say, young feller, where did you come from?" "From New York, gentlemen," replied the stranger, modestly, as he slipped on his coat and started up the wharf. "My name Hanlan—Edward Hanlan—and I hope to see you all at Vallejo on Thursday. Good morning."

A new book on Japan has just been published by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, in noticing which the *World* says:—"This is a history of the travels and researches in Japan, undertaken by Professor Rein at the cost of the Prussian Government. It is more comprehensive, exhaustive, and satisfactory than the work of Mr. F. D. Adams, hitherto the best on the subject; it is, moreover, up to date the journeys of which it treats having been undertaken in 1874 and 1875. It does not profess to be a pocket compendium of information, but it is a solid valuable work of reference."

THE *St. James's Budget* says:—An ingenious method of putting a check upon untimely chatter has been devised by a schoolmaster, who was charged recently at the Thames Police Court with assaulting one of his pupils. The defendant, it appeared, being displeased with a boy who persisted in talking during lesson-time, fastened a strap with a slip-knot around the tongue of the offender, and then tied the other end of the strap by a piece of string to a chair, thus effectually preventing a continuance of the nuisance. After hearing the evidence, the magistrate dismissed the summons on the ground that the tying of the boy's tongue was not any real punishment. The boy seemed to have been much given to talking, and it was therefore thought advisable to degrade him the same as by putting a fool's cap on his head or tying the arms of a boy given to fighting. "The degradation of the boy was intended as an example to the school." There is some common-sense in this view of the case, and it would be interesting to try the effect of the tongue-tying system in the House of Commons. The spectacle of several Irish members with their tongues tied to the Speaker's chair would, there can be little doubt, tend to shorten debate, and for the moment at least put an end to "obstruction;" but, on the other hand, it is not pleasant to consider what would happen when the tongues were at last loosened.

A CURIOUS reminiscence of Japan as it was thirty years ago is incidentally furnished in the story of one Zeniya Gohei, a merchant who, in the days of the Bakufu Government, was guilty of the heinous crime of engaging in unlicensed commerce with foreigners. Zeniya, for this offence, underwent a term of imprisonment, and on his release disposed of any property that remained to him to procure the means of livelihood. This, however, is not the episode in his career which recently made him a subject of interest to the vernacular press, but the fact that among his belongings was a celebrated chattel called "the barometer stone" (*Sei-u-Seki*). This piece of rock is naturally of a pinkish white colour, but it has a chameleon-like property of altering its hue whenever a change of weather is imminent. Should rain be overhead, it begins to look green as much as two days beforehand, and should a storm be brewing it assumes a dark aspect. So far as we are aware, no mineral recorded in Occidental catalogues exhibits this wonderful sensibility to atmospheric influences, and if Mr. Zeniya's stone be a veritable affair, it is indeed a curiosity. The *Yomi-uri Shimbun*, from which we quote these details, says that, after Zeniya's mishap, the stone came into the possession of the House of Mayeda (in Joshiu), and that it is to be presented to His Majesty the Emperor on the completion of the Imperial Palace.

SOCIALLY, New York is under a spell which exceeds and includes beauty. Poker possesses us. The game of the club and the bar room has been taken into half of the parlors of the city. It has all but driven whist from the tables of wealth and fashion. Women are especially infatuated with it. The daintiest and most circumspect girls bluff and bet like old gamblers. Playing for money is no longer an indulgence in wickedness, to blush for and whisper about, but a common and reprehensible diversion. A five-cent ante and a dollar limit are the usual conditions, and you are ignorant of the game if you don't know that \$10 may easily be lost or won in an evening at that rate. The belle without her box of poker chips is nowadays poorly outfitted for the entertainment of friendly callers; and it will no longer do for a young man to go out for evening visits with only car fare in his pockets. The excitement of gaming is naturally greater to women than men, and yet I think they do better playing, as a rule, by reason of their habitual self-control, quickness of perception, and concealment of purpose. It may be said of this new rage for parlor gambling that very often it goes beyond mere sport. A five-dollar pot has too much in it for the feminine mind of any but an heiress to contemplate without sordid emotion. And there are the fellows to whom \$10 is the sum and substance of a week's spending money, if not of wages. Think of the mental struggle requisite to render them smiling losers.—*New York Letter*.

Now that Mr. Holloway, of pill and ointment fame, has joined the great majority, a good deal of attention has been attracted to the trade in which he made so colossal a fortune. From the multiplicity of advertisements of patent medicines and from the immense quantity of such drugs in the market, one can get a fair idea of how many people there are who are ready to swallow any amount of glaring testimonials in reference to the efficacy of patent nostrums, as well as the

nostrums themselves. It has hitherto been believed that the United States held the rather equivocal honour of being the principal representative of the quack medicine trade, for nearly one and all of the writers who have devoted their time and abilities to writing such compilations as "The Truth about America," "The United States Unveiled," and tomes of like nature, are unanimous in their outspoken criticism of the manner in which patent drugs are thrust before the attention of the public. Statistics show, however, that the trade in Great Britain has grown to surprising dimensions. Official returns prove that, during the twelve months ending March 31, 1881, stamps were sold for 16,627,131 packages of patent drugs, yielding a revenue of £140,000. "If all these medicines were made of bread and coloured water," says the *Whitehall Review*, "there would be little fault to find; but inasmuch as a great many of them contain poisons in various forms, it seems a fair contention that the Government should step in and cause each nostrum to be analysed, and the sale of such as are poisonous to be regulated by the act applying to the sale of poisons."

* * *

Proper precautions with regard to the sale of patent drugs are undoubtedly very necessary. Every now and then one hears of fatal cases arising from over-indulgence in "infallible specifics;" and statistics show that, although they may not meet with much public attention, these cases are by no means of unusual occurrence. The *Whitehall Review* takes a sound, common-sense view of the situation, but appends a few clauses that are somewhat remarkable. For example, in speaking of the necessary precautions to be adopted, Japan is classed with "barbarous countries," although the journal in question applauds the methods pursued in this country to limit the sale of patent drugs. In Japan during 1883, it states, there were applications to prepare and sell 148,091 patent and secret medicines, of which 8,592 were prohibited, 9,918 ordered to be discountenanced, and 70,943 still remain to be reported on. We do not know whether to be more surprised at the rate with which statistics travel or the profound knowledge of the *Whitehall Review*. The issue before us is dated January 10th, 1884, so that the information published cannot but be regarded as a most laudable example of editorial—and telegraphic—enterprise.

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But to return to the advertisements of patent medicines, one finds that this branch affords employment, especially in the United States, to a perfect army of sign-painters and bill-posters. Pears' soap has found an illustrator in a Royal Academician; Eno's fruit salt prints testimonials from the "leading members of the medical fraternity;" Wright's coal tar soap is a specific for all "ills to which human flesh is heir," and is "recommended by the entire medical profession," probably with one or two unimportant exceptions; while Price's rheumatic oil is equally efficacious in "curing broken hearts or restoring a lost limb." Not to quote from the flaring announcements of a perfect host of others, we would simply recall the once highly honoured "Buchu." It is well-known that no place is sacred from the vandalistic paint-brush of the enthusiastic sign-painter, and that even the grand "Pali-sades" of the Hudson River and the rocks in the Falls of Niagara have borne evidences of

their tireless energy. But there are some times and some places when and where even the most long-suffering of mortals is disposed to rebel. After travelling for some days in the picturesque wildernesses of Kentucky, passing on the last day of the trip through primeval forests and meeting only occasional log cabins, one arrives finally at the rude hotel built close by the entrance of the famous Mammoth Cave. Nothing can exceed the wild beauty of this place, and the freedom from social conventionalities and the total separation from the busy life of the work-a-day world render the spot in every way attractive. And so it does seem almost too hard, after just having congratulated one's self on escaping from the staring evidences of modern civilisation, on strolling through the forest gloom to the mouth of the great Cave to find painted in glaring capitals, just above the main entrance, the stern *memento mori* "USE HELMBOLD'S BUCHU."

JUDGES SAWYER, Hoffman and Sabin, sitting in bank in the United States Court on the 26th ult., rendered a decision on several questions arising from the Chinese habeas corpus cases. The first point touched on was the right of the Chinese to habeas corpus, which was conceded. When produced in Court the petitioner is in the custody of the Court, and may be admitted to bail. If examination discloses him to be without the right to land, then he shall be committed to the custody of the master of the vessel which brought him into port, provided the vessel is here. The Court has no right to detain a ship on account of having brought passengers here who had *prima facie* evidence of their right to come here, when such right was not a right in reality, but a fraudulent assumption. As soon as the President's order for their return can be received, the remanded prisoners must be returned to China. They have no right to a jury trial, no more than the passengers of a quarantined ship. In conclusion, the Court remarked that it considered a commission from Congress necessary to dispose of such cases, if they continued to come as they had, for the Court could not hear them all, and would not. The decision, if such it can be called, settles the cases of about fifteen bogus "traders" who have been remanded.—*Alta*.

A Boston telegram in the San Francisco papers, dated 6th February, says that the funeral of Wendell Phillips took place to-day from Faneuil Hall. Many people passed reverently by the coffin, before the guard of honor, and then quietly departed from the hall. After the public had withdrawn, and just previous to the removal of the remains, a plaster cast of the head was taken at the request of the family. The funeral procession then reformed and the coffin was borne to the old Granary burying ground, on Fremont street. The streets were again crowded and the streets in the vicinity of the burial ground were densely packed with people. There were no formal ceremonies in the graveyard, and the coffin containing the remains of the dead philanthropist was placed in the Phillips family tomb, which is also the final resting-place of Phillips' father, mother, and brother.

THE Tokiyo Tramway Company finds its business so profitable that it contemplates laying a new line from Asakusa-bashi to Yododzu-yo-bashi. It is pleasant to learn that enterprise of this nature is successful, but, at the same time,

one cannot help thinking that if the Tramway Company is to spread itself abroad to an unlimited extent, some steps should be taken to protect the streets against the destruction its operations involve. The main street of Tokyo, from Shimbashi to Asakusa, which used to be a firm, well metalled, road, is now a mottled causeway of stony hillocks and muddy lakelets. At the time of laying the tramway, we predicted that this would be the result, and indeed very little engineering acumen was required to foresee it. Before long a great part of the line will have to be relaid, and then the company's ledgers will not tell quite so happy a tale. The pity is that these sort of enterprises in Japan are not open to foreign coöperation. Westerns have paid for their experience, and might save the Japanese the necessity of buying theirs dearly. Of the many lucrative operations now struggling into a tardy existence, there is not one which does not offer a most promising field for foreign capital and intelligence. Railways, tramways, mines, fisheries, manufactures, banking—all these things and many others, might be developed with immensely increased rapidity and to much greater advantage were it possible for foreigners to unite with Japanese. But unfortunately, it is not possible. The grotesque chimæra that when Japan offers to open her country and let all comers share alike with her own people in whatever industrial or commercial opportunities they may find here, she is only laying a plot to get them into her power in order that she may ill-treat and despoil them—this ridiculous chimæra, unworthy to be discussed by children out of the nursery, effectually bars the path of prosperous enterprise.

THE year 1883 is remarkable in astronomical annals as having a record the most prolific in sun-spots that has been known since the invention of the telescope. Not only the number but also the size of these spots were remarkable. Many of them were quite visible to the naked eye, and attained diameters four, five, and six times as large as that of our planet. Never before, too, were so many measurements taken of solar eruptions and flames. Every day these were observed raising themselves to considerable elevations above the sun's disc. A coincidence worthy of attention is the exceptional frequency and violence of earthquakes during the same period. It is strange to look back, by the light of these solar fires, at the theories that obtained during the first half of the present century. Sir William Herschel believed the sun to be habitable and habited. By him and by Wilson alike, the great planet was supposed to consist of a globe as massive as that of the earth, enveloped in an immense atmosphere crowned by an eternal dome of resplendent clouds. The red protuberances which showed themselves on the edges of the moon at periods of total solar eclipse were, in those days, either not attributed to the sun, or supposed to be mere optical delusions. Many scientists thought that the sun had no more caloric than a block of ice, and that the luminous heat we receive from him was a subjective phenomenon. Such theories are never likely to be revived again. In 1883 more than 5,000 spots and protuberances were observed for a single meridian. Their dimensions were variable. The inferior envelope of red resting upon the white solar surface is about 5,000 miles thick. From this envelope, which is called the chromosphere, immense tongues of

flame shoot up to heights of from fifty, to two or three hundred, thousand miles. Young, in October, 1880, observed a protuberance which, in the course of an hour, raised itself to a height of three hundred and fifty thousand miles, and then, separating into filaments, vanished. The temperature of these flames is so tremendous that no chemical combination known to us could exist there. They represent "a fire so hot that it no longer burns." Measured by terrestrial standards they may be said to have a temperature of 10,000°—a temperature compared with which molten iron would seem like a mass of snow.

CONTRABAND goods, stated to be ship's stores, have come under the observation of the Custom House authorities in such large quantities lately (says the *Alla* Feb. 7), that the Surveyor has determined to seize all excessive lots in future. Yesterday, Deputy Surveyor Brown and his men found fifteen bags of live turtles and a lot of eels on the steamer *Arabic*, and confiscated them because they were not on the manifest. They were brought from China by a member of the crew, who attempted to retain possession on the ground that they were ships' stores, but without avail. Since the haul of opium Tuesday afternoon, there has been nothing of note discovered beyond fifty handkerchiefs and the turtles and eels. In the latter capture, the Custom House people have a sort of family of white elephants, as the Appraisers' Building does not boast of an inmate who is either a "turtologist" or an expert on eatable snakes, and what the illicit animals ought to be fed on during their appaise-ment is a puzzle for all hands. After effecting this seizure, Deputy Brown filed informations with Collector Sullivan against Captain Pearne of the *Arabic*, Captain Berry of the *City of Peking*, and Captain Rogers of the *Newbern* (from Mexican ports), for violation of the revenue laws in bringing into port certain articles which were not specified on the manifests of their respective cargoes. The Collector has not yet determined upon his action in the premises, and until he has the nature of the contraband stuff will not be made known.

THE *Alla* says:—A "Cobden Free-Trade Club" has been organized in Sacramento. Its members profess to be animated only by a desire to study the tariff question; but they must not be surprised if they find sundry intelligent newspaper organs of public opinion barking at their heels and accusing them of being "bribed with British gold." That is a lie which was told a great many years ago and can now be urged against anybody without any sort of moral responsibility. At least, that is the conclusion to be deduced from the practice of some of our (otherwise) esteemed contemporaries.

AN Emergency meeting of the Yokohama Lodge No. 1092 E.C. was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday afternoon to perform the funeral rites over the body of Bro. H. N. Tileston, an old and highly respected member of the Lodge. The meeting was attended by a large number of visitors from the other Lodges in the District. After the opening ceremony the procession, which included more than fifty Bretheren, was joined by numerous friends of the deceased. The cortege passed up Main Street to the Cemetery, where the impressive service for the dead was read by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master, Bro. C. H. Dallas. After the cere-

mony the procession was reformed and returned to the Hall when the Lodge was closed. Bro. Tileston came to Japan in 1868, and was in the employ of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the O. & O. Company. He left Japan in 1882, and returned a few days ago. By his kindness of heart and genial disposition he endeared all those with whom he came in contact, and the Masonic fraternity by his untimely death will lose a good friend and Brother.

CONSIDERABLE jealousy and ill-feeling has existed for some time in the bosoms of certain Shanghai horsemen, which culminated at the conclusion of the recent meeting at Hongkong in a case in the Police Court of the Crown Colony. It was alleged by Mr. Brandt that he was crossed, and his pony and himself struck by Mr. Nickels in the Champions' Race, and it is to be inferred from the report of the case that by these means he lost the race, in fact Mr. Brandt in his evidence referred to the occurrence as a "highway robbery." Mr. Bidwell, who was called as a witness for the complainant, said he saw nothing of the occurrence alleged by Mr. Brandt, although it was stated that Bidwell had told several persons that he saw the affair, and described what he saw. Mr. Wise, the magistrate dismissed the case in the following words:—"Under the circumstances, Mr. Brandt. I must dismiss the summons. The reason I do so is not so much because I consider the charge disproved, but that the evidence is too conflicting. I think you were quite justified in taking out the summons under the circumstances. I think the evidence of the witness Bidwell is most unsatisfactory. He admits that he went round to various people and made statements relating to this matter, and then he comes here and states in evidence that those statements were untrue. I do not think that under any circumstances his conduct can be looked upon with approbation."

A RECENT Baltimore journal publishes the following comical paragraph:—A scandal in which some very unusual incidents appear was brought to light by the filing of an application for a divorce by Henry Clark, a conductor in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Clark left his residence one evening lately, after telling his wife that he was going to leave that night for Martinsburg, W. Va. He did not go, however, but returned home at a late hour and retired to bed, his wife having already done so. Soon afterwards Mrs. Clark complained of a severe cramp, and begged her husband to get up and go to a drug store for medicine. He hastily drew on a pair of trousers and hurried upon his errand. His surprise may be imagined when, on looking down while in the drug store waiting for the medicine, he discovered that the trousers he wore were several inches too short for him. He felt something bulky in one of the pockets and putting his hand in he drew forth a roll of bills amounting to \$350. This settled it. He was sure they were not his trousers. It suddenly struck him that his presence at home was far more urgent than his wife's necessity for medicine and he hastened there, but the man who had invaded his home and with whom he had unwittingly changed clothing, had beaten a hasty retreat. The trousers which the latter had taken away belonged to the husband and contained only a few dollars. As the wife was not able to explain matters with satisfaction, the

husband ordered her to leave the house also, which command she immediately obeyed. The tell-tale trousers and contents were sent to the wife of the gay Lothario, who is a dignified old fellow of the best society and the head of a large family of grown children.

THE Pusan correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* writes very despondingly of the state of affairs at that place. Trade has fallen off in a most unprecedented way. The export of rice, which constitutes the chief business at Pusan, was suddenly stopped owing to a great increase of the demand in the country, as the long drought of last year had effectually prevented any rice from reaching the great marts. Such universal depression in commerce has never before been experienced, and there is no end to bankruptcies among the Japanese merchants, while the people are starving. The natives in the neighbouring districts have suffered extreme want, and crowds of hungry beggars have flocked to Pusan. The authorities have done, and are doing, all in their power to relieve the great distress of the people; but all they can do fails to fill the mouths of the countless paupers.

A TELEGRAM has been received at the Foreign Office, Tokiyo, announcing the fact that a revolt has taken place in Canton. No particulars are given, but it seems probable that the affair is connected with the operations of the French in Tonquin. Popular feeling may have been excited either by a defeat sustained at Bac-ninh or by the withdrawal of the Chinese garrison without fighting. The latter appears to us the more likely contingency. The telegram is dated at Shanghai, March 7th, and as no intelligence has been forwarded since then, we may fairly assume that the revolt has not attained serious dimensions or caused any inconvenience to the foreign residents.

SIR HARRY PARKES has been appointed to represent Her Majesty at the Court of Söul as well as that of Peking. We may conclude, therefore, that the treaty with Korea has been ratified, and Sir Harry will present the ratification as well as his credentials to the Korean Government some time in May or June. The news of the appointment will be received with satisfaction by Sir Harry's many friends in the East, and will further have the effect of removing all doubts as to Korea's national status in Great Britain's eyes.

A FRIGHTFUL mining accident is reported from Colorado. A telegram in the *Alta* from Denver, on January 24th, says:—A terrible explosion occurred at Crested Buttes, Gunnison county, at 7 o'clock this morning, in the Crested Buttes coal mine, in which from twenty-five to fifty miners are believed to have been killed. The explosion blockaded the entrance to the mine. The full extent of the disaster is at present unknown. The mine is owned and operated by the Colorado Coal and Iron Company of this city, and employs from eighty to ninety miners in the shaft. No further particulars are at present obtainable. A *Times* Gunnison special says:—So far only meagre details have been received of the terrible explosion which occurred at 8 o'clock this morning in the Colorado Coal and Iron Company's mine, Crested Buttes. So far only the most meagre details have been received here, but the loss of life is supposed to be

terrible. There were sixty-seven men in the mine at the time. Of these, eleven, who were just entering, were thrown back to the entrance by the force of the explosion and have been rescued. One of these is dead and the others are badly injured. There are fifty-six men yet in the mine and they cannot be reached. They are all supposed to be dead. The explosion was of such force as to entirely wreck the engine and engine-house, which stood fully 100 feet from the entrance. It is supposed the explosion was caused by a leak in the air-compressor. The Crested Buttes people are doing all things possible to rescue the miners. Two specials have gone up from here with doctors and others on board.

"EACH of the projections on this piece of coral is a separate individual," said Professor Albert S. Bickmore, Superintendent of the American Museum of Natural History, in a lecture on "Corals and Coral Islands." "The coral animals do not grow separately," said Professor Bickmore. "They gather together in a hemispherical form at first. Only those on the outside are alive; the rest within are dead, and so it grows. Between two coral animals a third one grows, and when one gets bigger than its fellows a branch begins to grow. The sea rolls in and brings them their food. A natural break-water ground of a coral reef is stronger than any that can be made by the hand of man, for the stronger the sea that beats upon it, the more food is brought for the coral animals to gather with their little tentacles."

THE fire on the morning of the 12th inst. in Hikage-cho, Tokiyo, ranks among the most destructive by which Tokiyo has been visited this year. There seems to be no doubt that it was an incendiarism, since it broke out in the lumber-room of a bath-house. The flames spread in both directions and fully two hundred houses are said to have been destroyed. Hikage-cho is a narrow street running parallel to, and on the west of, Ginza, from Shinbashi to Shiba. It is an exceedingly populous part of the city, and the houses, though small, are occupied by thriving tradesmen. The loss of property on Tuesday morning was very serious.

ON the evening of the 16th instant a farewell dinner was given by the members of the Tokiyo Club to Mr. W. H. Denison, who proceeds to America by the mail of the 28th. Among the guests were their Excellencies Judge Bingham and Mr. Davidow, the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench, Chevalier E. M. Lanciareze, Messrs. Yoshida, Ishibashi, Saito, &c. Covers were laid for twenty-four. Mr. Denison's health was drunk with great enthusiasm and the party broke up after a most agreeable evening.

OPINIONS vary considerably amongst the judges of the U.S. Courts in regard to Chinese claiming residence in America. The *Alta* of the 7th ult. has the following:—Wong Chi Hong, a passenger of the *Oceanic*, claiming previous residence, was discharged by Judge Sabin yesterday on the evidence of his Consular certificate and his bare unsupported oath to the effect that he was formerly a wood-chopper in the northern part of the State. The Court's holding was that the Chinese Government appeared to be dealing honestly with the United States in the matter of the issuance of certificates, and he saw no reason

why the Consular certificates brought by Chinese emigrants should not be considered as good as the paper of any other Government. At any rate, there was no proof in Wong Chi Hong's case of the certificate having been fraudulently drawn up, and he would order the release of the petitioner. There will probably be a rush of Chinese habeas corpus cases to Judge Sabin's Court in the near future.

ONE of the most useful discoveries made to benefit shipowners is that of the anti-fouling paint for vessels' bottoms which a Mr. Dennys has invented. Mr. Dennys, at one time a newspaper editor in Hongkong, and more recently connected with the Civil Service at Singapore, first started a company at this latter port to take over his patent, and now an English company is being organised. Prior to these steps being taken, full and complete experiments had been made, so as to efficiently test the value of the paint. These experiments successfully proved that, while barnacles and sea-tangle stick to ordinary paint, the anti-fouling composition contains matter which wholly prevents this. The test was made of merely painting patches of the new stuff on the hull of an ordinarily painted vessel. The result, after a voyage, was that, while the hull had generally become coated with barnacles, none of these adhered to the anti-fouling paint. The value of a discovery like this—one that has long been anxiously awaited—is of vast value to the shipping world.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE visitors to the Tokiyo Library (*Toshokwan*), during February, numbered 9,512, and the volumes lent, 39,231. The visitors to the Zoological Garden (*Dobutsu-yen*) of the Uyeno Museum, during the same period, numbered 7,854; the visitors to the Museum, 5,332; the visitors to the library of the Museum, 404; the visitors to the Museum of Education (*Kioiku Hakubutsu-kwan*), 5,429, of whom 4 were foreigners; the visitors to the library of that Museum, 501, and the number of books lent, 2,611.

WE read in an Italian journal that, during 1883, the number of applications made for dispensations to marry within the prohibited degrees in Italy were 2,031, of which 1,569 were granted and 462 refused. Of these applications 1,373 were for marriages between brothers and sisters-in-law, and 145 for marriages between uncles and nieces. Dispensations were granted to only 29 of the latter class of applicants.

THE effective army of France for the current year is stated to consist of 518,642 men, of whom 27,726 are gendarmes. This total shows an increase of 2,397 men as compared with that for 1883. Algeria absorbs 53,306 men; Tunis, 15,000, and Tonquin, 16,000, so that the number actually remaining in France is 434,336.

A FIRE broke out at half-past twelve on the 11th inst., at Neribeicho, Kanda, resulting in the destruction of ten houses. One child from a neighbouring school was reported missing, but it has not yet been ascertained whether or no it was killed.

Two years ago, when I was in Nice (says the correspondent of an Indian paper), Signor Garcia visited that favorite watering place, in order to enjoy the delights of the neighbouring Monaco, and its Monte Carlo gambling table, the last disreputable refuge of the gambling

table in Europe, that is, of the official and lawfully-constituted gambling table. Few men had a reputation equal to that of Signor Garcia in that particular line. Rumour reported his immense wealth, chiefly the result of gambling, and now rumour has it that he is about to hand it all over to a Trappist Monastery in France, and to become himself a brother of the order. On one occasion, Signor Garcia is said to have won eighty thousand pounds in one night at Homburg, before the suppression of the German gambling-tables. On another occasion, he is said to have lost more than a hundred thousand pounds at a single sitting, and all this he did, gains and losses, with the same imperturbable countenance, as if neither gain nor loss affected him in the slightest degree, not a muscle of his countenance betraying either joyful or sorrowful emotions throughout! So admirable, indeed, was the self-control of Garcia that the Duke de Morny, one of the most noted gamblers of modern times, said to him on one occasion that he did not believe another man in existence could win or lose so much with such perfect equanimity. The Trappist Communities are amongst the most severe in asceticism. The brothers rise at four in the morning, in winter as well as in summer, assemble in the chapel for devotion, partake of nothing but the most plain fare, wear hair shirts for mortification of the flesh, work hard at manual labor all day, and take their repasts in absolute silence. Religious works are read for them at their meals, and the usual services are sung and recited in the chapels, but, with these exceptions, they do not hear the sound of a human voice? There is only one Monastery of the order in Great Britain.

JUDGING by the provision of transports which the French Government is making, there is every intention of keeping the army of occupation in Tonquin up to its full strength. The *Petit Provençal*, of Marseilles gives a list of vessels recently chartered to carry men and material to Cochin China. They are, the *Ville-de-Metz* (2,310 tons), at a rate of 86 francs per ton for the voyage out only; the *Chalons* (3,053 tons), at 175,000 francs a month; the *Cormorin* (3,546 tons) at 175,000 a month; the *Poitou* (1,926 tons); the *Saint Germain* (3,019 tons); the *Savoie* (2,574 tons) and the *Volga* (1,513). Besides these, seven English troopships, first class steamers of from two to three thousand tons, have been chartered at 43.75 francs per ton for the voyage out. They are the *Ashbrooke*, the *Oakfield*, the *Standard*, the *Roxburg*, the *Cilurnum*, the *Brescoe*, and the *Mascotte*. This makes, in all, a fleet of fifteen large transports capable of carrying fully ten thousand men.

CYCLING, says the *St. James's Budget*, has grown into the proportions of a national recreation with unprecedented rapidity since the invention of the modern tricycle; and, if we are to believe the president of the West Kensington Tricycle Club, it now numbers among its votaries not merely poets, professors, legislators, and Ministers, but also her Most Gracious Majesty herself. But it does not need fashionable or august patronage to commend an amusement so well suited, as Sir Charles Dilke observed, to the needs of the middle-class Englishman of the present day. For that individual is more and more becoming essentially a town-dweller; and, if he is to take exercise at all, must do it in a form which can be pursued on what Mr. Austin Dobson calls "paven stones," or at any rate

suburban lanes. Herein the tricycle has advantages over the outrigger, or the football, or even the leather and willow. A horse, it is true, will do as well; but the "stomach of a horse is too heavy for the half-pay establishment," as Captain Clutterbuck put it, and also for the middle-class urban resident, who is not always wealthy. Tricycling is eminently cheap; it is healthy; it is in some respects an athletic sport, and it can be carried on, as Englishmen and Englishwomen like their diversions to be carried on, in the open air; for all which reasons there is no ground to suppose that its popularity will not become greater than ever—especially if certain of our roads, in the home counties and elsewhere, at present justly avoided of tricyclists, be put into a condition more suited for wheeled carriages.

It will be seen from our telegraphic advices that Bac-ninh has fallen. The defence appears to have been a mere fiasco. The French losses are stated at 72 men wounded. It will probably turn out that, as we recently predicted, the Chinese garrison evacuated that place so soon as it became quite plain that the French meant to take it. This was found to be not an unfrequent propensity of Chinese garrisons in former wars with Western Powers. In the case of Bac-ninh, too, it is more than probable that the Chinese commanders were under orders to avoid fighting, since a too energetic resistance might be followed by results which the Government at Peking is naturally anxious to avert. We shall doubtless have the particulars in a few days. Nothing could be more satisfactory than the news in its present form. Two things were to be desired, the speedy fall of the place, and its capture without severe fighting. Both have been accomplished, and if China can now control her own people sufficiently to pursue her policy of inaction, and France persuade herself to refrain from harsh demands, there is no apparent reason why the trouble should not end here.

We published a telegram from London on Thursday which announced that a battle was imminent near Suakim. Our telegraphic intelligence this morning gives the welcome news that the engagement resulted in a decisive victory for British arms with "inconsiderable" loss. It is to be hoped that the tide has turned in Egyptian affairs, and that the result of this battle will have some moral weight with the hostile chiefs.

THE American bark *Pearl*, Captain Howes, arrived at San Francisco on the 6th ultimo, after a passage of thirty-five days from Hakodate, via Otaru. She had a cargo of timber and brimstone.

THE Pacific mail steamship *City of Peking*, Captain Berry, bringing the American mail, with dates from San Francisco to the 21st ultimo, arrived here this morning.

THE German bark *Marie*, Captain Ipland, sails for Takao this evening.

THE Rev. J. C. Davison will preach at the Union Church to-morrow (Sunday) 16th inst.

THE American ship *Ranier*, of Bath, from Philadelphia to this port with kerosene, was wrecked on the 2nd January, on the Marshall Group of islands. It is believed that the gun-

boat *Monocacy* has been sent to look for the crew.

A TELEGRAM from London has been received in Hongkong announcing the abandonment by the crew of the ship *Georgie*, from Cardiff to that port.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the "List of Japanese Lighthouses, Lightships, Beacons, and Buoys for 1884," issued from the Lighthouse Department.

THE American ship *Carondelet*, Captain Stetson, sails for Nagasaki on the 14th inst., where she will load coals for Hongkong.

THE British barkentine *Guam* is reported to have been chartered to load rice at Kobe, for Auckland, New Zealand, at £2 per ton.

THE British steamer *Bengloe*, Captain Webster, left Hongkong for this port on Sunday, the 9th instant.

THE *Sapphire*, corvette (12), Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, arrived here on the 13th inst. from Kobe.

MR. SATOW'S PROMOTION.

THE appointment of Mr. ERNEST SATOW to be HER MAJESTY'S Agent and Consul-General at Bangkok is announced by the London journals. To Mr. SATOW's friends in Japan the news is, in some respects, a surprise. As a sinologue his attainments are of so admirable, we had almost said so wonderful, a character, that there seems to be something contrary to the fitness of things in his removal from a sphere where his labours were long employed to such excellent effect. On the other hand, it was always felt that the official rewards within his immediate reach in Japan were not commensurate with his merits. He might have commanded, years ago, anything the Consular service in this country had to offer, but his value at the Legation was too thoroughly appreciated to leave any doubt as to the expediency of keeping him there. His nomination to the local rank of Second Secretary of Legation, in 1876, was an exceptional expedient, adopted to render his services available in a position otherwise incommensurate with his claims. It was welcomed, at the time, as a fitting, though somewhat tardy, acknowledgment of his great merit, and as an evidence that HER MAJESTY'S Government understood their obligation to open for him some route to promotion more rapid than the monotonous path of a Consul in Japan. In the sequel of this step his new appointment seems natural enough, though it is difficult fully to endorse any course which removes him from this country.

Mr. SATOW came to Japan in 1861, that is to say, at a time when the polity of the country defied the comprehension of foreign statesmen, and when conditions had to be dealt with for which no precedent was found in any blue-book. It happened very often, as we now know, that they were dealt with in

the rough and ready way which commends itself to strong men in perplexity, and that a great deal of matter was consequently provided for the criticism of future historians. Want of information was the chief stumbling block. Her Majesty's Legation did not then possess the equipment of finished linguists it can boast now. Men who could speak even a smattering of the language were few and far between. Indeed, as an interpreter, one only, Mr., now Baron, ALEXANDER VON SIEBOLD, might have been called competent, and even he was versed in the spoken language alone: neither his studies nor his inclinations had yet led him to grapple with the bewildering intricacies of Chinese idiographs. Under these circumstances, Mr. SATOW'S wonderful powers of assimilating linguistic knowledge soon brought him into prominence. His notions of mastering the language were so thorough that he is said to have conceived and accomplished the highly unattractive project of living more than a twelve-month after the most rigorously Japanese fashions. Whether or no this be strictly correct, it is certain that he soon attained a standard of scholarship which very few, inside or outside the British Legation, have ever aspired to approach; scholarship so perfect that it could afford to be liberal, and to recognise in others merits which by comparison were inappreciable. Before many years he was universally acknowledged to be the first sinologue in Japan, and was able to procure information invaluable to those charged with the care of British interests in this country. It is generally supposed, indeed, that his influence upon the policy of the Legation was almost creative; but without going so far, we may certainly say that it must have been very large. In one point, perhaps, tradition has exaggerated both the incentive furnished by Mr. SATOW'S researches and the initiative taken by the chief whom he served so well and by whom his services were so fully appreciated. We allude to Sir HARRY PARKES' policy of seeking a higher treaty-making power than the TAIKUN; a policy which led him, in 1865, to demand the MIKADO'S ratification at Osaka; and, in 1867, to visit Kiyoto itself as the guest of a sovereign whose power to consummate the scheme of mediatization was openly doubted by most of the Foreign Representatives. Mr. HARRIS' recently published diary has shown, what accurate scholars, indeed, already knew, that from the first the SHOGUN never disguised his real status, but always acknowledged in the throne a power without whose endorsement his acts were not binding on the nation. Apart from this, however, there can be no question that Mr. SATOW exercised a large influence on the official procedure of those difficult days, and it is not on record that his influence was ever exercised in a mistaken direction. Undoubtedly, therefore, the Government has

only given him what he deserves in nominating him to a post from which subsequent promotion will be easy. Japan must consent to dispense with his services until he can come back here to a position worthy of his attainments and record. We are sincerely sorry to lose him, and will not here attempt to estimate the loss, but it was impossible that he could have remained always in Japan without some departure from routine even more considerable than the step taken to keep him in Tokiyoin 1876.

GENERAL GORDON IN THE SOUDAN.

AFFAIRS in Egypt begin to wear a highly interesting aspect. To understand the telegrams that reach us, it is necessary to get a clear idea of the programme which General GORDON proposes to carry out, and which he has already partly fulfilled. His mission is both diplomatic and military, and he has gone to Egypt to pursue a policy which is eminently distasteful to him and which he regards as distinctly unwise. Before he left England, before, indeed, the QUEEN'S Government had asked him to return to the scene of his former labours, he declared that the Eastern Soudan was indispensable to Egypt, and that the real danger to be apprehended was not an advance of EL MAHDI northward, but the influence that would be excited throughout the whole of northern Africa by the spectacle of a conquering Mahomedan Power established on the frontiers of Egypt proper. "If the entire Eastern Soudan is surrendered to the MAHDI," he said, "the Arab tribes on both sides of the Red Sea will take fire," and "the whole of the Eastern question may be reopened." Much the same idea is entertained by General STONE, who lectured on Egyptian affairs, early in February, in New York. He pointed out that the Arabs came into Egypt in the 7th century, and held it for eight hundred years before they became, in their turn, subject to the Ottoman conquerors. The latter had only ruled during four centuries when they were put down by France and England, the tenacious Arab all the while clinging to his old home and always hoping to recover his old power. Had the French and English stepped resolutely into the place of the Turks whom they supplanted, General STONE thinks we should have heard little of EL MAHDI. But their vacillation was the Arab's opportunity; an opportunity which he desecrated after centuries of patient waiting, and which he has seized with an ardour that will not be easily quenched. General GORDON'S statement of the case bears out this theory, but stops short of General STONE'S inferences. The former says that EL MAHDI is not a religious leader, but that he merely personifies popular discontent, and that the terrible oppression and corruption of Turkish rule, completely restored

after the Soudan ceased to have an English Governor-General, are at the root of the insurrection. If this view be correct, and there is no man living worthy of more credence on such a subject than GORDON, the apparent contradictions of Mr. GLADSTONE'S policy are in a great measure explained. It has been laid to the English statesman's charge that while invariably denouncing Turkish rule and seeking to circumscribe it, he is nevertheless ready to see the sway of another semi-barbarous Power established throughout a wide region of Africa. But if the followers of EL MAHDI are rebels against the villainies of Turkish Government; if, as GORDON declares, "nobody knowing the treatment to which the people of the Soudan were subjected can deny their justification to rebel," then, indeed, the direction which Mr. GLADSTONE'S sympathies have taken is easily comprehended.

To return, however, to General GORDON. He proceeded to Egypt under orders to effect the evacuation of the Soudan with the least possible delay, but entrusted with a discretionary power to modify his instructions according to emergencies. That he would modify them, there could be very little doubt, for he had declared that one of two courses alone was possible—to defend Khartoum at all risks, or to surrender to the MAHDI at discretion. His first object was to reach that place. This, in itself, was a matter of no little difficulty and peril. He decided to proceed by steamer up the Nile nearly as far as the Second Cataract. Disembarking there, he proposed to proceed, across the Nubian desert, to Abu Hammed, a distance of 200 miles; and from thence, up the Nile, past Berber to Khartoum. This route had been approved by Sir SAMUEL BAKER, but when it was known that the Sheikhs and other tribes between Suakim and Berber, whose friendship had been counted on, were fiercely hostile, grave fears were entertained for the General's safety. Ultimately, it was resolved to send a brigade of Bashi-Bazouks, 2,000 strong, to support him. Orders were then sent to Colonel COETLOGAN, the commandant at Khartoum, to hold that place at all risks until GORDON'S arrival, and to concentrate all the troops in the Soudan there. By these means it was expected that the General would find 17,000 troops there, and he was then either to evacuate or defend the place, treat with or fight the MAHDI, as he saw fit. Meanwhile, it was announced that EL MAHDI had left El Obeid, at the head of an army of 37,000 men, nine days before GORDON set out from Cairo, so that it became an open question which would reach Khartoum first. GORDON, however, sent a telegram to COETLOGAN instructing him to despatch a trusty messenger to meet EL MAHDI. It is said that the General's wonderful confidence seemed a little shaken when he started from Cairo. He was afraid, he

confessed, that he had come too late. If all went well, he expected to reach Abu Hammed on February the 9th and Khartoum two or three days later. His difficulties appear to have commenced at Korosko, between the First and Second Cataracts. Arriving there on the 2nd of February, he immediately entered the desert, but was evidently checked for a time, as a telegram, dated at Cairo February the 6th, said that "the tribes beyond Korosko were in full retreat and that General GORDON was unable to proceed." He did proceed, however, leaving his specie at Assouan, and on the 19th his safe arrival and cordial reception were telegraphed.

Then followed the recognition of EL MAHDI as SULTAN of Kordofan; a measure which, to imperfectly informed people at this end of the world, seemed inexplicable, but which was quite consistent with GORDON'S previously declared policy, that Darfur and Kordofan must be abandoned, but that the provinces lying to the east of the White Nile and North of Senaar should be retained. So far, events have not contradicted the theory that the movement in the Soudan is in its origin simply an uprising against oppression and corruption, though, if left unchecked, it may develop into something much more formidable. On the other hand, if England has to deal with it—and whatever may be said, she has now accepted the responsibility—she must adopt one of two alternatives—crush it by main force, or so far recognize its justice as to remove the irritating causes. Undoubtedly the latter is the course she will elect. GORDON, at any rate, has not left the world in any doubt as to the sympathy he feels for the Arabs in their revolt against Turkish misrule. His whole chance of success lies in his ability to convince the MAHDI of that sympathy; or, at any rate, of his Government's resolve to restore and guarantee the permanence of the juster régime which he himself was formerly instrumental in establishing. This, however, means that not Turkey, nor Egypt, is henceforth to be the chief Power in the Soudan, but Great Britain. Everything, in short points to an English protectorate on the banks of the Nile. The German Press plainly advocates that course, and it is said that the next Budget presented to the House of Commons will contain a provision for keeping 6,000 troops in Egypt.

With regard to the re-establishment of communication with Khartoum, General BAKER'S plan, as formulated at the beginning of February, was to operate from the line of Massowah and Kassalah. The nucleus of his army was to consist of black troops drawn from the various garrisons at the Red Sea ports. These, together with Bashi-Bazouks, Turks, and new levies would give him a force of 11,000 good fighting men. Moving *viâ* Massowah, he would have a friendly coun-

try in his flank and rear, instead of the deserts of the Suakim-Berber route. This scheme pre-supposed Abyssinian co-operation, and contemplated the relief of Khartoum by June. Meanwhile, as the telegrams explain, BAKER has failed signally in his attempt to relieve Sinkat. His black troops became disaffected owing to the removal of their leader ZOBEL Pasha, and the Egyptian contingent was quite useless. Seven English officers fell in the massacre that followed his disastrous advance from Trinkitat. It is to be sincerely hoped that this is the last we shall hear of similarly hopeless essays. If Englishmen are to fight in the Soudan, we trust it may no longer be in the company of such soldiers as HICKS and BAKER have had to lead.

THE OLD METHODS.

In a recent number of the *London and China Express* we find the following:—"Japan has for years past been crying out in all tones against the unfairness of the treaty stipulations binding her to Western Powers; every argument that could be drawn from morality, justice, self-interest, and all the other modes of appealing to a nation's feelings and interests have been employed to discredit the present treaties and tariff between Japan and the West. England, France, America, and the others are represented as highwaymen and bullies who broke into the calm and blissful seclusion of the land of the Rising Sun, and rudely demanded 'your trade on our own conditions or your life,' and who secured what they wanted as a burglar armed with a couple of revolvers might get what he wanted from an unarmed householder. We have heard much of this declamation for ten years past. The truth, however, is that the treaties almost as they exist now—the tariff was of course subsequently altered under a provision of the treaties themselves—were made by Mr. HARRIS, the American negotiator, during a residence at Shimoda, where he had neither force, nor show of force. With none but his interpreter, from his solitary post in the peninsula of Idzu, he obtained from the Japanese the treaties which are now represented as being extorted from an innocent, a terrified, an unwilling people at the mouth of the cannon by acute and unscrupulous envoys."

The methods employed in opening relations with Japan thirty years ago, and in extending those relations subsequently, have been discussed over and over again. Yet, since the Treaties are so much before the public just at present, and since a contemporaneous writer has shown himself so remarkably misinformed, it may be worth while to devote a few moments to a recapitulation of facts.

There is one very simple and decisive mode of approaching the question dealt with in the above quotation. Was Japan willing to make the Treaties, or

was she not? If the former, then indeed neither force nor menace was required. If the latter, by what means was her reluctance overcome? In answering these questions it is unnecessary to draw any deductions of our own from past events. The despatches of HER MAJESTY'S Representatives in Japan furnish all the information that is required. Lieutenant-Colonel NEALE, writing to Earl RUSSELL, Feb. 10th, 1863, said:—"The TAIKUN and his Government, as an undeniable fact, have fallen into national discredit by assenting to the much dreaded renewal of intercourse with Western people, *though indeed the assent was obtained under irresistible pressure.*" And again Sir R. ALCOCK, in a despatch to Earl RUSSELL, dated November 19th, 1864, wrote:—"All Treaties made with Japan have been forced upon it; and until great changes have taken place in the character, institutions, and government of the people, it is in vain to expect that Treaties so entered into can be maintained by a religious abstinence from the use of force as a means." We are not obliged, therefore, to concern ourselves about what Japanese writers or Japanese advocates have asserted. We have the unequivocal statements of HER MAJESTY'S Representatives at the Japanese Court, that this country's assent to the Treaties was obtained, in every case, by "force" and "irresistible pressure."

So much for the methods employed to secure the conclusion of the Treaties, in the first place. Let us now consider briefly how their ratification was brought about. Incidental to this part of our subject, and, indeed, inseparable from it, is the question of tariff revision. It will, therefore, be convenient to consider the two together, and to note, as preliminary to a proper understanding of the matter, that the Trade Regulations of 1858 contained the following provision:—"Five years after the opening of Kanagawa, the import and export duties shall be subject to revision, if either the British or Japanese Government desire it." The port of Kanagawa was opened on July the 1st, 1859, so that the tariff became subject to revision on July the 1st, 1864. It was a tariff fixed on a twenty per cent. basis.

On the 5th and 6th of September, 1864, the allied fleets of the Treaty Powers bombarded and destroyed the fortifications in the Strait of Shimonoseki, and in the sequel of these operations a Convention was signed, on October the 22nd, 1864, between the TAIKUN'S Government and the Foreign Representatives, by which the former undertook to pay "a gross sum of three million dollars for indemnities and expenses occasioned by the hostile acts of the Prince of NAGATO."

Eight months later, a portion of this money having been paid, Earl RUSSELL wrote as follows:—"HER MAJESTY'S Government are inclined to consider that the general interests of trade and of foreign relations with Japan would be best con-

sulted by an arrangement which should absolve the Government of the TAIKUN from two-thirds of the whole sum of three million dollars payable under the agreement of 1864; provided, first, that the port of Hiogo and the City of Osaka are opened for the trade and residence of the subjects of the Treaty Powers on the 1st of June, 1866; secondly, that the sanction of the MIKADO is formally given to the treaties already concluded by the TAIKUN with the Treaty Powers; and thirdly, that the duties on imports into Japan are generally reduced to 5 per cent., and shall in no case exceed 10 per cent."

In forwarding these instructions to Sir HARRY PARKES, Earl RUSSELL said:—"The reports recently received by HER MAJESTY'S Government from Japan, lead to the conclusion that a great social revolution is taking place in that country, and that a civil war may be the consequence. It would seem that these internal commotions arise almost exclusively from the relations that have of late years been established between Japan and foreign nations."

The position, then, was simply this. On the one side were the Foreign Representatives, entitled to ask for a revision of the tariff at any time after July 1st, 1864, as well as to compel payment by Japan of a large sum of money by way of indemnity for war expenses; but willing to remit two-thirds of that payment in exchange for three concessions, of which the MIKADO'S ratification of the Treaties, and a reduction of the tariff from twenty, to five, per cent. were two. On the other side was the TAIKUN'S Government, known to be threatened with a civil war as the result, almost exclusively, of its assent to the Treaties whose ratification was now sought.

Sir HARRY PARKES, thus instructed, and himself acknowledging that "the option of accepting the new proposals or continuing to pay the indemnity would, of course, be still reserved by the TAIKUN," resolved, nevertheless, to formulate those proposals from the flag-ship of the English Admiral, and to emphasize them by the presence of eight other vessels of war, the combined fleets of three Western Powers. We need not point to the inference this policy suggests: we need not point to Sir HARRY PARKES' own explanation that "the appearance at this moment, in Osaka Bay, of the Foreign Representatives, attended by a considerable naval force, is a proof of the determination of the foreign Governments to insist upon the performance of the Treaties": we need not point to the fact that in opening negotiations with the TAIKUN'S Ministers, he concluded his despatch by saying, "the Undersigned also takes this opportunity of informing their Excellencies that he is accompanied by Admiral KING, C.B., the Commander-in-Chief of all the naval forces of HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY in China and Japan, and that this letter is dated from his Ex-

cellency's flag-ship": we need not point to his subsequent declaration that "my colleagues and myself are fully sensible that we are indebted, for whatever success has attended our efforts, to the efficient and generous aid of our naval commanders:" we need not point to the despatch he addressed, also from the Admiral's flag-ship, to the TAIKUN, urging that Potentate to obtain the ratification of the Treaties by the MIKADO, and containing these words:—"A happy accord between the MIKADO, your MAJESTY, and the Daimios would ensure the maintenance of satisfactory relations between your people and foreigners, without prejudice to the interests or the independence of Japan. But disunion must bring upon your country the most grave disorders, as our Governments are firmly resolved to insist upon the faithful and complete observance by all parties, whether our enemies or our friends, of every condition of the Treaties concluded with your MAJESTY." None of these things need be specially mentioned, because the whole ground is succinctly and unequivocally covered by Sir HARRY PARKES' language to Earl RUSSELL after the successful termination of the negotiations at Osaka:—"In reporting that this important advantage has now been secured, I am very sensible, my Lord, that it would be presumptuous in me to lay claim to any other credit than that of not neglecting an opportunity of completing, in co-operation with my colleagues, the work to which they and my predecessors had so long devoted themselves, and which had been signally advanced by the affair of Shimonoseki. That blow, however, proved insufficient in itself alone to gain the end that is now attained. It will be in the memory of your Lordship that, after CHOSHU'S batteries were destroyed, ABÉ BUNGO NO KAMI was sent by the TAIKUN to Kiyoto, at the instance of the Representatives, to move the MIKADO to give his sanction to the Treaties. The opposition, however, was still too strong to allow of these representations being effectual. On this occasion, however, the presence of the TAIKUN himself at Kiyoto, attended by his Ministers and a considerable force, furnished a most favorable opportunity for the consideration of the question. He saw also that the double dangers by which he was threatened—those arising out of his civil struggle with CHOSHU, as well as prospective difficulties with foreign Powers—rendered some decisive effort to strengthen his position indispensable. And the appearance of the allied fleet in the Bay of Osaka gave him an opportunity of taking up the foreign question with a degree of energy which he otherwise would not have ventured to exert."

A careful perusal of these words renders the whole situation perfectly plain. First, we have the Treaties concluded by the TAIKUN under duress, as Sir R. ALCOCK and Colonel NEALE frankly admit. Then,

we have an anti-foreign party urging the MIKADO to refuse his ratification, and hoping to stir up a civil war by the aid of that refusal. Next, we have the first blow struck at that party by the bombardment of Shimonoseki. And finally, we have a fleet sent to Osaka for the purpose of convincing both MIKADO and TAIKUN that the only way to secure Japan from "grave disorders," if not from a loss of independence, was to ratify and observe every condition of the Treaties.

To guard against any misconstruction, it will be well to record here our firm persuasion, that the policy pursued by Sir HARRY PARKES in this instance was the most sagacious and humane he could have followed. It was too late to think of abrogating the Treaties. Whatever the method of obtaining them originally, their ratification was no longer a matter of choice but of absolute necessity. Japan was threatened by a civil war through the machinations of a party which sought to make the MIKADO'S anti-foreign attitude a pretext for revolt. The only way to avert that peril, as well as to assist the TAIKUN against enemies whom his relations with foreigners had ostensibly created, was to secure the MIKADO'S sanction to the treaties, and thus brand with the stigma of rebels all those who continued to advocate the expulsion of foreigners. Sir HARRY PARKES' despatches show that he was fully aware of all these things, and that his display of force was in reality designed to serve the best interests of both sides. The result justified his forecast. But, on the other hand, it is merely playing with equivocal expressions to deny that force was used in procuring both the conclusion and the ratification of the Treaties.

It will naturally occur to our readers to enquire what reason Japan has to complain of pressure which was put upon her with results beneficial to all parties. Here it is that foreign writers, so far as we can judge, misinterpret her contention. With the fact that the treaties were concluded and ratified under duress, the people of this country, or, at any rate, the intelligent classes, do not find any fault. They have long ago recognised the advantage and necessity of foreign intercourse. But they urge, and justly, we think, that the provisions of treaties obtained under such circumstances, ought not to be permanently binding. Let us see, for a moment, how this argument applies to the question of tariff. The three proposals, formulated at Osaka as alternatives for the payment of the Shimonoseki Indemnity, were, the sanction of the Treaties by the MIKADO, the opening of Hiogo and Osaka, and the revision of the tariff on a five per cent. basis. With regard to the second proposal, "the Japanese Ministers," we quote Sir HARRY PARKES, "did not hesitate to state, with great frankness, in their verbal discussions, that they believed themselves unable to protect foreigners from outrage at the

hands of that armed and dangerous class who might be prompted to commit aggressions, either by their own fanatical feelings, or at the instigation of that faction who were opposed to the TAIKUN," and that, although "it would severely tax their resources, they preferred paying the indemnity to the responsibility of the protection of a foreign community in the vicinity of Kiyoto." The first proposal they acceded to with great difficulty, and the third appears to have obtained their assent at once. They agreed, in short, without comment or objection to a request that the tariff should be changed from a twenty per cent., to a five per cent., basis. There is not in the history of the world another instance of such sweeping complaisance. The reason of it is not far to seek. In the eyes of the TAIKUN'S Ministers, tariff questions sunk into utter insignificance by the side of the incomparably greater issues that were at stake. "We can perceive," Sir HARRY PARKES wrote, on his arrival at Osaka, "that the internal affairs of the country are seriously disturbed, and that we have arrived at a critical period in the history of the TAIKUN'S administration. He is about to enter on a struggle with a powerful Daimio, CHOSHIU, on the successful issue of which the maintenance of his supremacy may depend, and while embarrassed with these hostilities he has to contend, at the same time, with a strong opposition to his policy at the MIKADO'S Court, which may at any time take an active form and add materially to his difficulties." It was not likely that at such a moment as this, and with only ten days to answer proposals formulated by Foreign Representatives having a powerful fleet at command, the TAIKUN'S Ministers would pause to chaffer about rates of import duty. They sanctioned the five per cent. proposal with almost contemptuous indifference, and Sir HARRY PARKES was able to tell his Government, "we have relinquished no portion of the indemnity, although two of the three conditions we were willing to receive in exchange have been secured." On the 1st of July, 1864, the original tariff became subject to revision at the request of either of the high contracting parties. On the 24th of November, 1865, the Treaty Powers obtained its revision on their own terms, which they dictated from behind the guns of a powerful fleet at a time when the Government of the country was within appreciable distance of civil war. On the 1st of July, 1872, the revised tariff again became subject to revision at the demand of either of the high contracting parties. We are now in 1884, and Japan has not yet succeeded in obtaining any modification of the terms obtained from her under such exceptional circumstances. These comparisons speak for themselves. It is impossible to misinterpret their language.

BI-METALLISM.

Comparing, recently, the advantages that might accrue to Japan from borrowing abroad, instead of employing her own capital to build railways, we said that when the time came for paying her foreign creditors, she might find herself in a position to discharge her debt with money from ten to twenty per cent. less valuable than the gold originally borrowed. This hypothesis was founded on the probable remonetization of silver, and it may not be uninteresting briefly to review the arguments which seem to warrant that hypothesis.

Among all the advocates of bi-metallism no one is so earnest or untiring as M. CERNUSCHI. Numerous articles on the subject have appeared from his pen in the *Siècle*, and he is also the author of many pamphlets and other publications. Italians, for the most part, are in favour of a single standard, and in adopting the route from which he has never deviated, M. CERNUSCHI knows that he is in opposition to the opinions of the majority of his countrymen. Yet he maintains to-day, just as stoutly as ever, more stoutly than ever indeed, that bi-metallism is inevitable, and that the day is not far distant when the world must adopt a double standard, whatever may be its wishes or theories. Certainly this courageous economist has a powerful ally in history, which shows that, from time immemorial, the two noble metals have been used as money, and that their character as such has become unchangeably established. History, in short, seems to assert with assurance that gold alone is not sufficient to perform the exchanges of the World. There exists at the present day an enormous mass of silver which the nations would be embarrassed to dispose of if they desired to demonetize it, or even to relegate it to the rank of subsidiary coin. It is this difficulty that has arrested Germany half way on her route towards mono-metallism. She has fifteen hundred million silver thalers, which cannot be demonetized except at enormous loss. France's position is even more difficult. She has four thousand millions in pieces of five francs, of which a thousand millions belong to the Bank of France alone. Already, owing to the effects of mono-metallism, silver has depreciated nearly twenty per cent. It would probably depreciate to forty or fifty per cent. if France demonetized her five-franc pieces. As for the Bank of France, it would be completely ruined, since its capital and reserves barely amount to 300 millions. In America the situation is very similar. In Italy the state of affairs is less marked, as the country has only 500 millions in five-franc pieces. It is evident, therefore, that the universal adoption of a single standard is out of the question. There would result a financial disturbance which no one dare face. England, with her mono-metallic system, is of all countries

most concerned in preventing others from following her example. Such, at any rate, is M. CERNUSCHI'S opinion. He counts on England for the triumph of his theory, that is to say, for the restoration of bi-metallism as it existed before Germany began her monetary reforms. The British Empire consists essentially of two parts, Great Britain and India, of which the latter though governed by, is more populous and not less important than, the former. Now, in India the silver standard alone exists. It was established by England herself in 1835. In the British Isles, on the contrary gold alone has a legal value. In British India, from time immemorial, silver has been the money in constant use, and in 1835 it became the only legal tender. Until 1873 England experienced no inconvenience from this dual *régime*. Before that date Europe and the United States also employed the silver standard without restriction. Whoever possessed a bar of silver was at liberty to carry it to the Mint, and get it converted into five-franc pieces, paying only the fixed seigniorage. Thus silver was, in effect, equally valuable whether coined or in bullion. But when Germany commenced her so-called monetary reforms, the Latin Union, unwilling to absorb the silver which the former had for sale, suspended the coinage of silver five-franc pieces, permitting Italy only to coin twenty millions, which were actually put into circulation. The United States adopted the same policy. Four years ago, however, by a measure known as Bland's Bill, they authorized the annual coinage of a limited number of ingots.

The result of all this was that silver became a mere article of commerce, as compared with gold, and suffered a considerable depreciation, which must continue, since production goes on and consumption is arrested.

It is easily comprehensible that this fall in the value of silver is a constant factor of disturbance in the Indian Budget and in English commerce. The resulting embarrassments are already very great. At the monetary conference, the relative pressure of these embarrassments, and the perplexity of Englishmen themselves, were illustrated by the fact that the delegates from the mother country and those of the great colony took diametrically opposite views.

If the depreciation of silver attains much larger dimensions, there may ensue a crisis which would compel England to recoil before the prospect of enormous losses. That crisis will arrive, M. CERNUSCHI thinks, so soon as the United States repeal Bland's Bill and refuse to coin another dollar. Upon India will then devolve the duty of absorbing all the silver in the universe. Thus England's hand will be forced. In spite of herself she will be converted to bi-metallism, and Germany will go with her. As for France and the

United States, they will certainly be of the party, since their inclinations already point plainly in that direction. Silver and gold will then circulate side by side, as they did for centuries upon centuries before modern theorists thought of disturbing their functions.

M. CERNUSCHI thinks that, for the sake of simplicity, the wisest course would be to maintain the ratio of 1 to 15½, which existed between gold and silver at the commencement of the present century. Fluctuations in production may give temporary predominance to one or other of the two metals as circulating media, but from this no inconvenience need be apprehended. By rich individuals gold will always be preferred. For purposes of home trade people employ bank-notes representing whichever metal is in the strong room. Whether that metal weighs more or less is a matter of no moment. For purposes of international trade, contrary to general opinion, silver is preferable. The cost of carriage by rail, and especially by steamer, is insignificant in the case of either metal, since the charges are regulated with reference to risk of loss rather than to difficulty of handling. Silver is more bulky than gold, but it is more difficult to lose, and above all to steal, and the latter advantage fully compensates the former drawback.

M. CERNUSCHI declares his conviction that the universal adoption of a gold standard is materially impossible. Nor does he believe in the permanence of the present *régime*, which he pronounces vicious, because the five-franc piece is becoming a conventional money, worse than paper money, being more difficult of production, and having, like paper, the defect of being arbitrary. He further demonstrates that any attempt to legalize the ratio of 1 to 18, or 1 to 20, at present existing between the precious metals, would involve inextricable complications and entail immense losses.

We do not pretend to endorse or controvert these opinions, but merely to state them for the information of those among our readers who desire to grasp the salient points of a question daily assuming greater importance. From a purely scientific point of view, the doctrines of the mono-metallic school command respect, but the same may be said of free trade, which, though its logical claims are much better established than those of mono-metallism, has hitherto failed to obtain more than one disciple among all the nations of the world. The considerations urged by M. CERNUSCHI with lucidity and perseverance, and supported by M. LAVELYE with cleverly compiled statistics and subtle deductions, cannot, in our belief, fail to force bi-metallism into prominence, and to restore silver to the place which nature seems to have destined for it.

ENGLAND IN EGYPT.

Never was fate more ironical than when she imposed on such a statesman as Mr. GLADSTONE such a task as that of acting in accordance with his principles and promises in such a crisis as the Egyptian. An American comic journal sums up the situation shrewdly enough in a cartoon representing an immense white elephant, labelled "for sale or rent," before which stands a perplexed Briton in knickerbockers, with flowing whiskers, an eye-glass, a stiff collar and a large umbrella. "I never was in such a blawsted dilemma before," says JOHN. "I cawn't afford to stay here and take care of the beastly brute, and I've got too much money invested on him to go away and leave him, ye know." That is just how it is with Mr. GLADSTONE. Gladly would he abandon Egypt and preserve what he justly considers more valuable—English truthfulness—but there comes between him and his good intentions a crop of unforeseen circumstances not amenable to any refined treatment. It is in truth a pity that, in the last days of a splendid career, his principles should be submitted to so cruel and test, and that he should be compelled to recognize how little the practical problems of even these enlightened days are capable of solution by the rules of high morality. How grossly he is misinterpreted will be apparent from the following, which we quote from a leading Italian journal:—"What interest has the GLADSTONE Cabinet in prolonging a farce by which no one in Europe is duped? What ruins is it again preparing? What hard duty is it going to impose on the new creatures of its creation? It is not easy to see what fresh damage Mr. GLADSTONE can inflict on Egypt and on European interests there. MACHIAVELLI, in his works, says that a Frenchman covets his neighbours goods, but that, having obtained possession of them, he willingly shares his own belongings as well as those he has seized with the man he has despoiled; while the Spaniard, on the contrary, seizes all and shares nothing. MACHIAVELLI would have classed Englishmen with Spaniards had he extended his analysis. The proof is before us. France took possession of Tunis, but the French have the courage of their opinions. Once masters of the Regency, they behaved with the utmost frankness. Having benefited by the situation, they accepted the responsibilities, proclaimed a protectorate, and set themselves energetically to develop the prosperity of the conquered country. To-day there is not a Tunisian who would change the situation France has created there for the situation England has created in Egypt. Why, then, does not England proceed on the banks of the Nile as France has proceeded in Tunis? Nobody in the world believes in Mr. GLADSTONE'S sincerity. Everybody knows that England will never abandon Egypt, and that she is

absolute mistress of it, despite all the hypocrisies behind which she dissimulates her act of seizure. Let Mr. GLADSTONE, then, take off his mask. He deceives no one. And since he personally has done the harm, despite his false puritanism, despite the principles which he has professed all his life and to which he has so rarely conformed, let him take steps to repair that wrong by acting openly, frankly, and with that loyalty which ought never to be wanting in the policy of so great a nation as the English." How completely incapable such a writer seems of appreciating a man-like GLADSTONE, and how impervious his prejudices are to any glimmer of reason or logic! We have no desire to draw comparisons, believing, as we do, that England's political morality does not need the justification of foreign backslidings. But we shall be curious to see history's verdicts with respect to England's action in Egypt and France's action in Tunis. The former, we are told, seizes all and shares nothing with anybody else. Doubtless it was with that intention that she invited the other European Powers, and especially France, to act in concert with her in Egypt. If they voluntarily declined to take a share in the work when it involved some danger and trouble, it would better become them to keep silence now than to revile the selfishness of the worker. Is it forgotten, too, that France went to Tunis with the very same professions on her lips as those made by England when she interfered to save Egypt from anarchy and rebellion? There never was any avowed intention to occupy Tunis. The troops sent there were only destined to restore order and punish a handful of rebels. Once there, however, France immediately made herself mistress of the place, and all Europe rang with reproofs of her insincerity. We do not deny that what she did was the wisest and best thing she could have done, but we do say that it will require a very long record of successful results to restore the world's faith in the loyalty of her professions. England, too, disavowed any intention of occupying Egypt finally. People doubted her good faith, because they understood the vital nature of the problem she had to solve. They understood that she had interests at stake incomparably greater than France had in Tunis; so great that her abstinence with regard to Egypt had always been spoken of with contempt by old-fashioned statesmen. They even said, and do still say, that she never really intended to leave Egypt, and that her professions of such an intention were a mere blind. Yet Mr. GLADSTONE was so true to his word that when the trouble in the Soudan suddenly assumed alarming proportions, all the English troops, with the exception of three thousand, had left Egypt. If HICKS PASHA, instead of suffering, had inflicted, defeat, and if the Soudan, with all the contingencies which its unrestrained condition implies,

had passed definitively under Egyptian control, we should probably have heard less and less about English hypocrisy and vacillation. Not that anything Great Britain could have done on the banks of the Nile would have escaped hostile criticism in Europe. Men who could clamour against her for going to Egypt because they suspected that she meant to stay there, and afterwards clamour against her for not justifying their suspicions by avowing her resolve to stay there, would not have been likely, under any circumstances, to admit her sincerity or wisdom. But now that events have forced Mr. GLADSTONE'S hand, people forget altogether the resolute effort he made to be consistent, and would fain hold him responsible for all the disasters that occur outside Egypt Proper, because he has hitherto hesitated to break faith with Europe, and to expose his country to the same reproaches which were showered upon France's head when she took Tunis.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

ANOTHER WARNING VOICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Oh, the apathy of this generation. The warning notes we sounded have, seemingly, had no effect upon those interested. Why is it! Can it be possible that hope is dead within our bosoms? Are our hearts faint in view of the overwhelming disaster threatening us? Woe be unto us, and our house, if we fail to give due warning to our fellows. We supposed, when we gave to the public our first bugle-note of danger ahead, that Yokohama would be convulsed with the urgent importance of immediate action commensurate with the issue under consideration; that meetings would be called, and all necessary platform strategy provided; orators engaged; banners painted, bearing the legends of our fears and, declaring our determination, never, never, never to submit to outrage in this matter. We can see why it is that tariff regulations may be allowed to be amended in accordance with the wishes of the Japanese, because, although they will suffer great hardship thereby, our withers are unwrung, but in this matter of extra-territoriality is wrapt up our most vital interests; interests we should not forego if we can maintain possibly them. We know that the *Mail* has spoken favorably, nay, encouragingly of the abolishment of extra-territoriality. But let that pass. We will pardon the delusion for the time, but shall expect a recantation when sober second thoughts are allowed full sway, consequent upon the presentation of our views. Can it be possible that anyone can be deceived as to the result that may follow the abrogation of extraterritorial rights? Can it be that anyone is so obtuse as not to discover the deep and devilish insincerity of this people, and the duplicity with which they are animated? Oh! the cunning of this people is so deep it cannot be fathomed; just look about you and see the manifold evidences of the fact. Observe the vast outlay of treasure that has been made to effect the introduction of the arts and sciences into the land; witness the colleges and universities the Japanese have established; count the number of learned professors they have brought from Western lands to instruct the youth of the empire in the most advanced knowledge of the schools. Contemplate the vast machinery of their postal arrangements, and the clean work-

ing of their telegraphic system; then contemplate the iron roads they have laid, and those about to be constructed at the expense of millions of money; the Courts they have established, Custom Houses they have erected, and in fine, remember all the vast changes of governmental methods introduced with the era of the present Emperor. Do not all these things alarm the thinking observer? Can you not, as well as others, see a deep and ulterior scheme in all this to bring ruin and desolation upon foreigners who may be venturesome enough to trust themselves in the land? Can you be blind to the inference that all this has been the subtle outgrowth of a disguised determination to make practical use thereof at the needed moment, when it shall be determined that the day has arrived in which the full measure of wrath shall be launched upon the heads of the foreigners here? Besides this; can you suppose that the army, organized as it is, and so well equipped, was brought into being for any other purpose than as an instrument to effect the extirpation of our kind? Or that the navy has been created for other objects than to bombard and destroy our property, or that the local government have placed an elaborate system of sewers for other intent than to fill them with our gore in that supreme moment when extra-territoriality shall be a thing of yesterday? Can it be that you observe in the macadamised streets so lately finished by the native authorities anything but highways for the conveyance of our trunkless bodies, that they may be cast into the sea, while our heads shall decorate the lamp posts and telegraph poles in the settlement? Go to, you are blind indeed if you cannot see all this. Learn of the *Herald* and be wise. Heed it as your friend and be wise in time. We noticed the other day that General Oyama and suite left Japan for Europe. Cannot you imagine the object of his visit there? Do you not see at a glance that it is a further elaboration of the delusion and the snare by which we are being entrapped? Good gracious, it is enough to make an angel weep to look at the devilish stratagem that is played so often by the government in the elaborate style it entertains its foreign guests. To begin as late as the demonstration of friendly feeling exhibited when General Grant visited the empire, how many instances have we of the devilish cunning of these entertainers—oh, yes, they understand deluding us and putting us to sleep in a way that cannot be surpassed. The very genuineness of these appearances of heartfelt courtesy is enough to give the whole thing away to those who know all about it. But it is time to come back to our muttons. We have a duty to perform to ourselves and to the men who may come after us. We must tell the men and women of Japan that they are not competent to deal justly with foreigners; that the Government is corrupt, that officials are without honor; that Judges are venal; that virtue is an unknown quantity with the peoples of the East, and truth without an abiding place in the Land of the Rising Sun. We can do more than that, we can brand any one who thinks he can discover any good appertaining to the country a dastard and traitor to the interests of his fellows, and if he dare utter his thoughts, scout him as an ingrate and Judas among men. We should be as brutal as possible in this matter.

Yours, &c.,

ANXIOUS WARNER.

Yokohama, March 5th, 1884.

MR. EBY'S NEW SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A wish has been expressed in some quarters to have Mr. Eby's University scheme thoroughly discussed from all points of view, and by others than those directly engaged in Christian work in the country. As we are interested in the question we venture to offer a few remarks in your journal.

In the first place, we have tried in vain to discover any example of the successful co-existence of two universities in one city. All experience seems to teach that however large a city may be, one, and only one, university can flourish there. There are indeed two examples of such attempts to found rival universities. The Roman Catholic University of Ireland, with plenty of money and learning at its back, has been nothing but a failure; and the same is to be said of the Roman Catholic University which was inaugurated some dozen years ago at Kensington, London. Every advantage that patronage and a cultured and learned staff could give was present; the whole undertaking wanted but one thing, and that was life. It seems to us that a University grows but is not made. To found a University without knowing exactly what class of students will come, what has been their previous education, and what is to be their subsequent career, is a very rash proceeding. We must remember that none of the large business houses in our great cities have been commenced on their present scale; all have grown like a living organism by assimilation and development. Now universities and colleges are every whit as dependent on supply and demand as are commercial undertakings. That the Higher Education is not self supporting in no way contradicts this principle. A Government which can provide careers, may found an institution which will attract students, but this only at great expense. Tokiyo is already supplied with a national university which has grown with the growth of the Capital, suiting itself to the conditions, social and political, of the country. Why then found another?

Because, it is urged, the present university is hostile to Christianity. This would be a valid argument if Christian students were debarred from its lecture halls, or Christian professors not admitted to its chairs. Now we know that such is not the case. Christian missionaries have been professors in Tokiyo University, and a Christian minister might at any time hold a chair there if he were considered the man best qualified for the post. If Mr. Eby, therefore, succeeded in founding a new university on a Christian basis, he would raise a religious antagonism that is at present non-existent. The test system is everywhere dying out, as it has been found fruitful in the nursing of incapable professors and indifferent students, and injurious to the true vitality of a university. Where, further, does Mr. Eby hope to get a supply of properly qualified entrants? The Mission Schools here, though doing a good work, are as yet not thoroughly organised for the work for which they are intended. Their students are in too many cases casuals, who drop in for three months or so, in order to get an understanding of English "as she is spoke." The work is acknowledged to be very disappointing by the teachers themselves. The Government colleges are the goal of nearly all aspiring scholars.

Again, the Government colleges are mere gateways to Government posts. No man in Japan can set up as an engineer, architect, lawyer, or doctor, unless he is a functionary of the Government. Independent careers are impossible in the present state of the country. Though we may deplore a strong anti-Christian feeling among the students of the Daigaku, as well might we deplore the spirit of any body of young men at any national university, who happened not to be Protestant Christians. As many Christian students as are capable of proving themselves fit for admission into the Daigaku can enter there, and there is nothing to prevent the tone of Tokiyo university being Christian in half a dozen years. The Daigaku in that case would only be, as it is now, a reflex of the tone of feeling in the country. That Christian students at present have to undergo a considerable amount of ridicule and wordy persecution is no new thing, and is no argument for providing them with a separate nursery with specially adapted food and the latest improvements in fire-guards. Special Colleges where Literature, Science, and Philosophy are taught

explicitly from a theological point of view, are miserable institutions.

This proposed university would therefore have religious tests for its professors, a barbarous relic of the past which is happily absent from the present university. It would depend for its supply of students on a number of mission schools which have no prospect of yielding such a supply. It could offer no career to its graduates; and lastly, and perhaps this is the most important objection of all, it would be under the dictation of foreigners, and the exponent of a religion which has been hated for centuries. How such an institution could form an university in the remotest way national it is hard to understand. The mere fact that 12 or 14 professors would teach there in English is a very small attraction to balance so many repulsive forces. A high class Seminary *may* be founded and prove useful, for such does not need to be national or even non-sectarian. We therefore rather hope to see the present Mission Schools elevated into good secondary schools, from which the present University may be fed. The difficulties in attaining even this stage are by no means few.

We remain, &c.,

FERREX AND PORREX.

Tôkiô, March 10th.

"FERREX AND PORREX."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Before "taking up my pen" to answer the letter of "Ferrex and Porrex," I would like to ask you one or two questions. You, sir, have some knowledge of Japan, and are not "directly engaged in Christian work in the country" so far as I know, and would therefore come under the category of those whose opinions are asked for. Your experience may help to thoroughness.

1. Taking this letter of "Ferrex and Porrex" as a whole, do you think it properly states "Mr. Eby's scheme" or the outline proposed by the Conferences as published in a little pamphlet? If this letter indicates the prevalent impression about our "scheme," we must try some how or other to restate the matter, so as to meet the comprehension of others, for to me the whole presentation of the letter is a "Man of Straw" in no wise related to the "Christian University" proposed.

2. Are the views of your correspondents correct, as far as they have ventured to make statements about this country and its institutions? (1) Are the Government colleges "mere gateways to Government posts"? If so, we have a new reason for some colleges that will aim at educating young men in a broader way. (2) Can no man in Japan "set up as an engineer, architect, lawyer, or doctor, unless he is a Government functionary? What are the facts? (3) Is it true that "independent careers are impossible in the present state of the country," or are not careers as open for independent men in Japan as in Scotland?

3. Is it on account of the test system which prevailed until a few years ago, or of having a rival university in the same country, that Oxford, Cambridge, and Trinity College, Dublin, have been "fruitful in nursing incapable professors and indifferent students."

4. Can you distinguish any difference between a university giving instruction under Christian influence, where there are no tests for the students, and none but the broad one of Christianity vs. paganism for the professors, and from which all theological questions are explicitly excluded, and "Special Colleges where Literature, Science, and Philosophy are taught explicitly from a theological point of view?"

I should be glad of an answer to these questions, and thankful for any further light that you may be able to throw on a question, in the *thorough* discussion of which no one is more interested than

Yours truly,

C. S. EBY.

Tokio, 13th March, 1884.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Cricket Club was held yesterday afternoon at the Club Hotel, when there were present about forty members. Mr. Barlow was voted to the chair and opened the meeting by asking Mr. Kilby, the Hon. Secretary to read the minutes of the last annual meeting. This having been done, the Chairman said they were open for discussion.

No remarks being made upon them they were taken as passed.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the following report of the Committee of the Club and the Accounts:—

YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB. ANNUAL REPORT.

During the past Season the Club has had to contend with the disadvantage of Saturday Mail-days, which has naturally affected the Club's Matches, and the flying visits of the Men of War have also made outside matches difficult to arrange, but still a fair number of games were played.

Mr. W. B. Thomson secured the highest averages—In Batting for 19.2 runs per innings and bowling, 1 wicket for 3.5 runs.

The special Cricket practices on Tuesday evenings were fairly successful and usually produced a good attendance. Considerable interest has been shown in Lawn Tennis and the Bye-laws for the game suggested at a meeting of those interested, on the 10th August and approved by the Committee are found to work satisfactorily.

The Subscribers to the Spring Athletic Meeting, 1883, were authorized to use the ground for practice and for their Meeting on 7th June, and the Committee here beg to acknowledge the receipt of a donation of \$16.10 from the Athletic Committee towards the funds of the Club.

In accordance with the proposition carried at the last General Meeting, colours have been ordered for the Club from England and flannel and ribbon of these colours are shortly expected. A roller has also been imported at a cost of \$65.69, which should prove a useful addition to the Club property.

The ground, though in fair order, is not in that condition that the Committee would desire to see it, and apparently requires a considerable expenditure to make the whole of the ground in playing order, but further than keeping it in general repair the Committee have not seen their way to authorize unusual expenditure, as the cost of levelling and relaying a great part of the turf would probably amount to from \$200 to \$250.

The funds of the Club show a balance in hand of \$130.00, which is \$27.81 less than the balance carried forward from last year. With 70 members now on the list the receipts for the coming season are not likely to be diminished, and as the buildings and gear are in good order the ordinary expenses are likely to be on a moderate scale.

The Committee here beg to thank the local press for so kindly inserting notices of matches, and to Messrs. Hamilton and Murray for auditing the accounts.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH E. FLINT KILBY, HONORARY TREASURER.

CR.	
By Balance from last account (27 March, 1883)	\$157.81
By Subscriptions 1882, 3 Tokiyo Residents	18.00
By Subscriptions 1883, 4 Tokiyo Residents	24.00
By Subscriptions first half Season, 63 members	315.00
By Subscriptions second half Season, 62 members	310.00
By Entrance fees 11 members	55.00
By Donation from Athletic Committee	16.10
By Kobe Cricket Club 12 balls sold them	23.00
By Kobe Cricket Club 2 bats sold them	8.50
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Interest on Deposit \$300, 3 mos.	2.25
By Yokohama Foot Ball Association, rent of ground	45.00
	\$974.66

DR.	
To Advertising and post-cards	\$ 7.40
To Gear purchased	87.40
To Match expenses	26.80
To Collecting subscriptions	17.50
To Repairing Lawn mowers	15.00
To New Roller	65.69
To Fire Insurance on Pavilion \$600	12.00
To Ground Rent to 31st December, 1884	275.26
To New hat for Mr. Hearne	2.00
To Coolies rolling and weeding	Yen 89.45
To Chalk for marking Tennis Courts	35.05
To Sundries per Momban	21.05
To Mould, etc., for ground	28.50
To Wages Momban and assistant	138.00
To Wages Tennis boys	25.32
To Carpenter, repairs to fence and pavilion, alterations to dressing-rooms, etc.	72.23

At average exchange 1.22 per \$1.00 Yen 410.80 335.61
Balance carried forward 130.00

1884. March 5th—By Balance brought forward, Cash in hand \$130.00

E. & O. E. Yokohama, 5th March, 1884.

(Signed) E. FLINT KILBY, Honorary Treasurer.

Examined with the vouchers and found correct.

(Signed) GEO. HAMILTON.

E. D. MURRAY.

Mr. COPE proposed that the report be accepted and the accounts passed.

Mr. SHAND seconded the motion, and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that this being the annual meeting any member had a right to propose the improvement of any of the Bye-laws so long as it did not alter any general rule of the Club. In accordance with rule XXV. notice had been given of

several alterations and additions to the Rules intended to be brought forward at this meeting. These were printed and in the hands of the members.

Mr. F. W. PLAYFAIR proposed that Rule XIII. that the Club Ground be open for practice during the season every day, except Sundays and such other days as the Committee may appoint, should read:—That the Club Ground be open every day during the season, except on certain days for sufficient cause shown by the Committee. He also proposed that Rule XXV. as follows, be expunged:—

XXV.—That any member intending to bring forward at the Annual General Meeting any proposition altering or adding to these Rules, shall give notice to the Honorary Secretary in writing on or before 1st March, stating the nature of such alteration or addition, and that the same be circulated amongst the members.

Mr. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR proposed that the words "Sundays and" and "other" be expunged from Rule XIII.

Dr. WHEELER proposed as an amendment that the old Rule XIII. should stand. He presumed that the majority of the members were Christians, and therefore thought they would support him.

Mr. E. J. MOSS seconded the amendment.

Mr. COPE said he agreed with what Dr. Wheeler had said, they might not all be Christians, but he thought it would be a bad precedent. Moreover he wished to point out that Mr. Playfair's motion would give the Committee power to close the ground on Sundays as well as any other day.

Mr. PLAYFAIR said it was not a matter of Christianity or of sentiment, "it was simply a question whether they could get a little healthful recreation on a holiday or not. He did not ask others to play, but there were members who might wish to use the ground. The members of the Rowing Club went out on a Sunday and no objection was offered. The Club was private ground, and many people play in their own grounds at Lawn Tennis on a Sunday, others go shooting, etc. "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath."

Mr. GORDON thought that if Mr. F. W. Playfair, it might meet the case.

Mr. KIRBY considered it would be a pity to take a double vote.

Mr. KIRKWOOD said the Committee had put the Club in such a prosperous condition and had such a knowledge of its working that he wished to know whether they had formed any opinion on the question, as the members would no doubt be partially guided by them.

The CHAIRMAN said it was hardly a question for the Committee to discuss, each member must vote as he thought fit.

After some remarks from Mr. KINGDON and Dr. WHEELER,

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said that sentiment, so called, had brought together a larger number of members than had even met before. The question of opening the ground on Sundays or not might be a matter of sentiment, but he considered it had a wider drift. The Cricket Club was an English institution, and it ought to be looked at from an English point of view. If the ground were opened for practice then it would be opened for matches. Sabbath was made for man some one had said, but it was made for all men, Japanese as well as foreigners, and if matches were played there would be so many more employed, not only on the ground, but by people coming down in their carriages, etc.

Mr. PLAYFAIR replied that his proposition said nothing about matches, it was simply a matter of exercise.

The CHAIRMAN put the amendment that Rule XIII. remain as it was, remarking that two years ago the Sunday question was raised and lost, but perhaps the members had changed their minds.

The amendment on being put to the meeting was lost by 23 to 16.

Mr. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR then withdrew his proposition.

Mr. F. W. PLAYFAIR withdrew his proposition as

to Rule XXV., and amended his proposition as to Rule XIII. which was put to the meeting and carried. It now reads as follows:—"That the Club ground be open every day during the Season, except on such days as the Committee may appoint."

Mr. KILBY proposed the five following alterations in the Rules:—

- 1.—That the Subscription to the Club, be \$5 half-yearly, payable on 1st January and 1st July.
- 2.—That members joining after 1st April or 1st October pay half of the current half-yearly subscription.
- 3.—That Tokio Residents be eligible for membership under Rules IX. and XI. at half the Subscription of Yokohama Members.
- 4.—That 1st March be substituted for 1st June in Rule XIV.
- 5.—That Members desiring occasionally to introduce Residents, not Members of the Club, may do so by putting names and dates on a notice paper posted in the Pavilion.

The existing Rules Nos. XII. and XIV. read as follows:—

XII.—That the subscription to the Club be Ten Dollars per annum; half payable on the 1st April, the other half on the 1st August.

XIV.—That all funds of the Yokohama Cricket Club be lodged in the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, and that any Member failing to pay his subscription for the first half season before 1st June, and for the second half before 1st September in each year, shall be no longer entitled to the privileges of Membership, and shall be posted in the pavilion as a defaulter, unless he can give satisfactory reasons for the delay to the Committee.

He remarked that the rules as at present were very vague as to whether a member joining in the middle of the year should pay for the whole year. He proposed to change the date of the subscriptions as at present, this year's subscriptions went to pay next years' ground-rent, and by altering the date it would give the in-coming committee a little in hand to carry on with and each year would pay for itself. As to Tokiyo members, at present they come in under the visitors rule, the same as people from the men-of-war, and pay \$1.00 a month without any entrance fee and therefore have no vote in Club matters. By his proposition they would have a status in the Club.

Mr. ABBOTT seconded the propositions.

The CHAIRMAN said he only agreed with Mr. Kilby in the principal that it was a bad thing for the treasurer to be out of pocket at the end of the year. He thought if the date for the payment of the ground-rent was altered that it would do away with all difficulties. January, he believed, would not be a good time to collect Cricket money. Again according to Mr. Kilby's second proposition a member joining in April would pay \$2.50 for the half of the first half of the year and \$5 for the second half of the year, in all for the season \$7.50 whereas the regular members paid \$10.00. A Club that had been built up as this had should not let new members in at a cheaper rate than old ones. He proposed that (1) "The subscription to the Club be \$10 per annum, half payable on the 1st April and half on the 1st August. (2) "That members joining after 1st August to pay half of the current yearly subscription."

Seconded by Mr. MILNE and carried.

Mr. MILNE also seconded No. 3 of Mr. Kilby's propositions which was carried.

Mr. KILBY withdrew No. 4, and said that as to No. 5 the idea was to get people to come down and join in a game after which they might be induced to join the Club. There was no rule on the subject at present and it might save trouble if one were made.

Mr. SHAND seconded the proposition, but it was lost.

Mr. HAMILTON asked whether any proposition had come before the Committee as to holding an Athletic meeting. The members of the Boat-Club would like to know, being interested.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not know of any such proposition.

The Ballot was then taken for a Committee for the ensuing year which resulted in the election of Messrs. Milne, Durant, Groom, Cope, and Hearne.

The meeting then adjourned.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

WRESTLERS AND UMPIRES IN JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

Wrestling matches date back as far as the sixth year of the Emperor Suinin (B.C. 24), when, for the first time on record, a match was arranged between two court nobles; one of the combatants, Taima-no-keha, being a man of immense stature, and the other wrestler an athlete known as Nomi-no-sukune. On one occasion, the ascension to the throne of Japan was decided by a wrestling contest. This happened in the days of the Emperor Buntoku (A.D. 858). His two sons, Koreshto and Koretaka, both claimed the right of inheriting the imperial power, but finally resolved to test their mutual claims in a wrestling combat, the winner to be the sole inheritor of the throne. The match terminated in favour of Koreshto, who succeeded his father under the style of Seiwa. In the eighth century, when Nara was the capital of Japan, the Emperor Seimu instituted wrestling matches as a part of the ceremonies observed at the Autumn Harvest Festival. Strong men came from all parts of the country to contend in these famous matches, and one Shiga Kiyobashi was crowned champion. In the meantime, rules for the ring had been drawn up, and wrestlers divided into two classes, Eastern and Western. The former chose the wisteria as their badge or emblem, while the latter took the gourd-flower (*hiyotan-no-hana*). Forty-eight legitimate grips were recognised, but no trickery or cheating was allowed. Any grips other than the recognized forty-eight were, and are still, considered foul and illegal. To decide upon, and prevent, disputes, the office of umpire was established, and the first holder of this office was the champion Kiyobashi. Shortly afterwards, civil wars broke out, which very nearly put an end to the noble game. Soon after its re-establishment under the Emperor Toba, the famous Kiyobashi died, and Yoshida Iyetsugu was called upon to assume the important position of umpire. From that date the office of umpire became an honorable one, as well as one of great responsibility. Yoshida Bungo-no-kami Iyetsugu, the successor of Kiyobashi, was a vassal of Kiso Yoshinaka, and a native of Yechizen. He was famous for his athletic prowess, was granted the rank of *Goi*, and received the title of *Oikaze*, "Running Wind." The honorary emblems of his office consisted of a fan and a wooden sword. This period—the second year of Bunji (1186)—is renowned in the annals of athletics. Matches were annually arranged in the month of July, under the direct supervision of Oikaze. His office was made hereditary, and for many generations was held by his descendants. Oikaze died on the 20th of April in the first year of Tempuku, at the ripe age of eighty-two. His second, third, fourth, and fifth successors adopted the same name; the sixth was known as Chozayemon; the seventh, Chokichiro; the eighth, Chohachiro; the ninth and tenth, Chodayu; the eleventh, Chojibei; the twelfth, Chozayemon; and the thirteenth, Chosuke. All of these famed umpires lived in Osaka. Later on, although wrestling exhibitions were still given at Nara, the game lost much of its former renown, the ring having become demoralized. Disputes were of frequent occurrence, much to the injury of wrestling. At the age of 18, Chosuke went to the then capital Kiyoto, and, with the aid of certain officials, did much towards mending matters. Some little time after his arrival, in the era Yeiroku (1558), the Emperor Ogimachi inaugurated wrestling matches at his Court, under the direction of Chosuke, who appeared in the ring under the style of Bungo-no-kami Oikaze. Still, wrestling had lost much of its pristine attractions. One day, Nijo, a privy councillor attached to the Court, invited Cho-

suke to his house, and presented him with a fan on which four characters were engraved: *Ichimi sei fu*. Konoye, another privy councillor, presented him with a fan and a court dress. During the era Ten-sho (1573), Nobunaga instituted military wrestling matches, which were presided over by Oikaze. Hideyoshi followed his example, and was a famous patron of the game. Iyeyasu was another enthusiastic supporter of wrestling, and by the interest he took in it did much to further its success. At this time wrestling was in the zenith of its popularity. Oikaze died on the 11th of October, in the 17th year of Keicho (1612), and was succeeded in office by his grandson Chozayemon-no-kami Oikaze, his immediate heir Toyosuke having died before him. Chozayemon, the fourteenth descendent of Yoshida, was then seventeen years old. He lived in Kiyoto, and always presided over the matches held at the Court. The Emperor presented him with a fan, in recognition of his services, and the councillor Nijo gave him a roll of brocade. In the era Genwa (1615), the Toshogu festival was celebrated by the Earl of Wakayama, when, as a matter of course, wrestling matches formed an important part of the festivities. Oikaze presided as usual, and received a sword and a hempen *Kamishimo* as a reward for his able management. He died on the 11th of May of the second year of Meireki (1656), at the age of fifty-five. As he had never married, he had no direct heir to succeed him, and so had adopted the second son of Oya Hachizayemon. But as this adopted son was still very youthful, he was placed under the guardianship of Shakushi Shigetayu. By this time wrestling had lost much of its former popularity, and matches were no longer held at the Imperial Court. Oikaze's heir accordingly entered the service of the House of Hosokawa, under the name of Zenzayemon. He still, however, held the right to preside over the ring, and reward successful wrestlers with the accustomed insignia. He died on the 3rd of February in the 13th year of Genroku (1700). The sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth descendents of Yoshida were all named Zenzayemon. In June of the 3rd year of Kwansei (1791), Tokugawa Iyemochi held a wrestling match at Fukiage Park, and gave a silver box to the umpire as a token of his favour. In the sixth year of the same period, a wrestling exhibition was given at the Hama Palace. On the 8th of October in the first year of Bunsei (1818), the nineteenth descendent of the great Yoshida Zenzayemon, departed this life, the twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second successors held the same name. The twenty-third descendent, the present representative of the House of Yoshida, is named Zenmon. This family is thus above six hundred and ninety years old. The presents given to his ancestors by the Emperors Toba and Ogimachi, as well as the gifts of the privy councillors Konoye and Nijo, are still preserved among the family heirlooms.

MIXED RESIDENCE.

(Translated from the *Meiji Nippo*.)

Nearly ten years ago the propriety of permitting foreigners to reside anywhere in the interior was earnestly discussed by thinking men. Ere long, however, the public ceased to interest itself in the subject, and little was subsequently heard about it. But of late the question has been again brought upon the *tapis*. Not only is it discussed by journalists and lecturers, but even in private circles it furnishes a constant topic of conversation. Doubtless the origin of this revived interest may be traced mainly to foreign correspondence and items in the foreign press. Specially worthy of note is the fact that the President of the United States said, in his annual Message on the 3rd of December last, that the United States Government is disposed to accede to the proposals of Japan; to restore to her the right of regulating her own tariff, as well as jurisdiction over foreign residents, and, in short, to

revise the treaty with her so as to bring it into accord with those of other civilized nations. (The writer then recapitulates the reference to treaty revision made in the Queen's speech; the telegram referring to the German Government's assent to Japan's proposals, and the telegram from the special correspondent of the *Daily News*). The above announcements, with, perhaps, the exception of the last, have an important bearing upon the subject of treaty revision, and although they do not specially refer to the question of mixed residence, it seems probable that they have again directed the attention of our countrymen to that problem. Whether or no they are based on facts, we cannot say. Neither are we disposed to comment on them before they are officially announced, since they refer to points of diplomacy which demand the utmost circumspection. Nevertheless the question of mixed residence is of great moment, and the interest the public feels in it will plead our justification for examining it,—always, however, without prejudice to the secrecy which ought to be observed in referring to diplomatic matters still under discussion.

As we before stated, some ten years have elapsed since this question was first discussed, and although it then elicited various criticisms and arguments, a definite and satisfactory solution was never arrived at. The advocates of mixed residence confined themselves to enumerating the benefits that would accrue from such a policy, while its opponents did not travel beyond the disadvantages that might result from it. This, indeed, is the legitimate method of considering a question on its merits. We have nothing to say against it. But it behoves us at present to enquire, in the context of the good or evil of the idea, how it has originated; what are its principal bearings; and what will be the probable consequences of promoting or opposing it.

With regard to the origin of the idea, we are disposed, looking at the matter from an outside point of view, to refer it to the announcements quoted above, though of their correctness or incorrectness we know nothing. If this surmise be admitted, it is plain that the idea is connected with treaty revision, though of the exact nature of the connection we are, again, ignorant. Judging, however, from the tenor of the announcements, our inference is that the Government has agreed to exchange the opening of the country for the satisfaction of certain claims advanced on this side. Rumours, current during the past three years, are to the effect that the claims of the Government in connection with treaty revision point to the abolition of extritoriality and to a modification of the tariff. Our countrymen have long and vigorously pursued their purpose with regard to these two points, and have frequently urged the Government to take decisive action. We conclude, therefore, that the project of mixed residence must have originated in a desire to accomplish a revision of the treaties, and that, should Western Powers consent to revise them in the sense we desire, the opening of the country is offered as a *quid pro quo*. The opponents of mixed residence have, accordingly, to take this circumstance into consideration, and to determine whether treaty revision can be effected without conceding the right of residence to foreigners, or whether any other satisfactory compensation can be offered for the proposed modifications. If no other compensation exists, and if treaty revision becomes, therefore, impossible, they have to decide which will be more beneficial to them—to open the country or to dispense with revision.

It has to be noticed that the existing treaties between our country and Foreign Powers were not concluded on equal terms, inasmuch as they were negotiated at a time when we were still unfamiliar with the outer world. It is clearly comprehended, both by aliens and natives, that one of the contracting parties was in a position to obtain, by stipulation, greater advantages than the other. Yet as those stipulations were entered into by mutual consent, we are bound to observe them patiently.

There is no alternative for us but to obtain a revision after mutual consultation. But that men should be unwilling to resign advantages they have once acquired, is perfectly natural. To obtain justice in the face of prejudice is a difficult feat. Therefore it is that Western States devise various pretexts with a view to postponing the revision of the treaties, although, as a point of abstract justice, they ought to restore our fiscal and judicial rights at once. Whenever the question comes to be logically discussed, right is on our side. But the world of our day is, for the most part, ruled by prejudice. Reason and right have but a limited sway, and it often happens that the demands of justice cannot be satisfied. All this has been well illustrated in the story of the efforts made by our Government to secure treaty revision. To obtain for ourselves the benefit of having our fiscal and judicial powers restored, we must adopt some means of conferring benefits on the Treaty Powers. If, without contriving such means, we were simply to assert that the desired revision of the treaties is based on principles of justice, and that whatever profit may accrue to us, we are in no way equitably bound to give an equivalent, our contention would present, indeed, a noble and commendable aspect, but from a practical point of view, it would be nothing better than an abstract opinion, nor have any more solid character than a castle in the air. The time may come, perhaps, where such an argument will command attention, but its present impotence is patent to all those who have any knowledge of the relative conditions of Japan and foreign Powers. Treaty revision, however, is a thing of the present, and must be dealt with according to the actual circumstances of the time. Since no means exist of obtaining our object without offering foreigners some *quid pro quo*, measures must be adopted to that end. What, then, shall those measure be? That is the question we have to answer. We learn that, from time to time, foreigners have complained of the difficulty of obtaining passports when they desire to visit the interior. Shall this restriction be removed, so as to allow them to travel freely without passports? Doubtless they would gladly accept the privilege, but certainly they would not be satisfied with it as a compensation for treaty revision. This will need no demonstration in the eyes of those who are at all familiar with foreign ideas. Complaints, again, are made about the small area of the treaty limits. Shall the limits be extended, so that foreigners may travel freely throughout the enlarged districts? This, too, they would regard as a boon, but it would not satisfy them as a *quid pro quo*. Some are disposed to think that the desired equivalent is only to be found in trade privileges, and that as the benefits specified above refer to freedom of personal travel alone, they will not meet the prime purpose of foreigners, namely, commercial gain. The expediency is, therefore, mooted of opening two or three more ports, and thus extending commercial opportunities. This idea deserves attention, because it is evidently suggested by familiarity with western sentiments. Beyond all question, the object for which foreigners chiefly strive is trade profit. In addition to the present ports, the opening of a few others,—say Tsuruga, Shimomoseki, Shimidzu, and Nobiru—is earnestly desired by them as a means of promoting the mutual advantages of foreign commerce. Should, then, the opening of these ports be accepted as an equivalent for the revision of the treaties, we might congratulate ourselves heartily, because whatever prosperity results from the proceeding would not belong to foreigners alone, but would evidently be shared by us. In short, while the recovery of our independent rights would be a distinct gain, the price paid for it, namely, the opening of the ports, would be a gain also. A most happy result in truth! In the interests of our country we hope that foreigners would be content with such an equivalent. And, indeed, having regard to the actual conditions under which trade is carried on with the

present number of open ports, we cannot doubt that foreigners will be disposed to ask for the opening of more. But that they would be satisfied with this concession, we do not for a moment believe.

Doubtless foreigners would desire to see additional ports opened, as likely to promote their commercial prosperity, and any request from us for a revision of the treaties would certainly be met by a request from them to that effect. But we are inclined to think that they would not be satisfied with the opening of a few ports only. For it is by no means sure that trade would be much influenced by an addition to the number of ports already open. That such a measure would confer some benefit need not be questioned. But since trade prosperity depends as much on the volume of productions as on purchasing facilities, an approximate idea of the results that would be produced by opening new ports may be formed by examining the commercial condition of those already open. Foreigners are too shrewd to have failed to draw their own deductions from the circumstances already before them. They have, without doubt, considered the question deeply. We will set down here a table, taken from the Annual Statistical Report, showing the amount of the exports and imports at the various open ports from 1874 to 1881:—

YEAR.	YOKOHAMA. YEN.	KOBE. YEN.	OSAKA. YEN.
1874	28,056,026	7,825,283	884,435
1875	35,000,437	8,117,275	830,534
1876	40,352,505	7,178,982	510,968
1877	36,658,075	8,866,847	699,611
1878	40,137,133	12,422,820	651,500
1879	42,479,585	12,518,101	898,737
1880	44,921,023	13,171,566	140,209
1881	42,726,692	12,655,050	1,722,366
Average	38,592,192	10,344,490	950,098

YEAR.	NAGASAKI. YEN.	HAKODATE. YEN.	NIIGATA. YEN.
1874	3,416,652	295,323	8,909
1875	3,534,879	433,759	20,647
1876	2,648,658	497,194	1,470
1877	3,652,898	497,675	23,999
1878	3,902,751	735,633	591,696
1879	3,708,724	696,950	48,405
1880	3,598,259	970,986	493
1881	3,383,428	971,901	891
Average	3,480,781	637,427	87,056

YEAR.	TOTALS. YEN.
1874	40,486,528
1875	47,943,558
1876	51,189,837
1877	50,399,155
1878	58,441,533
1879	60,350,509
1880	61,004,906
1881	61,460,328
Average	54,292,044

From the above table it will be seen that trade has been most prosperous in Yokohama and Kobe, and that Nagasaki comes next, while virtual stagnation is noticeable in the case of Osaka, the figure for which place only reached a million *yen* in one year, a fact which is probably attributable to the unfavourable situation of the port as well as its vicinity to Kobe. As to Hakodate, its annual average does not exceed seven hundred thousand *yen*; and Niigata's case is the most significant of all, its maximum figure during the eight years under review being less than seven hundred thousand *yen*, and its minimum 400, with correspondingly small figures in the interval. We may say, therefore, that Niigata is not worthy to be called an open port, while with regard to the whole six ports, the average annual value of their total foreign commerce is only fifty-four million *yen*. Of this total the united trades of Yokohama and Kobe constitute more than ninety per cent. In other words, if we suppose, to fix our ideas, that the total foreign commerce of Japan is represented by 100, then Yokohama and Kobe together are represented by 90, and the other four ports, by 10, while of this latter figure, again, Nagasaki alone contributes 6.4. The insignificance of the trade at ports other than Yokohama and Kobe is thus clearly demonstrated.

Such being the case with regard to the six ports already open, it is exceedingly doubtful whether any other ports, if opened, would attain the same degree of prosperity as Yokohama and Kobe. In fact we see no reason why more ports should be opened, unless the resources of the country be developed and the amount of exportable products increased.

On that hypothesis alone could the prosperity of the new ports be expected to compare with that of Yokohama or Kobe. For our own part, we cannot persuade ourselves that the time is ripe for such a measure. We believe that the opening of new ports would have no specially beneficial effect, but that their trade would remain much in the same depressed condition as that of Niigata is at present. In all probability foreigners, now that they are familiar with the actual circumstances of our

commerce, have concluded that it will never attain the dimensions they originally hoped and contemplated. A German writer, recently discussing the commerce of the Orient, said that Japan's trade is of little international importance, and that the extent of her country as well as the number of its inhabitants being far inferior to those of China, or British India, it is not to be expected that her commercial importance will ever be comparable with theirs. According to another German statement, the average annual value of Japanese exports and imports between 1868 and 1871 was 74 million gulden; between 1872 and 1875 it reached 88 millions; from 1876 to 1880, it rose to 115 millions, while the customs returns show that in 1881 it increased to 120 millions. The increase was insignificant, and in the latter years a decline, even, was perceptible. The author of these statements goes on to say:—"We have hoped that matters would mend in this respect, but the facts before us oblige us to confess that the foreign trade of the country has always been without vitality, and that up to the present it has failed to show any improvement. The cause of this is probably to be found in financial conditions. The depreciation of the paper currency as well as its severe fluctuations have, on the one hand, seriously impeded the operations, of commerce, and, on the other, tempted prominent merchants to engage in speculative operations which, in many cases, have eventuated disastrously. These things, we say, are in all probability the reason that Japan's trade with the West is considerable. She has an abundance of products which are in demand in China and America, but her exports to Europe do not exceed one third of the total she sends to the two former countries, while from them also she chiefly receives her imports. The insignificance of her foreign trade is probably the cause of her imperfect relations with Western States. For many years, too, she has been purchasing foreign goods to a considerable amount, in connection with the many reforms she has made, so that her exports and imports have not been in equilibrium. The excess of the latter over the former between 1868 and 1880 reached a hundred and fifty million yen, and she has still to pay interest on foreign loans, so that, since 1872, she has exported specie to the amount of 120 million gulden. Under these circumstances the expectations formed about Japan's prospects must be pronounced fallacious. Her financial affairs have not been managed as satisfactorily as was anticipated, and her foreign commerce shows no tendency to assume dimensions of consequence."

Without commenting on the correctness or incorrectness of these assertions, it is enough for our present purpose to observe that similar opinions are expressed by most foreigners, as will be seen by perusing their journals. The views embodied in the above quotation may therefore be regarded as universally entertained by aliens. If, then, they consider the commercial prospects of our country so unpromising, while the actual condition of her trade is so dull, they will not, so long as profit is their chief object, consent to a revision of the treaties in exchange for the opening of some new ports.

Assuming this to be the case, and also that they will not be content with additional concessions as to free travel and extended treaty limits, how can we acquit ourselves to their satisfaction? Possibly it may be among their desires that we should reform our laws and improve our judiciary so that they will be able to submit to our jurisdiction without apprehension. To obtain the abolition of extraterritoriality and induce foreigners to submit to our laws so that existing abuses may be remedied, it is certainly necessary that measures be taken to amend those laws and the method of their administration, for extraterritoriality is only justifiable when people of one nationality, detecting imperfections in the laws and incompetence in the judiciary of another, consider it dangerous to entrust their lives and property to the protection of those laws, and accordingly desire to remain under the protection of their own codes, which are framed in a more enlightened spirit and secure a more disinterested administration of justice. To ask foreigners, in short, to surrender their extraterritorial privileges and come under our jurisdiction, would be equivalent to asserting that our laws as well as our judiciary have been brought to a perfectly satisfactory state, and that they are quite competent to protect life and property. The fact is, therefore, that if we desire to recover our rights of jurisdiction we must amend our laws and improve their administration. But we may conclude with certainty that foreigners will not themselves claim any such amendment by way of compensation for treaty-revision, but will simply wait till we take steps with that object. If we fail, on the other hand, to take such steps, we may expect to have claims preferred against us, not with any reference to treaty-revision, but on the ground that justice must be made accessible.

What, then, is it that foreigners most desire? A moment's reflection will show that under the present arrangements their residence is confined to the settlements, and that although they enjoy freedom of travel within a circle of a few miles radius, they are not permitted to proceed a step farther without passports. This is what they find most inconvenient. Again, whatever amount of capital they may possess, they are forbidden to invest it in houses and lands in the interior. They may not establish manufactories or open shops for purposes of trade on the same conditions as natives; neither may they lend money to Japanese on the security of fixed property; neither may they work mines. In a word, they are debarred from all opportunities of making profits in speculations which the Japanese have not essayed. They are cooped up within the narrow limits of settlements where no chance of employing their capital and enterprise exists. Such circumstances might not be painful to persons who cared little for gain; but they are intolerable to men so enthusiastic as foreigners in the pursuit of profit. Their great aim, therefore, is to procure increased commercial and industrial facilities, and this can only be compassed by obtaining the right of mixed residence in the interior. Mixed residence may, therefore, be called the goal of their desires: if that privilege were granted they would probably be content, and would consent to the revision of the treaties.

For this reason we say that the privilege of mixed residence in the interior has a distinct relation to treaty revision. If it be thought that the privilege cannot easily be granted, then it follows that treaty revision cannot easily be effected. Among ourselves we may say that we wish to obtain the revision without conferring the privilege, but in foreign ears such a statement would have no meaning. And our *vis-à-vis* in this matter is a foreigner, not a Japanese. To discuss the question from a standpoint that does not appeal to foreigners is mere waste of time. Therefore when people set out to comment on mixed residence, they had better begin by observing the relation it bears to treaty revision, and by examining whether revision can be effected without granting residence, or whether any other means of satisfying foreigners exists. If it is impossible to get the treaties modified without conferring the privilege of mixed residence, must revision be postponed, or must it be procured by conceding the privilege? It behoves us to reflect well what benefits will accrue from the revision and what evils, if any, may result from the privilege. It is to be regretted that those who discuss the question of mixed residence appear not to look beyond the advantages or disadvantages that may be connected with it, and neglect to consider it with reference to its very important bearing upon treaty revision. It is for this reason that we have drawn attention to this aspect of the question, hoping that what we have said may serve to promote a truer appreciation of the problem.

THE PRESENT STATE OF MEDICINE IN JAPAN.

The following interesting article in the form of a letter, written by a well-known physician residing in Yokohama, appears in a recent number of the *American Medical News*. It is to be understood that the article was written for the readers of a foreign Professional journal:—

SIR,—As the word Japan seems to open visions of El Dorado to all non-resident aspirants to fortune, and lest the heading of my letter should incite some of my brethren to its perusal in hope that it may prove in some sort a directory to the, presumably, overflowing wealth of the Orient, let me begin by a word as to the status and prospects of European and American physicians in this portion of the Far East. As to present status, those medical men now here, save of the small and rapidly decreasing number in government employment, are doing, and must do, more work for less remuneration than in even our small cities at home, while the expense of living in decent comfort is far greater in Japan than in the United States.

This country is now passing through a severe financial crisis; business of every kind is at a standstill, and as the foreign practitioner must depend almost exclusively upon the foreign residents for his support, the depression of trade affects him severely. It is but rarely that the services of a foreign doctor are called for by the natives, first, because the majority of these much prefer their own physicians; second, because they are rarely able to pay for his services—in fact, cannot understand that a physician's time or advice has any money value, the old custom—still almost univer-

sally in force—being to pay the medical attendant for medicines furnished, for which alone the physician has a legal claim to remuneration, and to pay, or not to pay, in addition, an honorarium generally ridiculously small, and entirely a voluntary matter; third, because in the large cities of the Empire there are foreign medical officers attached to the Government hospitals, whose advice can be had by the richest at an expenditure amounting to little more than the wholesale cost of the medicines prescribed. The number of foreign doctors thus employed is now small and diminishing, their places, at the expiration of their contracts, being filled by natives educated abroad, or at the Imperial Medical School mentioned hereafter. Our services—I speak as one of the resident foreign physicians—are even less in demand by the natives than formerly, for Japan has, perhaps, made more real and solid progress in medical science than in any other branch of western learning, and has now a considerable number of fairly good men—either educated in foreign countries, where some have won honors, or under foreign instructors in the Government hospitals and medical schools at home. In addition to these better men, who, of course, are found only in the Imperial service or in the larger cities, there is to be found in almost every town of the Empire at least one native physician practising, so far as his education will permit, according to the modern system.

The Government offers every encouragement for the advancement of the native practitioners in modern science. The innumerable appointments in its gift are bestowed only on men of the new school, while, as regards those practising privately, a system of examination and graduated license has been put in force throughout the Empire, which would afford no bad model for adoption in some of the United States.

Japan has now a considerable literature of modern medicine, which is rapidly increasing, and there are also something like a dozen medical periodicals, well supported. It is true that the execution of the translations, which compose the bulk of the literature in question, leaves much to be desired, yet the essentials of the original are generally preserved, and gross errors infrequent.

Ten years ago, the number of books on modern medicine in the Japanese language could have been counted on the fingers of one hand, while the writer at that time established, under Government auspices, the first medical journal of the country. A few months ago, a shipment of some four hundred volumes of medical text-books was sent to the library of the Surgeon-General, U.S.A., at Washington, and nearly as many more will shortly follow. Many of these are really beautiful reproductions of expensive illustrated works from the presses of Europe or America, though original treatises of almost equal mechanical execution are not wanting. It follows that, should any of your readers wish to investigate for himself the state of medical literature in Japan, he will find material within reach, the library mentioned containing, in addition to the above-mentioned books, full sets of the leading medical journals of this country.

The exquisite workmen of Japan have, of course, undertaken the manufacture of surgical instruments and apparatus—almost all known surgical appliances, of native manufacture, being found in the shops of the dealers in medical supplies. In appearance and finish, the instruments of domestic manufacture are indistinguishable from those imported, and, with the important exception of those whose value depends upon the quality and temper of the steel employed, are equally useful. It is difficult to understand the failure of the native artisan in the construction of small articles of steel, for the Japanese metal is second to none in the world, as will be readily granted by anyone who has seen the tests endured by a Japanese sword of good quality. When this difficulty in the management of small articles of steel shall have been overcome, as no doubt it speedily will be, the Japanese surgeon will be able to furnish himself more cheaply than in any other country.

It will be seen, then, that so far as material goes, the means are not wanting for the theoretical education or the equipment of every native student, while the many and often admirable hospitals maintained by the Imperial Government, or by subscription, afford good opportunities for clinical study.

Facilities for anatomical work are, however, sadly lacking. Though Japan has an anatomy law, which many of our benighted States would do well to copy, its operation is so hampered by the prejudice and mistaken benevolence of the people, that even in the great city of Tokio (Yedo) the Imperial School of Medicine is unable fully to supply its students with anatomical material, while in the provincial hospitals and schools opportunities for dissection are rare indeed. Realizing the value of anatomical study, and the difficulties in the way of its pursuit,

efforts have been made to compensate for the want of actual dissection by the publication of elaborate atlases and anatomical wall-plates, and even by the reproduction in fac-simile of Auzoux's great manikins at a price of about one-third the original. The lack of facilities for the study of practical anatomy is the more, perhaps, to be regretted from the fact that the Japanese excel in many of the qualities which go to make a successful operative surgeon. Steady nerve, marvellous dexterity, mechanical tact, and a power of mentally reconstructing form that is absolutely astonishing, are qualifications to which, if a knowledge of anatomy were added, the product should be a surgeon above the average.

Appropos of this power of recalling form, which is almost universal among the better class of Japanese, I am inclined to attribute it to the personal and hereditary influence of training in the use of the Chinese character, a knowledge of several thousands of which complicated and arbitrary forms is necessary to every Japanese who would either read or write anything esteemed of value. The æsthetic sense of the race may also have influence in this direction.

I have spoken of the Imperial School of Medicine at Tokio (Yedo), and of the larger hospitals throughout the country, as affording opportunities for instruction under foreign teachers. The former is under management exclusively German, and, in fact, of late years, German physicians have had almost entire control of the medical education of the country.

That Germans now have the preference in Japan, as teachers, in almost all branches of science and literature, is probably due to the fact that the more conservative members of the Government feel that the country has progressed rather too rapidly toward free thought and free institutions, and believe the political system of Germany to be more in accord with that desirable for Japan, than those of England and America. The students themselves, however, much prefer the English language and English and American books, even as regards medicine, and it is chiefly from these sources that the present literature is derived.

The old school of medicine in Japan was nearly identical with that of China, a mélange of superstition and an absurd and utterly artificial system of anatomy and physiology, with the results of ages of empirical practice—the latter having led to a more or less correct appreciation of the use and value of many medicines used by ourselves, *e.g.*, mercury, antimony, and aconite. In addition to a vast number of plants and minerals, animal substances form an important element of the old pharmacopœia. Whole cargoes of dried foetal deer are yearly shipped from the island Yezo to southern Japan and China; while dried lizards, tigers' claws and teeth, bears' galls, monkeys' skulls, and other even more repulsive substances, are largely used. In fact, the Chinese practitioner of to-day is working with much the same armament as did our predecessors in the not very long past time when treacle of mummy was a panacea. But absurd and disgusting as the materia medica of the old school of medicine in Japan and China may at first glance appear, it is probable that in their immense, and to us little-known, field of natural resources, the empiricism of a shrewd people has discovered some therapeutic agents of value, and such as would repay a thorough investigation of their pharmacopœia by some medical Sinologue. I will return to this subject further on.

Although trained in the same school and holding allegiance to the same ancient authorities, the essential difference between the stolid conservatism of the Chinese and the active and progressive disposition of their insular neighbors, was shown even before the opening of Japan to foreigners generally, by the attainment of a partial emancipation from the thralldom of the old school through the voluntary efforts of native practitioners, and this, too, at a time when even to read a foreign book without the special permission of the Government was a capital offence. A native doctor, having accidentally seen a volume of anatomical plates at the Dutch settlement of Nagasaki, returned to his distant home disquieted and anxious, realizing that if the drawings he had examined were correct, his whole system of science, based as it was on different premises, must fall to the ground. Unable to prosecute research upon the human cadaver, he carefully dissected all the quadrupeds he could obtain, and finding, throughout, close similarity to each other, and to the pictures he had seen, he at last, after great labor and no little danger, obtained permission to dissect a criminal. This dissection settled the question for himself and friends, for the science of the western foreigner was vindicated. From this began a movement, resulting in permission being given that a limited number of natives might study under the Dutch surgeons at Nagasaki, and in the translation of a few medical treatises of an elementary character.

Another instance of progress is even more remarkable, as it was entirely independent of assistance from without. A native physician, belonging to a family with whom the practice of the obstetric art was hereditary, for male accoucheurs have long existed in Japan, though in small number, after many misfortunes in the line of his practice, and a long time devoted to study and investigation, elaborated a fairly complete system of midwifery, and published an illustrated treatise on the subject. Kagawa Shigen found the obstetric art of Japan in a condition little, if any, better than among the American Indians of to-day; he left it almost upon a par with that of Europe before the invention of the forceps. He invented a number of convenient and practical instruments, which, though in some respects resembling others of European origin, differ sufficiently from these to prove independent evolution, while his book, which affords intrinsic evidence of originality, contains a series of really valuable precepts and clinical observations. Unfortunately, like the Chamberlens, Kagawa attempted to keep his improvements secret within the limits of his own family, and, unlike the Chamberlens, succeeded, until recently, in so doing. A descendant of the reformer is to-day practising in the capital, and exhibits so little of the ancestral spirit as to ignore all science save as contained between the covers of his inherited manual.

The aged Solomon's grumbling remarks, that there is nothing new under the sun, seems to derive much confirmation from the Orient, and it need hardly surprise one greatly to learn that any of our supposed recent discoveries were anticipated ages ago in the Far East. Am I wrong in believing that the extract of malt is esteemed by many as one of the most recent triumphs of restorative medicine? The Japanese and, to some extent, their Celestial neighbors have used this article, or something closely related thereto, for centuries. The experience of my foreign colleagues and myself in the medicinal use of the native preparation has been so favorable that I cannot refrain from a few remarks upon it, even though quite aware that this long and gossiping letter should ere this have been brought to a close.

The article in question is known in Japan as "ame" or, in its better form, as "midzu ame," and as it is the latter which is most convenient and valuable for medicinal use, it is of this variety that I shall chiefly speak. Midzu ame, of the best quality, is a clear, transparent, faintly brown, or amber-colored syrup, or may have the consistence of candy, according to the amount of water contained. If properly prepared, it ferments only with difficulty, and long keeping changes it only by inspissation. The flavor is pleasant; so much so that some of our foreign residents prefer it, for table use, to the best imported syrups, while, when used medicinally, it rarely becomes distasteful, even after prolonged administration.

To describe in detail the manufacture of midzu ame would occupy too much space at present. Suffice it to say that it depends upon the now generally known fact that starch, in the presence of malt in solution, is converted into a saccharine body (maltose). The malt used is, as elsewhere, derived from barley, germination having been allowed to proceed to a greater extent than is usual with us; the starch is that of rice or millet, preferably the former, of which a peculiarly glutinous variety is chosen.

The consumption of ame in its different forms is enormous in Japan. The cheapness of the article, as compared with sugar, renders it the basis of a large proportion of the confectionery used. I have spoken of its use by the natives medicinally; it is, however, only as a digestible and strengthening food for the aged and for hand-fed or weakly infants, that it has, until very recently, been prescribed, and from this point of view alone midzu ame will be found well worthy of trial elsewhere. So far as children are concerned, I know nothing more useful for the feeble or bottle-fed than the article in question. During the past five years, the writer having been first to call attention to the subject, midzu ame has been largely used by both foreign and native practitioners in cases of dyspepsia and malassimilation, of almost every variety, with such success that the consumption of the better qualities has considerably increased, while several manufacturers are now devoting themselves to the production of special grades for exclusively medical use.

Midzu ame ranks as a food close to cod-liver oil, for which it will often be found to be an efficient substitute. In many cases of phthisis it has proved so useful that I shall not be surprised should the lapse of time show that ame is quite as valuable in this disease as is the oil. It is, however, of its use in dyspepsia that I would specially speak. An experience of several hundreds of cases, both native and European, and in conditions varying from mere sluggishness of digestion to

almost total and fatal inanition, has demonstrated that ame is far more than an easily assimilated food. This it certainly is; but it has, in my opinion, a power to assist in the conversion of other food beyond that of any agent heretofore employed, and is to be relied upon to exert the action which we hope for from pepsin, artificial gastric juice and the like, but in which we are so often disappointed. It is probably this power which, in cases characterized by active fermentation, acetic or butyric, enables the ame, saccharine body though it be, to act as an anti-ferment, for it is in this class of cases that the benefit derived from its use is most speedily manifested.

Granting the foregoing statements to be correct, it will be seen that we have in the article under consideration a nourishing, agreeable, and easily digested food, which can often be taken, and duly appropriated, after cream, raw beef, acid emulsions, and the like, have failed, and which will frequently secure the digestion of more or less other food, almost from first administration. I would not be understood as asserting that this contribution from the Far East is either infallible or specific, but that it has often saved life and, in an immense number of cases, restored health, even after the failure of approved treatment, I am certain, as well as that the experience of most of my colleagues has been equally favorable.

It is to be hoped that an opportunity may soon be given for a thorough and unprejudiced trial of ame in the United States, and that, in order that such may be secured to it, whoever undertakes its introduction will put it in the hands of the profession only, in proper manner, and without the clap-trap and advertising falsehood which repel every honest physician from what may, perhaps, be a really valuable and much needed article.

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,

Medical Director of Imperial Hospital of Kanagawa Ken,
Surgeon in Charge of the Foreign General Hospital of Yokohama.
Yokohama, Japan, December 30, 1883.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy
Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
March 13th, 1884.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

General Van Buren conducted his own case.
Mr. Weiller appeared for the defendant.
Mr. Weiller moved that Mr. Litchfield, Barrister-at-Law in H.B.M. Court, be allowed to assist him in the case.

Plaintiff said that with all due deference to the Court, he thought that he should have been notified before of this proceeding. Although he entertained the greatest regard for his learned friend Mr. Litchfield, he objected on the ground that recently an American lawyer had not been permitted to practise in the English Court in Yokohama, and if such a display of legal talent was to be brought against him, he should have been notified.

The Court after hearing the parties, ruled that inasmuch as Mr. Litchfield had been recognised as a practitioner before the U.S. Consular Court at Kanagawa, he would be allowed to appear to assist in the defence, but if any prejudice to the plaintiff's rights could be shown in consequence thereof, the question would receive further consideration.

Mr. Weiller then called attention to his motion that the plaintiff should deposit security for costs under Rule 253 of the Court Regulations.

The plaintiff said that defendant had not filed an affidavit to that effect, and it appeared that the defendant had declared in his answer that the plaintiff was in possession of sufficient property within the jurisdiction of the Court.

The Court overruled the motion as he thought it did not apply in the present case.

The Court being informed that the parties were now ready to proceed said the statute enjoined him to try and settle all cases of the present nature outside of the Court and to cooperate in bringing about an amicable settlement either by bringing the parties together or by referring the matter to another party. He hoped that they might arrive at a settlement without further legal proceedings. If they thought proper they might retire to the adjoining room for that purpose.

Plaintiff said he had most unwillingly brought the case and had written a letter to that effect to the defendant which he was ready to produce in evidence.

Mr. Weiller said he had no objection to the parties arranging it between themselves.

The plaintiff said he had charged the defendant with using scandalous language, etc., and if he would withdraw the expressions and say they were false he would not press the suit. He was not actuated by any vindictive feelings.

The Court said that, if it was the wish of the defendant, they could retire to settle the matter.

Defendant said he had no retraction to make whatever.

Plaintiff called attention to errors in the answer to the petition, such as misnomer of the plaintiff as Thos. H. van Buren instead of Thos. B. van Buren (the plaintiff's copy of the answer was erroneous), and frequent abbreviations such as Deft. Pltf. and Hon. U.S. which were totally inadmissible in a legal paper. Also the signature Thomas H. Tripler M.D. There was no such person named in the pleadings, if it was intended as a title he could suggest a more appropriate one. It was entirely out of order and improper in a legal paper.

The Court said the question was of no importance and the M.D. might be struck off.

Defendant said he had authority for using the title, and it was his usual way of signing his name.

Plaintiff then read the petition and answer as follows:—

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN, plaintiff, against THOMAS H. TRIPLER, defendant.

The petition of the plaintiff in the above entitled cause respectfully shows to the court that he is, and for some years last past has been, Consul-General of the United States of America at Kanagawa, in the Empire of Japan, and, during that time he has resided and still resides at Yokohama, in Kanagawa-Ken, in said Empire, where he has his offices and performs his official duties; that, by virtue of his said office as Consul-General, he is and has been, while so holding said office, Judge of the Consular Court attached thereto.

That the defendant is an American citizen, residing in Yokohama aforesaid; and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

That said defendant wickedly intending to injure the plaintiff, heretofore, to wit: on the thirty-first day of December, last past, and also on several days immediately preceding that date, at the then "Yokohama United Club," at number five B, in the foreign settlement of Yokohama aforesaid, in a certain discourse, which he then had of and concerning the plaintiff, did, in the presence and hearing of divers persons, maliciously and falsely speak and publish of and concerning the plaintiff the following false, scandalous, and defamatory words, that is to say:—"He" (the plaintiff meaning) "went to the Kencho and in an underhand manner got them (the Japanese authorities meaning) to sell him (the plaintiff meaning) 'the Consular buildings' (meaning that the plaintiff, in an unfair and improper manner, that is by unfair and improper statements, or representations, induced the Japanese authorities to sell to him—the said plaintiff—the building occupied as offices of the United States Consulate-General, and for the use of the court and jail attached thereto), 'for twenty-two hundred yen.' " "He" (the plaintiff meaning) "had no right to, buy 'them' (meaning the consular buildings aforesaid)" at all. It is contrary to law" (meaning that the plaintiff in making such alleged purchase, had violated law). "He has swindled the government" (meaning that the plaintiff, in making such alleged purchase, had defrauded the Government of the United States, of which plaintiff was and is an official, and that the plaintiff had been thereby guilty of a criminal offence.) "The Department of State has been informed of it, but has taken no notice: but old Frelinghuysen will not be there forever, and, when he goes, we will get him out" (meaning that an accusation has been prepared by defendant or some other person accusing the plaintiff of the alleged act on his part heretofore referred to and forwarded to the department of state of the United States of America at Washington, of which said department had taken no notice whatever; but that the Honourable F. T. Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State of the United States, would, before long, cease to continue in that office, and some other person would become Secretary of State, and that then the plaintiff should be deprived of his official position through the efforts of the defendant and others assisting him).

By means of the committing of which grievances of the said defendant, the plaintiff has been brought into public scandal and disgrace and greatly injured in his good name and otherwise injured.

Wherefore plaintiff prays that the defendant may be adjudged to pay to the plaintiff the sum of five thousand dollars, as damages, and costs of suit, as some compensation for said injuries, and that such other remedy be granted to the plaintiff for the great wrong done him by the defendant as to the Court may seem right and proper.

(Signed) THOS. B. VAN BUREN.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 15th day of January, 1884.

(Signed) JOHN A. BINGHAM,
U. S. Minister.

In the Ministerial Court of the United States of America in Japan.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original petition filed in this Court.

(Signed) JOHN A. BINGHAM,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the United
States of America.

Attest.
(Signed) GUSTAVE GOWARD,
Secretary of Legation.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IN JAPAN.

Before the Hon. JNO. A. BINGHAM, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the U. S. of America, in Japan, Acting Judicially.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN, plaintiff, against THOMAS H. TRIPLER, defendant.

The answer of Thomas H. Tripler, the above-named defendant, to the petition of the above-named plaintiff shows as follows:—

That the said defendant admits so much of the said petition as alleges that the plaintiff is Consul General of the United States at Kanagawa, Japan, and that he is resident in Yokohama.

That the said defendant denies that he spoke and published of and concerning the said plaintiff, the alleged defamatory words in the petition set forth or any of them, and says that he is innocent of the grievances alleged in the said petition.

The said defendant further says that some time during last year he wrote and sent a letter to the Hon. Secretary of State of the United States, at Washington, D. C., U. S. of America, of and concerning the purchase by the said plaintiff, as Consul-General of the United States at Kanagawa aforesaid, of the premises and buildings occupied by the Consul-General of the United States there, as he, the said defendant lawfully might do, believing, as the said defendant then believed, that it was in the truth and in fact the case, that the said plaintiff had purchased the premises and buildings aforesaid as Consul-General, and that it was to the interest and benefit of the people of the U. S. that the said fact should be known.

And the defendant further says, that he admits that he, on or about the time of the alleged grievance set forth in the petition of the plaintiff, in the said letter to the Hon. Secretary of state aforesaid, did criticise the acts of the plaintiff as such Consul-General aforesaid, and that he, the said defendant, as a citizen of the United States, resident of Japan, may and might justly and properly criticise the acts of said plaintiff as an official of the United States, believing as the said defendant then and still believes, that it was true, that the said acts, namely, the purchase of the before-mentioned Consular premises and buildings by the said plaintiff as Consul-General aforesaid, were committed by him the said plaintiff, and that the same were improper, and that it was for the interest and benefit of the people of the United States that the same should be made known.

Therefore the defendant prays that the petition of the plaintiff be dismissed, that the said plaintiff be adjudged to pay all the costs of this action, and that the defendant receive such other relief, as from the nature of the case and in the discretion of the Court may seem right and proper.

Plaintiff said before proceeding with his evidence he wished to make an amendment in his petition by inserting the words "as Consul-General aforesaid" in paragraphs two and three, after the word plaintiff.

Mr. Weiller distinctly opposed the alteration, as the plaintiff had had the answer for some days and any alteration should have been applied for in writing.

The plaintiff said that if it took the defendant by surprise he would agree to an adjournment.

Mr. Weiller replied that they did not wish to adjourn.

The Court asked the plaintiff under what rule he applied for an amendment to the petition without previous notice.

Plaintiff said under the general rule of procedure, but he left it to the discretion of the Court.

The Court observed that the proposed alteration would materially limit the operation of the petition.

Mr. Weiller said his objection was based on purely technical grounds, not that it would make any material difference.

Plaintiff then withdrew his motion for leave to amend.

Plaintiff then said the whole issue appeared to be whether the words were spoken or not, the rest was mere impudence. The fact of the defendant writing to the Secretary of State had nothing to do with the issue.

Mr. Weiller requested that the witnesses for the prosecution be asked to withdraw.

Plaintiff said the witnesses were gentlemen well known to the community. It was rather an implication and he did not see the propriety of asking honourable gentlemen to leave the room.

Mr. Weiller replied that he had no desire to imply anything against any of the witnesses, but everyone knew how the influence that the testimony of one witness had with another.

His Honour said it was a matter within the discretion of the Court, and granted the application.

Gilman H. Prichard stated that he was a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Smith Baker & Co., of Yokohama. He had known the defendant for about five years. On the 30th or 31st, he thought on the 31st, of December last he was in the company of the defendant in the hall of the Yokohama United Club, No. 5B, Yokohama. He heard the defendant say that the General, or old General, had purchased the United States Consular buildings in an underhanded way for yen 2,200. That it was unlawful: that the Department of State had been notified and had taken no notice, that old Frelinghuysen would not always be there and then they would get him (the General) out. The General had been to the Kencho and bought them in an underhand manner. He had swindled the Government (meaning the U.S. Government).

General van Buren, Dr. Fisher, R.N., and Mr. Litchfield had been mentioned as candidates for the Presidency of the Yokohama United Club. The ballot box was on one side of the hall and the conversation took place on the other side. He told Dr. Tripler that he thought he was making a mistake in talking about the General in this manner. He was doing himself no good. People knew there had been a disagreement between them, but were surprised at his conduct, as at a previous election he had worked for the General.

To Mr. Weiller—The conversation took place between 5 and 7 o'clock in the evening and lasted for about half an hour. Mr. J. Douglas was present and defendant asked him had he voted. Numerous other members passed through including Mr. Beato, Mr. Walker, and Mr. C. de B. Stewart. He thought Mr. Beato heard a portion of the conversation, also Mr. C. de B. Stewart. Mr. Douglas was there all the time. The conversation arose through my remonstrating with the defendant for working against General van Buren. Witness commenced the conversation, and during it the words complained of were spoken. Mr. Douglas and witness were talking together and some one was voting. Dr. Tripler was in the bar, and rushed up and asked him not to vote for General van Buren. He then took up the list and seeing we had voted said he hoped we had not voted for the General. Mr. Douglas said he had voted for Mr. Litchfield as he was an old friend, otherwise he should have voted for the General. Witness said he had voted for the General. Defendant then spoke about the purchase of the Consulate. It was difficult to remember the exact words used in a conversation, but to the best of his recollection he said he (the plaintiff) had swindled the Government. He could repeat much more of the conversation which he had not communicated to the General. There was no more excitement about this election than usual. Plaintiff was not the only man that was abused, there was more or less talk. The ballot-box stood on the table on the right hand side of the hall facing the Bund, the conversation took place under the bulletin board on the left hand side. Mr. Beato was present during part of the conversation. Mr. Walker also heard part. On the Sunday following he (witness) was at the plaintiff's house and communicated the conversation. He did not go there with the special intention of doing so. Plaintiff said he had heard about the conversation, and about his remonstrating with the defendant so he (witness) then repeated the conversation.

Plaintiff here asked witness to repeat the conversation he referred to as not having been communicated to him.

Mr. Weiller objected as it should have been brought out in the direct examination.

After some discussion plaintiff asked the witness whether any other words were used during the conversation.

Mr. Weiller objected again as the plaintiff had no right to try back on the direct examination.

The Court asked plaintiff what point in the conversation he referred to.

Plaintiff said he did not know what the conversation had been about, but the door being once opened by the defendant he desired the whole conversation to be given.

The Court sustained Mr. Weiller's objection.

In reply to the question what led the witness to understand the United States Government was referred to, Witness replied that the defendant's reference to plaintiff's being an American citizen and to Mr. Frelinghuysen as Secretary of State, and his reference to what plaintiff's position would be if he were at home. He said plaintiff would have been imprisoned for it.

Felix Beato stated he had been in Yokohama for 21 years, and had known the defendant for 8 or 9 years. In the latter part of December he met him in the hall of the old Club, to the best of his recollection about 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening. He heard the defendant say that he had discovered how to smash the General to pieces. That he had bought the U.S. Consulate from the Kencho for nothing, and was swindling his Government. He had got it in an underhand way and was getting too much rent, and that he (defendant) was going to write to America about it. Witness had heard the same conversation about a month before. Defendant mentioned the price paid for the buildings but he had forgotten the amount.

To Mr. Weiller—It was in the afternoon that the conversation took place between 5 and 7 o'clock in the hall of the Club near the voting place. He was trying to get votes for the General. Defendant was talking to several people, some from Hong-kong, and several others. Mr. Prichard was present. Defendant was standing near the table under the bulletin board. He did not remember what started the conversation, but believed it arose from the defendant trying to stop people from voting for General van Buren. He did not recollect how

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much Dr. Tripler said was paid for the buildings, he thought it was 2,000 yen or 2,200 yen, it might have been 1,700 yen. Witness explained that when he said for nothing he meant a nominal sum, he understood it as an English expression for anything that was bought for much under its value. He understood English much better than he could speak it. Defendant used the expression, "I will smash the General." There was some excitement during the election as there always is. He wished to get the General elected, others opposed him. He did not remember any of the other candidates being spoken ill of. Defendant did not abuse anyone else.

Frank Walker stated that he was a book-keeper and shipping clerk in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. He had known defendant for 9 or 10 years. He was a member of the Yokohama United Club. He met the defendant at the end of last year in the Yokohama United Club; the election of President was pending. He did not hear defendant speak of plaintiff in the hall, but heard him make some remarks in the Bar-room which opened into the hall. Defendant began and said he had had trouble with the plaintiff about something and that he was going to make it warm for him. He mentioned that he had written to the Secretary of State. That the General had bought the Consulate, and that he thought it was not generally known and that he was charging too much rent for it. Mr. Beato was there at the time and defendant continued the conversation with him. He did not hear any more at that time. At other times he had heard a general running down of the plaintiff's character.

To Mr. Weiller—He could not swear to the date, it was in the evening after dinner about 9 or half-past. He did not remember being in the Club between 5 and 7 o'clock. He could not say whether he had seen Dr. Tripler before on that day, but might have seen him frequently. He voted for the President; the defendant was present and asked him not to vote for the plaintiff, saying he had bought the Consulate buildings and was charging too much rent and that he defendant had written to the Secretary of State about it. The conversation took place in the Bar after dinner. Mr. Beato and Mr. J. Douglas were present. He had received a summons from H.B.M. Court to attend this case. He had heard before this that a case was coming on between General van Buren and Dr. Tripler. The first time he heard about it was 10 or 14 days ago, and he had not communicated the conversation to the plaintiff.

The plaintiff said that closed his case. Unfortunately one of his principal witnesses, Mr. J. Douglas had left the country and he was unaware of his intention to do so until the evening before his departure. Mr. C. de B. Stewart, another of his witnesses had expressed such a desire not to be called that he had been excused.

Mr. Weiller, for defendant, moved for a non-suit on the ground that no action had been made out, pending which, the Court remarked that Mr. P. Osborne who had been called as a witness was obliged to leave and that he might be examined without prejudice to future objections.

Percival Osborne stated that he was employed in the Kanagawa Kencho. He had to do with the ground rents and transfer of land. Knew the position of the U.S. Consulate.

Upon being asked by Mr. Weiller who was the present owner of the U.S. Consulate buildings, the plaintiff objected to the question.

Plaintiff said that this defence could not affect the issue; he did not wish to deny any of his actions but the question of the ownership could not be gone into. If defendant desired to introduce evidence of this kind, he should have pleaded justification.

Mr. Weiller held that they had pleaded justification, and referred to a letter to the Secretary of State mentioned in the petition. They denied that the words were slanderous. The charge brought was that defendant had said the property had been bought by plaintiff and they had a right to prove it had been and also that he was charging too much rent for it.

Plaintiff said that in the answer the defendant had denied using the language complained of and therefore had no right to plead justification. If he had asserted that he had done so, and that it was true, he might then have pleaded justification.

His Honour said he was clearly of opinion that under the statute the Court was authorized to follow the Common Law and under the Common Law in an action of slander it was permissible to deny the accusation and afterwards plead justification. Justification must be pleaded. It appeared to him that the words of the answer excluded the conclusion that they justified the accusation.

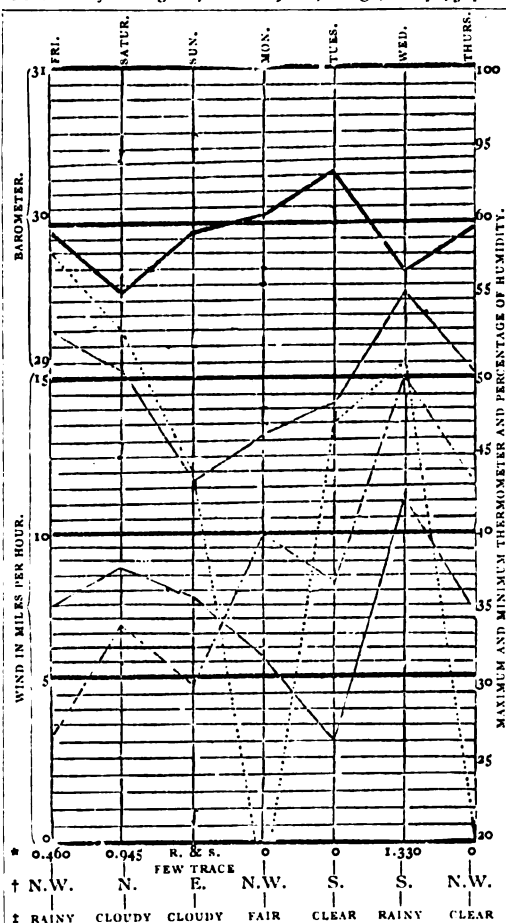
The Counsel for the defendant then made application for permission to strike out certain words and otherwise amend the answer to the petition.

The Court said that authorities would have to be consulted in regard to Mr. Weiller's application, and he would adjourn the case till Monday next.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, March 18th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, March 20th.
From America, per O. & O. Co. Friday, March 28th.†

* *Volga* (with French mail) left Hongkong on March 11th.
† *Oceanic* left San Francisco on March 8th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Sunday, March 16th.
For Kobe, per K. U. Co. Monday, March 17th.
For Korea, via Coast Ports, per M. B. Co. Tuesday, March 18th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Mar. 19th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, March 22nd.
For America, per O. & O. Co. Friday, March 28th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsunumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 8th.

FIGHTING IN EGYPT.

The rebels near Suakim having refused to disperse, the British troops will advance upon them on Tuesday (11th).

London, March 9th.

BATTLE IMMINENT.

A decisive battle is expected to be fought at or near Suakim on Friday (to-morrow).

CREDIT VOTE FOR THE SOUDAN.

After two days' debate, the House of Commons has approved of a supplementary credit of £500,000 for the operations in the Soudan.

Hongkong, March 11th.

THE ADVANCE ON BAC-NINH.

A general advance on Bac-ninh has commenced. The garrison has been found to comprise a strong force of Chinese troops.

London, March 14th.

CAPTURE OF BAC-NINH.

Bac-ninh has been taken by the French. No particulars.

Later.

The French troops captured Bac-ninh on the 12th. There was only a feeble resistance offered to the attack, and the French suffered but a trifling loss.

Hongkong, March 14th.

The French have captured two forts in the vicinity of Bac-ninh. The enemy has fallen back upon the citadel.

Later.

Bac-ninh has been captured. French loss 72 wounded.

London, March 14th.

FIGHTING IN EGYPT.

A battle has been fought near Suakim, in which the British troops have gained a complete victory. The British loss is inconsiderable.

London, March 14th, 5.40 p.m.

Cotton, unaltered; Mid. Upland, 5½. Yarns, market very strong. Shirtings, unchanged, but firm. Silk, market quiet.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, 27th February.

The Right Honourable Sir H. Brand has resigned the Speakership of the House of Commons, and Mr. Arthur Peel has been elected Speaker unopposed.

London, 28th February.

Admiral Miot has superseded Admiral Galiber as the Commander of the French Naval Force in Malagasay waters. This indicates a policy of conciliation.

London, 29th February.

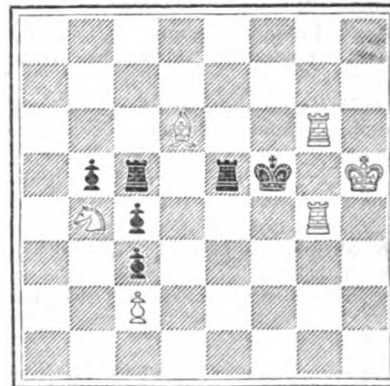
The Premier has introduced a Bill for the Extension of the Franchise which reduces the Country Franchise to Ten Pounds, and said that he hoped to bring in a Bill for the redistribution of seats next year.

CHESS.

By J ELSON.

From American Chess Nuts.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 10th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 10th March,—Hongkong 3rd March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 11th March,—Fukuda 9th March, General.—Fukudasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 11th March,—Yokkaichi 9th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Fohann Carl, German schooner, 145, Schwartz, 12th March,—Takao 27th February, 3,300 piculs Sugar.—E. J. Collyer & Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 12th March,—Omai-saki, having in tow the British bark *Sattara*.—Kowyekisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 12th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Seikisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 12th March,—Hakodate 9th and Oginohama 11th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 680, Streamer, 12th March,—Sendai 8th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, F. Owston, 13th March,—Nagasaki 8th March, Coals and General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 13th March,—Shimidzu 11th March, General.—Seiriusa.

Sapphire, British corvette (12), Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, 13th March,—Kobe 10th March.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,960, Steadman, 13th March,—Kobe 10th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 14th March,—Kobe 12th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 14th March,—Yokkaichi 11th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 14th March,—Yokkaichi 12th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 314, Arai, 14th March,—Yokkaichi 12th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 14th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 14th March,—Nagasaki 10th March, Coals.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 15th March,—San Francisco 21st February, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 584, Moto, 15th March,—Kobe 12th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Alpheus Marshall, British bark, 1,096, E. W. MacFaden, 8th March,—Takao and Taiwanfoo, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 8th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 8th March,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,330, J. Ross, 9th March,—Nagasaki, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 9th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 10th March,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusa.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 10th March,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 11th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ashburne, British steamer, 1,613, J. M. Lambert, 11th March,—London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Dzukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 12th March,—Atami General.—TokaiKaisan Kwaisha.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 12th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 680, P. Hussey, 13th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 13th March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 14th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, E. Wilson Haswell, 14th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 14th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Carondelet, American ship, 1,438, W. F. Stetson, 15th March,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 15th March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Ellerton, Robertson, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 97 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Berry and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor, Mr. and Mrs. P. Symes, Mr. and Mrs. Kowri, Mrs. C. O'Neil and son, Mrs. Rivers, Rev. W. Andrew, Rev. P. Fyson, Miss Nakamura, Messrs. J. H. Barry, Ware, C. A. Taylor, Kawamoto, Otani, Fujitake, Mori, Itagaki, Umino, and Kono in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 3 Chinese, and 208 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: James Bealey, U.S. seaman in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. R. Manly, 4 children and 2 servants in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. J. D'Angelis and child, Messrs. H. Nicaise, and F. C. Mills in cabin; and 2 Europeans and 121 Chinese in steerage. For Honolulu: 416 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—25 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. and Mrs. Shiga, Messrs. Sakurai, Mishima, Sanada, and Murai in cabin; and 143 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, from Sendai:—1 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—22 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Kobe:—85 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Martin des Pallières, Sudzuki, Riosuke, Sano, Nakano, Ikeda, Yamanaka, Itakura, Fujiyama, Fujido, and Hino in cabin; and 109 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—58 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—21 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Clark, Miss L. McKechim, Miss Kate N. Corez, Dr. Simon, Messrs. C. Rudolph, K. Nabeshima, and Y. Yamashita in cabin; and 2 Chinese in steerage. For Hongkong: Mr. S. J. Gower in cabin; and 2 Europeans and 227 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Kobe:—28 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Kobe:—Governor Kunishige, Messrs. M. Tsuda and T. Yamanouchi in cabin; and 90 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, for Hakodate:—23 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. J. D'Angelis and child, and Mr. F. C. Mills in cabin; and 14 Europeans, 5 Japanese, and 120 Japanese in steerage. For Honolulu: 486 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. J. McD. Gardiner and infant, Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Berry and 3 children, Mrs. Dan Farrell and child, Mrs. Chas. O'Neil and child, Messrs. V. Klein and J. H. Barry in cabin. For Liverpool: Messrs. W. Sanderson, N.

Asano, N. S. Asano, and S. Okuda in cabin. For London: Mr. E. C. MacNaughten and Captain Brown in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Okiwa and child, Miss Lucy Hoag, Miss Mary C. Robinson, Messrs. B. H. Chamberlain, D. Fanele, H. Geslien, T. R. Elliott, W. Conrad, W. D. Townsend, M. Field, Yamamoto, Tanabe, Yokoyama, Sato, Yamanaka, H. Ando, Mamura, Ishiwaru, N. Mogi, I. Uyeda, S. Mogi, B. Kasakura, Takagi, and Shindo in cabin.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Jean Patty, Iwami Kenzo, Iwami Tosuke, Wakai, and Marunaka in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$66,000.00; for San Francisco, gold \$11,026.00.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.
Hiogo	—	115	613
Yokohama	1,848	—	387
Hongkong	412	—	—
Total	2,260	115	900

SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.
Shanghai	—	214	—
Hongkong	—	191	—
Yokohama	—	434	—
Total	—	839	—

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, 4,000.00.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 30 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving Hongkong on the 3rd March, at 4.25 p.m. with fresh monsoon and head sea to Turnabout; thence to Van Dieman Straits fresh westerly gales, thick and raining weather; and thence to port variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 10th March, at 3 p.m. Time, 6 days, 22 hours, and 45 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 9th March, at 10 a.m. with north-westerly winds and fine weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 10th, at 11 a.m. and left on the 11th, at 9 a.m. with southerly winds and fine weather to No-sima; thence to port S.S.W. gale and thick rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 12th March, at 11 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 12th March, at 6 p.m. with fresh westerly winds and moderate weather to Rock Island; thence to port N. and N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 14th March, at 2.10 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

SAILING VESSELS.

Annapolis, British bark, 915, J. Woodworth, 9th February,—New York via Kobe 4th February, Kerosene and General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September,—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

Diana, American schooner, 77, Peterson, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Captain.

Frank Pendleton, American ship, 1,362, E. P. Nicholas, 6th March,—New York 5th October, Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August,—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Helena, British schooner, 52, Judd, 26th January,—Wreck of British bark *Sattara*, 23rd January, Officers, Crew, and Effects.—Captain.

Fohann Carl, German schooner, 145, Schwartz, 12th March,—Takao 27th February, 3,300 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Lisa, American schooner, 70, Weston, 6th November,—Kurile Islands, General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Mary C. Bohm, German schooner, 48, Baade, 23rd November,—Kurile Islands 13th November, Furs.—P. Bohm.

Nemo, Russian schooner, Ridderbjelke, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Ginsburg.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A fair general demand has existed for many descriptions of goods and Yarns, and the clearances continue much more satisfactory.

COTTON YARN.—The Market has been pretty well cleared of all "spot" cargo at present on offer and buyers have reluctantly been compelled to buy for arrival at rather higher rates than previously quoted. Bombays are also in more demand at advanced prices.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Shirtings continue dull and neglected, T.-Cloths likewise, but there is a moderate demand for Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns.

WOOLLENS.—Mousseline de Laine continues to be sold to an average extent, but other goods have had very little attention from buyers, and most prices are quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$26.50 to 29.00
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	29.50 to 30.75
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	26.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	32.25 to 33.75
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	7.00 to 8.00
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.65 to 0.70
	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

No business has been done in oil during the past week, and prices must be considered quite nominal at quotations. Deliveries have been 18,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.76
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.68

SUGAR.

A small business only has to be reported, and no change in prices has to be recorded.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 6th instant, since when there has been a large business doing in this Market, and the Settlements for seven days are fully 400 piculs. All classes, excepting coarse *Oshu* and *Taysam* kinds, have shared in the demand, and a rise of about \$10 per picul has been established for suitable lots.

The demand has been almost entirely for the United States Markets, *Filatures*, *Re-reels*, *Kakedas*, and even *Hanks* being freely taken for that destination. Cablegrams, reporting a better feeling in New York, coupled with the fact that the season's Export to date from Shanghai to the United States is now about 50 per cent. short (2,200 bales, against 4,200 bales same date last year) have caused buyers to be somewhat eager; and the native producer or dealer has benefited accordingly. From Europe news is not particularly bright, and purchases for that destination are few and far between.

Full-sized *Oshu* and *Taysam* sorts have again been taken in quantity for the native looms at Kiyoto, values being forced up to a level far above the prices which exporters can afford to pay. We withdraw all quotations accordingly, and the available Stocks are gradually being absorbed for internal use.

The O. & O. steamer *Khiva*, which left this port on the morning of the 8th instant, carried 77 bales for the Continent of Europe. The P.M. steamer *City of Tokio* (detained by bad weather till 4 p.m. yesterday) took 465 bales for New York, of which 37 bales are noted as being shipped by Japanese. These shipments bring the total Export up to 28,020 bales (the figures for the whole of last season were but 28,734 bales), against 22,479 bales to same date last year, and 14,886 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—These have shared in the general demand, about 100 piculs being settled, and shipped for the States by yesterday's mail steamer. In the daily list we note business done in *Shinshu*, at from \$520 to \$510, according to quality. Beyond this a few *Chichibu* reported at \$500.

Filatures.—This class has been in request, and about 150 piculs have found purchasers at full rates. Fine Silks have again been neglected, enquiry running on 14/16 den. thread. Among the purchases for the *City of Tokio* we notice *Tokosha*, \$630; *Yamanashi Ken*, \$620; *Shinshu*, \$620; *Koshu*, \$605 and \$600, with lower qualities at \$590 and \$585. Buying for next steamer has already begun at an advance in price, *Nihonmatsu* having been done at \$657½, with *Tokosha* at \$640.

Re-reels.—There has been a fair enquiry for these, but the scarcity of good parcels has tended to restrict business. We observe one or two small purchases at \$612½ for *Oshu Koriyama*, and \$600 for *Maibashi*.

Kakeda.—Again we have to report a good business, about 140 piculs of all grades having found buyers at enhanced values. The better classes have also participated, and business has been done in *Chochu*, \$605; *Phoenix*, \$600; but sellers will not go on at these rates. Medium sorts have been in strong demand as a substitute for "Re-reeled *Tsatlees*" and leave off with an upward tendency.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—Foreigners are quite out of the hunt just now: the home manufacture is gradually absorbing all supplies at very high prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 450 to 460
Filatures—Extra	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	615 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 2	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3	550 to 560
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 13th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
France and Italy	16,828	11,368	7,221
America	8,553	7,814	4,818
England	2,639	3,297	2,847
Total	28,020	22,479	14,886

WASTE SILK.

Transactions have fallen off in this branch, and Settlements for the week do not exceed 150 piculs. Some few supplies have come in, and the Stock is increased somewhat. Buyers complain that the assortment on offer is far from attractive, but with the break-up of winter weather, fresh arrivals will doubtless come to hand. Judging from the production last year, there should yet be some decent lots to come in before the season closes.

The P. & O. steamer of 8th instant carried 134 bales, and the Export now stands at 20,793 piculs, against 19,228 piculs last year, and 17,666 piculs to same date in 1882.

Noshi-ito.—Fully half the transactions have been in this class. *Filatures* are reported sold at \$155, \$140, and \$135, according to quality. In *Joshu* *Noshi*, some sales have been made of Winter reels at \$86. Arrivals generally have been on a par with Settlements, and Stocks are practically unaltered both in volume and quality.

Kibiso.—The balance of purchases recorded are

entered in this class. Best qualities have again been conspicuous by their absence, and transactions are noted as follows:—*Sandanshu*, \$80; *Joshu*, \$33½, \$33, \$32½; *Hachoji*, \$20, \$15; *Low Neri*, \$8 and \$6. These prices are all for the rough "Stock" uncleaned and unpicked.

Mawata.—Nothing passing, and the position is unchanged as per former advices.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 13th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
Waste Silk	18,598	16,085	14,507
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,143	3,159
	20,793	19,228	17,666

Exchange has rallied and again declined, last week's quotations now holding good, viz.:—LONDON, 4 m/s. Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 89; 60 d/s., 89½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.67½; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.70. *Kinsatsu* have steadily advanced to 115 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 13th March, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,200	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	400	Noshi-ito	60
Kakeda	200	Kibiso	450
Sendai & Hamatsuki	150	Mawata	20
Taysam Kinds	50		
Total piculs	2,000	Total piculs	530

TEA.

During the early part of the week a pretty good business was done, but during the last two days, there has been less doing. The total Settlements foot up to 765 piculs, which shows a better business than we have been reporting for the past fortnight. On the 10th and 11th instant, two buyers purchased about 295 piculs of very common Tea at \$2½ to \$3½ per picul, respectively to be broken into dust by firing, and then shipped to New York by first opportunity, these purchases are not included in the above settlements. From the purchases made during the past week now under review, we find that buyers have been paying fully one dollar and a half over our last Market prices, and under existing circumstances we consider it advisable to alter the quotations. The Market closes firm as below. The next mail for San Francisco is the O. & O. steamer *Arabic*, and is advertised to leave here on the 28th instant, taking Tea at 3 cents per lbs. gross to the Eastern States and Canada, and at \$12.00 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco. Some small amount of Tea cargo has been shipped via Suez Canal to London, thence to be transhipped to New York at rates ranging, from 60 to 62 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The following are the Tea shipments since our last Market Report:—87,727 lbs. for New York, per P. & O. steamer *Khiva*; 12,880 lbs. to New York, per O. & O. steamer *Arabic*, both via Hongkong. 12,704 lbs. for Chicago, 1,200 lbs. for Portland (Oregon), 93,445 lbs. for California, and 10,254 lbs. for Canada, per P.M. steamer *City of Tokio*, making a total of 212,210 lbs. of Fired Tea to the United States and Canada by these steamers.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$14 & under
Good Common	16 to 18
Medium	20 to 22
Good Medium	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

Another slight decline has to be recorded in Exchange during the week. Transactions have been extremely small, and quotations have a downward tendency.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.57
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	89
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	89

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May 1st, 1883.

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KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
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THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

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No. 12, Vol. I.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

POSTHUMOUS honours have been conferred on the great-grandfather of the reigning Emperor.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Honorable F. R. Plunkett was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on the 21st instant.

A SUBMARINE cable has been laid between the village of Rotomo in the province of Hizen and the island of Tsushima.

CONSIDERABLE distress is said to prevail among the agricultural classes in the prefecture of Ibaraki.

OF eighteen brokers arrested on the 14th instant on suspicion of gambling in margins, seventeen were released on the 17th instant.

A FIRE broke out in Higashi Kuromoncho, Tokiyo, on the night of the 15th instant, and destroyed 170 houses.

A BUREAU for the preparation of the Constitution (*Seido-torishirabe-Kiyoku*) has been established under the presidency of His Excellency Hirobumi Ito.

HER MAJESTY the QUEEN has granted permission to Mr. W. W. Cargill to accept and wear the Insignia of the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

IT is announced that the ceremony of opening the railway from Tokiyo to Takasaki will be

performed on the 18th of April by His Majesty the Emperor.

A FARMER, by name Shibata Asagoro, residing in the village of Naka-yoshida, in the province of Ugo, has been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for a treasonable attempt to subvert the Government.

A STEAMER of 900 tons displacement was launched on the 14th instant from the Government shipbuilding yard at Shin-den, Hiogo. The vessel was built to the order of Mr. Nakamura Tinichin, of Kiyoto.

A CODE of Land-Tax Regulations has been published over the signatures of the First Minister of State and the Minister of Finance. The Regulations embody, and supplement, the various changes that have taken place in the system of land-taxation since the Restoration.

A LINE of steamers has been established to ply between the mouths of the rivers Fuji and Aizawa (in Koshiu). In connection with this enterprise, it is proposed to dredge the bed of the former river at an estimated outlay of 700,000 yen.

AN accident occurred in the harbour on the evening of the 17th instant. A boat containing over a hundred men upset while passing from the M.B.S.S. Co.'s steamer *Wakanoura Maru* to the shore. Eleven of the men were drowned.

A REPORT published by the Finance Department shows that up to the 20th of February the applications for Nakasendo Railway Bonds amounted to 8,166,000 yen. The Bonds were issued at 90, and the amount offered was five million yen. The Report says that the applicants were 677 in all, 153 being Banks and Companies. The premiums offered varied from .01, to 1.50 yen.

NOTES.

It will be remembered that the Municipal Council of Shanghai, some time ago, addressed a letter to the Senior Consul complaining of the disorderly conduct of Chinese soldiers in the foreign settlement, and requesting that steps should be taken to prevent, if possible, the passage through the streets of Mandarins attended by large escorts. To persons whose feelings are not excited by actual experience of the annoyances to which the residents of Shanghai were subjected, there is something almost sublimely high-handed in the notion that a few strangers living on Chinese territory for purposes of trade should undertake to prescribe the manner of going and coming of Chinese high officials. But if those officials cannot preserve order and discipline among their following, it becomes a nice question whether the perils caused by their progresses are not a violation of the treaties, which guarantee peace and protection to all foreigners residing within the settlements set apart for their use. The Consuls, however, would not accept that view of the matter. They declined to take the proposed steps, on the

grounds that "the discussion of certain rights of high Chinese officials would probably have no result." To this the Municipal Council replied, requesting that the whole correspondence should be forwarded to the Foreign Ministers at Peking. "The Ratepayers," they explained, "consider the right claimed by high Chinese officials to come into the Settlement attended by large numbers of armed men, who use force in order to compel every one they meet to stand aside as a mark of respect, is a matter of great importance in connection with the preservation of peace and good order in the Settlement." It will be observed that this is a repetition of the circumstances which foreigners found in Japan before the Restoration. So late as 1868, Captain Stanhope, of H.M.S. *Ocean*, was obliged to get out of his carriage and stand upon the Tokaido while a Daimyo's procession passed. Sir Harry Parkes, we believe, protested very strongly against this proceeding, and an ample apology was made by the Japanese Government. Yet it is worthy of note that when the men of Bizen wounded a Marine and fired a volley in Kobe in 1867, because their ranks were broken, Sir Harry was the one foreign Minister who endeavoured to have their offence condoned, recognizing that from a Japanese point of view, they had just cause for anger. It will now devolve upon him to deal with a similar, though even more reprehensible, state of affairs in China, and we have little doubt that he will devise some means of correcting the abuse, though not in the way suggested by the Municipal Council. In the meanwhile, it is fortunate that Chinese soldiers do not read the English local papers. Doubtless if they had not exhibited a truculent and violent demeanour, they would not be called "a stupid, brutish, and insolent pack of ragamuffins," a "rabble-guard" and "a crowd of unclean savages;" but, on the other hand, even if they were peaceable and gentle braves, such epithets as these might have a perturbing effect upon their spirits. There is a certain consolation in calling a man bad names when he makes himself offensive, but one feels doubtful about the dignity or wisdom of such a resource in the case under consideration.

TO THE numerous list of recent shipping disasters in these seas we (*Hongkong Daily Press*) regret to have to add yet another well known coasting steamer. On Saturday morning a rumour being current in town that the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Rajanattianuhar* had been lost, the local manager of the Company, Mr. G. T. Hopkins, wired to Bangkok an inquiry concerning her, and received the following reply by telegraph:—"Rajanattianuhar total wreck on Pulo Ranjang; crew and passengers saved by *Danube*; returned to Bar." The *Rajanattianuhar* left Swatow on the afternoon of the 25th February with 85 passengers bound for Bangkok. The steamer *Mongkut* passed the *Rajanattianuhar* and *Taichow* on the 29th February about twenty miles to the westward of Pulo Condore. The *Rajanattianuhar*, which was a fine steamer of 793 tons,

left Greenock for the Far East on the 1st April, 1875, under the command of Captain Hopkins, and was employed on the Bangkok line from the time of her arrival here under the same commander until the end of January, 1882, when Captain Hopkins left her to take up the post of shore manager of the Company's steamers. Captain W. Young Hunter succeeded him on the *Rajanattianuhar*, and was in command at the time of the disaster, concerning which no further particulars are yet to hand.

THE Council of Ministers in Paris has decided to interdict the circulation in France of a journal called the *Révolté*, which is published at Geneva. It has also ordered judicial proceedings to be instituted against the *République Démocratique et Sociale*, a daily newspaper edited by M. Talandier, deputy for Vincennes. The alleged offence is an article just published by that paper, over the signature of Michael Morphy, a disciple of Proudhon, containing these expressions:—"Property is theft. Death to the thieves! With the aid of chemistry there is no longer such a thing as a minority. The apostles of the people's vengeance, thanks to dynamite, will be able to conquer the wealthy class, despite its power, its police, and its troops." According to the French law of 1881, any attempt, whether successful or not, on the part of the press, to incite men to murder, pillage, or incendiarism, is punishable by imprisonment of from three months to two years, and a fine of from 200 to 3,000 francs.

FRENCH gentlemen who love their *petite verre* have just had a narrow escape. In the early days of January, the scientists of Paris set themselves to discuss the question whether in future it would not be advisable to adulterate alcohol with strychnine. The idea was not to poison wine-bibbers but to save them from the ill-effects of their excesses. The treatment of alcoholism by strychnine had, in fact, begun to be regarded with favour by the faculty, and from cure to prevention was an easy transition. A distinguished member of the Academy of Medicine, M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, has, however, proved, by experiment and observation, that if strychnine can modify the symptoms of drunkenness and of delirium tremens, it offers no sensible opposition to the various alterations produced in the organs by the presence of alcohol in the tissues. So the notion of adding it to alcoholic beverages by way of a corrective has been abandoned. None the less lively was the emotion caused by the prospect among certain classes of Parisians.

SHORTLY before the Restoration, says the *Jiyu Shimbun*, when the *kinno joi* (serving the Sovereign and excluding foreigners) spirit was at its height, a certain high-spirited Ronin, angry at the *Baku-fu* for not obeying imperial decrees, cut off the head of a wooden image of the third Shogun of the Ashikaga dynasty. This he did in the Todo-in temple at Kiyoto, and afterwards exposed the headless image to public view at Sanjo-gawara. A similar occurrence took place at Hiroshima, Aki Prefecture, on the night of the 21st of last month. During a course of Shintoist lectures at that place, one of the speakers vehemently attacked Buddhism, and, pointing to an idol close by, cried "Gentlemen! this idol, though covered with gilt and ornaments, cannot confer favours upon any one, nor can it bring punishment upon an unbeliever. If you doubt my words, I can and will prove you their truth," and in another moment he had decapitated the

object of his wrath. Many people in the audience hereupon grew greatly excited, and got as red in the face as a boiled cuttle fish.

A TOKYO journal tells a wonderful story of the success which has attended the preaching of a priest called Hôun Bugai, of the Zen sect of Buddhism. This enthusiast spent the greater part of last year travelling and preaching in the three prefectures of Tottori, Shimane, and Yamaguchi, with the result that 285,423 persons avowed themselves converts to his doctrines. Such bewildering figures make a considerable demand upon one's credulity. It is plain that if the results attributed to Mr. Hôun Bugai's eloquence be trustworthy, a campaign of fifteen or twenty years will suffice to make the whole population of Japan followers of the *Zenshu*.

THE question of the relative merits of the Krupp and Armstrong guns is one which will doubtless be definitively cleared up soon. In the meanwhile, the correspondence which we print elsewhere does not throw much light on the question. "Artillerist," writing to *Engineering*, challenges a comparative table published by Mr. Krupp, and justly points out that, to form a correct judgment, it is not right to compare a gun of 35 calibres in length with a gun of only 28.9 calibres. He then gives another table in which the performances of guns of the same length are placed side by side, considerably to the advantage of the Armstrong. Krupp, in his turn, challenges this table, and shows that in more than one respect it is incorrect, not, however, without himself falling into an error of calculation which another correspondent subsequently points out. We regret that Messrs. Takata & Co., have not sent us "Artillerist's" answer to Mr. Krupp. So far as the documents supplied are concerned, the advantage is certainly with the latter, but we cannot agree that the superiority of Krupp's gun is yet "clearly shown." Further trials will be necessary before the relative merits of the two weapons can be exhaustively determined.

A FEW days ago, says a recent, *Alla*, it was reported by the telegraph that Rev. Father Damazo Soto, of Concordia, Mexico, has discovered a key to the Aztec writings. This announcement excited considerable diverse comment, as it was known that the ancient Aztec picture writing had long ago been deciphered without much difficulty. The *New York Tribune* hazards the opinion that it is the the Toltec writings, and not the Aztec, to which Father Soto thinks he has discovered the key. Of the Toltec writings the *Tribune* says:—"We are not aware that any of this priestly text has been deciphered fully, though enough is known of it to warrant the belief that much of the language employed an esoteric meaning, and was intended to conceal supposed truths from the eyes of the vulgar, much as alchemists used to conceal the real significance of their speculations and formulas in the Middle Ages. Could this Toltec hieratic writing be deciphered, it is probable that new light would be thrown upon the religion and science of that ancient and interesting people, and such information would be particularly welcome in this era of analytic inquiry."

WHEN Mr. A. J. Wilkin states that the tariff revision of 1866 was a kindly measure adopted by upright Foreign Representatives to put an end

to the corruption which prevailed in the Japanese Customs Service, he treads on somewhat delicate ground. Lord's Elgin's tariff was a very simple affair. The precious metals, wearing apparel in actual use, and household furniture or printed books not intended for sale, were duty free. Fourteen enumerated articles paid a duty of 5 per cent.; intoxicating liquors paid a duty of 35 per cent., and everything else paid twenty per cent. Under the system inaugurated in 1866, eighty-nine different classes of imports paid eighty-nine different specific duties; eighteen were duty free, and twenty-four paid an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. To ordinary minds it would seem the apparent intention of this elaboration was to guard against dishonesty, not on the part of Customs officials, but on the part of importers themselves. To men of Mr. Wilkin's high integrity no contingency, perhaps, seems that less probable than fraudulent conduct on the part of European or American merchants. Yet, as a matter of history, fraud was largely practiced in the early days. Not only were goods invoiced at merely nominal figures, but they were sometimes carried off from the hatoba without troubling the Customs at all. These things were well known at the time, and as heartily condemned by the better class of foreigners as they were ever deprecated by the Japanese. How much corruption existed among the Customs officials themselves there is no evidence to show. It was probably very great. But the undeniable fact is that the elaboration of the tariff was designed to guard against smuggling operations on the foreign side rather than against false returns on the Japanese. The less said about the circumstances of those days, the better. If there is anything to be proud of in the business, it is that the Representatives of the Treaty Powers, assisted by the advice of upright gentlemen like Mr. Wilkin, arranged the tariff in such a way that it became much easier for the Japanese to ensure its honest operation. But the terms of the tariff had already been fixed. Its revision on a five per cent. basis had been consented to by the Japanese. Those who deny that this consent was obtained under the pressure of superior force must find some more reasonable argument, than the hypothesis that an allied fleet went to Osaka to procure the Taikun's Government's co-operation in a measure designed solely to correct the morality of Japanese officials and to increase the Japanese revenue.

THE Queen's new book, which was sent out for review February 11th, previous to its publication, is said to be even more in the nature of a record of personal ideas, feelings, and experiences, than was her former volume. The prediction that it would deal largely with political topics is not verified. A few allusions to her sympathy with and regard for Lord Beaconsfield, with implied preferences for his policy as compared with that of Mr. Gladstone, are the only deviations from the line of private reminiscence which Her Majesty has apparently laid down for herself. When she speaks of foreign public events, such as the Franco-German war and the recent Egyptian campaign, it is to indicate the interest they possess for her as an individual, not as a Sovereign. Nothing connected with France is touched upon, excepting her relations with the Imperial family; and her maternal interest in the fight at Tel-el-Kebir, where the Duke of Connaught took some part, is the single reason for

mentioning it. The intention is to supply a sequel to the earlier narrative, describing with simple exactness the general course of the Queen's life "in the Highlands," since the period of the Prince Consort's death. The diary begins in August, 1862; and is interrupted at October, 1879; but is resumed in 1883, for a few pages. The figures which appear most prominently are the habitual companions and attendants of the Queen,—members of her family and others. John Brown's constant and active service is attested by more frequent references to him and his doings than to any other single subject. But the secluded and uneventful life which Her Majesty has led since she became a widow, naturally deprives the publication of anything resembling vivid interest. There was really little to relate, and the incidents of one month, or year, go on repeating themselves with slight variation from beginning to end. Not more than half a dozen exceptional occurrences are chronicled;—the announcement, by Princess Louise to her mother, of the engagement to Lord Lorne; the foundation of a "cairn" to the Prince Consort's memory; a house-warming, where the Queen, at Brown's request, drank whiskey toddy; the reception of the news that the French Prince had been killed in Africa; accidents to Brown and his recovery therefrom; a Royal picnic, at which the ubiquitous gillie had nearly a fight with a reporter who watched the proceedings through a telescope;—and possibly one or two besides. Probably the most striking feature of the book is the fresh evidence it gives of the Queen's unceasing reliance upon the rugged strength and fidelity of her favorite servant; for the explanation of which we need go no farther than to look at her state of social isolation, which has, in later years, denied her the advantage of domestic counsel and guidance from persons of her own, or approximately her own, rank. The closing passage of the volume contains this tribute to the trusted attendant:—"He served me truly, devotedly, untiringly. To say that he is daily, nay, hourly missed by me, whose lifelong gratitude he won by constant care and devotion, is but a feeble expression of the truth."

THE Okinawa (Riukiu) correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* writes under date of March 1st:—"In connection with the return of Mr. Shoten (son of Mr. Shotai, the former chief of the Okinawa clan) to this Prefecture, his father, who is at present at Tokiyo, has issued the following notice to the *Shizoku* and people of this Island:—"The Court has shown great leniency and kindness in the treatment of the people of Okinawa, and all should heartily respond to its wishes and obey the local administration. Anything contrary to this is very wrong. The return of Shoten is for the purpose of visiting the tombs of his ancestors and of adjusting family matters: this is the sole reason of his return. Therefore if any one should start a rumour to a different effect or otherwise agitate the public, it would not only harm the people of Okinawa, but cause me serious trouble, and strict punishment would follow. The people should clearly understand the state of affairs; they should quietly follow their avocations, and refrain from violating the laws of the Government. I have given all necessary instructions to Shoten and his steward, which the people will hear of, without fail." This notice was published in the capital, Naha, in the form of circulars, and was read aloud in other places to crowds of the

natives, who, for the first time, thoroughly understand the motives of Mr. Shotai. Many listened to the reading of the circular with tears in their eyes, as they well appreciated the kind feelings of their one-time master towards his people. The followers of the Black Party, however, took no notice of the arrival of Shoten. They intend to appoint a former influential official chief of the clan, and it is reported that they have sent a petition to the Chinese Government. But the influence of the faction is on the wane since the publication of the above circular, and many have even sent apologetic letters to Mr. Shoten.

EDITORIAL changes, with their consequences, have been much remarked, of late, by readers of certain leading London journals. The *Pall Mall Gazette* does not appear to have suffered, as many predicted it must suffer, from the withdrawal of Mr. John Morley; but it can hardly be doubted that it has lost a good measure of the authority and influence which that gentleman's coöperation and management brought to it. He probably did not succeed in adding materially to the circulation, if, indeed, he ever made good the loss which followed the exposure of the internal dissensions of the concern, three years ago. But the circulation of the *Pall Mall* never was large, nor was the importance of its position at all dependent upon the number of its readers. Its real power, when Mr. Morley supplied the leading articles, was due to the fact that he was implicitly followed by numbers of writers in and out of London, some of whom exercised a political force in papers of much greater magnitude and popularity than the little afternoon daily. In this way, he indirectly edited a good many journals besides his own. He certainly brought to his work an energy and an intellectual sincerity more than sufficient to satisfy the average needs of half a dozen ordinary periodicals. Of course his absence from the familiar field is greatly lamented,—not only by the *Pall Mall* clientele, but, with at least equal earnestness, by the group of devotees who found it convenient to take their ideas from him, and present them in their own columns with only slight modifications of treatment. The reasons of his retirement are not well understood; but it is asserted that his relations with his former associates are unimpaired, and that the resignation was entirely voluntary on his part.

Instead of seeking for a new editor, and thereby provoking comparisons which might be injurious, even if unjust, the proprietor of the *Pall Mall* has decided to carry on the paper with its old working force, minus Mr. Morley, and to leave the general management in the hands of Mr. Stead, who was next in command to the late chief. Mr. Stead has a fine reputation in that branch of his profession which concerns itself with editorial superintendence and direction, rather than with literary production. He is not, however, like many executive managers, without good gifts as a writer, and can take his turn with the best, on occasion, in discussing the vital topics of the day. Mr. Thompson, the owner, is not a trained journalist, but is best known as a maker of works on national economy, and a leader in the social field of politics. He was at one time private secretary to Lord Spencer. He has taken some steps toward abandoning the strictly impersonal method in his paper,—the second article being frequently signed with the writer's name. Apart from this detail, and a

greater apparent reliance upon actual current news than formerly characterized it, the *Pall Mall* offers no tangible indication of present or impending alteration.

* * *

Mr. Harwood has said good bye to the *Saturday Review*, and is succeeded, in editorial control, by Mr. W. H. Pollock, a younger member of a family well known in legal and literary circles. The *Saturday* is still a publication of such prominence as to give considerable interest to the details of its organization, although the days when it was the shining—and somewhat lurid—light of English criticism, are well nigh forgotten. The present generation can hardly call to mind the régime of Mr. Douglas Cook, and his band of literary free-lances. In his time, each reappearance of the truculent weekly was a social event. Whatever his principles may have been, Douglas Cook was certainly one of the most ingenious manipulators of newspaper material and resources that ever lifted a periodical to daring, and occasionally dizzy, heights of prosperity. He knew how to turn every element of interest to its best account. Finding it advantageous to his purposes, he made a personal mystery of himself, as well as of his associates and their doings. Probably there was nothing more marvellous in his origin or career than that of most people; but when his conspicuous position made him an object of inquiry, he affected reticence and obscurity, and thus wrapped himself in a mystic atmosphere, through the medium of which his proportions were certainly magnified, and probably unduly distorted. He was known to live in the Albany, and he was surprisingly prevalent in society, for a man who accomplished so much hard work; but as nobody could tell where he came from, everybody was excessively anxious to trace his origin and fix his antecedents. People who did not like him,—and there were legions of these before he had carried the *Saturday* through the first six stormy months,—vowed that he was an escaped convict. This was probably not generally credited. If it had been, half the newspaper owners in London would have been sending to Botany Bay for editors,—on a theory formulated by Abraham Lincoln, with reference to General Grant and whiskey drinking. He had been an attaché of the *Morning Chronicle*, during the discreditable period—if we remember rightly—when Napoléon III. bought that unlucky sheet and entrusted it to the most incompetent American he could possibly have picked out of the United States colony in Paris. The *Chronicle* went to pieces, as it deserved, but its best people were gathered together and marshalled under Cook's bâton in the new *Saturday Review* corps. But they were all under pledge not to reveal their identity, it being part of the editor's policy to invest the authorship of all articles with as much romance as his imagination could devise. It suited his fancy to have it get about that most of the "society sketches,"—the cleverness of which had a great effect in establishing the fortunes of the concern,—were the work of young Oxford and Cambridge graduates, newly created "fellows," unfledged barristers, and the like. In fact, there was a sufficient number of smart University men contributing, under Cook's leadership, to give colour to the report; but the body of the periodical was provided, each week, by men who were neither young nor fresh; by men—or sometimes women—who had for years pursued their vocation without obtaining, or expecting to

obtain, a tenth part of the applause which was regularly lavished upon the unknown contributors to the *Review*. An instance of Cook's peculiar craft occurs to us, in connection with the recent republication of a collection of *Saturday* essays, the parenthetical narrative of which may have an attraction for those who are interested in these topics.

* * *

The proprietor of the *Saturday Review* was Beresford Hope, a connection by marriage with a young nobleman who, though now the recognized leader of the Conservative peerage, at that time found it agreeable to preface book reviews for his brother-in-law's brilliant periodical. Lord Robert Cecil's pen was as bitter as his tongue proved to be in the House of Commons, and his productions were naturally appreciated by Cook in a kindred spirit. Whether Lady Robert Cecil ever contributed to the paper, or not, we are unable to say; but she was all at once credited with the authorship of as remarkable a series of "social studies" as ever adorned the pages of any English journal. The first of these, entitled "The Girl of the Period," caused people to open their eyes to an extent unusual even when the lively columns of the *Saturday* were under perusal. It was, in fact, written by Mrs. Lynn Linton,—an authoress now known to fame as the creator of some of the most powerful of modern fictions; but then in no wise distinguished above the usual order of nimble-handed newspaper attachés. The success of the initial essay caused it to be followed by several of the same stamp, and public curiosity was eager in search of the writer. Internal evidence betrayed the feminine origin, and, lest from that starting point the whole truth should be discovered, it was thought expedient to set inquiry on a false scent. Lady Robert Cecil was celebrated for a cleverness which, if not previously manifested in the same direction, was believed sufficient to qualify her for any achievement she might undertake. She was in constant companionship with her sister, Lady Mildred Hope, and Mr. Hope was owner of the *Saturday Review*. The scheme was thus ready made to Douglas Cook's hand, and was floated into popular acceptance without much need of his masterly strategy. From that day until a few weeks ago, the present Marchioness of Salisbury has worn the honours—such as they are—attached to the composition of "The Girl of the Period" effusions. The editor would never, so long as he could control the matter, permit Mrs. Linton to enjoy the celebrity to which she was fairly entitled. Perhaps she felt, herself, some hesitation in avowing the responsibility; for there are some tolerably audacious passages in the articles, and Mrs. Linton has once or twice shrunk from proclaiming her own handiwork,—notably, in the case of that remarkable allegory, "Joshua Davidson." However, this may be, she has at last disclosed herself, in the preface to a volume containing the essays. Not only has she disclosed herself, but she has made awkward suggestions concerning the pretenders who have shone by the light which she alone kindled. She affirms that she has twice been introduced to alleged authors of her productions,—one, a clergyman, and the other, "a lady of rank, well known in London society, and to this hour believed by her own circle to have written" the sketches in question. Mrs. Linton does not say that Lady Salisbury put forward any claim on her own behalf; but she strongly hints that it

was her duty to disavow "the soft impeachment." So we have, in this disagreeable sequel to a journalistic deception, a new proof that "the evil that men (like Douglas Cook) do lives after them."

* * *

In these days of the *Saturday's* decadence, it is difficult to refrain from thus glancing back to its period of greatness, although we admit that the dexterous machinations of a bygone editor have little to do with the recent accession of a new one. Under Mr. Harwood, who has just retired, the paper continued to exhibit all the rancour and malignity with which his predecessor invested it, but comparatively little of the determined purpose and systematic energy of its youth. It was so carelessly, not to say recklessly, conducted, that its political utterances almost ceased to attract attention. Its discussion of continental questions was at times ludicrously feeble. The literary and general departments were, however, kept at the old standard, or very near it; and upon these the character of the paper has mainly rested. It is somewhat curious that, if we may judge from Mr. Pollock's antecedents, the incoming editor is less likely to infuse vigour and earnestness where these were most needed, than to further develop the merits of the minor features. He is known among journalists as a well informed art critic, and a careful reviewer of French and English theatrical productions. Whether his dainty refinement of taste is the quality needed to restore the *Saturday* to any similitude of its ancient potency, is a question which answers itself. But Mr. Pollock has a reputation for conscientious accuracy which he may succeed in imparting to those of his staff who have, in late years, suffered from the need of authentic guidance. He has undoubtedly a fine opportunity. Little appears to be expected of him, and if he contrive to reverse the downward course of the still conspicuous periodical confided to his care, his success will be all the more striking; and his reward the more substantial.

ACCORDING to the *Kwampo*, the Consular report from Ginsen, dated February 11th, indicates that the Koreans seem at last to have recognized the benefits to be derived from foreign trade, and the momentous necessity of developing their own industries. Most of the inhabitants are engaged in establishing commercial firms in the larger towns, but some are latterly turning their attention to the manufacture of goods for export. Min-O-Shok, President of the Commercial Bureau, who was in China and Japan during the early part of last year, has, in connection with a certain Councillor in charge of military affairs, established a large export firm, with a view to further foreign trade. He intends, with the assistance of experienced Japanese, working the gold mines in Kyōng-sang-do and other provinces. The above-mentioned Councillor has, moreover, started a brewery and a wine factory, in connection with fourteen of his colleagues. White, red, yellow and blue ("blue ruin") wines are manufactured, and reported to be of excellent quality. Another firm, known as the Taido Trading Company, has been started in Hei-an-do. All of these establishments are semi-official. A secretary in the Foreign Office has opened a tobacco factory, and is engaged in the manufacture of cigars in the European style. The tobacco is of various grades, the leaves more nearly approaching those

of the Western tobacco than does that of Japan. Should the manufacture of cigars be improved, there is every probability that Korean tobacco will sell well; but as yet the quantity produced is so small that it does not reach the markets. The establishment of other trading firms is continually going on, and, though there are no data as to the actual result, the fact that the natives have begun to appreciate the importance of foreign trade is a good omen for the future. On the 21st of last September, the *Kokaku Maru*, a little vessel of 87 tons, bought in Japan, sailed for the first time from Korea to Nagasaki, with a full cargo of hides, cotton goods, seaweed, etc. The vessel was commanded by a Korean captain, and was the first to engage in direct export from Korea.

* * *

The same report further states that Go-keicho, the commander of the Chinese troops stationed in Sōul, is said to be about to leave for Canton in company with about 1,000 soldiers. It is, however, rumoured that he intends going unescorted to Tientsin in the first instance, after which he will return and conduct his men to Canton. The minting of a new coinage was carried on extensively during 1883. Coins were struck off both officially and by private individuals up to last November, in which month the work was temporarily suspended. In January of this year private coinage was permitted for a period of ten days, at the expiration of which period all further coinage was strictly prohibited and the mints destroyed. The *Tenkan-Kioku* is the only still existing mint.

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On the subject of the new coins the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* appends the following remarks:—The new one *mon* coins have not yet come largely into circulation, but as they were intended to remedy the over-issue of 5 *mon* coins they have been carefully minted and are of a uniform weight, which was not the case with the old 5 *mon* coins. Still, it is to be apprehended that this uniformity of weight will not much longer be their commendable characteristic if the mintage is carried on in any other place than the *Koku-fu*. Each of the new *mon* coins weighs exactly one *momme*; but, as they are composed of 6 parts of copper and four parts of lead and zinc, they weigh 2 *fun* less than the old one *mon* pieces. Their small size is an argument decidedly against them.

A SAILOR belonging to the American ship *Frank Pendleton* dropped down dead near the Union Church on Thursday shortly after noon, and a *post mortem* examination made yesterday by Dr. Eldridge showed that death resulted from apoplexy caused by alcoholic poisoning. As indicating the quality and effects of the so-called liquors sold to the unfortunate sailors frequenting this port, it may be worth recording that although the deceased had been in Yokohama but a short time, and the debauch during which he died was of comparatively brief duration, the terrible decoctions of which he had partaken had produced effects upon the vital organs far more severe than in ordinary cases of alcoholism, even if chronic, and closely resembled those found after death from substances universally acknowledged to be poisons, *e.g.* arsenic. The man was, in fact, poisoned, and none the less so that no evidence can be found to prove that he had partaken of anything other than the usual beverages sold at the lower class of public-houses.

THE news received by the American mail shows that the estimate we recently formed of the English Government's policy in Egypt was correct. The programme of General Gordon and Mr. Gladstone is to abolish Turkish and Egyptian rule in the Soudan and to restore the country to its original rulers, the Arabs. A telegram published in the *New York Herald* of February the 7th says that the following extract from a letter of Gordon's has been made public:—"It is no secret that England has abandoned all intention of guaranteeing the continuance of Egyptian supremacy over the Soudan. It has declared that the task is altogether too onerous, and would be attended with no corresponding advantages. It will, therefore, allow the people now in rebellion to revert to their old Sultans." This decision is fully endorsed by Gordon. His characteristic verdict is that "unless England shall secure the Soudan in the possession of a good Government, she ought not to conquer the country herself nor allow others to do so." That Mr. Gladstone fully shares these views is proved by his speech in the Commons on February the 12th, in answer to Sir Stafford Northcote's motion of censure. General Gordon, he explained, had a plan of his own for extricating the garrisons and pacifying the country. He proposed to "restore the former rulers to their ancestral power, usurped by Egypt." The only difficulty to be anticipated in obtaining the Mahdi's consent to this arrangement is that it will confine him to the Soudan. But if, as Gordon supposes, the insurrection is wholly the result of local misrule and not motivated by any larger purpose, there is no reason why that limit should prove a serious obstacle. General Gordon's methods of dealing with the insurgents are illustrated in the message he sent from Korosko to a troublesome Sheikh:—"Meet me at Khartoum. If you want peace, I am for peace; if you want war, I am ready." It is discouraging to find that his chances of success are doubted by no less an authority than Sir Samuel Baker, who has gone to Cairo. Meanwhile, the excitement in England appears to be very great. Professor Tyndall, writing to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, says that "the latest shame and scandal which the Government's cowardice has inflicted bring the country by no means to the end of its humiliations: while *The Times* declares that "if the Government fails to recognize its obligations at a crisis vital to our honour as a nation and to our existence as an empire, it will be a sad and sorry ending of a life of illustrious public service." The *United Ireland*, on the other hand, congratulates the Mahdi on his successes, and the Government, replying to a question asked in the House of Commons, have disavowed any intention of prosecuting the Nationalist organ. The Irish agitators have their own special reasons for rejoicing at the Mahdi's victories, but after all they can hardly be prosecuted for wishing success to a leader who has the British Cabinet's approval.

THE Japanese *littérateur* discloses sometimes a pleasant vein of humorous philosophy. One of them, writing in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, imparts the information that Mr. Tennyson receives as much as one thousand dollars for a short set of verses, and calls upon his readers to mark the different condition of affairs in Japan. "Here," he says, in substance, "the poet or essayist may wrestle with his theme, and polish, and elaborate with all his might; and then he is

plunged into anxiety as to whether his production will ever reach the glory of publication. Look at us! We pay the postage on our heavy manuscripts, and do not expect to get even that small outlay back. It is enough if we see ourselves in print. But,—one thousand dollars for a few stanzas! I wish I lived in Europe,—oh! how I wish it!" . . . "While writing these words," he adds, "I was interrupted by hearing some one in the next room exclaim,—'A dullard is a dullard, in whatever part of the world he may be.'"

On the 19th inst. a lecture on "Nerves" was delivered at the rooms of the Alpha Lodge, No. 42, under the auspices of the I.O.G.T., to an appreciative audience, by the Rev. G. T. Smith. The lecture was followed by songs by Miss Abbey, and by Messrs. Butland and Thorn of H.M.S. *Sapphire*. Short addresses from Rev. F. Bennett and Mr. Bunting, the Chairman, with closing prayer by the Rev. Mr. Garst, brought an enjoyable evening to a close. We understand that similar meetings are to be held fortnightly at the above rooms.

THE funeral took place on the 19th inst. of the men drowned through the recent boat accident in the harbour. The procession, which was formed at Noge, presented a sad spectacle as the ten bodies were borne up Ishikawa Hill on the way to the cremation ground near the racecourse, as the thought naturally arises that the lives spent were recklessly thrown away. The accident has been a great deal talked about, and almost every foreigner who refers to the subject has some experience to relate of the wanton risks daily run by Japanese in the matter of overcrowded boats. Nor is the danger confined to workmen going to and from ships in the harbour following their daily avocations. Since the accident to which we now refer, a case of overcrowding was seen in a sampan which landed a firing party from one of the Japanese men-of-war now in harbour. A foreigner on the bridge at the end of Water Street, noticing a boat with her gunwale within an inch or so of the water, stopped to count the number of men who got out of her when she came to the steps. The boat was an ordinary sampan in charge of two sendoes, and 35 men and two officers came to the Creek steps in her from the man-of-war anchorage. The men were on the way to the Rifle Range and had their rifles, and, it may be assumed, a fair quantity of ball cartridge, which, with their accoutrements and foreign seamen's rig would have probably drowned half the number had the boat been caught in the swell of a Yokosuka steamer or by other means shipped a little water, as the men were so thickly stowed that there was no room to bale the boat out in such a case.

Vanity Fair thus writes of Mr. Satow, H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul-General in Siam:—"Mr. Ernest Satow was Japanese Secretary at Tokiyo, and co-editor of 'Murray's Handbook of Japan.' Mr. Satow, a B.A. of London University, entered the Eastern Consular Service by open competition, in 1861, since which time he has been the backbone of whatever establishment he has belonged to. No man ever more thoroughly deserved the promotion which has now been accorded to him, fortunately whilst he is still at an age when he and the country are likely to profit by it. By this appointment Lord Granville enunciates the grand principle that any boy

going up for an appointment in the Chinese and Japanese Consular Service by open competition may, if he proves himself worthy, rise to the very highest posts in those countries; for there cannot be any doubt that Mr. Satow's appointment as Her Majesty's Agent in Siam is merely a stepping-stone to his future promotion to Tokiyo or to Peking when the proper moment arrives. Of course in a series of appointments such as this someone must be disappointed. Everybody must be sorry that Mr. Newman, who has served so long and so ably at Bangkok, should be superseded; but it is only for the moment."

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 8th inst. publishes the following relating to the Triad Society:—"Rumours of various kinds were rife among the Chinese in this Colony yesterday with regard to the doings of the Triad Society on the mainland. The most generally diffused rumour was that they had set fire to Canton, and it was in flames on both sides of the river. On inquiring at the office of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, we found that the line was out of order and not working. We also made inquiries of the officers of the *Kiukiang* on her arrival from Canton in the afternoon, but everything was quiet when she left, and they had heard of no trouble whatever other than the destruction of two houses by some accidental fire. The other rumours we heard were that the Society men had risen in Mirs Bay, and had attacked Kowloon City, which they had sacked. Chinese rumours, however, are in at least nine cases out of ten almost without foundation; the Canton one seems of this class, and it is most probable the others are equally unreliable.—We hear that upwards of a thousand Chinese belonging to the Triad Society have quietly left Hongkong, unarmed, with the intention, it is believed, of joining the rebels in the Kwei-shin district.—Latest reports from Canton state that all is quiet there, and there have been no risings by the Triad Society men or other rebels, nor has the city been set fire to. Thursday's wild Chinese rumours have all turned out to be unfounded."

MR. HENRY BUCK, perhaps better known as "Hotspur" of the *Daily Telegraph*, died last week, says a recent home paper, after a long illness, which had withdrawn him from his professional duties since the autumn of 1881. He was one of the best-known and most popular members of the industrious band whose business it is to supply our dailies with a weekly article and daily comments on sporting intelligence, and in his time was found a worthy successor to poor Harry Feist, the original "Hotspur" of the Peterborough Court organ, a paper that has always been very strongly represented in its sporting contributors. The present "Hotspur," whose happy knack of writing causes his article to be always sought for, is Mr. Greenwood, a partner of Mr. Buck in a commission agency.

The original "Hotspur," Feist, made the reputation of the *Telegraph's* sporting column, and in his time gave some remarkable predictions, but we remember one instance when he was altogether "out of the hunt." The occasion was the Liverpool Grand National of 1872. As the day approached for the great gathering at Aintree, Casse Tête came into the betting, and this fact alone was sufficient to induce some of the numerous tipsters to mention the animal

in their sporting notes as a possible winner. "Hotspur" in the *Telegraph*, pooh-poohed the idea of Casse Tête's ability to stay the course, much less that "the undersized, washed-out looking brute" should be in dangerous proximity to the winner at the finish, and in his final notes previous to the race said, if "Casse Tête wins the Grand National I will undertake to eat the beast." It is a matter of turf history that Casse Tête won the race from 24 others, and poor Feist never heard the last of it to the day of his death. It was quite true, however, that the washy-looking chesnut belied its appearance, for many a bigger and better-looking Japanese pony has been saddled on the Negishi Hill.

A TELEGRAM in a New York paper, dated London, Feb. 11, announces the death of Mr. Thomas Chenery, editor of *The Times*. Mr. Chenery, who succeeded the late Mr. Delane in 1877, was born in Barbadoes in 1826 and educated at Eton and Cambridge. Afterwards he was admitted to the English bar at Lincoln's Inn. In 1868 Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford and Lord High Almoner, appointed Mr. Chenery Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic at Oxford. He belonged by appointment of the Sultan to the Order of the Medjidie and was Secretary of the Royal Asiatic Society. He was one of the English revisers of the authorized version of the Old Testament. As an Oriental scholar he is best known by his translation of "The Assemblies of Al Hariri," and by his edition of "Macheroth Ithiel." He is the author of various literary and political writings.

THE Lynch Family of Bellringers, said by the Hongkong papers to have left that port for Yokohama, have decided to remain in Hongkong for a short season, before coming to Japan. The manager writes to say that the party may be expected here about the end of the present month. The *Bombay Gazette* thus refers to the troupe:—The Lynch Family, judging from the uniform warmth of the reception accorded to them by the audiences that have witnessed their performances at the Gaiety Theatre, are likely to reap the same bountiful harvest of success that they have enjoyed elsewhere. . . . To the Lynch Family belongs the credit of being the Pioneer Campanologists in India and so long as bellringing is performed by such clever performers as they are there is every reason to believe it will be as popular here as at home."

A LONDON telegram, which appears to have escaped notice hitherto, mentions a statement, said to have been made by Li Hung-chang, to the effect that the Chinese forces at Bac-ninh had been ordered to withdraw twenty-five leagues to the northward. This intelligence is dated January 17th, and judging by the result of the last fighting in Tonquin, it seems more than probable that such an order was actually issued. The forecast suggested is that China does not mean to fight openly so long as her own territories are not actually threatened. She has two courses before her, either to accept the mediation that will now be offered, probably by America, or to continue the policy of covert assistance, which, up to the present, has given its backbone to the resistance of the Black Flags. The latter are not much less formidable than they were a year ago. They have lost a good many positions, and been severely beaten several times, but they are still a troublesome

factor, to be completely eradicated before the French task can be counted accomplished. It is possible that during the summer they may carry on a harrassing species of guerilla warfare in the mountainous districts between Sontai and Laokai, or even in the delta itself of the Red River, and that China looks to obtain something of her desired terms in exchange for undertaking to rid France of this embarrassment. But, for the rest, it cannot be expected that France will pay much attention henceforth to Chinese menaces. After all the tall talk and brave declarations we have heard, it now appears that the Marquis Tsêng was the sole defender of Bac-ninh. A gallant defence he made, too, in his own way; but one cannot help reflecting, that had he better estimated the true temper of his Government, China's prestige would not have suffered so cruelly.

AMONGST the telegrams taken from the Shanghai papers and published on the 20th inst., there is one which was not sent here announcing an action in Egypt about a fortnight previous to the great fight in which so many of the enemy fell. This message, which is dated London, March 2, does not give the *locale* of the fight, but the British loss is stated to be fifty killed and wounded, while that of the enemy was a thousand.

ACCORDING to an Imperial Notification of the Council of State, H.I.H. Torihito, the father of Kokaku Tenno (one hundred and nineteenth Emperor and great-grand father of the reigning Mikado), has been granted the posthumous title of *Tai-jo Tenno* (Supreme Emperor), and canonized as *Kei-ko Tenno*.

THE trial of the fifty-two members of the Park Club, London, charged with gambling by playing baccarat at the rooms of the club, has been recently concluded. The proprietor of the Club and the members of the Committee were fined £500 each, and the players £100 each. An appeal from this decision was lodged.

A FOREIGNER while passing through the Shimbashi railway station on Thursday was relieved of his watch. Considering the number of warnings the public have had about watch-lifting at the Tokiyo station, it is rather surprising that people do not remember when arriving at the Capital terminus to "pocket their watch and watch their pocket too." The way in which many persons wear a watch and exhibit a foot of heavy gold chain is a premium on theft, although we are not aware this was the case with the latest victim.

IN H.B.M.'s Court on Thursday, before N. J. Hannen, Esq., Judge, Patrick Burnside was summoned by Messrs. Boyer & Co., of the Grand Hotel, for \$32.10 for board and lodging. The defendant did not appear, and one of the partners of the firm having produced a promissory note signed by the defendant, which he had refused to pay, His Honour gave judgment for Boyer & Co. for the amount claimed, with costs.

ADMIRAL COURBET has written to Admiral Peyron, French Minister of Marine, bitterly complaining of being superseded by General Millot in the command of the French forces in Tonquin, just as he was about to attack Bac-ninh.

THE Chinese Government telegraph lines are steadily being extended. The wires have been in working order between T'ung-chow, a town

twelve miles from Peking, and Shanghai, with Tientsin, Nanking, and several other important places *en route*, for some months; and now we learn that a line between Shanghai and Foochow has been completed and opened for traffic.

It would not be generally supposed that passengers by rail are in the habit of leaving money behind them in the carriages. Nevertheless the records of the police station at Shimbashi show that the amount of the money thus forgotten in first class carriages on the Tokiyo-Yokohama line during 1880 was 628 *yen*.

It does not appear that the folks who cater to the appetites of native Lotharios of Yokohama drove a very prosperous trade during 1883. The total earnings of the casinos in Maganechô, Yairakuchô, and Takashimachô only amounted to 173,471 *yen*, of which 59,760 *yen* were the receipts of the female furniture of the establishments.

WE read in a vernacular journal that the total amount of the taxes on vehicles collected during 1883 was 363,300 *yen*, which sum is from thirty to forty thousand less than the average of the preceding two years.

THE number of civil cases appealed to the Supreme Court in Tokiyo, during the month of February, was sixty; and the number of appeals decided, seventy-one. The number of criminal cases appealed was 334, and the number decided, 310.

WE have not been visited during the past two months by so many shocks of earthquake as usual, but on Saturday night about half-past seven the inhabitants of this Port received a sudden and violent reminder in a strong, sharp shock.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Hon. F. R. PLUNKETT, H.B.M.'s Minister to Japan, arrived here on Saturday in the P. & O. steamship *Kashgar*, and shortly after proceeded to Tokiyo.

THE Manila *Comercio* of the 1st inst. says:—"To-day news has been circulated of the receipt of a telegram announcing suspension of payment by the London house of Messrs. Martin, Dyce and Co. We regret this disaster which has fallen on one of the oldest mercantile firms in Manila."

THURSDAY being the anniversary of the Spring Festival (*Shun-ki Ko-rei Sai*) most of the vernacular journals observed a holiday. The Princes, Ministers of State, Privy Councillors and all officials of *sonin* rank proceeded to the Palace, and were present at the ceremonies performed there.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Khiva* left Hongkong at 4 p.m. on Thursday for this port, *via* Nagasaki and Hiogo, and that the English mails of the 8th February are on board the O. & O. steamer *Arabic*.

THE Russian cruiser *Razboingh* (8), Captain Pojarsky, arrived here on Thursday from Honolulu, after a fine weather passage of 33 days. The *Razboingh* exchanged salutes next morning with the port and *Sapphire*.

THE Occidental and Oriental steamship *Arabic*, for this port, left Hongkong on Wednesday, at 3 p.m. The *Arabic* is bringing up the English mail of Feb. 8, and may be expected here next Tuesday.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

THE *London and China Express* discusses the new tariff and trade regulations between Japan and Korea in a spirit not usually betrayed by writers on such subjects. To a casual reader the impression conveyed is that our contemporary's article was inspired by a sentiment of engrossing anxiety to cast some reproaches in Japan's teeth, and of ungenerous delight at the prospect of an occasion to be severe. In one respect, perhaps, we ought not to complain of this exhibition: it imparts to a naturally colourless thesis lights and shadows which greatly improve its sombre aspect. But when a newspaper which usually displays a desire to divide its vision equally between both sides of a question, suddenly abandons the judicial rôle, and assumes the part of an unreasoning opponent, it is apt to lose in credit what it gains in animation.

The article to which we allude contains so many remarkable statements, set forth in such vigorous language, that we reproduce in full the portions of it which refer to the subjects under discussion:—

In her treatment of Korea we have now the standard created by Japan herself. We need not revert to our own ideas of right and wrong, our methods of dealing with a weaker nation, our standards of justice and good policy, and apply them to Japan. For eight or nine years past Japan has supplied us with means for estimating her sincerity when she professes indignation and discontent at the treaties now binding her to the West. Korea is a weak, ignorant, secluded country; Japan is now the powerful neighbour, with ironclads, machine guns, and repeating rifles, with intimate knowledge, too, of international matters. The case of thirty years ago, so far as Japan is concerned, has been reversed, and has she practised the precepts which she has busily inculcated lately—tenderness and moderation to the weaker and more ignorant neighbour at her feet, and scrupulous respect for her rights and independence (?) Japan complains, and justly, of the violence and outrage of individual foreigners in the first years of the foreign settlements; has she done better in Korea? We think not. It is not very long since a number of Japanese residing in Fusan sallied out from the settlement to force the officials of the neighbouring populous town to give them the satisfaction they demanded; the Consul—we speak now of three or four years ago—at Fusan in his numerous disputes with the Korean authorities was not unfrequently accompanied by a train of his fellow-countrymen to overawe the Korean populace and officials. All private accounts from the settlements speak to the arrogance of the lower Japanese officials and residents to the natives who come in contact with them. It was for some years a bitter complaint of Japanese politicians that a small English and French force was maintained at Yokohama, but Japan maintains in Korea a large force of armed police, and the powers which she claims over her settlements in Korea are far greater than those ever claimed by Europeans in Japan. In short, Japan in dealing with Korea has read in the book of the Western Powers in dealing with Japan, and has bettered, vastly bettered, the instruction. Whatever she has most complained of in the past conduct of the West, she has herself done in Korea. We are, therefore, not surprised to find on examination of the new regulations for trade between Japan and Korea that almost everything which Japan most objects to in the tariff between herself and Western Powers is carefully inserted in the instrument she has just concluded with her neighbour. She demands from the West rights and privileges which she resolutely refuses to Korea; everything which she has declared most unjust and wicked when required from herself she now demands and obtains from Korea. The measure which she demands shall be meted out to her is precisely the measure which she will not mete out herself. Our readers shall judge for themselves as to the justice of these strictures.

Japan at present refuses to all but one or two favoured individuals the right to charter foreign vessels to visit unopened ports. Rice may rot in the north and west rather than that it should be conveyed in a foreign-owned ship. But she appears in Korea as the apostle of a free coasting trade. Article XXXIV. of the regulations provides that Korean subjects may freely charter Japanese merchant vessels; and by Article XXII. Japanese vessels may convey goods of any country whatsoever between the trading ports of

Korea. Even the Japanese Government appear to have been struck by the fact that they are demanding from Korea privileges which they desire to refuse in their own country, for they insert the very lame sub-clause:—"When, however, Korean shipping has become sufficient for the coasting trade of Korea no foreign vessels shall be used to convey Korean produce from one Korean port to another." Who is to be judge of the "sufficiency" of Korean shipping? and is Japanese shipping sufficient for her own coasting trade? We find, again, provisions of the most complete kind for drawbacks, while Japan herself is anxious to reduce the system in her own country to a nullity. While she quarrels with extra-territoriality she establishes it in a full and extended form for her own subjects in Korea. She was very restive for a few years under the foreign post-offices in Japan; yet she establishes her own post-offices in Korea. She insists that drugs entering Japan shall pass her examining bureau, but in Korea the guarantee of the Japanese Consul that opium is for medicinal use among Japanese shall be quite sufficient to pass that drug in freely.

Let us look now at the tariff. Japan objects strongly to *ad valorem*, and wants specific duties; accordingly we find that every item in the Korean tariff is *ad valorem*. Nominally this tariff is 5 to 30 per cent., really it is a 5 per cent. tariff on Japanese goods—precisely the tariff which Japan complains is bringing financial and commercial ruin to herself. True there are certain articles paying 8, 10, 20, and 30 per cent., but they are almost without exception articles, not of Japanese, but of foreign manufacture. Under 5 per cent. we find camphor, copper, kerosine oil (which will arrive in Korea through Japan), "paper used by Japanese," "Japanese provisions," and "articles in common use by Japanese" (a wide phrase). Yet Japan demands 30 per cent. for "foreign provisions" and "articles in common use by foreigners." Japanese cloth stuffs are almost all subject to a duty of 8 per cent. What, then, it may be asked, pay high duties in this tariff prepared and carried through by oppressed and ill-treated Japan? Gold and silver ware and electro-plate, velvets, carpets, foreign spirits, and wines, and the like pay 20 to 30 per cent. Japanese *saké*, by the way, pays only 8 per cent. in Korea. The tariff, in short, amounts to this:—Japanese productions, and articles generally required by Japanese in Korea, pay 5 to 8 per cent. *ad valorem*; Japan demands that foreign productions, and articles generally required by foreigners in Japan, shall pay 25 to 30 per cent.

We should be pleased to receive some explanation of what at present looks like inconsistency. Either Japan has treated Korea heartlessly and cruelly, or she has not. If she has not, then she has no ground of complaint against foreigners for doing the same; but if she has it would be more consistent that she purged herself from her offences, and came into Court with clean hands. No one can blame Japan for endeavouring to obtain all she can, but on this occasion she lays herself open to the retort *et tu quoque*.

The charges preferred in the beginning of this article against Japanese officials and residents in Korea are the only fragment of the writer's views which appear to have any solid basis. Rough and arrogant conduct has been attributed to Japanese settlers in Korea by more than one authority, and, on the other hand, has been resolutely denied by some, or excused by others on the ground of the relations of conqueror and conquered which formerly existed between the two countries. But there is probably as little warrant for the complete denial as there is need of the recon-dite excuse. Japanese can be truculent and overbearing when they please, and in Korea they have much to encourage and little to restrain the exercise of these propensities. We cannot see, however, that anything is to be gained by proving that one's neighbours are not better than oneself. Unless it is proposed to plead Japanese imitation in justification of foreign "violence and outrage," the discussion appears fruitless. Some better evidence, too, is required of our contemporary's allegations than the mere statement of a journalist who can assert that while "a small English and French force was maintained at Yokohama, Japan maintains in Korea a large force of armed 'police.'" The facts are that England and

France maintained a force of fully a thousand men at Yokohama, and that Japan has forty-five policemen and 200 soldiers in Korea.* If a thousand Englishmen and Frenchmen is a small force, and two hundred and forty-five Japanese a large force, the individual Japanese must be a mighty men indeed.

The "powers which Japan claims over her settlements in Korea" are vague matters. In reality they are nothing more than ordinary municipal powers, similar to those exercised by the foreign residents in Kobe, and less than those exercised by the foreign residents in Shanghai. But whether they are great or small, we have to remember that what Japan complains of in this matter is, not the claims to municipal power advanced on behalf of foreigners, but the obstructions opposed to the efficient exercise of any power at all. The Japanese authorities are required to govern municipally in the foreign settlements, and at the same time denied the power of enacting or enforcing municipal regulations. They find that anomaly a little irksome, and so do the foreign residents themselves.

It is scarcely necessary to direct attention to the singular confusion of ideas apparent in the charge that Japan "demands from the West rights and privileges which she resolutely refuses to Korea." Granting, for a moment, the propriety of the accusation, does our contemporary gravely propose to place Japan and Korea on the same level to-day? This, it seems to us, is precisely, the singular injustice which underlies many of the arguments applied by foreign writers to Japan's claims. This it is which induces some critics to meet her efforts to recover the rights of an independent nation—rights on behalf of which we are proud to remember how much our own ancestors suffered—by an objection that what is granted to her must equally be granted to China and Korea. This it is which lies at the root of the resolute resolve not to understand her contention, or to acknowledge that she can possibly be inspired by feelings to lack which would render any Western people despicable in our eyes. She is not inconsistent when she "quarrels with exterritoriality and yet establishes it for her own subjects in Korea." All her statesmen and writers have admitted that exterritoriality was necessary here in the early days of foreign intercourse. But that exterritoriality should be rigidly maintained when the conditions which justified it have in great part disappeared, and when it constitutes an effective bar to ex-

*In 1864, the English and French forces stationed at Yokohama numbered 1201, rank and file, with 10 guns, 4 mortars, and 1 rocket tube. When Mr. Hanabusa returned to Seoul after the rebellion in 1881, he was escorted by 1 battalion (800 men). At the conclusion of the negotiations, half of this battalion was withdrawn, and in August last, half of the remainder. There remains in Seoul, at present, one company of 200 men, all told. In addition to these, the following police force is maintained:—at Seoul, 3 constables and 1 inspector; at Inchon, 10 constables and 1 inspector; at Pusan, 15 constables and 2 inspectors; and at Gensan, 12 constables and 1 inspector.

tended intercourse—this it is of which Japan complains, and justly complains. When she claims extraterritorial privileges for her subjects residing in Korea, she is pursuing a policy the justice of which she never denied when applied to herself under similar circumstances.

Turning to our London contemporary's more specific accusations, we find it stated that "Japan at present refuses to all but one or two favoured individuals the right to charter foreign vessels to visit unopened ports," but that "she appears in Korea as the apostle of a free coasting trade." We are not left in any doubt as to the evidence in support of this assertion. Article 34 of the regulations is quoted as providing that "Korean subjects may freely charter Japanese merchant vessels," and Article 22, as providing that "Japanese vessels may convey goods of any country whatsoever between the trading ports of Korea." Now here is what the regulations themselves say:

Art. 34.—Any Japanese merchant vessel may be chartered by the Korean Government, or by any Korean subjects to convey goods, persons, &c., to any of the non-opened harbours in Korea; but in the latter case the charterer shall first obtain a license from the Government.

Art. 22.—Until such time as the mercantile marine of Korea is in a condition to carry on satisfactorily the coastwise trade of Korea, all Japanese vessels may transport goods of any country whatever from one open port to another in Korea. * * * * * When the Korean Mercantile Marine shall have become sufficient for the coasting trade of Korea, no foreign vessels shall be employed in transporting the Korean produce from one port to another.

The reader will look with astonishment at this evidence that in Korea Japan is "the apostle of a free coasting trade." Under the provisions of these two Articles there is not conferred on Japanese in Korea a single privilege which foreigners do not enjoy in Japan. Foreign vessels have always been free to carry, and do now carry, passengers and merchandise between the open ports of Japan; and Japanese subjects have always been free, and are now free, to charter foreign vessels to convey goods and persons to unopened ports of Japan, provided that they first obtain a license from the Government. So far, then, from "demanding in Korea privileges which they desire to refuse in their own country," the fact is that, while asking for the same privileges, the Japanese set to the period of their enjoyment a limit which foreigners in Japan are not asked to accept.

It is conceivable that the *London and China Express* may have been grossly misinformed with regard to the actual terms of these regulations. But surely no special information was needed to show that if Japan establishes post offices in Korea, it is because the Koreans have nothing worthy of the name; and that if she passes in medicinal opium under the guarantee of her own Consul, it is because Korea does not even pretend to have competent chemical experts. When Korea possesses postal systems and scientific inspectorates such as this country has so successfully established, her claims to perform those

functions of Government independently will, we venture to predict, obtain ready recognition at Japan's hands.

That "Japan objects strongly to *ad valorem*, and wants specific duties," is one of the statements which, when recently advanced by the *Daily News*, was pointed to by a leading merchant of Yokohama as an example of signal ignorance. But whatever Japan wants, it is certain that the duties in the Korean tariff were made *ad valorem* at the request of Korea herself. So far from this being a condition imposed by Japan, it was actually opposed by her. It is a concession, not an exaction.

Perhaps the most singular exhibition of injustice in this singularly unjust article is the attempt to show that Japan has obtained from Korea a scale of duties more favorable to herself than she is willing to concede to Western Powers. Nothing in Japan's foreign policy is less vulnerable than this very phase of her relations with Korea. Under the treaty of 1876, the trade between the two countries was free. Goods entering to Korea from Japan paid no duty. Korea had no custom houses, and did not think it worth her while to establish any. But when she opened her ports to other nations, she became desirous of raising a revenue by customs duties. Japan was not under any written engagement to further the accomplishment of that desire. She might have insisted on maintaining the old state of affairs. But, whether from motives of policy or justice, she readily acknowledged an obligation not to hold Korea to concessions granted under circumstances now wholly altered. In fact, so far from treating Korea harshly or selfishly, she did by her precisely as she asks to be done by herself. The returns of Korea's foreign trade prepared in H.B.M.'s Legation, show that the bulk of the goods imported by Japanese merchants into Pusan and Gensan are articles of foreign manufacture, and these, as the *London and China Express* explains, pay duties of from 8 to 20 per cent. under the new tariff. So far as we can judge, the trade regulations upon which our London contemporary comments so recklessly, must have the effect of entirely depriving Japanese import merchants in Korea of the favorable opportunities they enjoyed under the former régime. They will be at once undersold if they attempt to obtain foreign goods *via* Japan, and when foreign goods are excluded their commerce in imports will be virtually *nil*. To state the case justly, it is necessary to say, not that Japan has imposed on Korea a tariff less favorable than she claims for herself, but that she has exchanged her treaty rights of free commerce for a scale of duties which will divert the trade in imports from her own hands, and that she has made this concession, whether politic or generous, in deference to Korea's fiscal needs, and to the principle that treaties, like everything else, are not independent of circumstances.

MONOMETALLISM AND JAPANESE TRADE.

THIS community ought to be exceptionally capable of appreciating the commercial results of monometallism. The crisis through which Japan is now passing is but an accentuated example of the same influences. Here, during the past two years, we have had thrust upon our notice, in the most unpleasantly persistent manner, the economical truth that prices are governed by the volume of the medium in which they are expressed. The rapid contraction of the bulk of this country's paper currency has been attended by a general fall of prices, and though the effect has not borne a mathematical ratio to the cause, the nature of the phenomenon is not capable of misinterpretation. The table of comparative values which we recently published showed, plainly enough, that the energy of Japanese producers and manufacturers has been, for some time, paralyzed by the knowledge that they have a falling market to anticipate, and that while their returns are diminishing, the burden of their pecuniary obligations is continually increasing. These evils will not cease to be sensible till the resumption of specie payments provides an automatic adjuster of the volume of media of exchange in circulation, and thus eliminates a disturbing factor which ought never to exist under any sound system of finance.

The effects of monometallism, though more remote and therefore less perceptible, are precisely similar. Foreign merchants engaged in the Eastern trade are dealing in a constantly appreciating currency. The markets are always against them. In the interval between the shipment of European exports and their arrival in Japan, prices are almost invariably found to have declined in Europe. Then the telegraph comes into play. Consumers at this side of the water are perfectly familiar with the London quotations of the day, and know that the importer must regulate his sales by present values, not with reference to his original outlay. Exporters of Japanese products, on the other hand, have to base their purchases on the prices ruling in Europe at the moment, and not on the lower prices which they generally find there two or three months later. Thus the demonetization of silver and consequent reduction in the volume of the purchasing medium produce, throughout the whole Eastern trade, effects exactly analogous to those resulting from the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* in Japan. The only difference is that in the former case gold is appreciating; in the latter, paper.

It is not singular that the advocates of monometallism should either be reluctant to admit these inferences, or, admitting them, refuse to acknowledge their importance. The great aim of their system being to secure a perfectly stable medium of exchange, they are naturally averse to

accept the responsibility of having introduced a powerful factor of disturbance. Yet, to be consistent, they ought not to shirk that responsibility. For when they set about reducing, by fifty per cent., the bulk of the precious metals in circulation, they have either to deny that the prices of commodities are regulated by the volume of those metals in use as money, or to confess that a large contraction of the latter must be followed by a corresponding appreciation of the former. Doubtless the time will come when the contraction now in process will have reached its final point, and prices will then cease to be influenced by this particular factor of disturbance. But in the interim, the world will have made terrible sacrifices; sacrifices which our correspondent "T.W." contemplates with just apprehension; which are already becoming intolerable, and which will not be compensated by their result. For it has recently been shown by convincing statistics that the average annual production of gold and silver together is a much more constant quantity than the average annual production of either alone; so that even when silver is completely demonetized and gold becomes the sole unit of value, the volume of the circulating medium, and therefore its purchasing power, will be more variable than ever. The publication of these statistics has largely modified our own views on the subject, and, together with other conditions, is beginning to disturb monometallists in England also. Sooner or later, the commercial world will perceive the true cause of the disastrous conditions under which trade is now carried on between the East and the West, and we shall then see men busy themselves with compensatory vigour about problems which they now treat as scientific fantasies.

THE "DAILY NEWS" AND ITS CRITICS.

AN article recently published by the London *Daily News* has been made the subject of a great deal of comment by the local press and its correspondents. The portions of the article which seem to have given most umbrage are the following:—

The circumstances under which the tariff, as framed by Lord Elgin, was altered in 1866 to its present shape to suit the narrow views of a few resident foreign traders, are still remembered by them (the Japanese) with bitterness. Weak as Japan's Government had been in 1858, they were in 1865 yet weaker—harassed by internal military and political feuds and intrigues, which were daily growing worse and worse, and beset on the one hand by their own malcontents, on the other by foreign aggressions and claims. Sweeping changes were wrought in the tariff under this new and extremely one-sided convention. The import duties, which Lord Elgin had fixed at about 20 per cent., were reduced to rates of which the maximum was 5 per cent., while the average is understood to be now little more than 3 per cent. No corresponding advantages were granted to the Japanese, who, moreover, were required, in addition to some minor concessions, to provide lighthouses, buoys, beacons, &c., for the safer navigation of the treaty harbours and approaches thereto, a condition which they have more than honestly fulfilled. It is unques-

tionable, and has, indeed, been openly admitted, that these terms were extorted from the Government by the pressure of superior force, against their will, and at a time when they were utterly helpless. It is equally certain that no proceeding in the whole history of the treaties rankles so deeply in the minds of Japanese. If the reduction of the duties had wrought what was expected from it in the way of augmenting foreign trade with Japan, that would have been a source of some satisfaction on our side. But it has not done so, and the revised tariff cannot be called a success. Trade has advanced under it but moderately, and the good it has done can hardly be made a ground for its retention. By the Japanese, on the other hand, the low scale of the present tariff, under which their whole customs dues yield them little more than 4 per cent. of the national revenue, is looked upon as a just grievance. They urge that the common national right of regulating their own duties—a right which, as they take care to point out, Great Britain cedes freely to her colonies—is at the present time of high importance to their financial policy, the freedom of which has been in this respect so long infringed.

It is undeniable that this statement contains inaccuracies, or, to speak more correctly, an inaccuracy. Instead of saying of the customs dues that "the average is understood to be now little more than 3 per cent.," the writer should have said that, since the revised tariff came into force, the duties collected have averaged from 2.3 per cent. to 4.1 per cent. We apply this correction, not from any estimate of our own, but from the figures given by those who have undertaken to criticise the *Daily News*. The statistics for six years are adduced by these critics, and from them we learn that the average of the duties collected was 3.5 per cent. Thus, if the statement of our London contemporary were altered so as to read "the average actually collected is understood to have been little more than 3 per cent.," it would be strictly consistent with facts.

The *Daily News* is also charged with "asserting that foreign trade has not been augmented by reduction of tariff." We cannot find any such assertion in the article under review. What the writer says is that the reduction of duties did not augment trade as much as was expected; that "trade has advanced but moderately under the revised tariff," and that "the good the tariff has done can hardly be made a ground for its retention." He plainly admits that the reduction of duties did exercise some effect, but not an effect proportionate to the increase of revenue that might have been obtained under different rates. It is, of course, impossible to analyze, with any degree of accuracy, the different causes which have conspired to promote the growth of Japan's foreign trade from sixteen, to sixty-five, millions. To deny that low duties have exercised a healthy influence would be just as unwarranted as to argue that because trade has developed, its development is chiefly an evidence of the effect of low duties. Japan's foreign commerce is but a fraction of what it ought to be, and we do not believe, not can they pretend who constantly complain of its tardy growth, that it has yet come within measurable distance of the point where a difference of four or five per cent in tariff rates would sensibly promote or retard its advance.

In the early part of the present century the scientific world was astonished at the high degree of mental caloric developed by two renowned astronomers who differed about the parallax of a fixed star. Arithmetic is not generally regarded as a heating subject, but the experiences of Yokohama go to correct this notion. The figures given by the *Daily News* have raised quite a tempest of wrath, and been twisted, by a device more ingenious than ingenuous, into a weapon of attack on the Japanese Government. Mr. A. J. WILKIN, a leading merchant of Yokohama, and a gentleman whose desire to be just is beyond question, addresses a local contemporary on the subject in terms of diverting vehemence. He sets out by expressing his surprise that the "*Daily News* should be the vehicle of such outrageously false statements respecting tariff treaties with Japan," and asks "is this the class of information obtained by 'Our own Correspondent' at that gracious interview which so dazzled his vision that he hastened to announce by wire to Europe the secrets which had been revealed to him?" The journal to which Mr. WILKIN addresses himself echoes his question by repeating it in another form:—"Are these the weapons to which the Government are reduced to carry on their war against foreign oppression and the narrow views of foreign residents?" By what right or on what authority Mr. WILKIN assumes either that the special correspondent of the *Daily News* is the author of the article in question, or that the Japanese Government is responsible for its contents, we are at a loss to conceive. That he distinctly suggests both these inferences is evident from the extract quoted, as well as from the last sentence of his letter, in which he says:—"It is to be regretted that Japan should either employ or accept tactics which consist in the dissemination of mendacious representations: for some of her agents or agencies, no method seems to be too false or too cowardly." The value of words varies according to the frame of mind of their employer. To us, writing at some distance beyond the range of Mr. WILKIN's warmth, it seems that if the terms "false and cowardly" are applicable at all in this context, they must be applied to those who, on the strength of a mere assumption, publicly formulate unjust charges against officials who are not in a position to publicly refute them. As it happens, Mr. WILKIN'S hypothesis with regard to the article in the *Daily News* is wholly incorrect. From what we know privately of its authorship, the Japanese Government is not more responsible for its contents than Mr. WILKIN himself. But even if it were not so, what has Mr. WILKIN to do with the author or his inspiration? These endeavours to probe motives, and this disposition to prefer recrimination to logic, are traits which we should never have looked for in the writings of Mr. A. J. WILKIN, and which betray the weakness of his

cause far more than any arguments that can be advanced on the other side.

It will not be uninteresting to examine briefly the "outrageously false statements respecting tariff treaties with Japan" and the "mendacious misrepresentations" which Mr. WILKIN so severely condemns. We recently had occasion to comment on the grave and cruelly unjust inaccuracies contained in a speech made by the same gentleman, at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, on the subject of treaty revision. We now observe that he cannot be accurate even when quoting the words of an opponent. He makes the *Daily News* say that Lord ELGIN's tariff treaty was one of a "20 per cent. average duty." The *Daily News* does not say so. What it says is that Lord ELGIN "fixed the import duties at about 20 per cent." The fact is that Lord ELGIN's tariff was fixed on a twenty per cent. basis. Certain articles paid duties of only five per cent., and as cotton and woollen manufactures were included among these, the average duty actually leviable did not, probably, exceed 9 per cent. The writer in the *Daily News* would have done better to state the lower figure. It would have served the purposes of his argument equally well. But no reasonable person can pretend that he is guilty of "an outrageously false statement" or a "mendacious misrepresentation," because he applies the general description "about twenty per cent." to duties ranging from 5 to 35 per cent.

The most remarkable portion of Mr. WILKIN's letter is his statement of the circumstances under which a revision of the tariff was effected in 1866:—

If I mistake not "the circumstances under which the tariff was altered from its primitive form to the elaborate one of 1866, were not only that the then tariff was inadequate to the expanded condition of the trade, but that so much corruption prevailed at the Custom House that at one time probably not more than a third of the duties was collected. I remember making at that time an official representation on this last subject for the use of our Minister. To say that "these terms were extorted from the Government by the pressure of superior force" is a flagrant misrepresentation. I venture to assert that when the tariff of 1866 came into work, the amounts collected for duties must have greatly increased, possibly doubled. It was one of many friendly acts done by foreign representatives to help to free the country from that scandalous corruption about which old residents can tell such tales. But I suppose that this is a kind of service not altogether acceptable in some quarters.

It is difficult to suppose that this is gravely put forward as an explanation of the circumstances under which the tariff was revised in 1866. We are asked to believe that the customs duties were reduced from an average of about 9 per cent. to an average of less than five, merely to free Japan from "scandalous corruption" which largely reduced her revenue. We are asked to believe that it is a flagrant misrepresentation to say that the pressure of superior force was exercised in securing the reduced terms. We are asked to believe that as articles enumerated under the five per cent. clause of Lord ELGIN's tariff "constituted the bulk of the trade," the reduction of duties under the new

tariff was insignificant. And finally, we are asked to believe that this revision of the tariff was "one of many friendly acts done by foreign representatives" to correct abuses from which Japan alone suffered.

Mr. WILKIN's idea as to the amount and purpose of the reduction effected does not tally, we observe, with the opinion of the journal to which he addresses himself. The latter says that the new tariff "wrought sweeping changes," and that "it was intended for that purpose, because trade was so hampered by duties that extension was impossible without a reduction in the tariff." One or other of the two views must be incorrect. We cannot be expected to believe, at one and the same moment, that "sweeping" reductions were made with the object of expanding trade, and that the tariff was only elaborated, to suit an expanded trade and to improve the morality of Japanese officials. The Blue Books help us to choose between these contradictions. Mr. WINCHESTER, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, was the first to suggest, officially, "the reduction of import duties, now levied at 5, 6, and 20 per cent. on different classes of goods to an uniform rate of 5 per cent." In his despatch recommending this reduction, he says that "the change would be of great convenience to foreign commerce, and, by stimulating consumption, would probably be attended with no material diminution to the Japanese revenue."¹ According to the QUEEN'S Representative, then, there was only a hope that the change might so expand commerce as to cause no material reduction of the customs' revenue. According to Mr. WILKIN, one of the principal objects of the change was to increase that revenue.

Mr. WINCHESTER, we say, was the first to suggest this change officially. The circumstances under which he made the suggestion, and under which the change was effected, were briefly these:—The TAIKUN'S Government owed the Treaty Powers three million dollars, being "a pecuniary ransom for the town of Shimono-seki and an indemnity to cover the expenses of an expedition against the Prince of NAGATO."² The British Chargé d'Affaires pointed out to his Government that "the known state of the finances of the Taikunate induced him to believe that the obligation to pay so large an indemnity would be felt as a very grievous burden;" that he feared the indemnity would be "nothing but an additional duty levied on foreign commerce;" that its "protracted payment seemed very much like hanging a millstone for five or six years, round the neck of our trade;" and that, under the circumstances, he recommended a proposal "to take as an equivalent for the moiety or two-thirds of the indemnity, some such concessions as the opening of Hiyogo on the 1st of January, 1866; the

written adhesion of the MIKADO to the Treaties; and the reduction of import duties now levied at 5, 6, and 20 per cent. on different classes of goods to an uniform rate of 5 per cent." The British Government recognized the wisdom of this advice and consulted with the other Treaty Powers. France replied that she "considered it would not be opportune at present to ask for the opening of Hiyogo and Osaka;" that "from the moment when the Cabinet of Yeddo decided, as they had a right to decide, for the payment of a pecuniary indemnity, no grounds remained for imposing on them another manner of acquitting their obligations;" and that "judging from the repugnance which the Japanese Government had evinced on this subject, such a request would now again occasion serious difficulties, and might in the end lead to war."⁴ It was subsequently decided, however, that the alternative should be offered, and Sir HARRY PARKES was instructed accordingly. The result was that the Foreign Representatives proceeded to Osaka with a fleet of nine vessels of war, and obtained, not an exchange of one obligation for another, but "the ratification of the Treaties by the MIKADO; an agreement to revise the tariff, and an engagement that the indemnity should be punctually discharged."⁶ They did not obtain the opening of a port, being "clearly persuaded that while the neighbourhood of Hiyogo and Osaka continued to be the scene of military movements and political agitation, those places could not be occupied by foreign merchants without considerable risk,"⁸ but they obtained what they considered "a far more valuable concession."⁷ In short, they went to Osaka with an imposing naval force, to offer to remit a war indemnity of two millions in exchange for three concessions, one of which, they saw, could not possibly be granted. They "held the decided opinion that the confirmation of the Treaties by the MIKADO formed by far the most valuable of the three conditions they were instructed to accept in exchange for two-thirds of the indemnity."⁸ They obtained that confirmation, as well as the third condition, that the duties should be reduced to the uniform rate of 5 per cent., and "in reporting the important advantages secured," their Doyen "reminded" his Government that "no portion of the indemnity had been relinquished, although two of the three conditions they were willing to receive in exchange had been secured."⁹ With regard to the part played by the fleet in this remarkable negotiation, which, while ostensibly undertaken to effect an exchange of obligations, was in reality a method of imposing two new obligations, the state-

* Mr. Drouyu de Lhuys to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne: communicated to Mr. Winchester by Earl Russell. July 26th 1865.

* Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. January 29th, 1866.

* Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. November 28th, 1865.

* Idem.

* Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. January 29th, 1866.

* Idem.

¹ Mr. Winchester to Earl Russell. April 25th, 1865.

² Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce. March 30th, 1865.

³ Mr. Winchester to Earl Russell. April 12th, 1865.

ments of Sir HARRY PARKES himself leave us in no doubt:—"My colleagues and myself," he wrote to the British Admiral, "are fully sensible that we are indebted for whatever success has attended our efforts to the efficient and generous aid of our naval commanders, and it would be superfluous for me to point to the extent to which that success is attributable to your exertions:" while, in a despatch to Earl RUSSELL (Nov. 25th, 1865), he said:—"Speaking after the event, I can assert with confidence that had it not been for the presence of the allied-fleet on this occasion, the TAIKUN would not have been persuaded to make to the MIKADO those energetic remonstrances and representations without which union between these rulers on the subject of the Treaties and the foreign policy they render necessary, would not have been effected."

Where, in all this, can there be detected any shadow of a friendly design "to free Japan from the scandalous corruption" of her customs officials? When Mr. WILKIN speaks of "altering the tariff from its primitive form to the elaborate one of 1866," he may himself forget, but he cannot make others forget, that a fleet of foreign war-vessels had, in 1865, virtually dictated the terms upon which that alteration was to be effected. The facts of history cannot be perverted by petulant animadversions. It is very probable that great corruption existed among the Japanese Custom House officials in former years, but it is well known by the "old residents" of whom Mr. WILKIN speaks, that the false invoices presented by foreign traders were a not less powerful factor in reducing the revenue returns. To ignore the one species of fraud and blazen the other abroad may be patriotic, but certainly is not just. Essays have been composed ere now for the purpose of glossing over the methods employed in 1865 to obtain a fifty per cent. reduction of Lord ELGIN'S tariff, but it was reserved for Mr. WILKIN to advance the splendid paradox that one of the three conditions which the Treaty Powers offered to exchange for a war indemnity due by Japan was her consent to a friendly process of freeing her own administration from costly corruption. It is to be desired that Mr. WILKIN, before making speeches and publishing letters eminently calculated to inflame the public mind, would take some pains to study facts. His intellect may be so constituted that he cannot credit his adversaries with either honesty or courage, but it will not, we trust, be a confession of weakness, to leave to him a monopoly of that species of scepticism. It is not "the agents or agencies of Japan" that he charges with "outrageously false statements," with "mendacious representations," and with "false and cowardly methods," but the officials who have represented his Sovereign at the Japanese Court and the despatches which have been presented by his Government to both Houses of Parliament.

THE PROPOSED CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY.

TWO Gentlemen of Tokiyo, writing over the signatures "Ferrex and Porrex," recently addressed to this journal a letter criticizing and condemning a scheme formulated by the Rev. C. S. EBY for the establishment of a Christian University in Japan. In reply, Mr. EBY propounds certain questions, which we willingly proceed to answer, the importance of the subject being sufficient to warrant its public discussion even at this early stage.

Mr. EBY asks us, first, whether the character given to his scheme by "Ferrex and Porrex" corresponds with its outlines as published in the appendix to a pamphlet entitled "The Immediate Christianization of Japan." Were we to answer this question frankly, we should be obliged to confess that "Ferrex and Porrex" do not appear to have read the pamphlet at all. It is, however, impossible to suppose that they undertook to discuss a subject which they had made no attempt to examine. They probably read the pamphlet; though it must be confessed that their letter contains no evidence of the fact.

To make the matter clear, we cannot do better than restate the scheme. The prospectus of its projectors lies before us, and the very clear language in which it is couched leaves no room from misapprehension.

The general outline of the project is the establishment of a Central University to be fed by Preparatory Schools and Academies. The necessity for such a work is based upon the national craving which Japan exhibits for western education, and upon the incapacity of existing machinery to satisfy that craving. It has long been evident to those who know the country that its resources are not equal to its aspirations in this matter. When the masses of the people began to recognize that their place among the nations of the world must depend upon the success of their efforts to recover the ground lost during centuries of seclusion, a wonderful impulse towards Western philosophies and sciences led to the establishment of schools everywhere, and to the general employment of foreign teachers. As might have been expected, this impulse was neither always economically wise, nor always fortunate in its indiscriminately employed foreign aid. Little by little foreign teachers were of necessity dispensed with, and the educational ideal originally conceived had to be modified. The Missionaries, according to their public statements, believe that any help they can give, or procure, to advance the country's progress towards its first intention will be of large benefit at this juncture. There is also another important consideration connected with the general conception of their scheme. It is that in the wave of progressive effort which swept over Japan after the contact with the outer world, many of the landmarks by which society had been

guided in the past, went down, never probably to rise again. In the old Confucian philosophy there were very tolerable materials for building up, round a domestic centre, a solid social and national structure. But Confucianism did not escape the discredit that befel everything of purely Oriental origin. It was ousted from the schools and nothing took its place. Education became purely secular. There are, indeed, many who believe that scholastic training ought never to travel beyond secular lines, and that its moral supplement should be supplied within the family circle. But the instincts of humanity have always rejected such a notion. Japan is to-day feeling, and feeling keenly, the extinction of her old lights before the new were kindled. Many a man who knows nothing of Christianity beyond the doubtful reputation its early professors left behind them here, is yet constrained to confess that in the Missionary Schools alone can a parent now look to obtain for his child the moral culture which Confucianism once afforded after a fashion. The Missionaries would not be true to themselves or to the cause they serve if they let slip such an opportunity. By a wisely exercised and earnest effort, they may, and probably will, succeed in grafting on the educational systems of this country, and on the minds of the rising generation, those elements of Christian morality which are an integral part of the civilization Japan is adopting.

So much for the general conception of the scheme. We proceed, now, to consider briefly the details which have excited criticism. "Ferrex and Porrex" begin by deducing from experience an inference that the co-existence of two universities in one city is impossible. In support of this theory they point to the Roman Catholic University of Ireland and the Roman Catholic University of Kensington. But it seems to us that these are scarcely cases in point. Both these Universities were established with the avowed intention of perpetuating a system which had just been abandoned at the institutions they sought to rival, and which was in direct opposition to the growing liberality of the time. Under such circumstances their failure was natural. But the proposed University for this country aims at nothing further than to engraft upon its educational scheme those moral influences which, though active in every similar institution in Western Europe, are wanting in Japan. It seems to us that our correspondents make the mistake of forgetting the different conditions they have to deal with in Europe and Japan.

Other special causes of probable failure are adduced. "An university," we are told, "grows but is not made. To found an university without knowing exactly what class of students will come, what has been their previous education, and what is to be their subsequent career, is a very rash proceeding." We cannot pretend to follow

the line of argument, or even to trace the sequence of ideas, in these sentences. That an university grows, like everything else, may readily be admitted. But unless "Ferrex and Porrex" advocate the development of a Japanese university from one of its embryonic forms, a school, a seminary, or a college, we do not see why they should object to its being founded and endowed as has been the case with every other similar institution, all the world over. They think it rash to set about making an university unless an exact knowledge exists of the class of students that will come there, their previous education and their subsequent career. As it happens, this objection is in part irrelevant, seeing that the proposed Christian university would be fed by its own schools and academies. But we are curious to learn whether in any part of Europe or America there is an university which gives itself the slightest concern about its students before their matriculation or after their graduation. We know of none; nor do we believe that any university of such a meddlesome disposition could possibly prosper. "Ferrex and Porrex" are evidently under the impression that, in Japan, professional success is inseparable from officialdom. "The Government Colleges," they say, "are mere gateways to Government posts. No man in Japan can set up as an engineer, architect, lawyer, or doctor, unless he is a functionary of the Government." A more erroneous statement could scarcely be made. It is true that the Government, by providing free education for a certain class of students at the Engineering College, establishes a claim upon their subsequent services. But no one can pretend to think that there is not, or will not hereafter be, any want of engineers, architects, chemists, or mineralogists outside official circles. As for the assertion that no man can set up as a lawyer or doctor unless he is a functionary of the Government, it is curiously incorrect. Nine out of ten lawyers and physicians now practicing have no connection whatsoever with the Government.

These hasty objections prepare us for the graver misrepresentations which follow. "Ferrex and Porrex" describe the proposed university as a place where religious tests would exist for the professors, and where literature, science, and philosophy would be taught explicitly from a theological point of view. The only religious test for the teachers, as Mr. EBY explains, would be the broad one of Christianity versus Paganism, while for the students, there would be no tests at all. Needless to say that the teaching of literature, science, and philosophy explicitly from a theological point of view is not contemplated at all.

More important than these objections, in fact "the most important objection of all," we are told, is that the university would be "under the dictation of foreigners

and the exponent of a religion which has been hated for centuries." It cannot be denied that under existing circumstances—so long as foreigners in Japan constitute a distinct class, outside Japanese jurisdiction and not amenable to any laws of Japanese origin—an university entirely controlled by aliens might labour under some disabilities. This is not the only, nor even the most serious, obstacle presented to missionary enterprise by the present international arrangements. But things will not always be as they are now. It is not extravagant to look forward to the day when a system only calculated to perpetuate race prejudices will have yielded to more rational and civilized influences. Certainly, so far as the Japanese Government is concerned, we may safely predict that its inclination would be to extend to a Christian University, established on the broad lines contemplated by Mr. EBY's scheme, all the rights and privileges enjoyed by any other educational institution in this country: and upon the attitude of the Government a great deal would of course depend. As for the contention that the university would be "the exponent of a religion which has been hated for centuries," were its validity admitted by the missionaries they might pack their carpet bags and get away as quickly as possible. Their whole work in this empire is open to the same objection. Yet they have accomplished a great deal, and every year that passes brings a larger promise of success. From what we know of Japan, we are persuaded that if Christian morality is ever to obtain a permanent footing, it must find its way to the hearts of the people, in great part, through their schools and colleges. There it is that the incongruities and imperfections of Confucianism will first be fully recognized, and there it is that the want of something better will be most keenly felt. If that want is ever to be supplied, it will not be by such timid casuists as "Ferrex and Porrex."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MR. WILKIN AND THE "DAILY NEWS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have been surprised and amused by Mr. Wilkin's letter in the *Gazette* about the article in the London *Daily News* regarding Treaty Revision. Mr. Wilkin could hardly have read the article, otherwise he would not have been so in-temperate, not to say uncharitable. The article in the *Daily News* dealt entirely with facts, and was exceedingly dispassionate. It was written by a servant of the Queen, who spent many years in the East, and not by the special Correspondent of the *Daily News*, as Mr. Wilkin has hastily conjectured without any sufficient reason. Mr. Wilkin's statements, that "It is to be regretted that Japan should either employ or accept tactics which consist in the dissemination of mendacious representations," and that "for some of her agents or agencies, no method seems to be too false or too cowardly" remind me of the famous note to Mr. Gladstone, read by him in the House of Commons during the debate in 1878, regarding

military preparations (*i.e.* the additional vote of credit for £6,000,000):—

Your's not to reason why,
Your's not to make reply,
Our's but to say you lie—
Vote the six millions.

I think, before Mr. Wilkin next rushes into print, he should try to read the article he denounces as "mendacious;" and I think that, as a Christian gentleman, he should endeavour to ascertain who the writer of the article is, before he denounces him as an agent of the Japanese Government.

During the silk difficulty, it was Mr. Wilkin's speech which inflamed the Japanese, and now he again comes forward as a denouncer.

Another matter deserves note. No doubt prior to 1868, few customs duties were collected owing to venality on the part of the Tokugawa Customs officers and general low declarations of value on the part of foreign merchants; but I remember well when the present Government came into power, in the summer of 1868, that on the appointment of Mr. Wooyeno Kagenori as Commissioner of Customs, a reform was at once commenced, followed by the appointment of competent American appraisers and English advisers; since which time the administration has been well served and an honest collection has resulted. This is due to the steps taken by the present Government; and has nothing whatever to do with any tariffs, whether of 1866 or previously.

The question as to whether the tariff of 1866 was "extorted from the (Japanese) Government by the pressure of superior force" is a matter of history. That history can be read in the Blue Books of Her Majesty's Foreign Office. And that statement seems to be the truth of history. I have a great respect for Mr. Wilkin as a merchant, and I would advise him to either read such history or else to avoid political controversy. Above all, he owes it as a duty to himself, as well as to the community, not to be so hasty in his conclusions and denunciations.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

GILEAD P. BECK.

Tokyo, March 15th, 1884.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SILVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your article of 10th instant on Bimetallism is a clear and opportune exposition of a question which has serious bearings on the financial policy of Japan, and on all commercial interests in this country, though it will very likely elicit the usual sneers from those who regard the discussion of this subject merely as a proof of crotchety proclivities.

As one who considers the "Silver Question" as second to no other in real importance, and who strongly desires to have it generally and thoroughly understood, I beg leave to indicate two points in your observations which seem to need elucidation, namely: first, that History shows that gold alone is insufficient for the exchanges of the world; and second, that silver has lately depreciated in value.

What I would prefer to say on the first point is that the exclusion of silver from monetary use (in Europe and America), by human law, is a defiance of Nature's purpose in furnishing that metal, which must entail evil and punishment on those who venture it.

History shows that almost any substance may serve as money, on the condition that prices, expressed in that substance, are governed strictly by its volume in actual, or potential, circulation.

It shows also, however, that the automatic adjustment and steadiness of prices necessary to healthy trade is only possible when the production of the monetary substance is limited by natural laws.

By this rule, gold alone would answer tolerably well for a money material. For, although its production has been irregular (far more so than that of silver), yet it is, practically, both limited and ascertainable.

Those who agree with Mr. Cernuschi contend that, as the production of silver and gold together is much more regular than that of either alone, they should be used in combination, at a fixed ratio, so as to give the utmost steadiness to prices; and herein they have History and the universal instincts of mankind on their side. But they do not pretend that gold alone cannot be used for money if men choose to have it so. What they assert on this point, and what is every day being demonstrated by the decline of prices in all gold-using countries, is that such a rejection of one of nature's benefactions is unwise, and that to enact it suddenly, as has been done in Europe and America, and to compel men to work with gold money alone, is a wanton cruelty which inflicts immense suffering on every one engaged in production and trade, or owing debts in money; and furthermore that this suffering is profitable only to a small class of rich persons, but degrading and impoverishing to the

whole body of workers, and wholly unjust, useless, and indefensible. They do not deny that in time the contraction it requires will reach its level; that a so-called adjustment of prices may be attained, and a single gold basis of values established. But they see that to arrive at this result, involves a frightful amount of wholly unnecessary distress, that entirely eclipses the slender and doubtful advantages which the scientific merit of gold money alone can offer to the world. And they believe that as the common sense of mankind awakens, this truth will be perceived, and men will revolt against the oppressive greed, or doctrinairism, which imposes such suffering upon them. Already, in the spread of Socialism and discontent of all sorts, this revolt is showing itself, and as prices continue to fall and distress to extend, it will acquire force which will finally compel those who have done the wrong to repair it, by readmitting Silver into full monetary use.

This, then, is the main and practical importance of this question for men of business. They may well leave the scientific side of it to statisticians and philosophers, but they cannot afford to be indifferent to the steady depreciation of their stocks of commodities, their factories, implements, and machinery of all sorts, or to the converse difficulty they find in meeting their money obligations; and I wish that, as a class, they could be more quickly aroused to a sense of the wrong they are enduring in these respects. For were they generally to recognize it, and demand the only remedy, the insensate war against Silver money and all its fell consequences could soon be made to cease.

As to your second point, that Silver has depreciated in value, I would refer you to the price table hereto appended, which shows that Silver exchanges now for as much, or more, in most commodities (except gold), as it did in 1876, when its demonetization began to take effect. It is easy to see from these figures (taken from the London *Economist*) that Silver has not depreciated in value, but has only fallen in its Gold price, as almost every other commodity has likewise fallen.

The actual fact is that Gold has risen in value exactly as those who urged the expulsion of Silver intended it should. It has so risen owing to the increased demand for it for monetary use, and latterly also to its reduced production. Mr. Goschen and others have clearly proved this appreciation of Gold, and any one may perceive it, and he must feel it, in the continuous fall of the Gold prices of the articles he deals in.

It was the subtle device or the good luck of the advocates of Gold alone as money, to have this movement called "Depreciation of Silver," whereby many who otherwise might have opposed it from the first have been misled into bewildered acquiescence in their own undoing.

Had it been at once known as a design to make Gold dearer, and called by its true name, "Appreciation of Gold," it would probably have long ago encountered the spirited resistance of many who even now do not recognize it as their enemy.

And Gold has become dearer not only on account of the new demands upon it, but also on account of a steady and unexpected diminution in its supply, which fully justifies those who declare its production to be too irregular and precarious to make it alone a sufficiently steady standard of value.

In a recent New York *Financial Chronicle* are some carefully compiled tables which prove this point. They show that while the total production of the world in 1866 was £29,000,000 of Gold, that production steadily declined, until in 1883 it was only £20,600,000, or a sum less than the present annual rate of the consumption of Gold in the arts and in wear of coin, etc.

It follows, therefore, that not only is there no prospect of that increase of the amount of Gold now existing in circulation which the growing numbers and wants of men require, but that the present stock is being continually reduced. Prices in gold must then experience a further fall, and present distress must increase. If this is a prospect with which the majority of men can be content, I prefer remaining with the minority.

But when we have taken the present stock and future supplies of Gold into account, we have not gauged all the influences which threaten prices, and the stability of things generally, in Western countries. For the partisans of Gold money alone have not yet ventured to deploy all their forces; have not dared to carry out to its full extent the whole of their iniquitous theory, and have in reserve a means of wreaking misery which might well excite dismay, if they were likely to survive to use it. Let us turn to the *Financial Chronicle* to find the measure of this force.

The total sum of Gold held in Europe and America in 1883 is reckoned at £435,300,000. But these countries held also £339,000,000 of Silver which they used in place of, and practically counted as, so much Gold; so that the total of their circula-

tion on a Gold basis was over £774,000,000. (That I do not misstate the fact may be readily perceived if it be remembered that Silver Dollars in America, Shillings and Crowns in England, Thalers in Germany, and Francs in France, are all current, not at their value in Silver, but at a legal, fictitious, value in Gold, and hence are equal to a Gold coinage of the same amount.)

Now if, even with this Silver mitigation, the artificially created money famine has already depressed prices so greatly, and produced such a flood of misery, what would be the effect of the complete demonetization of Silver by the expulsion from currency of this £339,000,000? It is nearly 44 per cent. of the whole monetary stock of Europe and America.

Its demonetization would therefore mean a further reduction of all prices by 44 per cent.; that is to say that silk now worth 45 francs per kilo., would bring only 25 francs, and iron now worth 45 shillings per ton would fall to 25 shillings. Can any one consider such a fall in prices without shuddering as to its effects on industry and on society?

Yet, if the Gold maniacs are consistent, and resolute, that, and nothing less, is what must occur. And, in order to force their hand, to precipitate a solution, to arouse men to action in the matter, the bolder partisans of Silver are now urging the Western Governments to take precisely this action. A Bill has been already introduced into the American Congress to abolish the Silver dollar coinage. The next step would be to sell the 200 million Silver dollars already coined; for who sells first will sell best. France would have to take the same line for the same reasons, and hasten to get rid of her £124,000,000. Germany, as original leader in the Gold mania, could hardly stultify herself by demurring, and her £44,000,000 would also come into the market as an unwanted commodity. The crash and slaughter when this reserved force came into action would be terrific.

The friends of the Gold standard ought to be delighted with such a glorious prospect of success. I am glad to doubt, however, that they will survive to enjoy it. For the bold play of the Silver men (urged years ago by Mr. Cernuschi) will probably compel their opponents to recognize the folly and impracticability of their nefarious game and to give it up before much further harm is done.

Meantime, however, these Eastern Nations who accept Silver, and are out of the mad struggle over Gold, should avail of their chance to get good money cheaply, and I hope that what has been now said on the subject will indicate, to Japan at least, an opportunity.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

T. W.

Yokohama, March 12th, 1884.

Table of proportionate prices of sundry chief commodities, of fairly regular supply, based on the number 100, as representing average prices in the years 1845 to 1850. (Extracted from the London *Economist's Review* of 1882.)

	January 1, 1876.	January 1, 1883.
Silver	92	83.3 or—9.5 per cent.
Coffee	183	82
Sugar	67	60
Tea	100	76
Wheat	84	77
Cotton	107	89
Hemp	105	68
Wool	133	106
Oils	116	100
Timber	128	108
Copper	100	80
Iron	125	79
Lead	131	83

Average of 1,379 1,008
12 articles... 115 84. or—27 per cent.

And the prices of January, 1884, were still below those of 1883. These figures show that silver has fallen in price only 9.5 per cent. during the last eight years, while the other commodities named have fallen 27 per cent. Therefore Silver has appreciated in value as compared with these principal commodities.

T. W.

KRUPP AND ARMSTRONG GUNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The accompanying are copies of a correspondence which has appeared in *Engineering* issues of November 30th, December 14th, 1883, and January 11th of this year, respectively:—

(1). Letter signed "Artillerist" denying the superiority of Krupp's guns over those manufactured by Armstrong.

(2). Letter from F. Krupp in reply to the above, proving the figures with which "Artillerist"

attempted to support his assertions to be entirely supposititious and incorrect.

(3). Letter from Mr. J. A. Longridge referring to the gas pressures in the two guns.

This controversy brings before the public all the proofs called for by you in your issue of March 1st, as it shows clearly the superiority of Krupp's guns, and we therefore request you to give this the publicity of your columns in order that any false impressions received by your readers may be removed.

We are, Sir, your obedient Servants,

TAKATA & Co.,

Agents for FRED. KRUPP.

Tokio, 16th March, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—In a recent report on certain firing trials at Mep-pen, Mr. Krupp gives the following Table (No. 1), showing the comparative power of the Elswick 12-in. breechloading rifle gun supplied to Spain with that of his own gun of the same diameter of bore:—

TABLE I.

	Krupp Gun, 12-in.	Armstrong Gun, 12-in.
Calibre, mm.	305	305
Length, calibres.	35	28.9
Weight, kg.	49,200	44,350
Weight of battering shell, kg.	455	318
Weight powder charge, kg.	132	149.7
Muzzle velocity, m.	565	635
Energy of projectile:—		
Total, mt.	7403	6529
Per cm. of section, mt.	10.14	8.94
Per cm. of circumference, mt.	77.28	68.1
Per kg. of gun, mkg.	151	147
Per kg. of charge, mt.	45.71	43.6
Thickness of wrought-iron plate perforated at the muzzle, cm.	75.1	68.3
Proportion	1	0.91
Mean pressure of gas, atm.	2630	2745

The Elswick gun, chosen by the Spanish Government for special reasons, has a length of 28 calibres, whereas the gun with which Mr. Krupp compares it is a much longer gun of 35 calibres. Under these circumstances it is not difficult for Mr. Krupp to show that his gun is the more powerful weapon of these two, but how far his further claim that "the Krupp gun remains still always absolutely and relatively superior to the Armstrong gun" is in accordance with actual fact will at once appear from Table No. 2, in which are placed side by side the Krupp gun of 35 calibres long and the Armstrong gun of the same length.

TABLE II.

	Armstrong Gun, 12-in.	Krupp Gun, 12-in.
Calibre, mm.	305	305
Length, calibres.	35	35
Weight, kg.	48,768	49,200
Weight of battering shell, kg.	363	453
Weight of powder charge, kg.	181.5	162
Muzzle velocity, m.	670	565
Energy of projectile:—		
Total, mt.	8300	7403
Per cm. of section, mt.	11.5	10.14
Per cm. of circum., mt.	86.62	77.28
Per kg. of gun, mkg.	170.2	151
Per kg. of charge, mt.	45.75	45.71
Thickness of wrought-iron plate perforated at muzzle, cm.	84.2	75.1
Proportion	—	—
Mean pressure of gas, atm.	2555	2630

It will be seen from these figures that when fairly compared the Krupp gun, instead of remaining absolutely and relatively superior, is in point of fact inferior to the Armstrong gun in every respect.

Are such statements based upon evidently unfair comparisons worthy of Mr. Krupp's renowned gun factory? I am, Sir, yours truly,

ARTILLERIST.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—In No. 935 of *Engineering*, edition of the 30th of November, you print a letter on the "Krupp and Armstrong Guns," bearing the signature "Artillerist," which letter contains a charge against me.

This letter is the translation of a circular in the French language, which has been widely distributed in St. Petersburg, bearing the signature "Edward Sydney Schweder, Agent de Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co.," and must therefore be considered as a circular emanating from Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co.

I now beg to submit that my statement respecting the results of my guns is completely justified and clearly borne out by the following facts.

1. In the Table I., which is taken from my report No. XLVII., I have used for comparison the results of an Armstrong 12-in. gun which were known to me, though not yet published, and which have not been published till the publication in *Engineering* of the 30th November. 2. In Table II. "Artillerist" gives figures for a 30.5 cm., which does not exist at present, of which I could not have any knowledge and which I therefore could not draw into comparison. "Artillerist's" concluding paragraph, "Are such statements based upon evidently unfair comparisons worthy of Mr. Krupp's renowned gun factory?" implies therefore an unjustifiable reproach.

I should not like, however, to content myself with its refutation, but also prove by the following that the figures given by "Artillerist" in Table II. of the performance of the Armstrong 12-in. gun of 35 calibres length cannot be correct. The Armstrong 12-in. gun given in Table I. obtained the favourable results only by employing the German brown prismatic powder, which is the same powder used by me and which I have brought by my artillery trials to its present development and perfection.

For the comparison it must therefore be taken for granted that in both guns this superior class of powder is employed.

Furthermore, it must be assumed that both guns have the same maximum pressure, as otherwise (as is shown by my report No. XLVII.) for my gun a higher velocity must also be accepted.

Under these obvious suppositions "Artillerist's" figures of the Armstrong gun as given in Table II., are impossible.

He states that in the Armstrong 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length each kilog. of powder gives 45.75 mt. of *vis viva*, whilst the Krupp gun of the same length attains 45.7 mt.

That is impossible, (1) because Armstrong employs a lighter projectile, and (2) because the greater charge which he wants to employ requires a larger space of combustion, and therefore the expansion of the gases must be less in his gun than in Krupp's.

According to the experiments executed by Krupp (Report 47), the utilisation of the powder decreases considerably when the weight of projectile is reduced. With a weight of projectile of 330 kilogs. for instance, the utilisation of the powder was 94 per cent. less than with the weight of 455 kilogs. It must therefore be presumed that with Armstrong's projectile weighing 363 kilogs. against Krupp's projectile of 455 kilogs. the utilisation of the powder (always presuming it to be of the same good quality) will be about 6 per cent. lower.

Further, the charge of 162 kilogs. of powder in the Krupp gun had at its disposal per kilog. a volume of space of combustion of 1.09 dcm³. Into the same space of combustion it is therefore impossible to bring 181.4 kilogs. of powder. The space of combustion must be larger. According to the design of the 12 in. Armstrong gun in the *Spanish Artillery Journal* of April, 1883, the space of combustion of the latter gun is 215.9 dcm³. This space is sufficient and quite proportionate for a charge of 181.4 kilogs. This charge will produce in it (always the same superior powder presumed) the same gas pressure as the 162 kilogs. in the experimental Krupp gun.

While according to this the coefficient of expansion in the Krupp gun is 4.33, the same in the Armstrong gun is reduced to 3.52 in consequence of the enlargement of the space of combustion. This reduction has for result a diminution of 12 per cent. in the utilisation of the powder. There is therefore (equally good powder presumed) in the Armstrong gun a lesser powder utilisation of 12 + 6 = 18 per cent. to be expected than in the Krupp gun. As in the latter an energy of 45.7 mt. per kilog. of powder was obtained, in the Armstrong gun only 37.5 mt. can be expected. For a charge of 181.4 kilog. this corresponds to a total energy of 6800 mt. against 7400 mt. total energy as obtained in the Krupp gun.

Under the above-mentioned conditions the Armstrong gun is therefore still 9 per cent. inferior in its effect against armour, &c., to the Krupp gun. It is still to be considered that the new Krupp guns of 35 calibres length weigh only 48,550 kilog., not 49,200 kilog., the weight of the experimental gun.

Already, years ago, Armstrong has produced the same 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length in Spain on paper, but has never, that I am aware of, made such guns till now. It would appear, therefore, to be difficult for Armstrong to make guns of this length. For that reason he is obliged, in order to attain approximately the velocities of the Krupp guns, to considerably increase the charges.

Totally setting aside the greater cost caused thereby, these short guns have the disadvantage that they strain the ship's decks and bulwarks considerably more than the longer Krupp guns. This has been shown in a very striking manner by the experiments of various artilleries, who were agreeably surprised that notwithstanding the heavy charges, these Krupp guns strained the decks and bulwarks still less than the short guns of former construction with smaller charges.

It results from the preceding, that for his comparison "Artillerist" has used figures that cannot be correct if Krupp's figures are valid, and these are so, being taken from the results of trials, while the figures given of the Armstrong gun are imaginary and wrong.

The figures quoted by me have been found by a method of calculation derived from experience, and proved to be correct by the results of repeated experiments. They lead, besides, to another conclusion, i.e., that it is inconvenient to go beyond certain dimensions of the space of combustion, consequently beyond a certain expansion of the powder gases.

When we suppose, namely, equal weights of projectile, the energy of the projectile in the Krupp gun would be 162x45.7=7403mt., and in the Armstrong gun 181.4x0.88x45.7=7297 mt.

Consequently, and notwithstanding the difference in the charges, the energy of the projectiles in Armstrong guns would be approximately the same as in the Krupp guns, whereby it follows that the Krupp construction is the more rational, as it attains the same effect with a smaller charge. The two 30.5 cm. guns furnished by Armstrong to Spain give an instructive example for the correctness of the preceding conclusion.

It has been calculated above that the Krupp 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length has 9 per cent. greater effect than the Armstrong gun. It was tacitly presumed that the effect against armour is in direct proportion to the total energy. This is not exactly the case, inasmuch as, according to the executed experiments, the lighter projectiles as employed by Armstrong show about 10 per cent. less effect than the heavier Krupp projectiles, the same high class material being understood for both.

Besides, for the comparison of the effect of both guns it must be taken into consideration that the lighter projectile loses its energy quicker than the heavier projectile. In this direction the proportion is the following:—

Distance.	<i>Vis Viva</i> of the Projectile of a 30.5cm. Gun of 35 Cal. Length	Proportion of the Two <i>Vis Viva</i> 's
	Armstrong's metre-ton.	Krupp's metre-ton.
0	6800	7403
500	6287	6959
1000	5821	6539
1500	5394	6148
2000	4982	5777
2500	4606	5433

While therefore the *vis viva* of the projectiles of the Armstrong gun at the muzzle is 9 per cent. less than that of the Krupp gun, this difference at 1000 m. rises already to 11 per cent. and at 2500 m. to 15 per cent.

If now one takes into consideration the 10 per cent. of less effectiveness of the light projectiles, one may expect for the Armstrong 30.5 cm. projectile at the distance of 1000 m. 20 per cent., and at 2500 metres 23½ per cent. less effect than for the Krupp projectile.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

FRIED. KRUPP.

Essen, December 8, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—I am not going to take either side in this controversy, but there is one statement in Mr. Krupp's letter of 8th December which cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged, and as it is at the bottom of whatever may be the difference between the two guns, I will at once point it out.

Mr. Krupp says the combustion space in his gun is 1.09 dcm³ per kilog., and in the Armstrong gun 215.9 dcm³ for 181.4 kilog. = 1.19 dcm³ per kilog., therefore the gravimetric densities are .9180 and .8412 respectively. He continues thus:—"This charge (the 181.4 kilogs.) will produce in it (the Armstrong gun) the same gas pressure as the 162 kilog. in the Krupp gun." This is quite erroneous. The gas pressure will be in round numbers 35 tons per square inch in Krupp's gun, and 29 tons per square inch in Armstrong's.

This is the real cause of the superior ballistic effect per kilog. of powder in Krupp's gun. Krupp is not afraid of high pressures, and therefore does not chamber, or rather air space, to the extent Armstrong does; and he is quite right if, as I believe they are, his guns are stronger than Armstrong's.

Yours, &c.,

J. A. LONGRIDGE.

MR. EBY'S NEW SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I cannot agree with "Ferrex and Porrex" as to the impracticability of a university with a Christian test for its professors, provided the test were broad enough, no more minute than, say, the Apostles' Creed. There can hardly be a doubt, however, that they have pointed out very grave difficulties in the way of founding a second university in Tokio, or even elsewhere in Japan. And besides, the chances of raising money enough by a popular subscription scheme such as has been proposed by Mr. Eby seem to me to be almost infinitely small. But why cannot the object aimed at in the proposed Christian university be accomplished in a simpler way? Why should not any church or mission establish, close to the government University, a Christian school or college, in which students should be prepared for the higher University classes, and any students attending those higher classes who wished it admitted as boarders? Such an institution would of course have its own religious instruction and worship. It might have any courses of study additional to those of the University that were thought desirable. It would be free, by lectures on apologetics, Bible classes, classes in Church history, or other similar means, to influence to as large an extent as it could the students of the whole University, and, if it were conducted by men of the right kind, such influence could hardly fail to be great.

Such a plan would have numerous advantages. It would avoid any such tendency to drive the present University into active opposition to Christianity, as a rival university would be likely to develop. It would need no special privileges from the Government. The cost would be moderate, and the difficulties of administration comparatively small; while, if it should seem at any time desirable and possible to found a Christian university at Osaka, Kiyoto, or elsewhere, the way would still be open to that.

I may add, that an institution of this kind has lately been opened in the United States, in connection with the University of Michigan, so that the plan is not altogether a novel or untried one.

I am, Sir, very truly yours,

THEODOSIUS S. TYNG.

Tokyo, March 16th, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In Mr. Eby's letter of the 14th inst., as well as in your leader of to-day, I notice that Mr. Eby's scheme for a Christian University is spoken of as if it had received the sanction of the whole Missionary body of Tokio and Yokohama. "Its projectors" are mentioned, and it is referred to as "the outline proposed by the Conferences." Now, as a member of the said Conferences, I think it only just to state that Mr. Eby is the sole projector of the scheme which has been little more than received for discussion: and that until it has passed through the hands, and received the approval, of a responsible body (which the Conference is not), it remains nothing more than a proposal of Mr. Eby's.

In common with other missionaries, I believe that this scheme, far from recommending itself generally, is certain to be quashed when it comes up for further discussion.

I am, yours, &c.,

THOMAS LINDSAY.

18, Tsukiji, Tokio, 15th March, 1884.

[It was hardly necessary for our correspondent to tell the public that a memorial is not final. Yet it is a memorial of a conference, not of one man. The prophecy contained in the last clause of this letter seems to us very like an illustration of the fault our correspondent condemns.—Ed. J.M.]

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

NOTIFICATION NO. 7 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

The following Land-Tax Regulations have been established. The Regulations for the revision of the Land-Tax published by Notification No. 272 of 1873, the rules relating to the revision of the Land-tax, and all other measures which conflict with these Regulations are hereby abolished.

In the case, however, of the Seven Islands of Idzu and of the Island of Ogasawara, which are in the jurisdiction of the Tokio Fu, and of the Hakodate, Okinawa, Sapporo, and Nemuro Prefectures, the existing regulations will remain in force.

The above is notified by Imperial Decree,

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

(Signed) MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

15th March, 1884.

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

I.

The Land-tax is fixed at 2½ per cent. of the value of land per year.

By "the value of land" mentioned in these regulations is understood the value of land as stated in the Title Deed.

II.

The Land-tax will not be increased in years of plenty nor will it be reduced in years of scarcity.

III.

Taxable land is divided into two classes.

1.—Rice land; land on which crops other than rice are grown; house land in country districts; house land in towns; salt flats; and land on which mines are worked.

2.—Marsh land; hill and forest land; moor land; and other land not specially classified.

Land of the 1st class or land of the 2nd class, the separate classification¹ of which is altered shall be known as "altered land."

Land of the 2nd class which by the employment of labor and capital has been converted into land of the 1st class shall be known as "reclaimed land."

Land of the 2nd class the conformation of which has been altered by natural calamity, such as "land slips, changes in a river's course, encroachments of the sea or of rivers, deposits of sand by sea or river, and land which by such natural disasters has been converted into rivers, into sea or into lakes, etc., shall be known as waste land.

IV.

Land occupied by Public Schools, land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country,² and by cemeteries, land covered by drains, land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, land forming dykes and embankments, land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, and land included in public thoroughfares, is exempt from taxation.

V.

In the measurement of land the long measure (*kanéjaku*) will be used, and 6 feet of this measure will constitute one *ken*. Four square *ken* will constitute one *ho*, 30 *ho* one *se*, 10 *se* one *tan*, and 10 *tan* one *chō*.

In the case of house land, one square *ken* will constitute a *tsubo*; one-tenth of this square area will constitute one *go*; and one-tenth of a *go* will constitute one *shaku*.

VI.

When the value of land is to be determined upon the expiration of the period known as the "Hoing Term"³ in the case of reclaimed land, and of the period of exemption from taxes in the case of waste land, and when the classification of land is changed, the land in question shall be measured.

VII.

The value of land, except in the case of land the classification of which is changed and reclaimed land, shall not be altered.

VIII.

Should it be necessary to make an universal re-valuation of land, notice of the fact will be given beforehand by decree.

IX.

In determining the value of land, the quality of the land and its class will be specially determined,

¹ The meaning is not quite clear. But evidently the alteration referred to is intended to apply only to alterations within the particular class; such as rice land being converted into ordinary arable land, or forest land becoming moor land; or again arable land being turned into house land.

² No mention is made of the land included in the precincts of Buddhist Temples.

³ The "Hoing Term" is a period fixed, in the case of moor or forest land, etc., being brought under cultivation, during which the cultivator in consideration of his having improved the quality of the land is only called upon to pay the Land-tax leviable upon the land in its original condition. The reclamation of "waste land" is treated separately.

the profit attending cultivation will be ascertained, and the value will be fixed in accordance with the conditions of the land.

X.

When the classification of land is altered, application must be made to the office of the local prefecture, and the land will be re-valued in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding in question.

XI.

When it is desired to convert land exempt from taxation into taxable land, the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained, and the value of the land will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding.

XII.

The Land-tax will be levied on the person in whose name the title-deed of the land is made out. But in the case of land given in pledge the Land-tax will be paid by the mortgagee.

XIII.

When taxable land is converted into land occupied by Public Schools, into land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country, or into cemeteries, exemption from taxation will date from the month^a in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained. When taxable land is converted into land covered by drains, into land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, into land forming dykes and embankments, into land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, or into land included in public thoroughfares, exemption from taxation will date from the month^a in which the work of carrying out the changes commences.

When land exempt from taxation is converted into taxable land, the Land-tax will be levied from the month immediately following that in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained.

XIV.

In the case of land the classification of which is altered, Land-tax will be levied in accordance with the change in the value of the land from the year in which the alteration in value took place.

XV.

In the case of reclaimed land and waste land, Land-tax will be levied from the year following that in which the "Hoeing Term," and period of exemption from taxation, respectively expire, in accordance with the value of the land as determined.

XVI.

When it is desired to reclaim land^a the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained. A "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will then be granted; during this period, however, Land-tax will be levied on such land in accordance with its original value.

XVII.

Should the cultivator, during the "Hoeing Term," change his intentions and convert the land in question into a class of land different from that originally intended, he must report the fact to the office of the local prefecture. Under these circumstances the value of the land may be at once determined, or a new "Hoeing Term" be granted (according to the nature of the case).

XVIII.

In the case of land which, at the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" has not been brought into profitable cultivation, a further "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will be granted.

XIX.

At the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" a re-valuation of the land in question will take place. In the event of the "cultivator's original intentions with regard to the land not being realized, and the land being converted into a class of land different from that originally intended, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of such land.

XX.

In the case of land rendered waste by natural calamity, a period of exemption from taxation not exceeding 10 years, and dating from the year in which the calamity occurred, will be fixed. At the expiration of this period the land will revert to its original value.

XXI.

In the case of waste land the actual condition of which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is such as will not admit of its reverting to the original value, a further period not exceeding 10 years will be fixed, during which the value of the land will be estimated at a low rate, not, however, less than 30 per cent. of the original value. At the expiration of this further period the land will revert to its original value.

XXII.

In the case of land which at the expiration of the further period during which it has been estimated

^a i.e. periods of days not being taken into account, the exemption will take effect from the 1st day of that month.

^b See previous note.

^c This does not apply to the reclamation of "Waste Land;" see previous note.

at a reduced value is still not in a state to revert to its original value, and in the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is not in a condition to be restored to its original classification, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of such land.

XXIII.

In the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation preserves all the characteristics of waste land, an extended period of exemption from taxation not exceeding 10 years will be granted; and land which at the expiration of such extended period is still not in a condition to revert to its original value will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Articles XXI. and XXII.

XXIV.

In the case of land rendered waste by being converted into rivers, into sea, or into lakes, not being restored to its original condition at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation, an extended period of exemption not exceeding 20 years will be granted; and if at the expiration of this extended period the land in question has not reverted to its original classification, and is incapable of any other classification, such land shall be regarded as land underlying rivers, sea, or lakes, and the title deed shall be taken back.

XXV.

Persons who fraudulently conceal the extent of their holdings and thereby evade payment of land-tax will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 4 and not more than *yen* 40. Moreover, the value of the land in question will be determined in accordance with its original classification, and land-tax will be exacted for the number of years during which the fraudulent concealment has continued.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision (1873).

XXVI.

Persons violating Articles XI. and XVI. will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 3 and not more than *yen* 30. In the case of land exempted from taxation which has thus been converted (without notice to the authorities) into taxable land, and in the case of land being reclaimed (without the permission of the authorities having been obtained) and in respect to which it appears fitting that such permission should be given,—the price of all such land shall be determined respectively in accordance with its actual⁷ classification, and the Land-tax shall be levied on the increased scale.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision.

XXVII.

Persons violating Articles X. and XVII. will be punished by a penalty of not less than *yen* 1.00 and not more than *yen* 1.95.

XXVIII.

With regard to the offences enumerated in Article XXV. and in succeeding Articles, should these be committed by the lessee or cultivator without the knowledge of the proprietor, the lessee or cultivator shall be fined and the taxes shall be levied from the proprietor.

XXIX.

In the event of persons who have committed the offences enumerated in Articles XXV., XXVI., XXVII., and XXVIII. confessing their misdemeanours, the fines and penalties in question will be remitted, but the Land-tax will be exacted.

NEW SUBMARINE CABLE.

NOTIFICATION No. 7 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that, whereas a submarine cable has been laid between Kotomo-mura, Higashi-matsuura-gori, Hizen, Saga Prefecture, and Gono-ura, Ishida-gori, Iki, Nagasaki Prefecture, *via* Komota-mura, Idzugahara, Shimogata-gori, Tsushima, Nagasaki Prefecture, all anchoring, fishing, and dredging for sea-weed is strictly prohibited within prescribed distances from the cable. In a plan (accompanying the Notification) it will be seen that the said distances, on either side of the cable, are marked by buoys, 100 *ken* apart at the widest, and 30 *ken* apart at the narrowest, places (at the shore ends).

SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

SASAKI TAKAYUKI,
Minister of Public Works.

March 19th, 1884.

⁷ And not, as it would otherwise be, for a term of years in accordance with the original classification.

THE FOURTH LECTURE AT THE MEIJI KWAIDO.

The Missionaries are not fortunate in their weather. At this time of year, indeed, it would be extravagant to expect constant sunshine. Still, seeing that two days out of the four fixed for the Meiji Kwaido lectures have been particularly inclement, we may fairly say that the elements are not active in the cause of religious teaching this spring. The 7th instant was a day of wind and rain, sufficient to deter all but the most earnest hearers. Nevertheless, about twelve hundred people assembled at the lecture hall to hear the Rev. Hugh Waddell compare the merits of Confucianism and Christianity. It is much to be regretted that there is not available in the capital some place better suited than the Meiji Kwaido for lecturing purposes. The very remarkable mastery of the language which the Missionaries have acquired by years of unremitting study, and the high gifts they bring to their work, render them capable of achieving great results if only the opportunity existed. Nothing could have been happier than the idea of delivering annually a course of lectures in Japanese. The churches and the sermons preached there almost daily naturally attract only those who have already become disciples of Western faiths. In time, no doubt, the circle of these believers will widen, but it were over-sanguine to expect that a leaven working in such circumscribed grooves can speedily affect the mass of a virtually indifferent public. The general attitude of the educated classes towards religion is one of apathy. Both Confucianism and Buddhism, as they are taught here, are essentially calculated to foster this mood. For the former regards death as an universal purifier. To have become familiar with its awesome mystery is to have earned the worship of posterity and a place among immortal beings. The disciple of Confucianism, when he burns incense and offers meat and wine before the cenotaphs of his ancestors, sees nothing of the vital aspects of his creed, but remembers only, that however he may have lived, there will surely open to him one day the portals of that deifying knowledge of which the poet's instinct has so well said:—

We shall know what the darkness discovers,
If the grave pit be shallow or deep:
And our fathers of old and their lovers,
We shall know if they sleep not or sleep.

The doctrines of Buddhism, on the other hand, are incompatible with the energy and practicality which the world we live in demands of all intelligent men. It is difficult to be a Buddhist and to have, at the same time, earnest aims and objects in the present. The result is that great numbers of Japanese are either practically creedless, or else content themselves with the thought that as they do by those who have gone before, so will those that follow do by them also. To make any perceptible impression upon this apathetic crust, the Missionary wants to reach the leaders of thought, and not to work only among the weaker vessels who are ready to have their thoughts manufactured for them. Among the various ways of accomplishing this, none seems better than the delivery of public lectures in the great cities, but especially in Tokiyo, where the student and official classes chiefly reside. We believe that excellent results would follow were Tokiyo provided with a large hall, where monthly, or bi-monthly, lectures could be delivered, throughout the year, by foreigners and Japanese, and where large audiences could be comfortably accommodated.

The subject of Mr. Waddell's lecture on the 7th was of a nature that might have been expected to cause some excitement. Confucianism, appealing as it does so powerfully to the domestic affections, is at the root of those household creeds upon which Chinese society, and China's existence as a national entity, have rested for centuries upon centuries. It is hallowed at once by antiquity and by use, and a stranger, standing up before an Oriental audience to expose the faults and fallacies of so revered a code of ethics, might look for anything but a patient hearing. Nor did Mr. Waddell spare the weak points of his theme. A speaker apparently without any fear of the passions he might excite, he held up Confucianism as it looked by the light of intelligence and logic without any of the obscuring glamour of sentiment or mystery, and though his hearers sometimes seemed on the point of losing their self-control, the interest of this new revelation always sufficed to restrain them. Among the audience on this occasion were several officials, who listened from first to last with marked attention. Mr. Waddell's Japanese, though somewhat disfigured by forms of expression which have evidently resulted from a premature use of this difficult language, nevertheless sufficed to convey his meaning clearly, and was always fluent. The lecture lasted nearly two hours. The following is a *resumé*, necessarily much abridged:—

The Bible says "Buy the Truth and sell it not."

We meet here to-day to seek for truth. Truth, like gold and silver, is often concealed from our view under a covering of earth and sand. It requires the practised eye to distinguish the precious metal from the rubbish in which it is buried. The unskilled, on the other hand, cast all away. In seeking for truth let us beware of prejudice. He who looks at things through coloured glasses sees all in a false light. Let us beware of putting on national spectacles in seeking for the truth. Let us try also to look at the systems we discuss to-day through each other's glasses, and thus, by helping one another, we may come to form a fair estimate of the whole. In speaking of Confucianism, there is much about it to command our respectful attention. It is no system of to-day. It comes to us hoary with age, and every one must feel within him veneration for antiquity. Again, it is not an untried system. It has been tested for centuries; it has built up and held together a nation from the remotest antiquity down to the present day; and now, to-day, it addresses us with four hundred millions of our fellow men at its back. It alone seems to survive the wreck and ruin of time and to stand firm amidst all changes. The lecturer then invited his hearers to examine with him what was in this system that gave it this moulding and conserving power. What was the element in it that thus bound together one third of the human race? In the lecturer's opinion it was religion. A religion which united the present with the past, the son to the father and to the ancestors, by the strongest ties of filial affection and religious veneration and fear. It is said by some that Confucianism is not a religion. This, the lecturer considered a mistake. A system which teaches the existence of a god, or gods, which teaches that the affairs of the world are under the care of the deity, and that man, for favour received from the divine being, ought to worship the author of these blessings, is properly called a religion, though it may be a false one. Now does Confucianism teach the existence of the gods? Does it teach that the world is under their care? Does it inculcate on man the duty of worshipping the gods? To all these questions the answer is affirmative; and if so, then it is properly a religion. The lecturer then went on to consider what are the gods of this system; how they are divided and designated, what they do and how and by whom they are to be worshipped; and from this he contrasted what is said of them by Confucian writers with the teaching of Christ, leaving the audience to consider for themselves which of the two systems commends itself to reason and conscience. The writings of the Chinese show: 1st. That gods were divided into *nai shin* and *gai shin*, gods of the family and of the State, thus forming a family and State religion. The *gai shin* were *jotei*, the gods of the famous mountains, great rivers, and of the four quarters, and the *nai shin* were spoken of as the gods of the ancestral temples and of the grain and the land. Attention was directed to the fact that the *gai shin*, or national gods, were properly called *shin*, while the *nai shin*, or gods of the family, were properly called *rei*. The commentators explain that a god in heaven or above was called *shin*, and when he came down to earth he was called *rei*, and that a god far off was called *shin*, while a god near at hand is called *rei*, and hence when we speak of the gods with reverence they are called *shin*; when we speak of them with affection they are called *rei*. Mr. Waddell showed that similar usage held in the case of *θεος* and *δαίμων*. The god in heaven was called *θεος*, the god among men was called *δαίμων*. He then showed that the gods were again divided into three classes, according as they belonged to earth, heaven, or man, and that these three classes of gods had distinct names applied to them; thus the gods of heaven are called *shin*, the gods of earth are called *gi*, and the gods human are called *ki* 鬼. *Shin* and heaven, *gi* and earth, *ki* and man were, in the mind of the Chinese, but one and the same thing only viewed from different aspects. Hence, speaking of earth as to its form, we call it earth, and speaking of it as a god we call it *gi*; and so, too, speaking of heaven as to its form, we call it *ten* or heaven, speaking of its ruling power we call it *tei* or *jotei*, supreme ruler; speaking of its infinite mystery we call it god. He then considered the names of the god heaven, and his relation to the other gods, and showed that he was called the chief or most honourable of all the gods, the object of veneration for all, and the lord of men and gods. The Chinese ranked among their gods, sun, moon, and stars, heat and cold, winds, rain, and clouds, etc., all, on the principle that these things were useful to man and were therefore *shin* or gods and worthy to be worshipped. The ancient stoics held precisely the same theory, allowing the name god to be applied to everything useful to man. In China, the national gods were only to be worshipped by the Emperor and his princes and magistrates. The people had

no right to serve these gods, but were taught to worship the gods of their own families, or the *nai-shin*. With regard to the family gods, Confucius taught that a man derived his spirit from heaven, and his soul and body from earth, and that when he died, the spirit or soul-spirit, *konki*, returned to heaven, while his body-soul *tai-haku*, returned to earth. On this duality of soul and spirit a double form of worship was founded. And spiritual things were offered to the spirit, while corporeal things were properly offered to the body-soul. The *ki*, or spirit of man, was said to be in the *kon* or rational soul, but, according to others, the *ki* was external and the *kon* internal. This latter was the view of Lord Bacon, who says that the spirit is the organism of the soul. We have written proof that the sages of China, in order to excite fear and reverence in the minds of the people, changed the names *kon-paku*, *animus* and *anima*, into the name *kishin*, on the ground that the former did not denote honour or respect, while the latter was regarded as the most honourable title that existed. The spirit had the heart and lungs and liver and blood presented to it, on the ground that these were the seats of this spirit in the man when he was alive. Further, this spirit, or *ki*, was summoned from heaven by music, while the *haku*, or animal soul, was called from earth by the pouring out of libations. The spirit was supposed to come to the feast, partake of the offerings, and confer the blessings of long life and prosperity on those who duly performed the service to the dead; while those who neglected them, were supposed to come under its displeasure and be punished accordingly. In this way the family gods became the guardians of the living, and man was thus constantly surrounded by the departed. In the spirit world, husband and wife were not separated and obliged to feast at different tables as in life, but, on the contrary, the body being laid aside, the spirits, *seiki*, met at a common altar and were worshipped together, a circumstance which might tend to console the dying wife in her last moments, and render her future prospects brighter than her past. Among the departed, some ranked above others, some being called *shin* in contrast to others who were only called *ki* 鬼. Thus the spirit *ki* 氣 of the *seiki* was called *shin* or god, because his spirit was mighty and could order and produce things, and thus cooperate with the gods of earth and heaven. On the other hand, the spirit of the *ken-jin* was said to be weaker than that of the sage *sei-jin*, and became simply a *ki* 鬼 (*ιδωλιον*) or shade. The lecturer then proceeded to contrast all this with the religion of Christ. There we have no deification of heaven, earth, or man. The God of the Christ is not heaven earth or man, but the Creator of them all. A man cannot serve two masters neither can he serve many gods. The loyal heart can have but one sovereign; Christianity is here true to man's nature, Confucianism false. Again, Confucianism forbids the common man to worship the great gods. It sends each man to his own ancestral god and thus crushes the poor man down in the dust; while, on the other hand, Christianity lifts up all men to one common level, and invites all to come to the same great God who made heaven and earth. Further, Confucianism requires the worshipper to bring scrip and purse, drink offerings and meat offerings, precious stones and clothing to offer to the gods, and he who comes empty-handed to feast this ancestral god, gets not a blessing but a curse; while Christianity, on the contrary, requires none of these things. God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. He asks not our food or clothing, our libations and incense. He seeks only the deep devotion of the heart. Hence the poorest, meanest man on earth, who comes to Him with a loving, loyal heart, finds as ready a welcome as the greatest of earth's kings. What has held China together from the distant past until the present day, is the deifying and worshipping of parents and ancestors. Here the love of the child for the parent unites with the veneration and religious fear of the god; and man becomes bound by a chain which cannot be easily broken. For the parent merges in the god, and the god clothes himself in the form of the parent. Thus love, adoration and fear bind the past and present in China. But Christianity realizes all this on a grander scale. For God makes us his children, and becomes our Father in heaven. Nay more, we form but one family and are all bound together by the same family ties to the same common God and Father of us all. Whereas the Confucian system unites each family round its own centre and family god, and by this very means fails to produce true union, for a separate god in each family divides one from the other, and tends to foster all kinds of discord among the various clans and districts. Again, as the living must worship the dead from the remote past until the present, and as among these dead there must be many who have lived notoriously

wicked lives, it follows that the living worshipper must pay his devotions to these wicked men because they are his ancestors. Here then we have good and bad, all ranged in common line of family gods, and the filial son must worship his father's shade even though he were a robber or a murderer. Surely many a man must blush to be found worshipping as gods men who disgraced their kind by their evil deeds when alive. But Christianity leads us to the worship of a God who has in him every perfection, who is the centre of all truth and purity, and in whose worship we may glory: for he is infinitely worthy of it. Again Confucianism tends to lead men to think little of the evil of sin because the offence bulks very much in proportion to the rank of the person against whom we offend, and as the people have little to do with any god but their own frail, sinful ancestors, it will be manifest that the worshipper cannot feel much detestation of sins committed against such a mean divinity. On the other hand, Christianity gives men a deeper sense of sin just because of the infinity of the great and holy Being against whom we have sinned. Again Confucianism does not tell us how a man who has sinned against Heaven can be saved. It says, indeed, that he who sins against Heaven has no where to whom to pray, but it does not tell us how such a man can get forgiveness. But the religion of Christ makes known to the sinner how he may return to God against whom he has sinned. It points out how sin may be forgiven. It shows how God can be just and yet pardon sin through the blood of the cross. It points to the love of God in giving his son, and to the justice of God in punishing the sinner's substitute, and thus justice and mercy meet in the cross of Christ, and sinners are everywhere invited to seek and be saved. Again, both Confucianism and Christianity teach the existence of the world of spirits. The Confucianist regards the present world of light as the desirable one. Here the sun god shines upon him by day, the moon and other gods by night. To leave this world and go into a dreary world of spirits where the spirit is up in the clouds and the soul down in the earth must be a gloomy prospect. The part in the earth is the seat of memory, the part on high is the fountain of all activity. But if the memory be gone from the active part, and all activity from the earth-bound soul, surely it must be a dreary prospect to look forward to such a separation, with only the hope of being united again, say, at least at times, once or twice a year. And what must be the case of those who have no such prospect? Those who die without any one to worship them or care for them when they are gone? But to the Christian the world of spirit is not dismal. On the contrary, it is his own home to which he is going. There is his father's house. There his soul and spirit united shall dwell in the presence of God. And there he will find all his wants supplied. He will not need the food and drink of his posterity. He will hunger no more, neither will he thirst any more. Confucianism keeps China from being opened up; it obstructs the progress of railways and mining. It fills men with the dread of the gods of hills, rivers, roads, and so forth. The people fear to investigate too closely the affairs of the heavens with a telescope, believing that sun, moon, and stars are gods. Christianity rids men from all such fear. Japan is gradually getting rid of all these gods. Science is showing her that the gods of sun, moon, and stars are no gods. It is driving the gods from mountain and river, sea, and land. The real danger now is that if the knowledge of the true god, the Creator of heaven and earth, be not received, the people of the present will cease to have any religion at all. Agnosticism or atheism has no power to unite and hold men in a common brotherhood. Religion alone can accomplish this, and above all, that religion which makes the father god, and which unites men at once by the strongest ties in their nature, divine love, reverence, and filial affection. This has been and is the secret of the power of Confucianism, and Christianity gives us all this in a deeper and wider sense, for it makes all men who believe in Jesus the sons of one God and the Father. Another theory of Confucianism is that the dead may become evil demons and curse the living. This has led the Chinese to provide a worship for all such hungry ghosts, and hence, from the Emperor down to his meanest subject, all offer sacrifices to the unpropitiated divinities. A Chinaman, for this reason, will often show more attention to the body of a dead beggar than to the same unfortunate in life, because, being dead, he has become powerful for evil, and may proceed to take vengeance on those who neglected him while alive. Christianity is not disfigured by any such demon-worship. The souls of the dead have no power to torment or harass the living, nor does their rest or happiness depend on the burning of incense or the offering of gifts at their tombs by those that are soon to follow them into the presence of their Creator.

NEUTRALITY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

What position shall Japan hold in the event of a war between France and China? This is a question which, just at present, demands our serious consideration. Now that these two nations are involved in grave complications with reference to Tongking and Annam, it is very probable that if France besieges Bac-ninh (*Hokune*), conquers that important fortress, and carries her arms to the northward, China will no longer remain quiescent for the sake of international interests, although she may not desire that the tide of battle be carried into Yunnan. Should China remain passive, it is very possible that France will force her to pay all the expenses incurred in the war in Tongking and Annam, by seizing the islands of Hainan and Formosa. If this were done, China could no longer hesitate to declare war with France. It is truly most desirable that the tranquillity of the East should rest undisturbed; but if we do not immediately make ourselves ready for any emergency, even though the threatened war do not break out, we shall certainly be guilty of dire imprudence. It is absolutely necessary that we should be prepared to face the many dangers which may arise. What form shall our preparation take? Shall we stand neutral in case of a great war between France and China? Or shall we declare ourselves the passive partisans of one of the belligerents? Or shall we, finally, join our forces with one of the belligerents and take part in the war? Say, for the moment, that we stand neutral: shall our neutrality be a strict or a benevolent one?

China is our nearest neighbour, with a literature the same as our own, and easternmost boundaries which directly face our western shores; while France is one of the best friends we have in Europe. A defeat suffered, or a victory gained by either of these two great Powers, would not only cause us sorrow or joy, but would have a most important influence upon the policy of our own Government, as well as upon our national interests. It is, therefore, most necessary that we should consider the present situation in every point, and that we should determine whether it is possible for us to maintain our present status without endangering our friendly relations with either of the two countries; without disturbing the tranquillity of Eastern Asia; without losing ought of our national prestige.

Our modern politicians are often disposed to comment upon the liberty of man, as well as his so-called natural rights; but they are sadly indifferent to the solution of such practical problems as are those which we have just specified. And even though they may occasionally turn their attention to such burning questions as these, they think they do all that is required of them in stating that Japan should stand neutral. It is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that they have never given their opinion as to how this neutrality is to be maintained.

Our own views are always against the maintenance of an aggressive policy; a policy which is entirely out of place in this country in so far as its geographical position is concerned. The possession of territory in the Asiatic continent would surely lead to unfortunate results. This is all the more forcibly true, when we remember that we have no actual quarrel with China, and that we are far from entertaining any hostile feeling towards France. We have no just reason either in the circumstance of the case or in our position to participate in a Franco-Chinese conflict. It follows that neutrality is our safest and best course. But we must know that, if a war actually breaks out between France and China, the maintenance of a strict neutrality would be a most difficult matter, and that strict neutrality not infrequently assumes a partial appearance. In order to make both disputants fully aware of our neutral standing, we must be armed at all points. If war is declared, we in the east, and Great Britain in the west, will find it very difficult to preserve a neutral states. The position of Great Britain would be briefly as follows:—Neutrality includes, *primâ facie*, strict impartiality; for if any partiality is shown by a neutral power to either of two belligerents, that power is actually no longer neutral. Benevolent neutrality, says a Western Jurist, is only slightly different from actual participation in warfare. This is a wise saying, indeed. The people of England appear to suppose that their Government will officially announce a strict neutrality so soon as war shall have been declared between France and China. Such an announcement would prove most beneficial to China, but it would entail serious inconveniences upon France. French vessels, whether men-of-war or transports, *en route* for Annam or China, must call at Port Said, Aden, Point de Galle, and Singapore for coal and provisions. Admitting that Port Said is

an Egyptian port and that no objections could be raised against French vessels stopping there, we are inclined to suppose that, as all the other above-mentioned ports are under the British flag, no French ships could call at any of them, and that they would be unable to reach Saigon, where the head-quarters of the French forces are established. Although, in case of a war with China, France would depend principally upon her navy, still forty or fifty thousand troops would have to be sent out. It would be hardly possible to bring out these troops in French vessels alone, and yet the laws of neutrality would forbid Great Britain's rendering any assistance whatever. There would be the greatest difficulty, therefore, for France in transporting men and provisions. Hongkong is a military post of the greatest importance in the eyes of the French, as it commands the whole of the southern Chinese littoral; but England could not permit France to make any use of the island, nor would she allow France to engage in naval conflict in adjacent waters. France might blockade the ports along the whole coast of China, but England would refuse to recognize the validity of the blockade, and might forcibly interfere in the interests of her eastern commerce. Nor is it at all unlikely that English vessels would try to run the blockade. In this case, complications would inevitably arise between Great Britain and France. Again, English merchants might, for the sake of large profits, secretly sell arms and ammunition to the Chinese, in utter disregard of the laws of neutrality; and the arrest of these merchants would lead to angry disputes between England and France. There are at present several British subjects employed in China in the capacity of naval and military officers and instructors; these officers would have to throw up their engagements, nor could they take any part in a Chinese war with France. Yet, owing to pressure of circumstances or at the earnest desire of the Chinese, they might resolve to continue in the service, at the loss of the national honour, not caring if they thus forfeited their birthrights as British subjects. Many such occurrences took place in the late Turkish war. They would then speedily assume command of the Chinese army and navy, beside superintending the building of war-vessels and the Government arsenals, and they could prove exceedingly dangerous to French interests. Such a state of affairs would not fail to produce much irritation between Great Britain and China. Finally, the people of England manifest much greater sympathy with China, on account of their commercial interests, than they do with their neighbour, France. And in case war is declared between France and China we may reasonably expect that this feeling will grow stronger rather than decreases. The protection of British commerce in China will, in case of war, be a very expensive matter, and the profits derived from that commerce would be greatly curtailed. At all events, if Great Britain maintains a strict neutrality, she will give great umbrage to France; and if she exhibits any partiality towards France her relations with China will be seriously imperilled. Under these circumstances it will be a most difficult matter for Great Britain to stand neutral.

What is true of England in the west, is true of Japan in the east. Since the outset of our intercourse with foreign nations, the earliest declaration of neutrality made by Japan was in the year Ansei, when the allied armies of England, France, and Sardinia fought with Turkey against Russia, in 1854-55. This event took place after we had already concluded a treaty with Russia, and opened the ports of Nagasaki, Shimoda, and Hakodate, where only Russian vessels might take in supplies of coal and provisions. But when a Russian vessel, in which the Envoy Buchachin had embarked, was wrecked and sank off Shimoda, the Shogun's Government not only permitted him to build a new ship in Japan in order to return to his own country, but also provided him with the necessary timber and a staff of efficient carpenters. In a short space of time a schooner was built, mounting several guns. With the help of this schooner the Russian Envoy succeeded in reaching Kamschatka without falling in with English vessels. It must be remembered that, at that time, our relations with England were restricted to supplying fuel and water to English vessels, in accordance with certain articles agreed upon by the then Governor of Nagasaki and the Commander of a British vessel. No treaties had been drawn up by any special commissioners or envoys. No especial announcement of our neutral status had been made to Great Britain. Nor is it unreasonable to affirm that the courteous reception of the Russians by our authorities betrayed their utter ignorance of the true nature of neutrality. In the sixth year of Ansei (1860), when England and France formed an alliance and attacked China,—with which country, however, we had not yet entered into friendly relations—we not only neglected to make

any declaration of neutrality, but we even did not prohibit the English landing their men and buying horses in Yokohama. Somewhat later on, a civil war broke out in the Northern and Southern States of America, while, in Europe, Prussia became involved first in a war with Denmark and then with Austria. As all these occurrences had no immediate connection with the welfare of this country, it was, of course, not necessary for us to make any special declaration of neutrality. But when, in the third year of Meiji (1870), a war broke out between France and Germany, and the fleets of these two countries constantly sailed in eastern waters, our Government maintained a strictly neutral position, and escaped a breach of friendly relations with either of the two belligerents. Diplomacy had by this time considerably developed, and our responsible diplomatists had become familiar with the most important points of neutrality. But we are inclined to believe that their real knowledge of the vital importance of neutrality first began when they themselves saw that, during our revolutionary war, the representatives of the treaty powers in this country openly declared their strict neutral standing. Later on, when war broke out between Russia and Turkey, there was no necessity for a declaration of neutrality on our part, as the dispute had little or no connection with the welfare of Japan. Nevertheless, had England changed her policy and determined to assist Turkey, it would have been absolutely indispensable for us to maintain neutrality in its strictest form. Again, when a dispute arose last year between China and Russia in regard to the concession of Ili, the Admiral assumed command of a well-equipped fleet, and held himself in readiness to attack China simultaneously with the advance of the land forces, so soon as he should have received despatches from his Government announcing the outbreak of hostilities. The moment was one of great significance to our foreign policy. Questions at once arose as to what policy we should adopt; what sort of neutrality we should declare, and whether it would be possible for us to put it in practice, etc. Ever since that time, the public has been familiar with the true significance of neutrality.

The difficulty in maintaining a neutral standing in case of the declaration of a war between France and China will be just as great as if hostilities broke out between Russia and China. The announcement of strict neutrality on the part of our Government would be highly beneficial to China, as in the coming contest her rôle will be rather a defensive than an offensive one. But France, who has to play the part of an offensive belligerent, would thereby be seriously inconvenienced. Indeed, strict neutrality on our part would very probably assume the aspect of benevolent neutrality, so far as China is concerned. If the conflict be confined to Tongking, France will want nothing of us; but if the war be carried on along the eastern coast of China, between Tientsin and Shanghai, it is not so very improbable that France would want to establish naval stations on the western coast of this country, for instance at Nagasaki, Goshima, Tsushima, or Naha. But this we must prevent by every means in our power, even if we have to resort to arms. Still, we could not, nor would we, forbid French vessels calling at these ports simply as havens of safety, where they might be free from all danger of an attack of the Chinese. Again, if France were defeated, and if she lost Saigon, she would be absolutely forced to establish some temporary head-quarters in adjacent seas. It needs no lengthy demonstration to prove that such territory could only be found in Japan or in one of the Eastern Asiatic Colonies of Great Britain. Admitting even that France would not have to change her head-quarters from Saigon, yet it might very possibly happen that, in consequence of injuries sustained by her vessels, she might apply to our Government for permission to repair her ships in Nagasaki; or she might bring wounded soldiers to this country for medical treatment. In such a case, the simple announcement of neutrality would not keep us from acceding to her request, and we should have to let ships be repaired and her soldiers cared for in our ports. But, at the same time, our Government would be forced to adopt measures preventing these soldiers, when convalescent from re-appearing in the field of battle. For if this were not done, the Government would be liable to be severely criticized and charged with having infringed the law of neutrality. It is not difficult for us to prevent the two contending parties from buying anything in this country contrary to the law of neutrality, yet it must not be forgotten that there are many articles which, though not directly applicable to warlike purposes, may indirectly be made use of in warfare. The sale of such articles often gives rise to disputes. Coal, for example, may give occasion to great discussion. If it is not customary to place any restrictions upon the sale of this important article in time of war, we have nothing further to say; but

in any other case the export of coal from Japan will be seriously affected, and the national revenue will suffer in consequence. If similar restrictions are to be imposed upon the supply of provisions, wood, and water to either of the two belligerents, we must be prepared to fly to our arms the moment either of the two nations refuse to observe these restrictions. So far as our international relations are concerned, there are many points in connection with neutrality that require our earnest and careful consideration, and we shall refrain from commenting upon them in a careless or superficial manner. We sincerely trust, however, that our readers will remember that the just preservation of neutrality is not by any means an easy matter; and that, if hostilities break out between France and China, the position of Japan will be one of the gravest responsibility.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy
Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

MONDAY, March 17th, 1884.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

General Van Buren conducted his own case.

Mr. Weiller appeared for the defendant.

At the previous sitting of the Court, on the 13th inst., Mr. Weiller applied for permission to strike out the words "in the letter to the Hon. Secretary of State" in the second portion of the answer, pleading that they were put in in error.

The Court said it thought it would not help the defendant, as no plea of justification was admissible under the general issue. Defendant could not allege the truth even as a mitigation of damages without acknowledging having used the words.

Plaintiff said that the proposed change entirely altered the defence. The allegation was explicit and the denial distinct. If he wanted to plead justification it was very simple to try and prove the truth of the words spoken. But that was not the question. The question was had, he made those statements? Defendant had stated that he had written to the Secretary of State criticizing his acts. What the defendant thought about the purchase of the buildings had nothing to do with this case. He did not wish to be misunderstood, he had always been agreeable to the defendant making any pleading he liked, but it must be explicit. By allowing him to alter the answer he did not propose to surrender any of his rights.

Mr. Weiller moved to amend the answer by adding "that if the defendant did utter the words" and so forth "the same were true."

Plaintiff said that the defendant then admitted that after all the first plea was a mistake. The probable motive in inserting the second plea in the answer was no doubt to show to the Court his patriotism and his interest in the people of the United States and to warn them against this terrible Consul-General.

Mr. Weiller admitted that his ignorance of common law pleadings was the cause of the mistake.

Mr. P. Osborn was recalled.

Plaintiff objected to having the testimony of Mr. Osborne as to record evidence. He was perfectly willing to publish in every newspaper in Yokohama and the United States everything connected with any business transaction he had ever been engaged in, but he did not intend to gratify the malignant curiosity of the defendant in a matter with which he had no concern. If, however, the defendant would place himself right upon the record, he would show everything connected with the transfer of the Consular buildings. As the pleadings now stood, however, no evidence upon the subject was possible.

Mr. Weiller then submitted an amended answer.

Plaintiff remarked that in the answer as now proposed, the defendant says he made an error, he intended to plead justification but did not do so. It went on to say that if he used the words, they were to the best of his information and belief true. The words information and belief are no part of a plea of justification. The defendant seemed to be trying to do a great deal on a very small basis. If the plea came in it must come with an admission that he used the words. If it came in that way he would not object.

Mr. Weiller would not admit having used the words "swindled" or "swindled the Government." He would admit the criticism relative to the buildings in the letter to the Secretary of State.

After some further discussion,

Plaintiff cited 2 Rent, page 25, note A., on justification and general issue, which reads that "a plea

of justification accompanying the general issue was proof of the speaking of the words, and that if the defendant failed to establish it by proof, the plea was evidence of malice."

Counsel for defendant then submitted another amended answer, which the plaintiff contended did not contain a proper plea. The difficulty was that they were not entitled to any amendment, if they wanted to change the issue they must admit the using of the words. It was as plain as the nose on a man's face that the whole of this was an attempt to take it out of the category of actions for slander. He objected to their changing the plea unless they admitted saying the words and if they did so they were barred from bringing evidence to prove the contrary. They wanted to say admitting and did not admit.

The Court said it was under the impression that in Common Law a plea of not guilty would admit proof of justification.

Plaintiff said that the defendant was asking for a privilege and yet would not put his plea in a proper form and the one the Court had suggested.

Mr. Weiller said they were demanding it in the furtherance of justice, they had admitted having made a mistake. He insisted that under the law of pleading the defendant could deny and plead justification after the plaintiff had made out a case.

The Court said that one of the allegations was that the purchase of the Consular buildings was unlawful. He might as well say at once that it was bringing up a question over which he might not have jurisdiction. The actions of Consuls were under the State Department. If the State Department had been advised and had sanctioned the purchase he had no power in the premises.

Plaintiff said he stood ready to prove that the Department knew of the purchase and sanctioned it.

His Honour said the action of the Government would be a bar to all further action.

Mr. Weiller said that if that was the view taken by the Court, he should renew his motion for a non-suit.

Mr. Weiller in support of his motion for non-suit, claimed that even if all the allegations contained in plaintiff's petition were considered proved, they were not sufficient to maintain a cause of action.

Plaintiff said that the cases to which the defendant's Counsel referred were State cases, that they were Common Law cases did not appear, and quoted from Starkie by Fulkard's on the Law of Slander and Libel, 6th ed., pages 70, 83, 110, 111, 119, 278, 283, 287. Also Kent, 12 ed., vol. 2, pages 16, 20 and 22. Smith's Manual of the Common Law, page 33. Walker's American Law, 6th ed., page 584. Sedgwick on Measure of Damages, 7th ed., vol. 2, page 344. Some of these cases ruled "that words are actionable, without proof of damage, which directly tend to the prejudice of one in his office, profession, trade, or business"; also "that where his office is lucrative, words which reflect upon the integrity or capacity of the plaintiff, render tenure precarious, and are therefore *pro tanto* a detriment in a pecuniary point of view;" again "where a person holds an office or situation in which great trust and confidence are of necessity reposed in him, words which impeach his integrity generally, though they contain no express reference to his office, are actionable, since they must necessarily attach to him in particular, and virtually represent him as unfit to hold that office or situation." Plaintiff, continuing, said that the allegation as laid in the complaint and as proved was that he had committed an act contrary to law, defendant's saying so did not make it so, but he had charged the plaintiff with committing an unlawful act which was either a crime or a misdemeanour and had likewise said that he had swindled the U.S. Government, which was an indictable act.

Mr. Litchfield, on behalf of the defendant, said that the words as proved by Mr. Prichard, who was the only real witness, stated they were spoken in connection with plaintiff's candidacy for President of the Y.U.C., there was therefore variance between allegation and a proof. Further, assuming that they were spoken of the plaintiff in his Consular capacity, they were spoken as of a matter that was past, and which had been adjudicated by his superior officer. And therefore no further damage could be done. This was like where a man had been charged with having been a convicted felon, which was not slanderous, Starkie, Law of Libel, page 101. Words spoken of a Church Warden might be slanderous, but to say that he stole the bell-ropes of church was not slander as he was in charge of them, Starkie, page 150. No more would it be slander to say that the Consul-General acquired the property improperly, because he was in charge of the U.S. Consulate, and it must be assumed that he held them for the benefit of the State. If the Court was against him and ruled that the words were actionable *per se*, he should have to refer to the plea of justification.

His Honour said that, the Counsel having quoted several authorities, he should reserve his opinion on the motion to non-suit.

His Honour said that before entertaining the motion that was standing, he wished to remark that he was previously under the impression that under the Court Regulations it was necessary to have the evidence written down and signed, but found that the Court Regulations did not require it, but the statute made it mandatory that they should be taken down in writing in open court, be made part of the case, and be made a permanent record in case of an appeal. The signing was not compulsory, but it was only just to the witnesses to have it read, and just to the parties in the suit, so that it could not be called into question afterwards.

The Court notes of the testimony of the witnesses at the previous hearing were then read and accepted by both parties.

Referring to the motion for a non-suit, dismissing the petition, the Court said it rested on two grounds. First that the words were not actionable. Secondly, that it had not been proved that they had been spoken. He had looked carefully into the cases mentioned and thought that to look at the definition of slander in books would not help; it was the circumstances under which it was made. He thought that the motive in the case cited by the defendant's Counsel from the Law Journal was all well enough. That to say that a man was a swindler might be unpleasant, but does not enable the public to know anything about it, and therefore he was not in danger of arrest. He had looked into the authorities and thought that the rulings in Starkie and the Law Journal were made for the reason that there was no averment of an act done. In this case there is an averment of an act done, namely, that he had swindled the Government. What is said of a public officer affecting his character in his official capacity is actionable. Referring to the case of Pollard v. Cooley, Cooley on Torts, page 196, quoted by the defendant, the Court said that the first four definitions of slander therein mentioned covered the present case. Where the words spoken prejudiced an official as touching his office, they were actionable. His opinion was that the words as laid in the petition, "that he had swindled the Government" were actionable. This disposed of the motion. The Court further observed that regarding the evidence brought forward, without assuming what evidence the defendant might bring forth, the three witnesses had proved substantially the following charges: (1) that the defendant had said that the plaintiff had bought the buildings in an underhand way for *yen* 2,200, from the Kencho; (2) that the plaintiff had swindled the Government of the United States. Unless something else occurred in the evidence, he thought that sufficient had been proved to dismiss the motion.

Motion overruled.

His Honour then remarked that the next question was the amendment of the answer. It was a good home rule that, in the furtherance of justice, the defendant may in an action for slander plead the truth in justification of one or more of the charges, citing Kent's Commentaries, vol. 2, pp. 25, 26. Hilliard, p. 380 par. 35. One charge is that plaintiff purchased the property for *yen* 2,200, the second that he swindled the Government. That there were two distinct charges here was not to be doubted at all. He supposed that beyond all question he might justify as to either of them. As to general and special pleas of justification, the Court read from Falkard's Starkie, pages 391, 515, and 740. There was a general plea of justification and a special plea. The general plea would cover the whole ground. Under a special plea it is not necessary for the defendant in his plea to deny the innuendo, the truth of the defamatory matter intended to be pleaded in the defence must be verified. According to Starkie, he could plead in whole or in part. Defendant could plead truth in the whole or in any part of the allegations. The law clearly settled that the defendant might plead the truth of the matters charged without in anywise subjecting himself to any estoppel of right under the general law. As to the form of the plea and justification, the Court referred to Folkard's Starkie, and said that the defendant must admit the words spoken and aver their truth. There was an allegation that the words were spoken in the interest of the public. The law was that where a party in mitigation says that it was done in the public interest, it remained with him to show how the public were affected in the matter. Leave to amend the answer was then granted, provided that it conformed with the law as cited so as to enable the Court to file it and put it on the records.

Mr. Weiller here handed in the following amended answer:—The amended answer of Thomas H. Tripler, the above named defendant to the petition of the above named plaintiff, shows as follows:—That the said defendant admits so much of the said petition as alleges that the plaintiff is

Consul-General of the United States at Kanagawa, Japan, and that he is resident in Yokohama. That the said defendant denies that he spoke and published of and concerning the said plaintiff the alleged defamatory words in the petition set forth, or any of them, and says that he is innocent of the grievances alleged in the petition; and for a further answer defendant says that at the time of the alleged grievances set forth in the petition he did speak of and concerning the plaintiff that he the said plaintiff had improperly purchased as Consul-General the buildings and premises now occupied by him, the said plaintiff, as Consular Offices and his residence. That he the said plaintiff had no right to buy then at all, and that said purchase and occupancy were contrary to law, all of which said statements are true, and all of which said words the said defendant had a right to say of and concerning the said plaintiff. Therefore, the defendant prays that the petition of the plaintiff be dismissed; that the said plaintiff be adjudged to pay all the costs of this action, and that the defendant receive such other relief as from the nature of the case and in the discretion of the Court may seem right and proper.

Answer admitted.

Plaintiff expressed himself willing to go to issue under the rule.

Percival Osborn, recalled, stated that he knew the location of the U.S. Consulate in Yokohama.

Mr. Weiller—Who is the owner of those premises?

Plaintiff objected, and said that the defendant's Counsel must recognise the fact that the best evidence was the records themselves. This was not legal evidence, but to facilitate the case he would not press his objection, but let it pass.

Witness—The land is owned by the Japanese Government. It was leased before he went to the Kencho. He believed it was leased to the U.S. Government, but was not sure. The ground-rent receipts were sent to the U.S. Consul-General. There was only a notice sent to the U.S. Government or the Consul-General to pay the ground-rent. He did not know who owned the buildings, they formerly belonged to the Japanese Government before they were sold. They were sold to General Van Buren by the Japanese Government. He was Consul-General at the time, and he had no doubt his title was put into the document as it was the usual thing to put in titles in such documents.

Counsel—Do you know the limits of the foreign concession in Yokohama within which foreigners can purchase land?

Plaintiff objected to going into the history of Yokohama, alleging that it had nothing to do with the issue.

Mr. Weiller, insisted that the question was pertinent, as under the treaties that part of Yokohama could not be purchased by any other person than an official. He wished to show that no ordinary person could acquire property there.

Plaintiff said he was willing to admit that the lot was a portion of the ground set apart for public buildings.

P. Osborn said he could not say exactly how the title deeds were worded; it was a long time since he saw them. Others occupied land on the block, such as the German Club and the American Church. The land was a strip that had been reserved for public buildings.

Plaintiff said there were two lots, one for public buildings and one for Consular buildings. The lot upon which the English Consulate was built was owned by an American citizen, who gave it up for the lot set apart for public buildings.

Witness said the transfer of the buildings took place some years ago, he believed in the 13th year of Meiji.

Mr. Weiller—What was the price paid?

Plaintiff objected to the question on the ground that it was entirely immaterial, and referred to the answer to the petition which stated that the purchase was contrary to law. He thought the price had nothing to do with the allegation of his action being improper or contrary to law. He would show in good time how the price came to be fixed, it was a matter between himself and the Kencho, which perhaps the latter would not care to have divulged. He did not wish to gratify the curiosity of the defendant or his counsel in any particular.

The Court said it had been stated in evidence that the buildings had been purchased for nothing, or a nominal sum, which, if so, might imply that it was done in an underhanded way. He supposed the counsel for the defendant wished to show how much money was paid so as to make good the plea of justification.

Plaintiff said there was nothing in the issue as to the amount of the purchase-money. He contended that the question was not what the price of the buildings was but what defendant had said. If the price had been \$5.00 or \$5,000 it made no difference.

The Court ruled that the defendant had a right

to prove the purchase in support of his justification. Plaintiff noted an objection (overruled).

P. Osborn (to the Court)—He did not recollect the price; if he did he would not be at liberty to state it without the permission of the Government. He did not remember the rent paid to the Kencho when they owned the buildings. He forgot the exact amount of the ground-rent paid, but it was about 27.897248 yen per 100 tsubo.

To plaintiff—He had not the right to say who made the proposition for the purchase or sale of the buildings. He had no right to speak about the matter without permission from the Government. There was some correspondence on the matter. He did not think that the plaintiff had sought to purchase the buildings. As far as he was concerned in the matter, the General did not make any proposition or solicitation for the purchase as far as he could recollect. He did not remember seeing the plaintiff in the Kencho in connection with this matter. As a rule he (witness) went accompanied by a Kencho official to the plaintiff's office. He believed that the Kencho made the proposition and fixed the price, which was accepted. The plaintiff did not make any attempt to change the price fixed by the Kencho. He had no distinct recollection of the correspondence he had spoken of before, but believed that the title-deeds and a letter were sent to the plaintiff and he returned a cheque by letter. Thought he remembered a letter being written.

Plaintiff then asked if the witness knew of any conditions as to occupancy of the buildings mentioned by the Japanese Authorities previous to the sale.

Mr. Weiller objected to this question on the ground that if the witness could not answer his question as to the amount of the purchase-money without permission, he could not answer this.

Plaintiff said he wanted to show that the U.S. Government held the buildings on the same terms as previous to the transfer.

Witness did not remember the oral conditions that were agreed to, or that the U.S. Government should have it on the same terms. The parties who would remember the particulars had since then left the Kencho. Mr. Nomura Yasushi, the then Governor of Kanagawa Ken, and the land officer might know. The papers in the Kencho might show the conditions of sale. The ground-rent was the same as before and had been paid in the same way.

Mr. Weiller said that two very important witnesses, for whom he had applied, were not present, namely, Mr. Nomura Yasushi and Mr. Uchiyama Rosetsu, and it was very desirable to hear their evidence.

The Court said it had applied through the Chiji of Tokiyo Fu for the attendance of Mr. Nomura and had received a communication stating that he could not attend till Thursday afternoon.

Plaintiff asked what was to be proved by these witnesses.

Mr. Weiller said that he hoped to prove by the ex-Governor the price that had been paid for the buildings. Mr. Rosetsu was a lawyer practising in the Japanese Courts, and it was through information he had gathered from the Kencho and from other sources whilst in the employ of the defendant that he (the defendant) had been led to make the statements complained of.

His Honour said that he supposed that the evidence the defendant wished to get at could not be obtained from Mr. Osborn, but could only be obtained by an inspection of the title-deeds.

Mr. Weiller said as the witnesses were not present he would ask for the Court's ruling for the production by the plaintiff of the documents he had applied for in his notice.

Plaintiff then read the notice and said it was the most extraordinary document he had ever seen. It seemed to him that what the defendant's Counsel did not know would enlighten the whole of Yokohama—and if complied with would require a whole train of cars to bring it up to Tokiyo. He did not propose to bring Consular documents into court unless specially ordered to do so. He might bring copies if he deemed them essential to his case.

The Court said it was very clear that the whole of the plaintiff's correspondence with the Secretary of State could not be called for.

Plaintiff said that when the documents were applied for there was no plea of justification, as had since been ruled by the Court.

Mr. Weiller referred to rule 178 of the Court Regulations to show that the Court could order the production of the papers. Some of the documents were necessary to maintain that the property was improperly purchased. The plaintiff had said he would bring such documents only as would suit his case. The defendant was unable to go into the U.S. Consulate and demand them. He wanted the title-deeds and vouchers for rent. He would be satisfied if he were allowed to go to the Consulate and copy or read the documents and

then it would not require an extra train of cars to bring them up.

Plaintiff said they had applied for all his correspondence with the Department of State since 1874. He had with him a copy of the letter from the defendant to the Department and the answer thereto, which he was ready to produce.

Mr. Weiller said he was going to produce them in good time.

Plaintiff said he was not so sure of that, and he would like to produce it now.

The Court said that the action of the Department of State could not be reviewed by this Court or any other court in Japan. He did not propose to review the action of the Department of State, as it would not be proper.

Mr. Weiller proposed to show that the defendant had not made full and complete representations to the Department. What the defendant wanted were the letters and vouchers. The plaintiff seemed to think they were afraid to produce the letter from defendant to the Secretary of State and the reply.

Plaintiff said the Counsel's bravery had never been called into question by him. He was amazed at the learned Counsel's temerity. He would repeat, what he had already said to the Court a number of times, that he had nothing to conceal in the transaction under review. In the objections he had been actuated simply by a determination in so far as possible to thwart the malicious curiosity of the defendant, which was not based on any desire to benefit anyone, but simply to wreak his vengeance on the plaintiff. The facts, as they must be shown by the evidence, are that the purchase of the buildings was urged upon the plaintiff by the Kencho authorities, that the price was fixed by them: that although the plaintiff knew of no legal objections existing to his completion of the purchase, he decided not to entertain the proposition until he had communicated with the Department of State, as he wished to do nothing contrary to the wishes or views of that Department. Accordingly he wrote to the Department that the Authorities had offered him the buildings and were determined to get rid of them, and that if he heard no objections from the Department within a reasonable time he would complete the purchase. He heard nothing from the Department to the contrary and completed the purchase. The price fixed by the Kencho was accepted by him and he at once communicated the fact to the Department. The Department's reply would be found in its answer to the letter of the defendant to the Department.

Mr. Weiller said that all this was not in evidence, the plaintiff said he had nothing to conceal but he made objection upon objection. Why did he not produce the documents that had been called for if the plaintiff was so sure of his position?

The Court supposed that the documents in connection with the purchase of the buildings and the vouchers ought to be produced. He would then inspect them and decide whether they could be admitted in evidence or not. It was certainly reasonable that the plaintiff should have proper time to produce them.

Plaintiff said he had made copies of some of the papers, but had not brought them with him. He would wish that the evidence be taken first and the documents produced afterwards.

Mr. Osborn's testimony was then read to the parties and accepted by them as properly recorded.

The Court then adjourned to Thursday next, at 1.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, 20th March, 1884.

The Court's record of Mr. Osborn's evidence given at the previous hearing of the case was read and accepted.

His Honour said that before proceeding further he might bring to the notice of the defendant that he had received a letter from Mr. Nomura, Post Master General and ex-Kenrei of Kanagawa, stating that he regretted after promising to attend that he was unable to do so, it being a National holiday and therefore he had to appear at the Imperial Palace. As to the sale of the buildings in question, he thought the documents relating thereto were to be found in the archives of the Kanagawa Kencho, but he, personally, had no distinct recollection of the circumstances of the sale. If the Court applied through the Minister of Foreign Affairs he thought the documents would be produced. He wished in future to be excused from attending the Court, as he was so much engaged in his official duties.

The Court said that, documents being primary evidence, it would apply for them if so desired.

Mr. Weiller desired that they might be applied for.

Plaintiff said he did not think it would be necessary to make any such application after he had produced his documents. Nevertheless, he was sorry that Mr. Nomura could not attend.

Mr. Weiller said that before the documents were

produced he wished to call Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu.

Mr. Rossetsu, examined by Mr. Litchfield, said he was a legal practitioner in the Japanese Courts. In about September of last year he received instructions from Mr. Litchfield to make enquiries as to the ownership of the U.S. Consulate in Yokohama, as to the title to the buildings, and the lot on which they stand. He made such enquiries, and afterwards gave Mr. Litchfield certain information as to the purchase of the buildings of the Consulate General at Kanagawa.

Question—Was the information you then gave me correct?

Plaintiff objected to the question, and wished to know how the witness could testify whether his information was correct or not.

The Court said it presumed that the question was put with the intention of rebutting the accusation of malice.

Witness said he gave a correct report of the information as he obtained it.

Question—According to the information you obtained, can you state in whose name the Consular buildings are registered?

Plaintiff objected, saying that it could not bear on the case. It was not the best evidence, it was secondary evidence of the worst kind; the deeds only were the best evidence.

Mr. Weiller remarked that the plaintiff seemed to forget that he could cross-examine the witness afterwards. His object was to rebut the accusation of malice.

Plaintiff said that secondary evidence could not be received until it was shown that primary evidence was unobtainable. He was willing to produce the documents, which were primary evidence.

The Court said that if this case were being tried before a jury this evidence could not be received if primary evidence could be produced. He followed the present manner of proceeding to save time. If primary evidence were not forthcoming or could not be produced, he must receive this as the best evidence, otherwise it would be secondary evidence.

Plaintiff said it could not be secondary or even tertiary evidence, it was only hearsay. Witness had made enquiries and had communicated the result, and even if there were no other evidence it could not be received.

The Court remarked that if the witness had communicated it to the defendant it would amount to something to rebut the charge of malice.

Plaintiff said that the plea that the information had been communicated had no effect in a slander case.

The Court said that it could not be received as evidence of title, but might be used as evidence to rebut the charge of malice.

Mr. Litchfield said that the position of the witness was that he was employed in his professional capacity to find out certain facts, and those facts he had communicated to his employer.

To Witness—Did you ascertain in whose name the Consular General buildings are registered in Yokohama?

Plaintiff objected to the question, and wished to know how witness could possibly ascertain in whose name the buildings were registered. The mere hearing of a statement and ascertaining a fact were two different things.

The Court overruled the objection.

Plaintiff wished his objection to be noted.

Witness said he had obtained information on that head. He also got information as to the date of the transfer of those buildings. He also got information as to the purchase price of those buildings. He also got information as to the character—official or otherwise—of the person who purchased the buildings.

Examined by plaintiff, witness said at the time he was applied to by Mr. Litchfield to obtain the information he had not the slightest idea to what purpose it was to be used.

Question—When did you first ascertain to what uses it was to be put?

Objected to by Mr. Weiller, but overruled.

Witness could not tell exactly, but thought it was some time in December last. It was pending an election for the presidency of the Y.U. Club. He was informed by the defendant himself as to what use the information was to be put. Defendant thanked him for his information. Witness replied, what information do you refer to? Defendant said the information referring to the purchase of the Consular buildings. Witness asked whether the information was for him, as he did not know it.

What else did he say?

Mr. Weiller objected to these questions, as it seemed that the plaintiff wished by them to reopen his case.

Objection overruled.

Witness—The defendant referred to the action of General Van Buren in this matter as a swindle on the Government.

To Mr. Litchfield—The name of General Van Buren was the name I gave you as the purchaser

of the buildings of the U.S. Consulate. In my information the purchaser was described as General Van Buren, Consul-General.

Mr. Weiller now called for the documents that the plaintiff had been ordered to produce.

Plaintiff produced the following documents:—

(1) Letter No. 483 from plaintiff to Department of State, dated 1st December, 1880.

(2) Letter No. 224 dated 13th January, 1881, from the Department of State to the plaintiff.

(3) Letter No. 500 dated 18th January, 1881, from plaintiff to the Department of State.

(4) Letter No. 229 dated 5th March, 1881, from the Department of State to the plaintiff.

The substance of this correspondence was that the Japanese Authorities wished the American Government to buy the buildings. The plaintiff communicated this to the Department of State which replied that it was contrary to the policy of the Government to acquire property outside of their own territory. Plaintiff subsequently informed the Department that the Japanese Authorities were determined to be relieved of the inconveniences attending the present tenure of the premises and desired him to purchase them. They had made him an offer which he would accept unless he received instructions to the contrary from the Department within a reasonable time. The letters received from the Department acknowledged the receipt of his letters but gave him no instructions, he therefore purchased the buildings and announced the purchase to the Department of State.

(5) Letter of 16th December, 1880, from the Kanagawa Kencho to plaintiff offering him the buildings for the sum of yen 2,547.

(6) Letter of 17th December. No. 4967, from plaintiff to the Kanagawa Kencho accepting their proposition.

(7) Certificate dated 19th March, 1884, from the Vice and Deputy Consul General, George C. Rice, that the vouchers were so numerous that it would be inconvenient to produce them and further that the rent paid at present was the same that had always been paid.

Plaintiff then went on to say that he protested in the strongest terms against making any statement as to the amount of rent paid by the U.S. Government, except saying that it was the same as before. He argued that the amount paid had nothing to do with the present case and could not affect it. He believed the U.S. Government would not desire to have it made public, and if he was not peremptorily ordered by the Court he would not state the amount.

Mr. Weiller applied for such peremptory order, saying that it materially affected the case. That if any profit were made the U.S. Government should have the benefit of it. The Court would presently find that a full and complete revelation of the facts had not been made known to the Government.

Plaintiff said that in the answer there was nothing about the amount paid for rent, it had nothing to do with the case. The charge was that the defendant had stated that he had improperly bought the buildings, and had thereby swindled the Government. He had no right to make public what the Government paid for anything without its permission.

Mr. Weiller said that the amount paid for public buildings was a matter of public interest, and he did not understand why the plaintiff made such a great secret of it. The amounts paid for some of the buildings were published yearly, and therefore he did not think that the Government could be so particular. The information was necessary to complete their case.

Plaintiff remarked that it was for the defendant to produce the evidence. He would not divulge it.

Mr. Weiller said the rent vouchers were the best evidence. The Court said that these matters might go as a mitigation of damages, but did not affect the main question. They might have given the defendant a colorable reason for believing that the plaintiff had swindled the Government, and might go to show that the defendant was led to make the statement in error.

Plaintiff said he did not see how the Government could be damaged, as it was on record that the rent was the same as before the transfer.

The Court could not see how it could injure the Government to answer the question. It understood that the Government was absolved from paying the ground-rent.

Plaintiff said that the Government paid the rent to him and he paid the ground-rent, they both appeared in the same voucher for the sake of convenience. He then put in exhibit No. 8, original title-deed from the Kencho, dated 28th December, 1880, stating that it had been brought to him by the Kencho officials and the purchase-money was paid in his own office. It was made out to T. B. Van Buren, Esq., United States Consul-General.

The Court said that the question was reduced to the amount paid for rent. It was not necessary

here to examine the accounts with the Department. The only thing they required to know was the amount of the rent paid for the buildings and the ground, and whether they were separate items.

Plaintiff handed in a receipt No. 234 for the ground, rent dated 5th February, 1884, for \$175.40 being the rent for one year.

The Court said that in connection with the subject of rent, referring to the last annual report of the fifth auditor of the U.S. Treasury, the rent of the jail was \$600 per annum, the only question remaining was the rent of the other buildings. The Court was under the impression that the purchase-money was paid in paper yen, not in dollars.

Plaintiff said he did not recollect at the moment, but did not think it material to the case.

The Court thought that the object of the defendant in bringing forward this evidence was to show a colorable reason for the statement that the plaintiff had swindled the Government and wished to rebut the assumption of malice. There were other words in the petition such as "he improperly purchased," etc., and the question was, could he not introduce these matters, not to justify, but as tending to mitigate damages.

Plaintiff asked how the question of impropriety attached to the rent.

The Court said the Government had no knowledge of the real value of the property. He thought the Government has been notified before that it was worth \$5,000.

Plaintiff said that was so, and he strongly urged the Government to buy it.

The Court, continuing, said there was nothing in the General's action in the matter that reflected on him in any way. However we got at this, that the whole thing was bought for yen 2,547 *satsu*, and it could not be doubted that, as the Government paid the same rent for property worth only yen 2,547 as when it was valued at \$5,000, it could not be aware of its true value. This did not justify him in using the word swindler, but the question arose whether this did not give the defendant colorable ground for saying that the transaction was improper.

The plaintiff said that supposing the Japanese Government had given the property to him for nothing, as in the case of the French Consul. He had bought it to make money out of it, and would not lease it for at smaller rental.

The Court thought that, in the rights of justice, it could not injure anyone to mention the amount paid for rent. It did not want to know the whole amount paid, but what was paid for the buildings other than the jail, which was \$600 per annum. The rent of the jail was assessed on a valuation of \$6,000, and knowing the amount of the purchase-money of the buildings, it was not difficult to see that a man might make remarks about the matter, although there was no swindling in the transaction. The evidence was admissible for the purpose of rebutting malice and in mitigation of damages.

Plaintiff remarked that he did not buy the property for fun, he bought it to make money out of it.

The Court said it did not question the propriety of purchase, but would allow the evidence to be given as to the amount of rent.

Plaintiff said that if the defendant had spoken to the proper persons concerned he would not have objected, but he had belched it out in public.

The Court remarked that would have been a privileged communication. It would allow evidence to be given as to the amount of rent.

Plaintiff wished his objection to the ruling of the Court to be noted, as he objected to the amount of rent being put in evidence (objection noted), and said he would furnish a certificate at the next session showing what rent was paid for the buildings, outhouses, etc., excepting the jail. He had one drawn up, but had forgotten to bring it with him.

Dr. Tripler said that he was a physician and surgeon, came to Japan first in 1873, and had resided permanently in Yokohama since 1876. He was an American citizen, and was a member of the Yokohama United Club. There was an election for president of the Club which closed on the 31st December last. He took an interest in the election. Mr. Litchfield, Dr. Fisher, and General Van Buren were candidates. He was opposed to the election of General Van Buren and favourable to Dr. Fisher. He remembered having a conversation with a gentleman of the name of Prichard, the same gentleman who had given evidence in the Court. He met Mr. Prichard accidentally, before dinner, in the hall way of the building that was then occupied by Yokohama United Club. They had some conversation as to the candidates who were being balloted for as President. He (Mr. Prichard) was a strong partisan of General Van Buren, and witness was a partisan of Dr. Fisher. They had several minutes' private conversation. His grounds for opposing General Van Buren were that he could not see how a member of the Club could support him after the hostile manner in

which he had behaved to the members whilst they were trying to found a member's Club. Mr. Prichard said something about Consular matters.

Mr. Weiller (to witness)—In your conversation with Mr. Prichard did you, or did you not, say in reference to the plaintiff that he had swindled the Government?

Plaintiff objected, as the proper course would have been to ask the defendant what he did say, and not put the words in his mouth.

Witness stated that in his conversation with Mr. Prichard he had said that he thought it very inconsistent of the members to support General Van Buren inasmuch as he had opposed a member's club. There was some conversation about the Consular buildings. He said that the General had got the thing very cheap, and that he thought that the rent, taking into account the purchase-money, was very high. He did not say that the plaintiff had gone to the Kencho and got them to sell him the Consular buildings and in an underhanded manner obtained them. He never mentioned the price as being yen 2,200. He did say that the property was out of the concession and could not be held by a private individual, it must be held officially, and also that he got the ground for nothing. He did not recollect using the term law, it was not used in the conversation. He never said that the plaintiff had swindled the Government on that or any other occasion. He had no recollection of having mentioned to Mr. Prichard on that day that he had written to the Department of State, but would not say that he had not done so. He employed someone to find out for him as to how the transfer of the buildings to General Van Buren was made.

Mr. Weiller—What information did you receive in consequence of those enquiries?

Plaintiff objected to the question.

Witness said he received some information.

Mr. Weiller—State what that information was.

Plaintiff again objected.

Witness continued that according to the information he received they were transferred to General Van Buren in his official capacity. He put the question as to privately or officially, and was answered officially as Consul-General. He got information as to the price paid for the buildings, outhouses, jail, etc., in fact all the buildings on the compound were transferred to General Van Buren for 2,547 yen. There was nothing paid for the land except the ground rent. There were 623 tsubos. He knew the building.

Mr. Weiller—What portion of the building is occupied as public offices and what part as private residence.

Plaintiff objected to the question, and the Court sustained the objection.

Examined by plaintiff, witness said he came to Japan in 1873 from New York. Was a resident of New York and was brought up there. He left there in January, 1873, and thought it was on the 6th, it was in the first few days of the month. He landed here on the 29th March, 1873.

Plaintiff—Was the intent of your leaving New York sudden, or had it been contemplated for some time?

Question objected to and ruled out by the Court. Plaintiff said that he thought in cross examination he had a right to enquire as to a man's antecedents.

Mr. Litchfield remarked that if the General would carry the investigation back to the marriage of his parents there would be no objection offered.

Plaintiff said that to day it was the generosity of the Counsel that astonished him, before it was their boldness.

Witness, to plaintiff, continuing said they had been acquainted since 1874. He did not remember having used any such language as testified to by Mr. Prichard. The words swindler, thief, and so forth were not in his vocabulary. He did not recollect when he first made mention of the purchase and sale of the Consular buildings. He had spoken to Mr. Litchfield about it in September last. He might possibly spoken about it before. He had not denounced the purchase of the buildings to a great many persons on a number of occasions. He wished to know in what sense the plaintiff used the word denounced. He had criticized the action. He first authentically heard of the purchase in September last, there had been talk about it for a long time. He believed that he first heard about it from Mr. John Middleton about July last year. He did not hear of it in 1881. The plaintiff never told him about it himself. He was intimate at the plaintiff's house, in 1880 and 1881. That intimacy ceased last August or September. There was a misunderstanding between them. He did not remember speaking very severely of the plaintiff. He believed that he had said that the plaintiff had improperly purchased the buildings, but could not swear as to the exact words. He could not deny, but did not remember saying that the purchase and occupancy of the buildings was contrary to law.

What he had sworn to in his amended answer was in sum and substance what he said. (Amended answer shown witness). He said he used those words. What he said to his Counsel about the words "contrary to law" was that he did say them, but to whom he did not remember. The purchase of the buildings had nothing to do with his misunderstanding with the plaintiff, his feelings in regard to him were about the same as before.

Plaintiff—Before you applied to Mr. Litchfield did you apply to anybody else to make enquiries about the sale and purchase?

Mr. Weiller objected, as it was not material how many persons he applied to.

The Court overruled the objection, as it thought the question was put simply to prove animus.

Witness said did not apply to any one else. He had no recollection of applying to Mr. Weiller. He had some conversation with Mr. Weiller about the same time, whether it was before or after he had seen Mr. Litchfield he could not say. He was almost certain that he did not apply to Mr. Weiller for the information that he afterwards got from Mr. Litchfield. He did not apply to Mr. Weiller as a lawyer, and did not offer him a fee. Did not remember Mr. Weiller's refusing to get the information.

Mr. Weiller said this would close the case for the defence, except that he wished to put in a letter from the Department of State to Dr. Tripler.

Plaintiff remarked that he would like to have the letter from Dr. Tripler to the Department of State put in, and would introduce it himself.

The letter from the Department of State to Dr. Tripler was then read by defendant's Counsel and was to the effect that the Department was aware of the transaction and did not oppose it; and that General Van Buren held the property at his own risk as a private citizen.

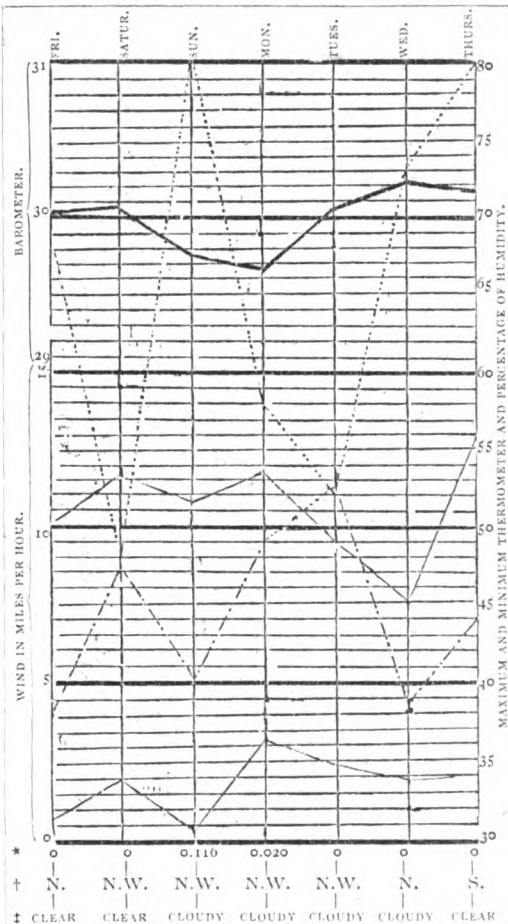
Plaintiff said he would have two more witnesses to call.

The Court then adjourned to Monday 24th instant, at 1.30 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 29.3 miles per hour on Monday at 11 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.243 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.482 inches on Monday at 6 a.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 55.2 on Thursday, and the lowest was 30.8 on Sunday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 60.8 and 28.8 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 0.138 inches, against 0.29 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 16th.

TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER IN EGYPT.

The British loss in the recent battle was 110 killed, and 150 wounded. The enemy's loss was 4,300 killed, and 5,000 wounded.

THE FRENCH ABROAD.

The French Government has resolved to exercise sovereignty over Obock in the Red Sea.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 26th February.

The Premier has introduced a Bill for the Extension of the Franchise which reduces the County Franchise to Ten Pounds, and said that he hoped to bring in a Bill for the redistribution of seats next year.

London, 1st March.

Mr. Gladstone's Bill provides for a uniform franchise for the Three Kingdoms.

London, 2nd March.

The rebels in the Soudan have been completely defeated. The British loss in killed and wounded is fifty. That of the enemy is one thousand.

London, 3rd March.

The British have occupied Tokar.

London, 5th March.

The British troops will proceed immediately to Suakim.

The Premier, in reply to a question, said that when the safety of Suakim was secured, the expedition would terminate.

London, 10th March.

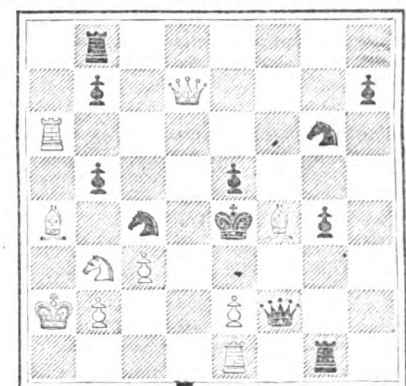
THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN.

Despatches from the seat of war in the Soudan state that the rebels are approaching Suakim. Advance guards were sent out challenging and summoned them to disperse, which they refused to do, and the British troops were ordered to advance.

CHESS.

From the Chess World.
By "C. M. B.," of Dundee.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 8th March, 1884,
by the Rev. F. R. DREW.

White.

- 1.—K. to K. R. 7.
- 2.—B. to Kt. 4.
- 3.—Kt. to B. 6.
- 4.—P. to Kt. 3, mate.

Black.

- 1.—Q. takes R.
- 2.—B. takes B.
- 3.—Anything.

Solution to Chess Problem of 15th March, 1884,
by J. ELSON.

White.

- 1.—R. to R. 6.
- 2.—K. to Q. 5.
- 3.—R. mates.

Black.

- 1.—R. at B. 4, moves.
- 2.—Anything.

Correct answers received from "TESA."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 15th March,—Hongkong 6th March via Nagasaki Kobe and, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 15th March,—Kobe 13th March, General.—Seiriusha.

Walter Siegfried, British bark, 416, P. Hannsen, 15th March,—Takao 29th February, Sugar.—Chinese.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,198, A. Webster, 17th March,—London via Hongkong, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 17th March,—Hongkong 11th March, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 18th March,—Yokkaichi 16th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, Captain Allen, 18th March,—Yokosuka Dock 18th March.—Lighthouse Department.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 18th March,—Hakodate 15th and Oginohama 17th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 19th March,—Handa 16th March, General.—Handasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 19th March,—Yokkaichi 17th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 20th March,—Kobe 18th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 20th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 20th March,—Shimidzu 18th March, General.—Seiriusha.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Streamer, 20th March,—Yokkaichi 10th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 21st March,—Yokkaichi 19th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Iwaki Kan, Captain S. Shinagawa, 21st March,—Yokosuka.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,245, Williams, 21st March,—London via Hongkong 13th March, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 21st March,—Yokkaichi 18th March, General.—Seiriusha.

Rasboingh, Russian cruiser (8), Captain Pojarsky, 21st March,—Honolulu 18th February.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 21st March,—Kobe 19th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, J. Adair, 22nd March,—Kobe 20th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, J. H. Arnold, 22nd March,—London via Hongkong 14th March, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 15th March,—Kobe, General.—Seikisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 17th March,—Kobe 16th March, General.—Nakamura-sha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 16th March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Marie, German bark, 465, H. Ipland, 16th March,—Takao, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 16th March,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Moto, 16th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tamura Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Dithlefsen, 16th March,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,960, Steadman, 16th March,—Hakodate and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamschatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 17th March,—Nagasaki, Coals.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 17th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 17th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, F. Owston, 17th March,—Hakodate, General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 460, Arai, 18th March,—Korea via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 18th March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 18th March,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, P. Hussey, 18th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 19th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 19th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 19th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 20th March,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Streamer, 20th March,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 20th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 21st March,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 673, Thomas, 21st March,—Hakodate via Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 22nd March,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 22nd March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 22nd March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—H.E. Hon. F. R. Plunkett, H.B.M.'s Minister for Japan, Mrs. Plunkett, 2 daughters, and governess, and 2 servants; Mr. and Mrs. Grant, Dr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Rev. C. Warren, Messrs. Dodds, Bellamy, and Graham in cabin; and 2 Chinese second class, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—15 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Bengloe*, from London via Hongkong:—2 Indians in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Huot and servant, Mr. Tajima and servant, Mr. A. Pere and servant, Messrs. Leichtentent, F. R. Hogg, and J. A. Repenn in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hokodate:—8 Japanese in cabin; and 86 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. Hopper, Captain James, Messrs. Suyehiro, Nakamikado, and Suwayama in cabin; and 13 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Mutsu, Mr. and Mrs. Endo, Miss Bernstein, Miss Kishida, Lord R. Gower, Master Mutsu, Messrs. W. Robertson,

E. A. Brocker, A. Budd, J. H. Johnson, E. H. Mathews, John Caldecott, S. Strauss, Popp, and Imamura in cabin; and Messrs. Ward, U.S.N. and Brown in 2nd class; and 1 European, 8 Chinese, and 356 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. W. H. Chambers, U.S.N. in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—24 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Merionethshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Miss Coulson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Kobe:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—1 European and 40 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Mr. S. J. Gower in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 7 U.S. seamen, and 227 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Korea via Kobe and Nagasaki:—10 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, for Kobe:—25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Kitagaki, Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. C. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Cutter, Mr. and Mrs. Fukushima, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuwo, Miss MacKechnie, Miss Cory, Captain Lamascheffsky, Messrs. J. H. Coombs, Symes, R. A. Robertson, John Will, W. Ware, Mayeda, Tanabe, Isono, Misaka, Ito, Shan Peng Han, and Wachi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Kawakami and S. Kihara in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. F. K. Tyson and children, Rev. and Mrs. F. S. Tyng, Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Okuma and servant, Mrs. Pow Choy Chee and 2 children, Mrs. Cheong Cheng and child, Mrs. Hanks, Graham, and Podiapolsky in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 6 Japanese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, for Hakodate via Niigata:—35 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Sugar, 3,756 bags; Sundries, 1,912 packages; and Through Cargo, 1,286 packages.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—1,099 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$54,950.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—\$75,708.28.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 13 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Kashgar*, Captain W. J. Webber, reports leaving Hongkong on the 6th March, at 0.50 p.m. with experienced north-easterly winds, and thick foggy weather, and a very heavy thunderstorm, vivid lightning, and heavy rain on the 7th; towards latter end weather became finer; arrived at Nagasaki on the 11th March, at 9.40 a.m., and were detained 17 hours 5 minutes on account of thick rainy weather with fresh southerly and south-westerly winds. Left Nagasaki on the 12th March, at 2.50 a.m. and experienced overcast weather, fresh westerly winds and heavy squalls; at 4.40 a.m. passed Company's steamship *Khiva*, at 4.20 p.m. entered Shimonoseki Straits weather clearing up; passed all the principal scenery by daylight; arrived at Kobe on the 13th March, at 5.10 p.m. with light southerly winds and fine weather. Left Kobe on the 14th March, at 4.55 a.m. and experienced light variable winds, and fine weather to Rock Island, thence to Yokohama N.W. winds, and fine clear weather. Arrived in Yokohama, on the 15th March, at 2 p.m., on the whole, having had a most agreeable and pleasant voyage throughout, quite a yachting excursion.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 18th March, at 6.30 p.m. with light northerly winds during the first part of the voyage, and on the latter fresh E.N.E. winds and unsettled weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 20th March, at 7.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The tone of the Market has been quieter, and business has been somewhat checked by the appreciation in the value of *Kinsatsu*.

COTTON YARN.—Reduced Stocks of desirable spinings and the firm tone of the Manchester Market have caused holders to raise their prices, which has been paid to a limited extent, but buyers have been operating very cautiously. Bom-bays have been dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Grey Shirtings continue neglected, and quotations more or less nominal. Small sales of T-Cloths are reported, and a moderate business in Turkey Reds.

WOOLLENS.—Fair sales of Mousseline de Laine have again been recorded, but other goods have been mostly dull, and without enquiry, especially Cloths and Blankets, prices of which are quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.50 to 36.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 13.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Another week has passed without any business having been done in Oil. Deliveries have been 15,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 655,800 cases sold and unsold Oil. Quotations remain nominally the same as in our last.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.76
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.68

SUGAR.

The Sugar Market is at a standstill, Stocks being firmly held for the prices given below, which buyers will not pay. The commodity is accumulating, and Formosas will soon total large quantities in godown, in view of cargoes to arrive unless holders make some concession in present rates.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was issued on the 13th instant,

since which date there has been less doing, the Settlements for the week being reported 170 piculs only. There have been enquiries for various kinds of Silk at fair prices, but dealers have not been very anxious to sell, unless at full rates, the hardening of the "Satsu" Market making them yet more conservative in their ideas.

Again the bulk of purchases made are presumably destined for the next American mail. Advices from Europe give little encouragement to buyers at the moment, and sellers also seem inclined to bide their time. Meanwhile, native manufacturers are in the Market to some extent, and the Stock is yet further reduced.

The Export to be recorded for the week is very small, consisting of 30 bales, destined for France and shipped per M.M. steamer *Mensaleh* on the 15th instant. The present week's English mail left on Thursday, being advanced somewhat on account of the change in the monsoon. The total Export to date now stands at 28,050 bales, against 23,318 bales to same date last year, and 15,549 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—Nearly one-half the recorded business appears to have been in this class. Prices unchanged since last report. Among the purchases we observe *Shinshu*, \$520, \$512½, \$510; *Foshu*, \$515; *Hachoji*, \$465. The Stock of *Hanks* is comparatively large, but prime qualities are very scarce and firmly held at long prices.

Filatures.—There has been something doing in this class, although the full tide of purchasing for the next American mail does not seem to have set in at present. Among the recorded Settlements we note *Shinshu*, \$620; *Koriyama*, \$610; *Hikone*, \$590; and a few bales *Tokosha* rejections at the last-named price. Some *Koshu* "Black Horse" chop also done at \$590.

Re-reels.—Not much done in these, favorite chops being scarce. Some business rumoured in No. 1 at \$610 to \$615, but the report needs confirmation. *Koriyama* quoted \$610, and some Medium *Oshu* \$595. *Shinshu* kinds are apparently quite absent from the Market.

Kakedas.—Some business passing; holders are asking very high prices, which buyers hesitate about paying. The list of transactions comprises kinds at \$625, \$575, and \$565. Stock is reduced to 150 piculs, and some parcels are doubtless held off sale for the present.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—No transactions whatever for export: some parcels again taken up for manufacturers' use.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3½	450 to 460
Filatures—Extra	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	615 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 2	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3	550 to 560
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 20th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,858	11,997	7,796
America	8,553	7,814	4,813
England	2,639	3,597	2,935
Total	28,050	23,318	15,549

WASTE SILK.

There has been more doing in this department, and Settlements are returned as 300 piculs. Supplies have been about equal to demand, and the Stock-list is practically unchanged from last week, Good Wastes are reported very scarce up country,

and Stock here is very small; so these grades hold their own well. On the other hand, Medium and low *Kibiso* do not hold their ground, although *Neri* exhibit an advance, the purchases of a month ago not being practicable to-day.

The M.M. steamer of 15th instant had on board 99 bales, and Export to date now stands at 21,010 piculs, against 19,674 piculs to 20th March, 1883, and 19,154 piculs at same date in 1882.

Noshi-ito.—Two-thirds of the week's business has been in this class. Good Medium *Filatures* have found buyers at \$135, with some lower quality at \$122½. Best *Foshu* have been dealt in at \$112½ and \$105, with Ordinary at \$87 to \$85, according to assortment. Some few lots *Shinshu* noted at \$115. Arrivals have not been large, and there is but little Stock at the moment to choose from.

Kibiso.—The remainder of the week's business has been done in *Kibiso*. There seems to be no Stock whatever of the higher grades, and the Settlement-list comprises *Shinshu*, \$55; *Yechigo*, \$42½; *Foshu*, \$45, \$39, \$35, \$32½, with some very Common *Hachoji*, at \$15. In *Neri* transactions reduced to a minimum by the paucity of the Stock and the advanced pretensions of holders.

Mawata.—No transactions, everything in statu quo.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	Nom. 140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 20th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	18,895	16,506	15,933
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,168	3,221
Total	21,090	19,674	19,154

Exchange has again weakened, especially for Sterling and Francs. We quote:—LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 88½; 60 d/s., 89½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.65; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.68. *Kinsatsu* have again risen, and leave off 112 to 111 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 20th March, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,150		Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	400		Noshi-ito	30
Kakeda	150		Kibiso	460
Sendai & Hamatsuki	120		Mawata	20
Taysam Kinds	30			
Total piculs	1,850		Total piculs	510

TEA.

Settlements since the 14th instant amount to 580 piculs. Good Common to Good Medium have been in most demand, and prices paid for these have been fully up to the last quotations. Receipts have been steady, and the unsold Stock is estimated in the neighbourhood of some 965 piculs, an increase of 230 piculs, as compared from this day a week ago. No shipments of Tea have been made since our last Market Report, and none is likely to be made until the *Arabic* arrives.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$14 & under
Good Common	16 to 18
Medium	20 to 22
Good Medium	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

There has hardly been a transaction worth noting during the week, and rates remain unaltered.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.57
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	88½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	88½

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Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
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May 1st, 1883.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 1884.

BIRTH.

At 139, Bluff, on March 24th, the wife of F. O. EUSTACE of a Son.

At 72, Bluff, Yokohama, on March 27th, the wife of W. G. CAMERON a Daughter.

DEATH.

At New York, March 24th, WILLIAM H. FOGG, President of the China and Japan Trading Co., Limited.

On March 28th, at the General Hospital, Yokohama, of malarial pneumonia, F. DUNBAR, aged 40, late Second Officer of the Mitsu Bishi steamship *Hiroshima Maru*.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A TRAMWAY has been completed between Kanda and Ueno in Tokiyo.

COPPER 5 *rin* coins coated with silver, so as to counterfeit 20 *sen* pieces, have been discovered in circulation in the capital.

A SEVERE earthquake has been felt in Nagano Prefecture. The shock caused a landslip of large dimensions—48 yards in width by 100 in height—but fortunately no lives were lost.

A NAVAL REGATTA is announced to take place on the Sumida River on the 2nd proximo. His Majesty the Emperor has signified his intention to be present.

A BOY, twelve years of age, arrested in Tokiyo on suspicion of incendiarism, confessed to having set no less than six houses on fire. It transpired that certain ruffians in the capital are in the habit of paying children one *yen* for each house they succeed in burning.

THE lady of His Excellency the First Minister of State gave birth to a son on the 21st instant, but the child only survived until the following morning.

HIS EXCELLENCY ADMIRAL YENOMOTO, Japanese Representative at the Chinese Court, who is at present on leave in Japan, went to Kobe on the 26th instant to meet Mrs. Yenomoto, who is on her way home from Peking.

IRON ore of a very fine quality having been obtained from the Shimonida Mine, will, it is announced, be employed hereafter for forging the armour of war-vessels built under the direction of the Imperial Naval Department.

It is stated that large iron-works will shortly be opened by a Japanese capitalist at Kobe, and that several hundred experts, trained at the Akabane Iron-works and elsewhere in Tokiyo, have been engaged by the projector.

A NUMBER of coolies who frequent the neighbourhood of the Yokohama Hatoba and employ rough and annoying methods of soliciting custom, have been arrested by the police and lodged in jail on a charge of disorderly conduct.

A PROJECT is on foot among the Japanese to erect a monument on Noge Hill, in the Western suburb of Yokohama, to the memory of Ii Kamon no Kami, the Minister whose liberal views with respect to foreign intercourse cost him his life a quarter of a century ago. It is proposed to raise a sum 30,000 *yen* for the purpose.

It has been finally decided that a racecourse shall be formed round the margin of Shinobadzu Lake in Ueno. The course, when completed, will probably be one of the most beautiful in the world. On the 24th instant an entertainment was given by the members of the Union Race Club in honour of the new scheme.

WRESTLING has again become fashionable in Japan. An excellent display is now taking place in Kobikicho, Tokiyo. A private performance has been given before His Majesty the Emperor, and the champion wrestlers are constantly invited to exhibit their powers at entertainments given by the upper classes in the capital. There appears to be a desire on the part of many leading Japanese to encourage everything tending to promote physical development.

A CHANGE in the *personnel* of the Ministry has taken place by the appointment of His Excellency Ito Hirobumi to the post of Minister of the Household Department, the former Minister, His Excellency Tokudaiji, assuming the functions of Lord High Chamberlain (*Fijiuchō*). His Excellency Ito's appointment is remarkable as the first instance of the Household Department being presided over by an official not of

Imperial blood. It is understood that the intention of the new nomination has reference to the constitutional and administrative reforms now shortly to be inaugurated.

A BUREAU for Constitutional and Administrative Reforms (*Seido Tori-shirabe-Kiyoku*) has been established under the presidency of His Excellency Ito Hirobumi, Privy Councillor. Nothing has yet transpired with regard to the precise functions which the Bureau will be called on to perform. The officers are Mr. Inouye Ki, Mr. Ito Miyoji, and four secretaries, with a foreign *attaché*, Mr. Peyton Jaudon, whose duties were previously in the Privy Council.

AMONG the passengers by the outward bound American mail on Friday was Mr. W. H. Denison, legal adviser to H.I.J.M.'s Foreign Office, who returns to the United States on leave. Mr. Denison was accompanied to the Shimbashi terminus by their Excellencies the Minister and Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office, and was received at Yokohama by the Prefect of Kanagawa, in whose carriage he rode to the Hatoba. About thirty Japanese officials and several foreigners escorted him to the steamer.

A STONE monument has been erected by Japanese, at Namamugi, on the Tokaido, in *memoriam* of Mr. C. L. Richardson, who was killed at that place by soldiers forming the escort of a Japanese nobleman, on September 14th, 1862. The inscription on the monument is singularly characteristic of the change that has come over Japanese national sentiment since the days when these deeds were counted patriotic. It is to the effect that from Richardson's blood sprang the germs of Japan's new civilization, the abolition of feudalism, the diffusion of knowledge, and the recognition of the people's rights.

A MEMORIAL, said to have been signed by the whole foreign commercial community of Yokohama and presented to the Representatives of the Treaty Powers in March, 1882, has been published in the local press. The memorialists ask for permission to carry on trade and reside in the interior under a passport system, and also that the unrestricted employment of foreign ships by Japanese subjects may be sanctioned. They declare that these measures would, in their opinion, be productive of large benefit, not only to the foreign commerce of Japan, but also to the mutual relations of foreigners and Japanese. The publication of this memorial has excited much surprise, its utterances being strangely at variance with those of leading members of the mercantile community, presumably among the signatories, who recently declared in public that for some years to come Japan's foreign trade had better be carried on in its present grooves.

THE Zen sect of Buddhists, which shares with the Monto the reputation of being the most powerful in Japan, is forming an organization for the purpose of undertaking a crusade against Christianity. What precise shape this opposi-

tion will assume is still uncertain, but judging from reports that came from the provinces, the controversy will not be limited to appeals to reason. At a lecture against Christianity delivered in Hakodate by members of the *Dan-vaku-Kwai*, a society for the suppression of superstition, Christian converts interfered, and a somewhat serious fracas ensued. In well informed circles an idea prevails that better success would attend the efforts of Christian propagandists in Japan did they refrain from direct attacks upon the doctrines of Buddhism and Confucianism, and confine themselves to preaching their own faith pure and simple. They would thus avoid arousing susceptibilities which in opposition become unreasoning.

NOTES.

THE excitement in Shanghai about the violent conduct of the Viceroy T'so T'sung-tang's soldiers, during a recent visit of that dignitary to the Foreign Settlement, has not yet subsided. The truculent braves, after spitting in ladies' faces, firing at foreign ships, stirring peaceable citizens up with their bayonets, and otherwise misconducting themselves, have been quietly suffered to take their departure without so much as a reprimand. The *North China Herald* justly points out the possible evils of such a precedent. When Li Hung-chang's men were guilty of similar, but less serious, outrages, that statesman showed a marked desire to make amends and received the suggestions made to him by the Foreign Consuls with great courtesy. For this weakness his prestige, says our Shanghai contemporary, suffered severely. His countrymen could not comprehend why time-honoured methods of paying respect to a high Mandarin—as, for example, the firing of squibs, blowing of wind instruments and beating of drums, whenever he went out or came in—should be modified, simply because a handful of red-headed barbarians objected to noise and smoke. Accordingly, the advent of the redoubtable T'so was looked for with anxiety. Would he too show the white feather, or would he, on the contrary, teach the intruders that a big Chinaman on his own soil is not to be dictated to by impertinent outsiders? T'so came, and his braves speedily set to work stabbing, spitting, and otherwise “spreading” themselves. Complaints were made, letters written, and representations forwarded. But the result was *nil*. The great General went away with his rude following, and his braves are probably boasting now how they bearded the barbarians in their own den and came off scathless. Of course this will not tend to make them politer in the future. The *North China Herald* observes that, while a drunken Irishman was punished with imprisonment and fine for bonneting a servant of Kwoh Sung-tao in London, Chinese soldiers may probe foreign gentlemen's persons and spit in foreign ladies' faces in the streets of Shanghai with perfect impunity. Sir Harry Parkes is evidently wanted in Peking just now. Englishmen will find themselves safer after he has been there a while.

THE two classes which in England appear to receive the greatest amount of gratuitous advertising are the aristocracy and the actors. It might easily be explained why, but the fact is sufficient. As a natural result, any scandal connected with either, attains a notoriety which seldom waits upon peccadilloes in less con-

spicuous circles. When the scandal happens to attach itself to both of them at once, the buzz and clamor are, for a time, deafening. Pall Mall and St. James's Street resound with it, Belgravia booms sonorously, and all Mayfair echoes the mischievous clatter. Just now the air of London is noisily agitated with that peculiar cacophony in which the sound of cracked marriage bells predominates,—the disturbing causes belonging, as is usual in cases which command the attention of the entire town, to the above named apparently opposite poles of society. That the opposition of the said poles is, however, nothing more than apparent, few persons familiar with the unwritten and unpublished annals of London life, in the last dozen years, need to be told. Alliances of more than one description, between peers and players, have so grown upon public notice as to partake of the character of nouns substantive in grammar,—common, as a rule, and not so often proper. The average Dundreary nobleman's start in life has been considered an imperfect *entrée* unless accompanied by an excursion into the mysterious regions of stage immorality. There is hardly a theatre to be named, from one end of the great metropolis to the other, which has not in its day done service as a tunnel through which the revenues of immature legislators of the Upper House have been poured into the laps of privately captivating,—though often publicly unattractive,—aspirants for histrionic distinction. In most instances, these seductive creatures have been less successful in establishing a dramatic, than in demonstrating their disregard for other kinds of, fame. In the endeavour to secure the utmost magnitude of type on playbills, they have been indifferent as to how their names were otherwise imprinted upon the public memory. Their business has been to revel in the glory of characters created for them, not to keep their own in order. If the inward history of the London stage could be truly chronicled, it would read very much like a suppressed appendix to “Burke's Peerage”;—or a collection of expurgated notes to a free and easy edition of “Our First Families.” We might be tempted to faintly outline some of the vicissitudes of high-class theatrical speculation, but for the extreme length,—not to speak of breadth—of description to which we should be carried. Like Banquo's issue, the line might stretch out to something resembling the crack of doom. It is enough to say that one of the worst degradations to which dramatic art has been subject, has resulted from the leasing of play-houses by young “swells” with more brass (of both figurative kinds) than brains, in order to afford their temporary favorites the opportunity of publicly manifesting their ignorance and incapacity, and of compelling the general community to stamp their unveiled effrontery with opprobrium and derision. Of all the ill-endowed candidates that have thus been thrust before the gaze of the multitude, hardly one has stood the test for half a season. The exceptions are so rare as merely to emphasize the rule of ignominious failure.

* * *

These informal and unrecognized unions of antipodal extremes seldom succeed, however, in producing a first class sensation, unless complicated by more or less flagrant invasion of the usages by which society consents to be regulated. They belong to the category of things which everybody knows, and talks about, until point blank questions are asked, when the subject is suddenly enveloped in a fog which the electric

radiance of all the latest inventions combined could not penetrate. But if the conventional limit of toleration is overstepped, and the extremely liberal range of operations accorded to transgressors of lofty degree becomes too circumscribed for their exploits, a remarkable transformation scene ensues. Then society, which commonly maintains a tepid indifference, fans its moral fires, and incontinently boils over. If the irregular proceedings happen to emerge from the obscurity of the *coulisses* into the glare of the law courts, the wicked are plainly made to understand that there is no more rest for them. The uproar is accurately proportioned to the personal elevation or the professional prominence of the parties concerned. A *marquis, ceteris paribus*, is naturally good for more than a viscount, as a theme of reprobation, and a comedian of established popularity is entitled to a higher pressure of condemnatory steam than a ballet-dancer. To evoke the fullest fortissimo of agitation and excitement, nothing less than a ducal delinquent will serve; and among the personages of the true and living dramas by which all England is now edified, a duke-expectant is the leading figure. After him, follow less exalted recipients of the general obloquy, but to him, as being foremost in publicity, the first consideration is due.

* * *

In one of the latest theatrical ventures of the well remembered E. T. Smith, that versatile and not overscrupulous speculator found it convenient to raise little side winds by permitting ambitious young neophytes of the light fantastic order to appear in certain scenes of his pantomime, to the extent of a song, or a dance, or the eloquent delivery of a message, or, it might be, as a silent but picturesque participant in a procession. The importance of the fair *débutante's* share in the performance was said to be measured less by her aptitude or acquirements than by the fee she was willing to pay for the privilege of displaying herself, as liberally as might be, before an audience. Unkind critics declared that the ultimate—perhaps, even, the immediate—purpose of these novices was not to gauge their histrionic capabilities, but simply to advertise their personal charms. Fastidious censors pretended that the right to thus reveal themselves was paid for in accordance with the terms of an undeviating tariff,—so much for liberty to sing a song, so much for a dance, so much for a single twirl on a pointed toe. “There's a fortune in a twirl, if you calculate your angles of observation,” the sagacious Smith was wont to say. There was a regular charge for riding on an elephant, occasionally brought in from Cremorne for the purpose, and another for coming up through a trap. Nice gradations were devised with respect to costume, the experienced manager having a very keen eye to profits derivable from this source. “The less you wears, the more you pays,” he would remark, with easy indifference to grammatical precision. “The more you takes off, the more I puts on; there's *my* risks to be considered; the Lord Chamberlain, you know.” In this way it came about that a certain young woman of pleasing exterior, generally known and addressed as Mistress Kate Cook, came within the cognizance of that studious band of telescopists whose stations are in the front rows of stalls, or the proscenium boxes, and who are constantly on the watch for new discoveries, whenever the stars of the ballet shine and twinkle through their clouds of gauze and

fleece, upon their admirers below. To what heights of Thespian grandeur this adventuress might have attained, had she held to her footing on "the boards," no one can ever know; since, before her name was well established in that connection, it became much better known in another,—of which the party of the second part was no less a person than Mr. Fitzroy, a scion of that princely house which owes its origin to an old-time combination between the merriest of monarchs and Barbara Villiers. Whether Mr. Fitzroy was softer than most gentlemen who get entangled in these meshes, or Mistress Cook was harder than most ladies in her position, is an open question; but she gained a point not often secured by members of her sisterhood, and in course of time became Mrs. Fitzroy. This was a severe blow to upper class Podsnappery, which distinguished body was only partially consoled by the subsequent separation of the wedded pair. And now events have happened which make the matter infinitely worse. The old Duke of Grafton has died, and is succeeded by his brother, Lord Augustus Fitzroy, whose eldest son is the individual upon whom the charms of the aforesaid ballet girl wrought such incurable havoc. The old adage is therefore improved upon by the circumstance that *one* Cook is sufficient to spoil the Grafton broth. The present duke is not a young man, having been born in 1822, and the family are doing their best to rid Lord Euston—(Mr. Fitzroy that was)—of his conjugal encumbrance, before the coronet has to be fitted to his curiously proportioned head. Divorce was thought of, but the courts are not so complacent as they were in other centuries, and will not now-a-days grant divorces as a matter of convenience to wealthy and noble suitors. So, by dint of anxious search, a previous husband has been found for "Lady Euston Square," as she is facetiously termed by the irreverent, and the future duke is to be freed, if possible, by the process of convicting his wife of bigamy. As a matter of course, the lady utterly denies the charge, and professes to be able to prove her innocence in two rather contradictory ways. First, she insists that she never was married to her alleged preliminary spouse; and next, that even if she were, the man had another wife living at the time, so that she was free to contract the Fitzroy alliance, with all its impending possibilities of grandeur. The scandal is as ugly a one as can well be imagined, and, among its peculiar features is the opportunity it gives the theorists of "arrested development" to trace back the sources of all this impurity to the high-placed but by no means high-principled triflers with marriage-vows and domestic ties, two hundred years ago.

* * *

Next in unsavory prominence is the case of Lord Garmoye, Earl Cairns's eldest son, and the lady ordinarily known and spoken of as Miss Fortescue, of the Savoy Theatre,—her real name being Finney. A very amusing list, by the bye, might be made up, in double column, of the true and the assumed patronymics of English players. The Montagues, Seymours, Fortescues, Montmorencys, and St. Quentins of the programmes would be converted into all sorts of plebeian designations, and it would generally be found, we apprehend, that the more humble or inharmonious the actual title, the more gorgeously patrician would be the borrowed one. This assumption of resonant nomenclature seems to be almost exclusively a British practice. It

is not common in France, nor yet in America. One of the obstacles to the bestowal of knighthood upon the popular and esteemed manager of the Lyceum Theatre,—not to speak of others, which would probably stand in the way,—is that his name is not Irving, as most persons suppose. But the little star of the Savoy has until recently been free from all concern as to her spinster appellation, a much more satisfactory one being ready for her, on her promotion to matrimony. All this, it now appears, is at an end. After repeated rumors this way and that, assertions and denials of rupture, and definite announcement of the wedding day, the news comes that "*tout est rompu*." Lord Garmoye has broken the engagement and run away to the continent, and Miss Fortescue (as she will continue to be called) has instituted a suit for breach of promise, claiming £50,000 damages. From what has thus far been revealed of the circumstances, the popular indignation against the Cairns family seems to be well founded. The young lady, by all testimony, is as good as she is pretty, notwithstanding that a malicious attempt to blacken her character has been made, since the quarrel, presumably by misguided friends of the young nobleman. From the first, his betrothal to an actress was objectionable to his parents, both of whom are vehemently antagonistic to the vanities of earth in general, and theatrical vanities in particular. Neither, it is declared, has ever been inside a play-house. Nevertheless, they gave a reluctant consent to the match, stipulating that Miss Fortescue should abandon her profession without delay. This was not unreasonable, and was agreed to. She was received with apparent good will at Lord Cairns's residence in Scotland, and her prospects remained unclouded until a few weeks ago, when she received a letter informing her that her lover was unable to resist the opposition and entreaties of his mother and father, and that the marriage could not take place. Lady Cairns, it is said, is suffering from heart disease, and insisted that the fulfilment of the contract would kill her. Lord Cairns, it is asserted, received a letter from the Duke of Richmond, notifying him that no actress could be presented at Court;—though what the Duke of Richmond should have to do in the matter, or why he should be any better informed on the subject than the ex-Lord Chancellor, or how such a statement could ever be made, seeing that actresses have been and still are welcomed at Court, nobody has attempted to explain. It is evident, however, that Lord Garmoye, whose head possesses no seniority over the excessively youthful shoulders which carry it, has been diverted from his intentions by strenuous representations of some kind, and that his parents are conscious of having sown a particularly lively wind, though perhaps not so fully prepared for the whirlwind they will have to reap. They offered the girl £2,000 to accept her insult quietly, and were persuaded by their solicitor to increase the bribe to £5,000. Her response was a claim for £50,000, which she regards as by no means an excessive indemnity for the affront, the loss of title, social position, fortune, etc. She does not regard the copy of the Bible, which Lady Cairns sent her, as affording all the compensation she has a right to expect. The trial will occur next autumn, unless some successful means of pacification is meanwhile devised,—which is not likely. Then Lord Garmoye will probably lose a round sum in

cash,—of which he has plenty of his own,—without regaining much of his reputation,—which has been so shattered that his name is erased from the books of all his clubs. Lord Cairns, the newspapers say, will suffer even more severely, perhaps to the loss of the political prestige for which he toiled for years under Lord Beaconsfield, and which he values more highly than any other possession. Possibly it was the fear of risking this, which led him to interdict the nuptials; but if so he may learn anew the old and always painful lesson that however keen the anguish of the frying pan *in esse*, the fire *in posse* is capable of inflicting agonies still more acute.

* * *

Rather in the way of gossip than of scandal is the spreading whisper of an attachment between the Duke of Portland and Miss Mary Anderson, the young American lady who is filling the Lyceum Theatre and her own purse, during Mr. Irving's absence in the United States. Miss Anderson as all the world knows, enjoys a character as unassailable as her beauty is impeccable,—the latter being of the kind described by Tennyson as belonging to Maud; namely, faultily faultless. Professionally, she is open to a similar criticism, the classic coldness of her deportment impairing the effect of her performances when she essays impassioned rôles. Her sincerest admirers confess to a regret that she has not a little more life in her,—a defect which, possibly, marriage might tend to obviate. The prospect of her admission to the haughty house of Bentinck is, however, somewhat uncertain, grave doubts being expressed—at least by the newspapers—as to whether the duke "will be permitted to marry an actress." As he is at just about the age when the desire for emancipation from outside authority sets in, and when, moreover, the adult energy is most determined,—that is to say, twenty-seven years,—he will perhaps decide for himself what he may be permitted to do. At the same time, his wishes, if they lie in that direction, will undoubtedly meet with a hundred times the opposition that would beset him if he sought only to disgrace himself, and the girl, by an illicit association. In fact, he would be troubled by no interference worth speaking of, on his side of the house, if the latter arrangement were contemplated. Nevertheless, nobles of highest rank have married theatrical stars before now, and the spectacle of a duke and his actress-wife would be far preferable to such exhibitions as those with which his late Grace of Newcastle, accompanied by his burlesque mediocrity, used to favor the public, before he went to financial smash. It could probably be shown that, of the longish list of ladies who have flitted from the stage to aristocratic drawing-rooms,—setting apart the few whose reputations were notoriously bad beforehand,—hardly one can be named who has not worn her honors worthily and added brightness to her new sphere. The doors are opened to them reluctantly enough, but, once inside the coveted precincts, they and all concerned with them are apt to find it is only the first step that costs.

A BERLIN correspondent of *Bradstreet's* writes that a new invention by Mr. Maurice Honigmann, engineer, of Aix la Chapelle, is exciting considerable interest in technical and industrial circles in Berlin. It is expected to cause great changes in several branches of technical industry. Mr. Honigmann has constructed a boiler to generate

steam without fire, and therefore free from all the inconveniences, such as smoke, etc. The construction is based upon the principle that solutions of strong alkaline substances, boiling only at 210° to 245° Celsius, when subject to the influence of steam, absorb it and store up the heat, thus attaining a temperature much higher than that of the steam itself. On this principle Honigmann produces steam by placing a boiler filled with water into a larger one containing boiling alkaline, which is kept boiling by the spent steam from the engine. Thus the production of steam is continued until, by dilution, the boiling point of the alkaline solution becomes too low for heating purposes, in consequence of its getting too weak. The boiler must then be refilled with a strong solution, whereas the weak one can again be condensed by fire. Experiments have proved hydrate of soda to be a substance especially fitted for this purpose, and these boilers can work for hours without requiring to be refilled. The procedure, besides being less annoying than the common steam engines, producing no smoke or waste steam, is economical, all the spent steam being made use of for heating purposes. A successful experiment was made a short time ago on one of the steamers plying between Berlin and the village of Treptow on the Spree. Other experiments, too, on the tram elevated railways, in Berlin are about to be tried.

A STRANGE action for libel has been commenced at Paris. The defendant is Mustapha-ben-Ismaïl, formerly First Minister at the Court of the Bey of Tunis, and the plaintiff, his ancient *maitre d'hôtel*. The latter's petition sets forth that his reputation has suffered severely in consequence of a false and frivolous accusation preferred against him by Mustapha, to the effect that he has been guilty of stealing, or otherwise making away with, sundry bottles of wine. Ten thousand francs is the price the injured *maitre d'hôtel* puts upon the suffering caused by this aspersion. The case came up for hearing before the Tenth Chamber of the Seine Tribunal, but was remanded because the defendant, being decorated with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, could not be cited before an ordinary Court. In Tunis in the old times the *maitre d'hôtel's* wounded pride would probably have been salved by a sound flogging.

AN American journal says that Japanese scarfs are rapidly gaining favour, and describes them as "a perfect reproduction of those worn by Japanese women to fasten their tunics." A great many wonderful things have been said and written about Japanese fashions, but the notion of Japanese women in tunics fastened with scarfs, even supposing that the operation of fastening a tunic with a scarf in any part of the world were possible, is the most admirable flight of imagination this subject has hitherto prompted. We shall not be surprised to hear next that the ladies of the West has been persuaded to patronize garters after the pattern worn by Japanese Princesses.

THE quarterly record of the National Bible Society of Scotland has the following:—It is highly desirable that our Bible work in China should be adapted to meet more adequately the new circumstances. Other agencies are fully alive to the importance of the opportunity. The Baptist Missionary Society has resolved to send

out fourteen new men, at a cost of £10,000. The China Inland Mission proposes to commission seventy-five additional agents. The American Presbyterian Board has already sent out ten or fourteen more missionaries; and the British and Foreign Bible Society has resolved to appoint two additional and special agents, so that it may be represented at once in Northern, Central, and Southern China. A special effort on our part seems to be called for, and the directors have resolved to invite donations to enable them to extend present agencies and to institute new work in China.

THE following is the address made by His Excellency the Honorable F. R. Plunkett on the occasion of his Audience at the Imperial Palace on Friday last:—

Having had the honour to be selected by the Queen and Empress, my gracious Sovereign, to succeed Sir Harry Parkes as Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul General in Japan, I approach Your Imperial Majesty to present the Letter by which Her Majesty the Queen and Empress has been pleased to notify to Your Imperial Majesty the transfer of Sir Harry Parkes to another Post, and to accredit me to Your Imperial Majesty as Her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Your Imperial Majesty's Court. It is with feelings of sincere satisfaction that I take up the mission which my Sovereign has been graciously pleased to confide to me. It affords me the opportunity of returning to Your Imperial Majesty's dominions, where I have already, on a previous occasion, had the advantage of residing for some time and of making many friends;—it will also, I trust, enable me to be an instrument for maintaining and drawing still closer those bonds of union and friendship, which happily exist between Great Britain and Japan, and which it must be the desire of both nations to see as intimate as possible. Your Imperial Majesty may rely on my using my best endeavours to perpetuate that harmony and friendly intercourse which my Government desires should ever prevail between the two countries, and I feel convinced that in these endeavours I may safely count on the hearty coöperation of Your Imperial Majesty's Ministers.

His Majesty the Emperor replied as follows:—

I received with great pleasure the Letter of Credence from Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India, nominating you as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to this Court, as well as Consul General, and also I acknowledge the recall of your predecessor, Sir Harry Parkes. I fully trust that, during the period of your Mission, the friendly relations which have hitherto existed between Great Britain and Japan may be strengthened, and especially so on account of your long experience and previous residence in this country.

SOME interesting experiments have been made of late with regard to the sounding-post in violins. A novel and apparently highly successful idea is the substitution of a glass tube instead of the usual wooden sounding-post. The glass post does not differ in shape or thickness from the usual sounding-post; but it is hollow. A clear and beautifully rich tone was obtained, and it is hoped that, by this device, very ordinary violins may acquire a fullness and depth of tone only to be met with in instruments of the first order.

* * *

Very many experiments have led to the conclusion that the famous "porcelain violins" of a few centuries ago could not have been of such wondrous *timbre* as has been generally believed. Nor can the weird story of that porcelain baritone which bore the strange inscription, "He that plays me will go music-mad," be explained otherwise than by assuming that the unfortunate musician would break the violin in disgust. These porcelain violins have a reedy and altogether unpleasant sound, and the wonderful tales about the magic properties and ethereal delicacy of their tone must be relegated—with a lot of other equally interesting anecdotes—to the nursery, and excluded from the school-room. The violin of "silicified wood," another ingenious creation of the past, must similarly be stripped

of the fables that have shrouded it in mystery. Silicified wood is not uncommon in the carboniferous formation, but no amount of ingenuity could make a good violin out of this article; and it is to be seriously doubted whether the pre-historic man would have cared for violins at all. According to Darwin and other writers, the favourite instrument of the pre-historic individual partook of the nature of the *tum-tum*, and it did not require any great musical ability to become a proficient performer.

SAYS Professor Huxley, in the *Agnostic Annual* for 1884:—"Some twenty years ago I invented the word 'Agnostic' to denote people who, like myself, confess themselves to be hopelessly ignorant concerning a variety of matters about which metaphysicians and theologians dogmatise with the utmost confidence. Thus it will be seen that I have a sort of patent right in 'Agnostic' (it is my trade mark); and I am entitled to say that I can state authentically what was originally meant by Agnosticism. What other people may understand by it by this time I do not know. If a General Council of the Church Agnostic were held, very likely I should be condemned as a heretic. But I speak only for myself in endeavouring to answer these questions. Agnosticism is of the essence of science, whether ancient or modern. It simply means that a man shall not say he knows or believes that which he has no scientific grounds for professing to know or believe. I have no doubt that scientific criticism will prove destructive to the forms of supernaturalism which enter into the constitution of existing religions. On trial of any so-called miracle, the verdict of science is 'Not proven.' The theological 'gnosis' would have us believe that the world is a conjuror's house; the anti-theological 'gnosis,' talks as if it were a 'dirt-pie,' made by the two blind children, Law and Force. Agnosticism simply says that we know nothing of what may be beyond phenomena."

SINCE the world has been made aware, says a London journal, that Thomas à Kempis's "Imitation" is the favourite book of General Gordon, there has been a "rush" on that work at the booksellers'. It is quite possible that the desire to resemble "Chinese" Gordon in any way will make many people members of the "Brotherhood of Common Life" along with à Kempis, who would otherwise be Buddhist with Mr. Edwin Arnold, or Quietists with Mr. Shorthouse. It is to be trusted that none of these spasmodic enthusiasts will be damped by any recollection of De Quincy's declaration that he never could endure "Imitation," on account of what he irreverently described as "Tommy's queer latinity."

THE committee appointed by the Minister of Public Works in Italy to consider the best mode of rebuilding the houses destroyed by the recent earthquake has sent in its report, to which is appended a complete return of the number of deaths and of houses destroyed. Out of the 4,300 inhabitants of Casamicciola itself, 1,784 were killed and 443 injured; while of the 672 houses, 537 were completely and 134 partially destroyed. Of the 1,800 inhabitants of Lacco Ameno, 146 were killed and 93 injured; and of the 389 houses, 269 were completely and 102 partially destroyed. Of the 6,800 inhabitants of Forio, 146 were killed and 98 injured; and of the 2,713 rooms (no separate return is made of houses), 1,344 were completely and 977

partially destroyed. Of the 2,000 inhabitants of of Serrara, 28 were killed and 21 injured; and of the 1,159 rooms, 65 were completely and 973 partially destroyed. Of the 4,600 inhabitants of Barano, 10 were killed and as many more injured; and of the 2,693 rooms, 63 were completely and 1,430 partially destroyed. No loss of life occurred at Ischia itself; and altogether the earthquake occasioned 2,313 deaths, while 762 persons were injured. Of the 2,313 killed, 650 did not belong to the island, but of these only 54 were of foreign nationality.

THE *Oesterreichische Monatsschrift für den Orient*, in its first number for the present year, contains the opening article of a series on Consular Jurisdiction in the Orient, from the pen of Dr. Lorenz-Von Stein, one of the most eminent juridical writers in Germany. The contents of the article are thus summarized by the *London and China Express*:—

After referring to the fact that the subject of Consular jurisdiction does not find a place in publications on international law—nor does that greater public which is more interested in the economical than the juridical and diplomatic circumstances of the East, attach any meaning to the term—the writer proceeds to define its precise meaning, and at the same time attempts to describe “the character of the present struggles, or, to speak more accurately, the almost undeniable necessity for establishing a new basis for this particular branch of international law.” The general idea in Europe is, to put it in a single sentence, that the jurisdiction, and at the same time the extra-territoriality—that is, independence of the country in which it is situated—of the Consulate is the first condition of commercial relations with the East. What this implies when carried out in detail, how it is to be formulated into a legal proposition, what individual rights attach to it, is left in its political features to diplomacy, and in its legal aspects to International law. This notion of Consular authority has grown up with course of time, and it is easily comprehended by everybody. It became embodied in treaties; no one asked on what principle this new system of jurisdiction was based, and soon no one thought it necessary to assign any grounds whatever. But new development of intercourse among peoples, and new science is beginning to alter this, and it is now no longer questionable that the whole of Eastern Asia, above all Japan, is determined to find and establish a new foundation for everything connected with Consular jurisdiction. It is almost unnecessary to say that with the term State, the writer connects independent Sovereignty. Sovereignty implies that all persons, all property, and every act of life are under the laws of the State concerned; and no State is a sovereign State which has not this complete control. The limits of sovereignty are identical with the territorial limits of the country; and if there is anything within these limits over which the sovereign has not power, he is to such an extent no more sovereign. Whatever meaning we may attach to the term consular jurisdiction, this at least is clear, that it withdraws and destroys to a certain extent the rights of the sovereign. Extra-territoriality and consular jurisdiction are a direct impeachment of the nature and whole legal conception of an independent State. These positions are not so unimportant as they may at first sight appear, for the consequence from them is that one State can exercise these powers in the territories of another only by virtue of an express treaty; that they cannot exist where no treaties exist; that such treaties form a perpetual exception from all public law, and are, therefore, a *privilege*; that every privilege, according to the recognised canon of interpretation, is strictly construed, and no extension of it without the express agreement, of the two contracting parties can be permitted. From these follow several other important positions. First, it is clear that when the grounds on which such treaties are based disappear, neither of the contracting parties has a right to demand the renewal of an instrument which has no longer a *causa efficiens* when one of them objects to it. Again, it is evident that when the circumstances under which such a treaty is concluded are materially altered, the intelligence of a civilised country would not think of re-imposing a treaty meant to meet a set of circumstances which had completely changed during its existence. Turning now from these “simple and hardly contestible positions” to the subjects of Consular jurisdiction and extra-territoriality, Dr. Von Stein says that these privileges were called into existence only where there were good and permanent grounds which made them necessary, and on which the contracting parties were quite agreed. When, therefore, a question of renewing such treaties is raised, the first question is not what increase or modification of this privilege shall be received but the far more important one:—Are there now the same reasons as those which may have formerly existed for restricting the sovereignty of an independent State

in favour of another State; or, instead of a Consular treaty, shall we not now rather admit the ordinary principles and rules that govern international intercourse?

“Our Consular system,” he says, “was established for an Orient which has changed and is changing, and is no longer the old Orient. We must above all things separate the Consular system in Europe and in the East; their origin, history, and legal growth are wholly distinct.” And Dr. Von Stein promises in the next article an account of the third Consular group—viz., the Consular system of the future in the Far East. In his subsequent papers he asks for broad judgments in his readers, and trusts that he will not meet with narrow and interested views. “Under any circumstances it would be most difficult of all for us to argue with those who think that what is now being done (in the East) is only for the moment. What happens to-day will for a long—perhaps a very long—time continue to happen.” The discussion of questions of the vital importance to our readers of those indicated by Dr. Von Stein cannot fail to receive great attention, especially when the eminence of the writer is borne in mind. The somewhat academic nature of the propositions, which we have here summarised at more than our usual length, will doubtless lead us next month to more concrete and practical arguments.

Do we now make, asks a writer in the *Whitehall Review*, Oriental wonders better in this country than in the East? A throne for an Indian rajah is a strange thing to be manufactured in England, yet the well-known firm of Osler and Co. are exhibiting a huge crystal throne which is to be sent to India. It will give some idea of the workmanship connected with this when we mention that the finials of the legs are each cut into 234 mathematically accurate facets. To some extent, wood and iron are used, so as to give extra strength to the structure; but these are inclosed in glass, and their presence made imperceptible. The hangings and cushions are of brilliant crimson velvet. Contemplating this, one is forcibly reminded of Milton's Description of Satan's

Throne of royal state, which far
Outshone the wealth of Ormus and of Ind;
Or where the gorgeous East with richest hand
Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold.

HENRY WARD BEECHER thus expresses himself:—Nothing to my mind is more indecent than the way great criminals are converted and carried out of life. A murderer is in prison awaiting the expiation of his crime on the gallows, and the most salacious and abominable sympathy is shown to him. Women send flowers to his cell. Some of them would even kiss an ulcer for him. Priests and philanthropists run to see him. Tracts, books, and delicacies are crowded upon him, and all, forsooth, because he is going to die. Are not poor men dying all around, and no sympathy poured out for them! But here is a monster, and for him the flood-gates are opened. The newspapers say he died trusting in Jesus. Faugh! what a world of mischief that thief on the cross did? Can the current of a man's life be changed in a moment? Can one become learned in the love of heaven in a minute? Can reeking passions learn from vestal purity? Can a boor from the country learn in a night how to conduct himself at a party in a mansion? And yet a man who has crept to the gallows through the common sewer blossoms out at the last minute, when hope of pardon is gone, into a saint. I don't believe it.

It is stated by a vernacular journal that the number of hands hitherto employed at the copper mine of Ashio, in Yashiu, was five thousand, but that in consequence of a great increase in the richness of the vein an addition of several hundred men is found, necessary. Items of this sort attract little attention among the residents of our settlement. Japan's mineral resources have ceased to be regarded as the future El Dorado of enterprise. Yet, no longer

than three years ago, an expert who had devoted much time to performing a mineralogical survey of the country, placed on record his opinion that its wealth in iron and coal is not second to that of Great Britain. It is impossible to doubt that some opportunities exist, and that if foreign intercourse were freed from its present restrictions, a new vista of chances would open up. How long it will be worth foreigners' while to remain in Japan under existing conditions is a question one does not care to consider.

If we are to accept the statements of “Asiaticus,” who has just been writing in the *Daily News* on the relations between Japan and the West, and who has evidently had access to exceptional sources of information, the long-pending revision of the Japanese treaties is at last on the point of completion, so far, at any rate, as concerns the tariff of duties upon foreign imports into that country. These duties, the writer gives us to understand, will probably be fixed at rates representing an average of not less, but not much more, than 10 per cent., in place of the present nominal average of 3 per cent. It is further argued that such increase will not appreciably affect the volume of the trade of this country with Japan. An important feature of the article is the intimation that the European States offer to leave the Japanese Government free to regulate their own tariff at the end of eight years, if by that time they shall have freely thrown open their country to foreign trade and residence. But it appears doubtful whether the bait thus thrown out will be taken, unless in the meanwhile the treaty Powers concede some substantial limitation of the prevailing system of consular jurisdiction, which has long been a sore grievance with the Japanese, and the inconveniences of which are described with much force. This latter branch of the general question will, it is said, be made the subject of further negotiations.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

AMONG the curiosities which science has recently devised is an electric cane. In general appearance it is an ordinary stick with a crystal knob. Inside the knob, however, is a tiny electric lamp, fed by the current from a miniature battery, weighing about a pound averdupois and carried in the pocket or at the girdle. The wires from the battery are sewed inside the coat-sleeve, and cause no inconvenience. The whole thing is neat and pretty, but very expensive. Moreover the light only lasts three quarters of an hour without a renewal of material. We shall not be surprised to hear next that buttons with an electric apparatus inside have taken the place of diamonds.

THE *Penang Times* of the 5th March publishes the following latest news regarding the *Nisero* case:—“We are in a position, through the much valued courtesy of Mr. Kynnersley, Resident Councillor, *ad interim*, to give our readers the following items regarding Mr. Maxwell and his mission to Tenom. Mr. Maxwell writes on board H.M.S. *Pegasus*, off Telok Bubun, on the 1st March, that negotiations are proceeding slowly. He saw Teokoe Tjit, the leading man in those parts, on the 24th February, and hopes to go himself to see the Rajah at Tenom in a few days. The crew of the *Nisero* are all alive, but have been on very short commons since the burning of Tenom, as neither goats nor fowls have been obtainable, and they have had to live, like the Achinese, on rice and green stuff. Mr.

Maxwell has been able to send them a small supply of tinned provisions, biscuits, tobacco, &c. The second mate is ill. Mr. Maxwell is hopeful of success. The crew are only one day's journey up the Tenom river. The Achinese are most friendly to the English."

A new and dangerous development of mesmerism, says a home paper, was displayed the other day at Paris to an admiring and sympathizing public by a well-known mesmerist, who at the same time is a lion-keeper in a certain menagerie. A beautiful young girl, on whom the spiritualist generally practises, was brought into a cage of lions, and after being thrown into a cataleptic sleep was submitted to the most frightful ordeals. In one of these the head and arm of the girl were put into the mouth of a lion, which had previously been infuriated by lashes from its master's whip. But the apparently dead body did not excite the animal's appetite. At the end of the scene the girl was released, and went smiling away, while the mesmerist earned rich laurels. But suppose the lion had eaten the maiden—what then?

MR. C. MARVIN promises to publish shortly the narrative of the Russian mission to Cabul in 1882. The public has still to learn even the bare facts of this mission; but it appears that Mr. Marvin, whilst on his way to the Caspian, to report on the oil wells at Baku, met a man toward the end of 1882, who had been sent on a secret mission to Cabul. Mr. Marvin's book will be expected with some interest.

Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. will publish Mr. Charles Marvin's new work, entitled *Reconnoitring Central Asia: Adventures and Travels in the Region between Russia and India*. It gives, in a popular form, the exploits of the principal explorers, secret agents, and newspaper correspondents who have sought to examine the rival positions of the Russians and English in Central Asia from the time Vambéry set out in disguise twenty years ago down to Nazimbekoff's recent secret survey of Merv on behalf of Russia.

THE submarine telegraph from Nagasaki to Fuzanho, in Korea, has been open for the transmission of messages since the middle of last month, but as the line is not yet carried to either Ninsen or Söul, persons desirous of communicating by wire with either of these places are required to deposit a sum of six *yen*, to defray the cost of forwarding their despatches from the point where the cable terminates. The line is, consequently, but little employed.

At a meeting of the National Food Reform Association the secretary stated that he had been for upwards of six years an abstainer from fish, flesh, fowl, alcohol, and tobacco. He also "demonstrated" that it is possible to live on six-pence per day. Of course it is. A hungry man, for instance, might swallow two penny worth of dry peas, and then go to a public free fountain and drink two quarts of water to swell them up. For a change, for his next meal he might have a half-quartern new loaf and a pound of bran. All these things are filling at the price, but they are not attractive luxuries. What would be the value of living if a man were debarred his fish, flesh, fowl, alcohol, and tobacco? He might as well sit on a rock in the middle of a river and eat small coal. A great

deal of nonsense is often spoken in connection with the vegetarian movement. Some men, doubtless, are naturally so strong that they would grow fat and look sleek on sponge trimmings and granite chips, but the majority of mortals would rapidly be improved off the face of the earth if they were compelled to live on bread-steaks, sirloin of carrot, parsnip pudding, jugged haricot beans, devilled turnip, minced beetroot, shoulder of onion, or any of the many dainties set before vegetarians.—*Sportsman*.

THE Chief Police Bureau of Tokiyo has just published some interesting statistics showing the annual numbers of fires and values of property destroyed in the capital since 1874. From these statistics it appears that, during the ten years ending December 31st, 1883, the area of the buildings reduced to ashes every year was, on the average, 67,467 *tsubo*, that is to say about 56 acres. From calculations made at the Finance Department, with reference to a scheme of national insurance, it is shown that, including chattels and goods, the average value of one *tsubo* of building in Tokiyo is 28.913 *yen*. It follows, therefore, that the loss sustained by the citizens from conflagrations alone, every year between 1874 and 1883, was 1,957,150 *yen*, approximately; while the total loss throughout the whole period was nearly twenty million *yen*. The number of houses in Tokiyo is 287,930, so that if the annual loss were divided throughout the whole city, it would amount to 6.774 *yen* per house. The salient points brought out by these statistics are shown in the following table:—

YEAR.	NUMBER OF FIRES.	HOUSES DESTROYED.	TSUBO.
1874	258	1,544	15,529
1875	391	1,803	20,198
1876	424	11,412	103,563
1877	462	3,536	35,144
1878	305	5,943	55,433
1879	301	13,025	100,815
1880	280	6,068	64,447
1881	312	21,949	239,528
1882	311	1,264	14,716
1883	180	641	5,301
Totals ...	3,254	67,185	674,677

YEAR.	LOSS (YEN).	DEATHS.	EXPENSES OF FIRE BRIGADES.
1874	464,607	1	87,693.623
1875	1,128,340	4	66,587.30
1876	2,845,571	17	60,282.785
1877	1,616,545	6	61,159.15
1878	1,054,470	11	51,390
1879	2,579,397	50	52,347.316
1880	1,713,498	6	65,432.117
1881	7,416,146	13	50,108.218
1882	540,785	2	57,552.472
1883	147,786	5	54,717
Totals..	19,507,150	115	555,906.991

These statistics do not cover a sufficiently long period to justify any very positive deduction. Assuming them as a basis, however, we see that Tokiyo is wholly destroyed by fire once in 43 years. In other words, twenty-three houses in every thousand are burned annually. In Great Britain, on the other hand, insurance rates are based on the assumptions—proved by a long series of observations to be as nearly as possible correct—that, of thatched buildings, or "doubly hazardous risks," less than three in every thousand are destroyed each year; of "hazardous risks"—i.e., buildings partially or wholly constructed of timber, but covered with slates, tiles, or metal—only one in every 800 is destroyed; and of common—i.e., buildings of brick or stone and covered with tiles, slates, or metal—the annual casualties are one in every 1,300. Briefly, the losses from fire in Tokiyo are ten times greater than the losses on doubly hazardous risks in Great Britain, and eighteen times greater

than the losses on hazardous risks. In short, it is absolutely impossible that Tokiyo can ever become a great, prosperous, or wealthy city until a totally different style of building is adopted there. The houses in Ginza, and its neighbourhood come under the category of "hazardous risks," being built of brick with wooden additions for kitchens, &c. We have not at present any data to show the losses from fire among these houses since they were erected more than 10 years ago; but we can assert from observation that the number of casualties has not exceeded the English rate for second-class risks. How many districts might have been rendered equally secure against fire with the twenty million *yen* lost since 1874?

The remarkable diminution in the number of fires during 1883, as compared with any of the previous years, shown in the above table cannot fail to strike our readers. It affords, perhaps, the best possible tribute to the growing efficiency of the police. For, unfortunately, one cannot escape the conviction that the great majority of the fires in Tokiyo are the work of incendiaries. The remarkable immunity Ginza enjoys is in itself a conclusive proof of this regrettable fact. Attempts are not made to burn houses there, for two reasons: first, that the only easily accessible portions of the buildings being of brick defy such weapons as bundles of shavings steeped in kerosene; and secondly, that a fire in Ginza is always confined to the house where it breaks out: it does not spread to neighbouring buildings, and, consequently, creates no opportunities for theft. If conflagrations were due, in any considerable degree, to the carelessness of householders, there is no apparent reason why Ginza should be so fortunate, seeing that all the operations from which fires may be supposed to emanate, as cooking, heating baths, and so forth, take place in the wooden portions of the premises. Heroic measures of reform are not to be advocated, but we do think that the authorities and citizens of Tokiyo might show themselves less apathetic about the safety of their city.

WE cannot believe that France has demanded an indemnity of six millions sterling from China. The demand would not be inconsistent with the recent vaporings of certain Parisian journals, but to credit M. Grévy with so reckless a policy requires some credulity. So far as we know, China's liability to be mulcted in a heavy sum has not been established. No regulars of her forces were found among the defenders of Son-tai or Bac-ninh, and the Middle Kingdom's share in the opposition France's army of occupation encountered in Tonquin is little more than a matter of conjecture. With more subtlety than courage, China has managed to hide her hand. However certain the world may be that her influence was at work all the time on the side of the Tonquinese, something more substantial than secret decrees or the discovery of arms bearing the mark of the Imperial Arsenal is needed to justify such a claim as that now ascribed to the Paris Cabinet. Neither can it be forgotten that China had a solid right to be consulted about French designs in her neighbourhood. That she based her right, in the first place, on an indefensible title of suzerainty, gave her pretensions a certain air of absurdity, but could not obscure the real point at issue. That point was whether a foreign Power should be allowed to obtain unconditional possession of territory

through which runs the principal route communicating with one of China's richest provinces. At the present moment, when questions are asked in the British Parliament about Russia's action with respect to Merv, and when the Secretary of State is negotiating with the Cabinet of St. Petersburg the delimitation of the frontiers of a country which occupies towards our Indian empire precisely the same position that Tonquin occupies towards China, it would be absurd, on the part of Englishmen at any rate, to deny that China had a right to interfere with French proceedings on the banks of the Red River. Finding her remonstrances unheeded, and unwilling to engage in open war, she gave covert assistance, it is said, to the Black Flags, and even went so far as to confer official rank on their leader. But if this is to cost her 150 millions of francs; if, in addition to the serious loss of prestige she has already suffered, she is to be still further humiliated by having to pay a heavy war indemnity, the result may be highly inconvenient, not to France alone but to all the European Powers. China will not fight. That is very plain. She is evidently afraid that the shock of a foreign war might break her to pieces. But though she may succeed in escaping dislocation by avoiding any actual conflict, and by a show of bluster sufficiently sustained to deceive her own people, from the moment she consents to pay, or is even asked to pay, a large indemnity, her disgrace can no longer be concealed. What that may involve, we can only conjecture. But if those who ought to understand the internal condition of the Middle Kingdom may be believed, the official ship is hardly strong enough to weather such an exposure. At any rate it is quite clear that the hands of the anti-foreign party in China would be immensely strengthened were France to pursue a policy so arbitrary and unjust. She ought to build a golden bridge for China's retreat, instead of compelling her to bow her head lower in the dust. All this must be fully recognised in Paris, and we hesitate to credit the course now ascribed to the Ferry Cabinet.

THE speech delivered by Sir Charles Dilke at the annual meeting of the Chelsea Liberal Association contains the clearest exposition we have yet seen of the Government's policy in Egypt. It is some satisfaction to find our own forecast of that policy so exactly verified, but a much larger satisfaction to see that the impulsive and apparently bewildered character ascribed to the proceedings of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet has no foundation in fact. The idea of sending out General Gordon did not present itself at the eleventh hour, like one of *Punch's* "happy thoughts," as the public has been led to suppose. It presented itself, Sir Charles says, "many months ago," but found no favour with the Egyptian Government for reasons easily comprehended. The statement of the member for Chelsea is as follows:—

With the patient and considerate support of the Liberals of the country—and I will even say with the patient and considerate support of the people of the country—our Government will help the Egyptian Government to overcome their difficulty.—(Cheers.) We have great confidence in the advice we have received from General Gordon—(cheers)—the nature of a part of which may be gathered from certain of the articles and letters in which his views have been set forth. If it be the case that the Soudan has been vilely governed by the former governments of Egypt since it has been under Egyptian foreign rule, that its partial revolt is clearly to be traced to such misrule, that the old Sultans, the old rulers and chiefs of Darfour and of various parts of the Soudan are, and have been, under successive Egyptian governments in confinement at

Cairo, then were these men to be sent back, the countries to be evacuated by Egypt would fall not to the Mahdi, but to these old chiefs, with whom good treaties as to the slave trade and as to commerce might be made; if these statements which have been put forth in General Gordon's name are an accurate representation of the facts. Then it will be to the advantage of civilisation generally, and to the special advantage of Egypt and this country, that Egyptian rule in Darfour and in some other portions of the Soudan should cease.—(Hear, hear.) The greater part of what is called the Soudan is not, and never has been, in any real sense, a part of Egypt. The Egyptian has always been a foreigner in the Soudan, which has always been a drain on Egypt to try and hold. These countries have always been, in our opinion, a weakness to Egypt; and if so, it would be madness for this country to interfere.—(Hear, hear.) We have no interest in seeing the Egyptians rather than the Sultans of Darfour, for instance, rule Darfour. We have an interest in peace in Cairo; we have an interest that Egyptian rule should be maintained on the coast of the Red Sea; but we have no interest in the Egyptian rule in the interior of the continent of Africa. In an able leader yesterday, I found it hinted that we had our doubts about keeping the Mahdi from Suakim. That is not so. We stated from the first that the *status quo*, or something like the *status quo*, and entirely excluding the Mahdi and his friends, should, except indeed as regards Abyssinia, be maintained on the whole of the Egyptian coast.—(Cheers.) The Conservatives seem to think that we are an exceedingly vacillating people, and that the idea of sending out General Gordon struck us suddenly a few days ago. We first suggested the sending out of General Gordon to the late Egyptian Government very many months ago, but at that time our own advisers in Egypt thought that, under the then circumstances, he had better not go there. The reluctance lasted until quite lately, and it was mutual. It was only about ten days ago that we were informed that although General Gordon had no wish to go to Egypt, he would willingly obey the orders of her Majesty's Government to go, should they choose to send him—(cheers)—and would act under the instructions of Sir Evelyn Baring and General Stephenson. As soon as we had obtained by telegraph the concurrence of Sir Evelyn Baring in our view, the matter was at once arranged. The reply was received, I think, on Wednesday last. The General's instructions were given to him on Friday, and the General, with that remarkable public spirit which characterises him, started with Colonel Stewart that very night.—(Cheers.) I thought it well to state to you, quite simply, the history of this affair, in order to prevent the many misconceptions which we have seen prevailing in Conservative circles. I am certain that General Gordon carries with him to Africa the good wishes of every one in this room—that he carries with him the good wishes of the whole people of this country.—(Cheers.) They know the high public spirit and great humanity that he has shown, not only on some occasions, but throughout his whole career, and he is a man in whom the public of this country undoubtedly have great personal trust.—(Renewed cheers.)

M. DÉGRON has returned to France, having spent a year in Japan studying the vines of that country at the request of the French Ministry of Commerce. He brought back with him fifteen thousand feet of vines, which are now in the Botanical Garden at Montpellier. The traveller gave to his friend M. Sarcey the following note, describing his journey and its results:—"I travelled twice through Yesso (Hokkaido). I visited the north, the west, and a part of the centre of Japan proper, and I also went to Sado. Everywhere I found wild vines, some specimens of which I brought back on account of their scientific interest. It was in the island of Yesso, however, above the 44th degree of latitude, that I discovered, as I believe, what I wanted; namely, a *vitis*, apparently capable of defying the phylloxera, and of becoming acclimatized in the most northerly vineyards of France—which is not possible in the case of the American vines. It is at least as vigorous as the American vines, which are safe from the phylloxera in the middle of France; it grows to a height of 100 to 150 feet, covering, in some places, the highest limbs of large trees; at a few feet from the ground its stem is often more than 55 or 60 centimetres in circumference, and its small, dark fruit is largely used in all the villages of the island. It is therefore almost certain that the Japanese, if they please, can have grapes of fine quality, rich in sugar and alcohol, but that is their affair.

The chief point for us is to know whether this vine will resist the phylloxera. For my part I am persuaded that it will, and I base my opinion upon certain peculiar characteristics which it has in common with the American *Iabrusca*. Of course one cannot predict anything with certainty, but if my hopes are not disappointed, the result will be great for France. Some people may be surprised to hear me say that our most northerly vineyards will grow vines which I found in latitudes corresponding with those of Marseilles, Nimes, Montpellier, and Avignon. But the fact is that, though the island of Yesso only extends as far as 46° north latitude, its climate is at least as cold as that of Holland. The Japanese, it is true, do not make wine. They are content with a poor sort of liquor made by fermenting rice. I gave them lessons, however, and we succeeded. They made wine, not of fine quality, to be sure, but remember the vine in Japan is still wild. In ten years time we must count on Japanese competition in the wine market. For there is not in the world a people more intelligent, more assimilative and more industrious than the Japanese."

THE "leather" guns of old, barrels of leather bound with iron hoops, are to find an imitation in cannons of silk and steel. A German inventor proposes to wrap a steel tube with silk until a diameter is attained corresponding with the ballistic power which is required for the cannon. For any given diameter, silk possesses a tenacity as great as that of the best tempered steel, and has the advantage of a superior elasticity. After the tube has been made, it is centred upon a lathe which turns with a great angular velocity. Above and parallel with the tube are arranged a number of spools of silk, which cover the surface in the form of a helix, by means of guides, without leaving any space between the threads. When the desired thickness has been obtained, the silk is coated with gutta percha or hardened caoutchouc, in order to preserve it from air and dampness. The silk being a bad conductor of heat, the gun can be fired very often without getting hot, and it is stated that it can be more easily managed, since its weight is only one-third as great as if it were all of steel.

IN a recent number of the Statistical Journal (*Tokei Shiushi*), says the *Fiji Shimpō*, there are some interesting tables comparing the price of rice and the prevalence of thefts. The tables prove conclusively that the number of thefts increases with the higher prices of the staple, and *vice versa*. In January, 1876, when the value of rice was 5.36 *yen* per *koku*, the number of thefts was 10,011; but when, in June, 1880, rice rose to 11.53 *yen*; the thefts two months later amounted to 24,234. It is a remarkable fact, that the increase of thefts is particularly noticeable one or two months after the rise in the price of the staple. This goes to prove that, for a short time after any particular appreciation of the cereal, the pauper manages to save himself from starvation in some way or other, but when all his means are exhausted and the prices of other articles begin to go up, he is forced to commit petty larceny in order to live. In 1882, although the price of rice fluctuated between 7.15 *yen* and 9.15 *yen*, considerably lower rates than those of 1880, the cases of theft amounted to more than 20,000, and the number of highway-men and pickpockets materially increased.

This was owing to the continuous appreciation of the staple since 1880. Although there is no doubt that the increased value of rice is beneficial to the agricultural and commercial classes, yet it cannot be denied that it has a most injurious effect upon the poorer people.

On the night of the 27th inst., says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, two convicts made good their escape from the Ishikawa-jima jail. The one was Akai Kageteru, a Liberal of Kubiki, in the province of Yechigo, who was sentenced to nine years' penal servitude on the 17th of December last. The other, Matsuda, a native of Ishikawa Prefecture, is said to have been one of the accomplices of Shimada Ichiro, who, six years ago, murdered H.E. Okubo, at Kioizaka, Tokiyo. The metropolitan and several other police stations have sent detectives to Niigata in order to trace the fugitives.

A WRITER in the *Pottery Gazette* has been making some investigations with regard to the "crackle" found on early Chinese pottery. This ornament, for it is not at all the result of age, was produced by a very simple method, the body or *pate* being made more sensitive to heat and expansion than the coating or glaze. Only a little manipulation is required to cause the cracks all over the surface to be more or less frequent, and so form crackle of a larger or smaller pattern. Black, and sometimes red, were then rubbed into the tiny cracks in order to make the decoration more distinct. This crackle is often taken by amateur collectors to be a distinctive mark of the era or date of manufacture, and it is true that the porcelain of the early days of the Ming dynasty has a crackle peculiar to it; but, as a rule, it forms no standard of age. When crackle first came into vogue, it was generally of a brownish-grey, and relieved by raised ornaments of a dark ferruginous colour, much resembling bronze. The earliest Chinese pottery is entirely free from any trace of crackle.

THE enquiry into the explosion on board the *Yotsai*, by which it will be remembered several persons lost their lives, was commenced at Hongkong on the 19th inst. Nothing in the evidence given at the first sitting was elucidated beyond the facts already published, and it will probably only be after experts have reported upon the condition of the boilers as seen after the accident that anything like a theory can be advanced as to the cause of the disaster.

THE Shans and the Burmese are engaged in hostilities, and the former, according to the Mandalay correspondent of an Indian contemporary, have gained an overwhelming victory over the latter. The General commanding the Burmese—the same Officer who accompanied the Burmese Mission to Simla in 1882—is reported to have been killed, and the three Italian officers who accompanied him, are not on a bed of roses, large numbers of King Theebaw's soldiers having gone over to the Tsaubwa's side, they being under the impression that Prince Myingoon had arrived at Monay, and that nothing could stop his successful advance on Mandalay.

THE one great stain on the career of Li Hung-chang—his supposed treachery in causing the murder of the Wangs after the fall of Soochow—is nearly obliterated by the following version of

the affair which the *North China Herald* derives from an officer who was serving under Li at the time:—

Li, then a young man, and a member of the Hanlin College, is said to have passed a *jeunesse orageuse*. He was regarded with feelings of anxiety by those who had his welfare at heart, and fears were entertained that his strong individuality of character might lead him into tortuous paths if not properly guided by propitious circumstances. In this, we may remark parenthetically, the Chung-t'ang is by no means singular, some of the most eminent and venerable of the Chinese statesmen of to-day having, it is said, been rather unsettled in both their views and their conduct during early life. At the time of which we are writing, Li returned from the North to his native province of Anhui, and soon found himself at the head of a band of men who may without offence be described as near of kin to those who rallied to the standard of David during a similar period in his career—discontented and lawless desperadoes. Just then the T'ai-p'ing Rebellion assumed formidable proportions, and gave the opportunity to Li Hung-chang, as, in fact, it did to T'so, then a struggling adventurer, of which he was not slow to take advantage. He took the field against the insurgents, aided by the wise counsels and interdict example of Colonel Gordon. Li was then of somewhat low rank; and an Imperial promise that the man who should succeed in wresting Soochow from the rebel army should be rewarded by being appointed Fu-t'ai of the city, naturally fired his ambition. What followed is well known. Four of the Wangs fell into the hands of the Imperialists, Colonel Gordon pledging his word that they should not be killed. This pledge was accepted by Li, and with every intention of preserving it inviolate. Gordon left—four official hats were made, ornamented with red buttons and feathers, to be conferred on the Wangs, and placed in readiness on the table:—and then Li gave orders for them to be brought before him. But with Li was associated a General to whom this arrangement was highly distasteful. "The rebels must be decapitated," he said, angrily. "It is easier to kill a tiger when caught than to catch him in the first instance." The expectant Fu-t'ai replied that he had passed his word to Gordon and would not break it. The lives of the Wangs should be spared, and the loyalty of the prisoners ensured by their being advanced to high posts of State. But the General grew furious, and at last, seizing his colleague roughly by the waist, pushed him forcibly into the inner tent. "There is your place," he cried roughly. "Leave me to deal with the rebels." Li, overborne by the violence of the man, and naturally somewhat infirm of purpose—dreading, too, perhaps, misrepresentations of his conduct to the Emperor in case he persisted at that moment—yielded, determining however to save the Wangs and his own honour as soon as the General's fit of fury should have passed. But he reckoned without his host. Not saying a word to Li, the General rushed off, and had the prisoners beheaded *there and then*; long before the time appointed for dealing with them in any way, and in direct disobedience to the orders of his superior officer. The horror and amazement of Li Hung-chang, when presented with the row of bleeding heads, is said to have been extreme, and his indignation passed all bounds. But it might have been as much as his own head was worth to have visited punishment upon the true traitor, whose action, after all, would no doubt be interpreted as one of loyalty to the Throne; and he had no choice, being himself the responsible authority, but to accept the situation and incur the righteous wrath of Colonel Gordon.

THE January report of the Silk Association of America, says the current number of *Bradstreet's*, on the importations of silk manufactures at New York does not indicate any cessation of purchases owing to the supposed tendency to economize during the existing contracted condition of general trade as compared with two years ago. The total value of importations of silk manufactures at New York during January, 1884, was \$3,592,842 as compared with \$3,144,968 in January, 1883, \$3,062,969 in January, 1882, \$2,424,584 in that month, 1881, and \$2,493,287 in January, 1880. The gain in value of the various silk manufactures last month as compared with those in the like month of 1882, in this view of the situation, is of sufficient interest to print in full:—

	1884.	1883.
Silk piece-goods	\$2,024,548	\$1,687,348
Satins	30,072	15,102
Crapes	44,761	42,122
Pongees	5,423	2,053
Plushes	70,146	26,748
Velvets	165,006	85,120
Ribbons	441,451	238,246
Laces	209,031	398,058
Shawls	1,845	941
Gloves	77,359	35,013
Cravats	1,966	5,432
Handkerchiefs	8,679	502
Hose	42,974	41,782
Threads and yarns	2,515	3,809
Braids and bindings	128,789	91,478
Silk and worsted	14,913	1,590
Silk and cotton	262,286	468,634
Silk and linen	148	.....
Totals	\$3,592,842	\$3,144,968

Of the aggregate entered at this port during January there were entered for consumption, \$2,791,044 worth; entered for warehouse, \$801,798; total value landed in New York, \$3,592,842; with-

drawn from warehouse, \$842,054; value placed on market, \$3,633,098.

CONSIDERING the wretched condition of the weather on Monday, there was a very good attendance at the Gaiety Theatre to witness the entertainment given by the Yokohama Amateur Minstrels for charitable purposes. The elephant was apparently effected by the raw, cold state of the atmosphere, and was consequently not quite so lively as on Saturday, but the pantomime went well, and the Amateur Orchestra were in great form and were loudly applauded, their rendering of the "Sextuor" being received by a perfect ovation. The Minstrels acquitted themselves very creditably, some of the solos being encored, and the jokes were generally well received.

SERGEANT BIRDSALL and Officers Travers, Kelly and Coleman raided an opium den at the corner of Washington and Kearny streets the other evening, capturing seven Chinese smokers, and George Harvey, a white devotee of the pipe. The quartett report turning an average of \$100 a day into the Treasury, in fines, since the New Year, notwithstanding the fervent prayers of the gamblers and "joint" conductors for a change of luck with the New Year. The same officers also captured a fan-tan game a few nights ago, with six players and their paraphernalia.—*Alla*.

THE quantity of Indian tea exported from Calcutta to Great Britain from the 1st of May 1883 to the 31st of January 1884 was 53,284,407 lbs., as against 47,425,033 lbs., exported in the corresponding period of last year. The exports to Australia during the same period were 298,405 lbs., as against 2,821,089, lbs., and to America 148,733 lbs., as against 587,186 lbs.

WHILE the "Mahdi" is making progress in the Egyptian Soudan, something resembling another movement of a similar nature is being developed from an opposite point of the compass. Intelligence from Teheran states that a "rabble" of 2,000 ill-armed Turcomans have entered Persia, led by a Mussulman fanatic, named Khan Seyd, and along with other two bands of freebooters are advancing on Meshed, the holy "city" of Persia.—*Indian Mirror*.

THE Home Department has received, says the *Kwampo*, a telegram from Nagano Prefecture, stating that a great earthquake was felt at Yamada-mura, Takai-gori, on the morning of the 13th inst. The hill at Kamikura gave way to the extent of 24 *ken* in width and 55 *ken* (over 345 feet) in height. No lives were lost.

A WRITER in *Bradstreet's*, referring to trade in the Far East, says:—In Japan business is depressed from other causes than those which are operative in China. That country is slowly emerging from the financial slough into which western cupidity plunged it soon after opening its ports for foreign trade.

HIS EXCELLENCY ITO HIROBUMI has been appointed Minister of the Imperial Household Department (*Kunaisho*), vice His Excellency Tokudaiji, who will continue to hold the office of Lord High Chamberlain.

WE are informed that the Messageries Maritimes steamship *Menzaleh*, bringing the next French mail, with dates from Marseilles to the 17th ultimo, left Hongkong on Wednesday at noon.

OPINIONS ON TREATY REVISION.

THE question of Treaty Revision has brought into the field another writer, Mr. J. A. FRASER, recently Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. The public is thus placed in possession of the opinions of three leading members of this community, Mr. T. WALSH, Mr. A. J. WILKIN and Mr. J. A. FRASER. Between the views of the first and the last there is complete divergence. Mr. FRASER does not think that existing systems are really irksome to the Japanese: Mr. WALSH thinks they are intolerable. Mr. FRASER does not think that the conditions under which those systems were inaugurated have changed materially: Mr. WALSH thinks they have. Mr. FRASER does not think that any large industrial development will be the result of opening the country: Mr. WALSH thinks that therein lies the only hope of development. Mr. FRASER does not think a modification of extraterritoriality necessary as a preliminary to opening the country: Mr. WALSH thinks that "no Government careful of its dignity, or considerate of its security, could allow foreigners of all sorts to go and stay where they pleased, amenable neither to local nor imperial authority." Mr. FRASER does not think that the time has come when Foreign Powers can restore to Japan her autonomic rights. Mr. WALSH thinks that "without some radical change in the relative positions of the two parties" no active development of industry and commerce can be effected. There is also another notable difference between the writings of the two gentlemen. It is, however, a difference of method only. Mr. WALSH is studiously moderate and impartial: Mr. FRASER, in common, curiously enough, with all those who advocate the conservative view of this question, seems incapable of crediting his adversaries with honesty of speech or purpose. Thus, while Mr. A. J. WILKIN declares that no device is "too false or too cowardly" for those who recommend a change, Mr. FRASER says that they are "retained for the defence," and that "they conceive it to be their duty, in season and out of season, by fair means and foul, to advocate the claims of Japan, in opposition to those foreign rights which they would fain ignore altogether." If these utterances are to be taken as a measure of English tolerance in Japan, it is not wonderful that a *modus vivendi* is difficult to discover: neither is it wonderful that the cause in which they are made loses respectability.

We desire to treat Mr. FRASER's arguments with the utmost courtesy. But it must be confessed that he places himself, at the outset, on a somewhat surprising pedestal of omniscience. For he undertakes to analyse the sentiments of the whole Japanese people: to tell us exactly who do care about treaty revision, and who do not. Under the former category he places a pretty large following—"the official

element, sections of the educated classes including the journalists," and persons "within the precincts of the capital and the great cities of the empire." That any considerable portion of the population still remains to be accounted for in connection with such a problem, seems doubtful. But whether or no Mr. FRASER means to advocate the preservation of the *status quo* until the country farmers and remote villagers begin to clamour about international equity, it is plain that he possesses some remarkable facilities for gauging the depths and shallows of public opinion. We are sufficiently sceptical to wish that he had made known his methods. They might have proved very serviceable to persons who, while really anxious to obtain some accurate insight into the desires and dispositions of the Japanese people, find themselves baulked on the threshold of investigation by an unknown tongue, an inaccessible literature, a people with whom they can communicate only by gesticulation, and their own confinement to a little settlement where none but the dregs of the population penetrate. It is, however, permissible to doubt whether Mr. FRASER has any expectation of being interpreted literally. He treats the views of his opponents with such pleasant flippancy that one is uncertain whether his purpose is not to laugh and be laughed with. What can be finer humour, for example, than to restate an adversary's proposition and then denounce the statement? "We are expected to believe," writes Mr. FRASER, "that the surrender by Foreign Powers of their rights of jurisdiction is what this country has set her heart on above all else, as the goal of her hopes and ambitions, and that this all absorbing desire is national in its extent. Such extravagance of statement is well calculated to defeat the object aimed at." So it is, certainly; in the same way that to blacken a man's face is well calculated to hide the colour of his complexion. But the extravagance is wholly of Mr. FRASER's manufacture. He never found such a statement any where but in his own imagination. And from the same *répertoire* comes the assertion that "the working of the present criminal code has filled the breasts of all beholders with wonder and admiration." Evidently Mr. FRASER prefers persiflage to accuracy, and indeed we can sympathise with his propensity to colour a picture which in black and white looks inconveniently realistic.

If the Government of Russia or Germany, in neither of which Empires the policy of the rulers is supposed to mirror accurately the will of the ruled, were to put forward a proposition touching the international treaty rights of their countries, it would be deemed a grotesque piece of impertinence on the part of a foreign power to reject that proposal on the grounds that it was not sufficiently endorsed by the mass of the German or Russian people. But an English merchant in Yokohama who undertakes to

correct the Japanese Government's estimate of the Japanese nation's wishes, deserves to be listened to with the utmost respect. His opportunities of judging are so ample, and his impartiality is not troubled by any individual friendships with the people, since he has no means whatsoever of holding converse with them. From Mr. FRASER's pedestal, too, a very wide prospect is evidently discernible. He can penetrate the ideas of the Foreign Powers not less accurately than he gauges the sentiments of the Japanese. Having explained exactly within what circles, official, literary, journalistic, metropolitan, and urban, the autonomy of Japan is an object of aspiration, he proceeds to marvel at the "ready credence" of the Foreign Powers, who have "accepted the idea that untold benefits are to result" from the complete opening of Japan to international trade. The statement, indeed, is a little startling. We are disposed to suspect that what we hear is not the view entertained by Foreign Powers, but another of Mr. FRASER's playful interpretations. Yet to correct this dangerous myopia on the part of Western Governments, it might be well to shut their Representatives up in Yokohama, and thus free them from perturbing contact with Japanese statesmen and perplexing proximity to sources of large information. True, Mr. FRASER himself admits that "the opening of the country might in itself be a desirable step, and might be productive in time of some benefit to the commerce of the country." But he deprecates, with fine magnanimity, "the ignoble spectacle of the Treaty Powers endeavouring to drive a bargain with the rulers of Japan." He would have concessions made "from a sense of what is due to the country from its advance in the path of civilization and enlightenment," and he revolts at the notion of "reducing the question to a doubtful bargain." We should be glad to linger long in these elevated regions in Mr. FRASER's company. But he drops, with cruel precipitancy, to the low level of hard practicality. The bargain-driving business is not the only "ignoble" feature of the spectacle. The rash Powers are also "inclined, it seems, to barter away privileges, which are of value, in exchange for a concession the benefits to be derived from which are at least problematical." Mr. FRASER rebukes their temerity, and bids them observe that in such an exchange "the balance of advantage would undoubtedly be to Japan," and that "in no sense could the opening of the country be regarded in the light of a *quid pro quo*. "He is of opinion that, for many years to come," foreign trade "will best be carried on within the confines of the open ports," and within these confines he, for one, is quite willing to remain. Without questioning the truth of all this, it is only just to observe that some excuse may be made for the misconceptions of the Foreign Powers. Everybody is not of Mr. FRASER's way of thinking. Now that his repugnance

for the ignoble spectacle of bargain-driving is known, nobody will suspect him of a desire to "perambulate the country and be thus brought face to face with the consumers of his yarns and shirtings," or enabled "to buy at cottage doors the skeins of silk fresh from the reeling basins." But it seems that there are others of his fellow merchants who would gladly get beyond the ring of guilds and monopolists that environ Yokohama, and who for years have been uttering reproaches against the illiberality that keeps them confined there, or writing petitions to be granted fuller privileges. Yokohama's moods are so very chequered that people on a lower pedestal than that occupied by the late Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce may well be perplexed to interpret them, or betrayed into the blunder of supposing that Mr. FRASER'S love for his prison is not universally shared.

One would like to hope that there was some chance of Mr. FRASER'S noble code of international morality receiving recognition. But unfortunately Foreign Powers have been driving bargains with Japan too long either to wean themselves readily from the habit, or to obtain easy credence for their reformed principles. HER MAJESTY'S Representative, writing to Earl RUSSELL nineteen years ago, summed up the position pretty accurately when he said:—"On our part it is as difficult as it would be wrong to lose sight of the main and sole object of our establishment in Japan; viz., the fresh field it has afforded for a prosperous trade." To that succinctly stated principle the practice of the British Government has invariably conformed, and, conforming, declines to surrender any of its treaty acquisitions without a reasonable equivalent.

We trust Mr. FRASER will pardon us if we seem to treat his thesis with some irreverence. But it is impossible to think that he is quite serious when he undertakes to be the mouthpiece of the Japanese people, as well as to banish every element of traffic from the discussion of international compacts essentially trade in their purpose and scope. Nevertheless, we do not for a moment desire to make light of his scruples, or to undervalue the weight of his and Mr. WILKIN'S opinions. Mr. FRASER says, indeed, that the advocates of Japan's rights seek to ignore foreign rights altogether. For our own part we desire to repudiate this charge most emphatically. A little more than a year ago we expressed our views in the following terms:—"We cannot conclude this article without once more protesting against the utterly erroneous statement that the total abolition of extraterritoriality has been demanded by the Japanese Government, or advocated in these columns. Extraterritoriality is a parasite fatal to the vitality of progress in this country, but unfortunately for Japan as well as for her foreign visitors, it is a parasite that cannot

be at once shaken off. Even if the Japanese possessed what they do not yet possess—satisfactory codes and an efficient judiciary—something would still be due to the strong feeling of reluctance entertained by so many respectable foreigners to forego the protection of their own Courts. People who have come here and invested large sums on the faith of certain treaties have a right to decline being taken by surprise in such a matter." To this may be added the argument that Japan would be very ill-advised did she hastily seek to assume the government of men who object so strongly to be governed by her. But neither Mr. FRASER nor Mr. WILKIN will be disposed to deny that if their feelings deserve respect, Japan's also may claim some consideration. Were it necessary to choose between the two—to wholly ignore these for the sake of those—Japan's desires could scarcely expect much attention at foreign hands. But it is not necessary. It is not necessary to practically deny that Japan has made any advance along the path of Western civilization. It is not necessary to refuse all restoration of her autonomic rights lest, in some remote contingency, "annoyances, hardships, or even suffering should be entailed" upon ourselves. It is not necessary, to wholly condemn her to continued isolation because we are not yet prepared to associate with her on equal terms. It is not necessary to stultify ourselves by admitting that, having for a quarter of a century pointed to the restrictions she imposes upon foreign intercourse as "a relic of barbarism"—to use Mr. WILKIN'S words,—we should now decline to permit any modification of conditions which perpetuate those restrictions. It is not necessary that, having perpetually described foreign commerce as Japan's only means of growing powerful and respected, we should now prevent her from employing an obvious factor in its development, because her share in the resulting advantage may be greater than ours. It is not necessary that we should refuse to revise treaties which we were solemnly pledged to revise twelve years ago, because our merchants at the open ports think that, for the time being, "trade can best be carried on within the confines" of those places. None of these things are necessary. A *modus vivendi* can be found without doing violence to the feelings of either side. More than that Japan does not seek. The extent of her proposal is a first modification of existing conditions, to be followed gradually and at long intervals by larger measures. She is understood to be willing to surround that modification with the most ample guarantees. Mr. FRASER and Mr. WILKIN both appear to think that the immediate and total abolition of extraterritoriality is in contemplation. Their information as to the views of the Japanese Government may be fuller than ours, but we cannot believe that any such

intention is seriously entertained. As to its precipitancy and inexpediency, there does not seem to be any room for a second opinion. So far as Great Britain is concerned, it is reasonable to hope that her new Representative at the MIKADO'S Court will discover some middle way out of a dilemma which has become very irksome to both sides, which is fatal to the growth of commercial prosperity, and which can only develop fresh mischief by delay.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.

THE Memorial said to have been "signed by the entire commercial community of Yokohama without exception and presented to the Representatives of foreign governments in March, 1882," is an incontestable proof of the impatience that has been engendered by existing treaty conditions. It is not wonderful that men should grow weary and disheartened when they find themselves condemned to follow, year after year, the same narrow tracks, and to struggle against an omnipotent environment of guilds and combinations which effectually obstruct the growth of trade, diverting, in the direction of scheming and chicanery, profits which should go to reward enterprise and intelligence. With the feeling of almost intolerable irritability that must grow up amid such circumstances one cannot but sympathise. Yet it must be difficult both for the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives to know exactly the nature of this community's sentiments. Here, for example, we have a lengthy Memorial, endorsed by the whole trade interest, asking for an extension of the privileges enjoyed under the present treaties, and predicting as the results of such extension, "a great stimulus to industry;" "increased national wealth;" an improvement in "the present seriously depreciated and fluctuating paper currency;" promotion "of the welfare of the Japanese in the first instance and improvement of the commerce carried on by foreigners, in the next," and various other most desirable advantages. All this is set forth in forcible terms, which appreciably help the general argument. But soon this firm footing is suddenly demolished, and the whole question launched once more upon a sea of doubt and perplexity. The Memorial says:—"Until some means are adopted to permit us (foreigners and Japanese) to know more of each other, it is impossible that the mutual feelings of respect entertained by respectable Japanese and foreigners can be manifested and strengthened; and until that takes place we must perforce distrust each other. As we are now placed we are compelled to remain ignorant of each other's wishes and requirements, and submit our commercial transactions and ourselves to the mercies of men who are the

average of less than five." These estimates of ours are, we observe, severely criticized. They are, in fact, described as "a deliberate attempt to delude the British public," and our critic goes so far as to launch at our heads quite a chapter of quotations from Dr. JOHNSON on the subject of mendacity. The figures upon which we based our statement are as follows:—

IMPORT TRADE FOR 1882, ACCORDING TO THE TRADE SUMMARY OF H.B.M. LEGATION.

Cotton and Woollen Manufactured Goods.....	\$13,702,601.91
Metals, Zinc, Lead and Tin	170,839.04
Miscellaneous Foreign (Silk and Woollen Mixtures, &c.).....	468,700.10
Machinery.....	339,705.48
	\$14,681,846.53
5 per cent. on this sum =	\$ 734,092.33
Metals (other than Zinc, Lead, Tin, Gold, and Silver).....	1,779,064.14
Sugar.....	4,529,639.37
Miscellaneous Foreign Goods.....	3,463,657.35
Miscellaneous Eastern.....	1,764,700.17
	\$11,537,061.03
20 per cent. on this sum =	\$2,307,412.20
Intoxicating Liquors.....	\$304,099.70
35 per cent. on this sum =	\$ 106,434.89
Duty-free Goods.....	\$324,128.30

Total Import Trade (Kerosene excluded)..... \$26,847,135.56
Total Duties = \$3,147,939.32
Being an average of 11.71 per cent.
If, further, the import of specie, which was duty free, be included (namely \$6,160,725), we have the total imports. \$33,007,861
And the total duty leviable..... 3,147,939
Being an average of 9.23 per cent.

Our results, therefore, for this particular year are, that, including specie, imports would have paid an average duty of 9.23 per cent.; while, excluding specie, the duty would have been 11.71 per cent. The propriety of including specie imports in a calculation of this sort is more than doubtful.

It is plain that with a trade varying in its nature from year to year, the returns of one year alone are not sufficient to convey a just idea of the general effects of a tariff. We proceed, therefore, to analyse briefly the import trade of 1880 and 1881, excepting Kerosene, as before. Our results are as follows for the two years combined:—

		DUTY.
Goods liable to a duty of 5 per cent.....	\$38,438,238	\$1,921,911.9
Goods liable to a duty of 20 per cent.	25,593,225	5,118,645
Goods liable to a duty of 35 per cent.	712,744	249,460
Goods duty free.....	299,430	—
Total Goods.....	\$65,043,637	\$7,290,016.9
Being an average of 11.2 per cent.		
If, further, the import of specie (\$5,495,377) be included, we have the total imports.....		\$70,539,004
and the total duty.....		7,290,016.9
Being an average of 10.05 per cent.		

Thus, finally, for the three years 1880-1882 the average duty leviable on imports under Lord ELGIN'S treaty was 11.45, excluding specie, and 9.64 including specie. Our statement that the duty "probably did not exceed 9 per cent.," was therefore well within the mark.

These problems of simple arithmetic, whether rightly or wrongly solved, do not seem to justify expressions so calorific as those they have evoked. We have never heard that errors in addition or subtraction impugn a man's respect for veracity. Were

this principle admitted, it would be necessary to inflict the penalty for lying on a schoolboy who did his sum wrong. The writer in the London *Daily News* will, doubtless, be amused by the compliments his article has received, but whether his opinions will be much altered, appears questionable. He certainly conveyed a false impression when he said that Lord ELGIN "fixed the import duties at 20 per cent." But, after all, the mean of five, twenty, and thirty-five, is twenty; and apart from the conditions of the trade—conditions which might have been very different had Lord ELGIN'S tariff remained in force—it is an indisputable fact that the average of the three rates named in the tariff is twenty. The truth is, that to apply Lord ELGIN'S scale of duties to Japan's foreign commerce as it exists at present, is more interesting than useful. No rigid deduction can be drawn from the result. It is consistent with all experience to suppose that had the rates of 1858 remained in force, the bulk of the imports least burdened with duties would have grown in larger proportion than the bulk of those subjected to heavy rates. Under these circumstances, the issue, so far as the Japanese revenue is concerned, might not have sensibly differed from that attained under the revised tariff. This argument, which supports the theory that, in effect, the Government may have lost little by the revision of 1866, ought not to be left unstated. But it is obviously impossible to deny the direction of a change which converted a tariff with a maximum duty of 35 per cent., into a tariff with a maximum of 5 per cent. That was the measure to which the allied fleet obtained the assent of the TAIKUN'S Minister's at Osaka in the autumn of 1865.

THE LASKER-BISMARCK
IMBROGLIO.

IF a full-fledged general quarrel should grow out of the action taken by Prince BISMARCK with reference to the "Lasker" resolution; and the United States of North Germany on the one side, and of America on the other, should find themselves embroiled through the idiosyncracies of a mighty Chancellor and an obscure Congressman; we shall have a new illustration of the ease and rapidity with which little fountains of dissension may flow into large streams of turbulent animosity. The difficulty had its origin in the simplest, and at first view, apparently the most unexciting, of causes. Dr. LASKER, a German politician of considerable position, a member of the Reichstag, and an effective newspaper writer, died at the beginning of this year, and was duly lamented by the body of his party at home, and by numbers of American citizens of German birth on the other side of the Atlantic. A certain gentleman named OCHILTREE, a representative from Texas, seized upon

the occasion to offer a resolution of condolence in Congress, the terms of which required that it should be officially communicated to the German Government. What his precise motive was, we can hardly determine. Colonel OCHILTREE belongs to the Democratic organization, which seldom neglects opportunities of appealing to the sympathies or prejudices of foreign born citizens, Irish or German; and it may be that he desired to capture a few Teutonic votes, either for himself down in Texas, or for his party all over the country. On the other hand, he may merely have been inspired by a notion that here was a chance to distinguish himself, as a young member, in a natural and harmless way. "TOM" OCHILTREE is one of the queerest characters in American political life, and it would be useless to guess at the true cause of any demonstration he may choose to engage in. For years he has been a butt and a laughing-stock, North and South; but he has nevertheless managed to work himself into Congress, and he is certainly not without many respectable aspirations. It may, we think, be safely assumed that he had no premonition of the storm he was raising when he prepared his now famous resolution. He probably knew nothing of LASKER'S career but that the late member of the Reichstag had been an extremely advanced Liberal, and had at one time been thrown conspicuously to the front, as a social and political reformer. Of the fact that he had been directly opposed by BISMARCK, and had been pretty well knocked about and shaken down by that hard-hitting antagonist, Colonel OCHILTREE was doubtless unaware, or supposed that, as an event of the settled past, this need not interfere with his little complimentary manifestation. Nor should it have done so, if he had contented himself with persuading Congress to express its opinion—or to endorse *his* opinion—without taking measures for transmitting the same abroad. Perhaps if he had even caused the resolution to be sent to the family or the relations of Dr. LASKER, no evil result would have ensued. But by making it a diplomatic transaction, and requiring the State Department to send the document through the regular international channels to the Reichstag, Congress undoubtedly laid itself open to disagreeable consequences. Whether it was necessary to the dignity of a Prime Minister to betray such resentment as Prince BISMARCK has shown, is a question which, no doubt, will be variously answered. It is incredible that he, or anybody, should believe that the American Government intended to cast a deliberate slight upon him. Regarding it,—as at the very worst it should only be regarded,—as a thoughtless indiscretion, it would seem that he might have found some less irritating method of expressing his displeasure than by sending the resolution back to the House of Representatives. In fact, if his action is correctly reported in the tele-

graphic despatches, he has committed a graver error than can be charged upon the American originators of the affair; for they, at least, arranged that the communication should pass through the legitimate channels, whereas Prince BISMARCK is said to have instructed his Minister at Washington to return the papers directly to the legislators,—an infraction of diplomatic etiquette quite without precedent, if we do not mistake. It may be, however, that this detail is wrongly given. We sincerely trust so, for an affronted Congress is likely to deal much less placably with such a business than the diplomatic officers of the Government. This is one of the cases where there is sure to be less wisdom in a multitude of councillors, than in the narrow circle of the Executive and its advisers. The House of Representatives, smarting under BISMARCK'S rebuff, may choose to forget that the Government of Germany is an absolute monarchy, and that the Chancellor is accustomed to look upon himself as responsible to nobody except his Sovereign; and may take further proceedings on the theory that parliaments are everywhere as independent as they are in the United States, and that BISMARCK has far exceeded any right which average Americans can conceive him to possess. There is some possibility, moreover, that a similar view may be adopted by many of the German people, and that the Reichstag may consider that its privileges have been violated by preventing it from participating in any measures to be adopted. We already hear of a vehement newspaper controversy on the subject, led off by the *Kreuz Zeitung* on behalf of BISMARCK, and the *National Zeitung* in opposition. Of course there will be a great deal of loud talk in American journals, but it is beyond belief that the affair can have any serious conclusion. If, in the adjustment of it, the conflicting factors of Prince BISMARCK'S temper and the meddlesome self-sufficiency of Congress could be eliminated, the settlement would be all the speedier and the more satisfactory. One good result to the United States may eventually grow out of it. The House of Representatives may be induced to understand that a little less eagerness to intrude itself upon the notice of European Powers might not only keep it out of mischief, but also save the Republic from such mortifications as have necessarily followed its attempts, for example, to avert the doom of Irish murderers. There is, to be sure, considerable of this nonsense on all sides, as we were reminded when Mr. LOWELL had occasion to reject an impertinent missive to his Government, emanating from a certain officious body in London; but the balance of offence is strongly against the Washington legislators.

It may be worth while to show wherein the OCHILTREE resolution was objectionable to Prince BISMARCK. Its most emphatic declaration was that "LASKER'S

death is not alone to be mourned by the people of his native land, where his firm and constant exposition of a devotion to free and liberal ideas has materially advanced the social, political, and economic conditions of those people, but by the lovers of liberty throughout the world." This is probably an extravagant estimate of the once prominent reformer, but there are plenty of his old associates who will cordially support it, especially after BISMARCK'S contradiction. That the Chancellor should take a very different view of the man he "sat upon," is natural enough; but there will be hundreds and thousands who will now, in their turn, deny the living statesman's denial that the dead politician held "such a position as to justify the resolution." That part of the dispute, however, may well be confined to Germany. It would be a sorry thing if two great nations could be set at odds by so insignificant an incident.

THE PROPOSED CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY.

THE discussion evoked by the scheme for a Christian University in this country threatens to assume dimensions which may tax our readers' patience. Our correspondents, "Ferrex and Porrex," make out a strong case against the success of such an institution, but by no means as strong, it seems to us, as the case that might have been made out ten years ago, against the probable success of Christian propagandism in Japan. A great deal is said against the expediency of grafting religious tests on an educational scheme, and certainly the balance of intelligent opinion is against such a course. But that it is in any way fatal to the prosperity of an university, we cannot for a moment admit, with the history of Trinity College, Dublin, not to mention other places, before our eyes. Moreover, an undue degree of importance seems to be attached to this phase of the project. A system of tests, as generally interpreted, means that every distinction an university has to confer, if not the very privilege of matriculation, is inaccessible by persons who refuse to subscribe to certain religious dogmas; whereas, the most that can be said of the proposed University is that its professors must not be pagans. That is undoubtedly a test—a test which, as "Ferrex and Porrex" truly point out, would be at least as stringent in a community of Buddhists and Confucianists as the test of Roman Catholicism in a country of Protestants. But so long as no such obstacle were placed in the way of the students, it is difficult to think that the prosperity of the University would be seriously impaired. That its chairs could not be occupied by non-Christian graduates would be a disability of very limited operation.

Granting, however, the abstract truth of everything urged by "Ferrex and Porrex," it seems to us that their argument lacks relevancy. It is not enough to say that a system of tests is bad in the abstract. That contention, even supposing it were fairly applicable to the scheme under consideration, places the whole question a platform foreign to the circumstances. The inexpediency of grafting religious tests upon systems of secular education is based mainly upon the injustice of such a combination. To declare that a man shall not enjoy the benefits of an university career because he cannot persuade his conscience to a facile acquiescence in the dogmas of a certain creed, is simply religious persecution in disguise; an unwarrantable interference with personal liberty. The great majority of our greatest scientists in the past and present were, and are, firm believers in the truths of Christianity. But some of them, like the illustrious founder of Agnosticism, have learned to withhold their intellectual assent from every dogma that is not proven. Blind faith is to them impossible, because they have been trained in a school whence all doctrines unsupported by logical demonstration are excluded. It were an insult to reason that such men, whose lives are, almost without exception, perpetual illustrations of the principles Christianity aims at inculcating, should be subjected to any disabilities, especially in connection with education, which they have done so much to promote. To exclude them from our chairs of learning would be to pervert religion into a means of obstructing the mental culture which its own tenets inculcate. But, on the other hand, the stoutest opponents of this unwise illiberality, while advocating the expediency of not hampering secular education with tests of doctrinal credulity in countries where the moral philosophy of Christianity already permeates everything, will readily admit that, in a country where that philosophy has yet to be established, secular education must be regarded as one of the most powerful instruments for its inculcation. There it is that "Ferrex and Porrex," as well as other correspondents, seem to misinterpret the proposed scheme. The question is, not whether the progress of education in Japan is to be obstructed by the superfluous furniture of religious bigotry, but whether education is to be ennobled by association with the moral philosophy of Christian civilization. We tried to make it clear in our last article on this subject that Japan is now, to some extent, groping in the dark: that a partial influx of Western sciences and systems has submerged many of her old landmarks, and that the opportunity seems exceptional for converting her apparent loss into a large and lasting gain. As a practical method of utilizing that opportunity, we see nothing better than a thorough system of education, not "from a theological standpoint"—if such a

remnants of an evil past." This is precisely what has been urged over and over again in our columns during the past three years. But exactly twenty-four months after the forwarding of this Memorial, the late Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, addressing the local press in his own name, and as an exponent of the opinion of "many other of his fellow residents," says:—"The conditions of foreign trade in this country are such, that, for many years to come, and until the means of transport and transit are very different from the present, it will best be carried on within the confines of the open ports." Such a remarkable conflict of ideas naturally compels us to suppose that the writer and the "many others" whose sentiments he represents, were not among the signatories of the Memorial. Yet it is publicly stated that that document "was signed by the entire commercial community of Yokohama without exception;" and, as if to make assurance doubly sure, the journal publishing this statement, adds, with reference to the views embodied in the Memorial, that "the letters of Mr. WILKIN and Mr. FRASER to the press afford ample ground for the belief that the opinions of two years ago remain unchanged at this time." Obviously the only alternative is to suppose that if opinions have not changed, the signification of words must have undergone a radical modification. "We are satisfied," wrote the memorialists, "that the system of guilds and other trade combinations, over which the Government have no apparent control, limits the number and class of Japanese who are entitled by the existing treaties and conventions to enjoy free and unrestricted commercial intercourse with us: and we believe that this most objectionable system can only be broken through by a Government concession granting us conditional permission to travel into the interior to meet face to face with the real producers and consumers, there to arrange in person the terms and extent of our business without the invention of third parties." Now, hear Mr. FRASER:—"Is it likely that our already hard-worked merchants would be willing to add to their present burdens by perambulating the country, and be thus brought face to face with the consumers of their yarns and shirtings? Would they be likely to buy at cottage doors the skeins of silk fresh from the reeling basins? or venture even to dispute the vantage ground of local market places with their native competitors? Any such ideas may at once be dismissed as impracticable." By no possible device can these views be reconciled with those set forth in the Memorial. According to the late Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and the "many others of his fellow-residents" who think with him, the Memorial "signed by the entire commercial community without ex-

ception" is based on impracticable ideas and asks for impracticable privileges.

These flagrant contradictions are unfortunate. The inevitable inference they will suggest to intelligent Japanese is that the views entertained by foreigners on the subject of treaty revision depend entirely on the mood of the moment. Nevertheless, a conviction ought to remain that the Memorial, deliberately compiled and universally signed, represents the opinion of the commercial community more faithfully than a letter addressed to the local press by a single number of that community. The Japanese Government may, we believe, confidently accept the assertions of the memorialists, that "mutual feelings of respect are entertained by respectable Japanese and foreigners;" that to extend the facilities for trade beyond the confines of the open ports would "strike at the very foundation of the grievances of which foreigners justly yet vainly complain," and that there is every disposition on the part of the Yokohama community to ask for nothing which "would benefit unduly the foreigner at the cost of the native."

To few questions has greater prominence been given both in the foreign local press and in the trade reports of HER MAJESTY'S Legation than to the supposed deficiency of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade of Japan, and the consequent necessity of granting to Japanese subjects indiscriminate permission to charter foreign ships to and from the unopened ports. The Memorial now before us deals with this matter at considerable length. It sets out by saying that "the numerous ports on the coast of Japan are closed to the advantages derivable from commerce by the conditions of the treaties and the Government's resolution to enforce them against certain people while relaxing them in the case of others." The position here taken by the memorialists with regard to the Government's action is not happy. For it is quite plain that since foreign-owned vessels are not entitled under the present treaties to visit unopened ports for purposes of trade, any relaxation of that restriction must either be discriminating or subversive of treaty stipulations. Under exceptional circumstances only, and therefore to special individuals alone, can privileges be granted, which, if extended to all alike, would amount to a radical change of treaty provisions. That such a change would be for the mutual benefit of Japanese and foreigners, we do not for a moment doubt, but it is impossible to ignore the direct bearing upon present treaties of a measure conferring on foreign-owned vessels the right to enter closed ports under Japanese names.

The proposal of the memorialists aims at enabling Japanese merchants "either to send their produce to an open port for sale there, to send it abroad directly on their own account, or to sell in the open

ports for delivery at a non-treaty port." In other words, it is proposed that foreign-owned vessels may be employed, nominally by Japanese, both in the coasting and foreign trade of the country, without regard to treaty limits. Two principal reasons are assigned in support of this change. First, the great inadequacy both in number and tonnage of seaworthy and seagoing vessels under the Japanese flag suitable for the coast trade." The total tonnage of ships available for this trade is placed by the memorialists at from 50,000 to 75,000 tons. Turning to the official statistics for 1881, we find the vessels engaged in the coastwise trade of Japan stated as follows:—

298 Steamboats	41,044 tons.
379 Sailing vessels (foreign build)	43,503 tons.
1,375 Junks over 500 <i>koku</i> burden..	1,056,156 <i>koku</i> .
16,917 Junks under 500 <i>koku</i> burden.	2,056,826 <i>koku</i> .

Thus the total shipping available for the coasting trade at the time this Memorial was forwarded, was 677 vessels, of foreign build, with an aggregate tonnage of 84,547 tons; and 18,292 junks with a carrying capacity of 3,112,982 *koku*. We do not, of course, include fishing, and other small, craft, of which there were 414,629 with a carrying capacity of 155,839 *koku*. This large fleet of native construction was doubtless ignored by the memorialists as not coming under the category of "safe, rapid, and insurable transport." But the omission invalidates any calculation based on the deficiencies of the mercantile marine. The fact is that these junks are engaged in the coastwise trade under conditions which render competition, even of steamships, exceedingly difficult. Their owners are not only carriers but merchants, who purchase, or advance money on, the cargoes they ship. So convenient do Japanese producers find this plan, that even the Mitsu Bishi Company has been compelled to adopt a similar method in many cases. For years to come junks must, therefore, be reckoned among convenient and popular vehicles of coastwise transport. It is worthy of note, also, that since this memorial was forwarded, there has been established another large shipping company less directly dependent upon Government aid than the Mitsu Bishi. If the opinion of "the entire commercial community of Yokohama without exception" goes for anything, the wisdom and advantages of the new enterprise, apart from its official elements, are self-evident.

For our own part, however, while fully admitting that the Japanese mercantile marine is inadequate, we find one set of conditions very difficult to reconcile with the extreme views taken by the memorialists. Were Japan suffering so much from the retarded circulation of her saleable commodities, considerable differences ought to be found in the market quotations of various localities. To what extent those differences exist will be seen from the following table, in which rice alone is

shown, as the leading staple of internal commerce :—

AVERAGE PRICES OF RICE PER KOKU THROUGH-OUT THE YEAR 1881 IN 24 DIFFERENT LOCALITIES.

PLACE.	YEN.	PLACE.	YEN.
Tokyo	10.760	Kiuta	8.737
Setsu	9.538	Fukki	8.562
Higo	9.475	Niigata	9.435
Chikuzen	9.738	Sakata	8.999
Kaga	9.505	Yechigo	10.073
Ychigo	9.065	Akita	9.013
Banshiu	9.157	Tsugaru	9.758
Bizen	9.002	Awa	7.411
Hizen	9.750	Sanuki	9.638
Chigoku	9.278	Awaji	9.718
Kuwana	9.817	Hakata	9.081
Oshi	10.582	Kumamoto	9.596

It is not, of course, possible to deduce any conclusive inference from these figures, but they certainly go to show that the prices of rice, at any rate, are too uniform throughout the country to warrant the strong statements of the memorialists. And this brings us directly to the second reason assigned in support of the proposal to give foreign-owned vessels access to the open ports. It is that, at the time of writing (March, 1882), there was stored in the producing districts "a surplus supply of rice, available for export, worth at least 30 millions of dollars in silver." In the term "available for export" the assumption is obviously included that the rice was procurable at a rate which would permit export. Taking that rate at \$4.50 per *koku*, the hypothesis of the memorialists is that about 7 million *koku* of rice were stored in the producing districts and unable to find a market. Now the production of rice in 1881 was as follows :—

TOTAL PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF RICE THROUGHOUT JAPAN IN 1881.

	KOKU.
Common Rice	27,482,621
Glutinous Rice.....	2,396,331
Upland Rice.....	92,431
Total	29,971,383
Rice employed in making <i>Sake</i>	4,297,706
Excess of Rice exported above Rice imported	42,624
Total available for ordinary consumption.....	25,631,053

Thus the assumption of the memorialists is that more than one-fourth of the entire crop available for every-day consumption was stored away as surplus grain. The average quantity of rice consumed by an adult Japanese is 1.8 *koku* per annum, and the number of adults, male and female, in 1881, was 21,434,697, while the number of persons below 20 years of age was 8,750,995. Assuming that no rice whatever was used by a fourth of the former number or by any of the latter—an assumption which probably exceeds the truth by a considerable figure—we find that the crop of 1881 gave an average of a little more than 1.5 *koku* per head of the rice eating-adults. Is it conceivable, under these circumstances, that more than one-fourth of the entire annual yield could be stored away as surplus stock? Or is it conceivable that if production was so much in excess of consumption, prices such as those we have quoted could have been sustained throughout the empire?

The second proposal of the memorialists

is that the following words should be omitted from the passports granted to foreigners :—"forbidden to trade, to conclude mercantile contracts with Japanese and to rent house or rooms for a longer period than the journey requires." In other words, it is proposed that passports shall be issued conferring the privileges of trade and residence in any and every part of the country. That such a removal of existing restrictions would carry with it the great commercial and social benefits set forth by the memorialists, we do not for an instant doubt. But here again crops up the unfortunate query—how are the persons enjoying these privileges to be governed? Is it seriously urged that the system of conflicting jurisdictions and grotesque deadlocks so forcibly illustrated within the limits of the open ports ought to be extended throughout the whole country in a worse and more inconvenient form? We observe that the journal which publishes the Memorial says :—"it may be asserted that if the condition, under which these moderate concessions should be made, is to be submission to Japanese jurisdiction, no demur will be raised, provided, that no act of a foreigner shall be construed into an offence here that is not an offence in other civilized countries." If this assertion is advanced seriously and with authority, the whole difficulty disappears. If foreigners are really willing to submit to Japanese jurisdiction with the above proviso, not alone the privileges asked for in this Memorial, but much larger privileges, will, we believe, be readily granted. But what may be regarded as a certainty among all these conflicting statements? We have, on the one side, a Memorial "signed by the entire commercial community of Yokohama," asking for extended privileges of trade and residence, as well as larger facilities for the employment of foreign shipping, and declaring that "these concessions appear to the memorialists to bear closely upon the future commercial progress of the Japanese people while they strike at the very foundations of the grievances of which foreigners justly yet vainly complain." We have, on the same side, a journal which professes to speak in the name of the memorialists, announcing that if the granting of these concessions be contingent upon submission to Japanese jurisdiction under certain guarantees, no demur will be raised. We have, on the other side, the Japanese Government offering to confer these very privileges, together with the right of holding property throughout the whole extent of the cities or prefectures in which the open ports lie, provided foreigners submit to Japanese jurisdiction, limited in extent and exercised by foreign and native judges, the former in the majority. And finally, we have leading merchants announcing in public speeches or published letters that any change involving the least departure from extrajurisdictional privileges would be intolerable,

and that for many years to come no change is desirable. What, then, may be taken as the fact? If the Memorial and the article embodying it express the views of the foreign residents, there are an absolute consensus of opinion and parallelism of proposals between this community and the Japanese Government. But then, what is to become of recent letters and speeches?

LORD ELGIN'S TARIFF.

THERE appears to be much uncertainty with regard to the average duties actually leviable under Lord ELGIN'S treaty with Japan. The perplexity of one of our local contemporaries on the subject is illustrated by the four following extracts from its columns of the 12th, 13th, 15th, and 19th instant respectively :—

"The tariff (of 1866), no doubt wrought 'sweeping changes : ' it was intended for that purpose, because trade was so hampered by duties that extension was impossible without a reduction in the tariff " (of Lord Elgin)."

"The value of three years' trade, 1863-1865, was \$67,877,910; and there can be no mistake in estimating at least three-fourths of that as having consisted of cotton and woollen goods imported and silk and other staples exported, all dutiable at 5 per cent. If the remaining one-fourth, duties ranging between 20 and 35 per cent., paid a mean of 20 per cent., excluding duty free articles which could not have had any great value, there would have been an average duty of 8½ collected."

"The total value of trade for 1882 was \$66,403,851, on which the customs duties, according to the tariff of 1858, would have been \$5,433,951, or 8.2 per cent."

"If that tariff (Lord Elgin's) be applied to the trade of 1882, we shall find, excluding Sugar and kerosene (the import of sugar was trifling while kerosene had no existence as an import in 1860), that the mean *ad valorem* duty does not exceed 6 per cent. * * * The inequalities of an unsuitable tariff were done away with and a uniform tariff substituted, on a basis about one per cent. lower than the original."

"The revised tariff . . . now returns an income of \$2,700,000, or 4.1 per cent. on the gross trade."

We have thus six distinctly conflicting assertions :—First that the revised tariff of 1866 wrought sweeping changes; secondly, that it only made a change of one per cent.; thirdly, that the average duty under Lord ELGIN'S tariff was 8.75 per cent.; fourthly, that Lord ELGIN'S tariff applied to the trade of 1882 gives an average duty of 8.2 per cent.; fifthly, that the same tariff applied to the same trade of the same year gives an average duty not exceeding 6 per cent.; and sixthly, that while the duties now collected average 4.1 per cent., they are only 1 per cent. less than average duties of 6 per cent. It is plain that there must be something very intractable about an arithmetical problem which can betray a calculator into six contradictory results in eight days. We ourselves, on the 18th instant, published an article containing the following statements :—"The fact is that Lord ELGIN'S tariff was fixed on a twenty per cent. basis. Certain articles paid duties of only five per cent., and as cotton and woollen manufactures were included among these, the average duty actually leviable did not, probably, exceed 9 per cent. * * * The customs duties were reduced from an average of about 9 per cent. to an

phrase be intelligible—but from the standpoint of Christian morality. Most men carry into the practice of their maturer years the principles they imbibe at school and college. The scheme under review aims at influencing those principles. Our correspondents persist in judging it by standards which are only applicable to wholly different social conditions. Because the tendency of Western thought is to free the path of science from doctrinal tests, they hold that no effort should be made to associate education and moral philosophy in a country whose present misfortune is that the two have ceased to cooperate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

JAPAN TEAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I trust that the excellent article on this subject in your issue of last week will attract the attention it deserves, and be well understood by Japanese Tea producers. It should make them ashamed of the present conditions of their business, and induce them, and the officers charged to control their operations, to work hard to improve that condition.

Perhaps most Japanese assume that foreigners concerned in the Tea trade at the open ports are so much interested in their firing houses, and so fond of the profits accruing from these establishments, that they will resist to the utmost any change in the present system of Tea business. And so they might, very fairly. For it was not by their acts that those establishments were made necessary, but by the bad management of the Tea dealers themselves, who proved too ignorant and too untrustworthy to be relied upon in the preparation and packing of the leaf. Foreigners have been therefore obliged to do this work themselves, and, having now bought land, built costly premises thereon, and otherwise put a good deal of capital into these establishments, many of them are naturally unwilling to have the packing business taken out of their hands. And there are some also who reasonably doubt if it will be as well done by Japanese in the country as it is now done at the ports. I am myself a proprietor of such premises, and I do not like to see them rendered worthless.

Nevertheless, I wish to cast my vote in favour of having all this work done by the Teamen themselves, in the country, if it can be there properly done, and I do not believe I should be altogether alone in that respect. As a rule, foreigners who buy Tea in Japan are merchants, and would rather confine themselves to mercantile operations than combine trading and manufacturing, and when the time comes when they can buy Tea and Silk in Japan, as they buy Cotton and other Merchandise in Western countries, and as they buy Tea and Silk in China, they will welcome the reform, even if it costs them something at first in the disuse of their own firing establishments.

Your article contains a slur on mercantile probity which I think unmerited, and the product of some prejudice. For merchants, as simple intermediaries between producers and consumers, have no reason to practice dishonesty, and in general prefer honest dealing, not only as the best policy, but because they respect themselves. If they buy inferior Tea it is because it is cheap, and if they improve its appearance by coloring it, it is because consumers require them to do so. There need be no dishonesty or deceit on their part in the matter, and as a rule there is none. If Japanese merchants would act on the same principles, their reputation to-day would be better than it is, and there would be less reason to distrust their Tea packing.

To revert, however, to the main question, I would say that Tea producers and the officials who are to cooperate with them, need not fear that preparing and packing the Tea in the country, if it be skilfully and honestly done, will affect their trade otherwise than to increase it. American consumers are more or less ignorant about the process of producing Tea, but they are not stupid, and they will certainly finally prefer a good and pure article to one which is falsified by color or otherwise. At present they know

only that the Teas packed by A or B in Kobe are sometimes better than those packed by C or D in Yokohama, and at other times E or F surpass their competitors. They know nothing about the Japanese producer, and probably imagine him as a peasant on the hill side gathering leaves for intelligent foreigners to cure for export.

It is time that the producer, or at least the country packer, should assert himself in the business, and I, for one foreigner, shall be glad to see him do so.

If he will claim his proper position, and prove his right to an honorable reputation by doing his work honestly and well, he will easily enough find ways to sell his Tea. He is now urged to this effort by his Government and his sense of patriotism. His interest is also concerned, if he but knew it. I wish, too, to add my encouragement, although I am,

A FOREIGN TEA MERCHANT.

Kobe, March 10th, 1884.

[It was not our intention to cast any slur on mercantile probity, but history proves, we think beyond doubt, that policy is at the root of all honesty in trade.—Ed. J.M.]

MR. EBY'S NEW SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Several letters have appeared in your columns bearing on what is called "The Christian University Scheme," and as Mr. Eby is anxious that his paper should be freely discussed, I venture to make a few remarks on one or two of the subjects that are introduced into it.

First, I think it should be pointed out that the Missionaries as a body have by no means endorsed the action of the Tokio and Yokohama Conference, in reference to this scheme. In fact it is generally considered that the action of the Tokio and Yokohama Missionaries has been rather premature; and that it would have been preferable to have consulted the Missionaries at the outposts, before drawing up rules and passing resolutions, that are more or less binding on all who wish to join the Missionary Union.

As regards Mr. Eby's paper, in the first place I object to its title: "The Immediate Christianization of Japan," because it seems to me to make an assumption which is unwarranted by facts, and which to those who are well acquainted with the way in which Christianity has progressed in other countries, as well as with the immense power of counteracting influences in Japan, seems a most groundless assumption. It is quietly taken for granted that Japan can be made Christian at once if the machinery specified in the paper be set in motion.

The proposals having reference to united Christian effort are excellent, and will doubtless lead to some practical results.

The University scheme seems to me vulnerable at every point. If I understand it aright, it proposes to establish a University that shall be a means of propagating Christianity. The professors are all to subscribe to a creed, that is to be settled along with their salaries, by the missionaries. The test applied is to be theological as well as moral. For instance, a most excellent geologist, whose moral life is of the highest type, will not be employed to teach the subject in which he is so well versed unless he agrees to the catalogue of dogmas drawn up or fixed on by the Missionaries. The students may believe what they please, but the Professors are to be Christians at any rate professedly.

Now imagine, Sir, such a plan put into operation. The Professors who are invited to come to this country would be paid high salaries on the condition that their teaching was in strict accordance with the interpretation put on the theological dogmas by the Missionaries. Cases of heresy would arise—men of spirit would speak out their minds on various subjects. And then the Missionaries would say to some learned Professor, Sir, you are paid to teach science and philosophy from a Christian standpoint—which means that you shall not say anything contrary to the dogmas of the Church. And so, gradually, the learned gentlemen would find out that they had entangled themselves in the meshes of ecclesiastical controversy: and that the institution which in their innocence they took to be a great educational agency, was in reality a great ecclesiastical agency, the supreme rulers and the holders of the purse strings being ecclesiastics.

The sharp distinction between Christians and pagans that the author of the paper draws, in a letter that appeared in your columns a few days ago, if the test applied be moral and not theological, is not based on facts. There are pagan Christians and Christian pagans, as those well know who have lived long in the East: and why a man, be he Japanese, or foreigner "whose life

is in the right" is to be excluded from the Professorial Chairs of such a University because he refuses to subscribe to certain articles of Christian faith, is what I fail to see. What is there to fear in a Japanese being allowed to hear all kinds of opinions on the subject of religion? What is the condition of our foreign Universities in this respect? Every shade of opinion has its supporters and advocates—the great philosophical as well as the great Ecclesiastical Schools are all represented there, and the consequence is, that those who go out into life from these Universities are Christians, as a rule, if men of any mark, well capable of defending themselves against the attacks of their numerous foes.

The proposed University, then, it seems to me, to be thoroughly popular, must be so conducted that those who study at it shall be left entirely free to choose what religion they will. No undue pressure must be put on them, and the Professors must not be propagandists. Will the great Missionary Societies approve of such an institution? Certainly not. Unless it is to be a regular Mission Agency, whose main object is propagandism, and not high class education, they could not support it.

If native Professors are employed to teach Western science and philosophy the vernacular of the Country is to be ignored (vide Appendix B. p. XII. of Mr. Eby's paper) and the highest education to be imparted by means of a language that is but imperfectly understood. It is designed to effect a marvellous change in the country by saying thought instead of "omoi" or "shiso," and philosophy instead of "tetsugaku" (vide appendix B. p. XII). Not Christianity and the Japanese, but Christianity and the English language are going to "elevate the highest intellect of this nation."

It is high time I brought these remarks to a close, but before doing so, I would express my regret that Mr. Eby's great Christianizing Scheme was not cut down to about half its size; it would then doubtless meet a great want, and lead to more practical results than in its present form, unless I am very much mistaken, the most sanguine of its supporters dares to hope for.

I am, Sir, your truly,

X. Y. Z.

Tokyo, March 16th, 1884.

[Our correspondent seems to make some unwarranted assumptions. There is no question of "theological dogmas" in the scheme as we understand it. Neither need there be any difficulty in finding professors willing to teach in Japan exactly as they teach in England. The ecclesiastical controversy which "X.Y.Z." appears to apprehend is a very shadowy sort of danger, in our opinion. It never much troubled those great Universities in the West where there existed a much stricter system of tests than anything contemplated here. The difficulty about teaching in English is also chimerical. All the instruction at the Imperial Engineering College is given in that language, and the results are eminently successful.—Ed. J. M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your leader of Saturday, March 15th, you have deemed it necessary to restate for our benefit the University scheme projected by Mr. Eby. We are accused of misrepresenting it; and yet, with *perhaps* one exception, no argument of ours is, so far as we can see, shown to be based upon anything that disagrees with Mr. Eby's own statements.

Our objections, as given in our former letter, may be arranged under three headings, which correspond to the three outstanding features of the scheme. A University is to be established in a civilised country under the control chiefly of foreigners; it is to be set up in a city which already has a University fully equipped in all save one department; it is to be a test University. It might be possible, in certain circumstances, to found such an institution, say, at Osaka or Kyoto; and there it might be a Christian University (in Mr. Eby's broad sense) without in any great degree having its influence diminished as an intellectual centre. But to establish it in Tokyo, and to give it a distinctly religious bias—these to our mind condemned the scheme at its first statement. It may be argued that the second feature given above is not contained in Mr. Eby's statement. Certainly it is not explicitly mentioned; but we are right in assuming it as a fundamental part of the scheme. In the present state of things the idea of a Central University for Japan elsewhere than in Tokyo can hardly be entertained. Mr. Eby himself would be the first to admit this.

We gave two illustrations of a city with two distinct co-existing Universities; and here we seem to have been curiously misunderstood. Surely, sir, you are poking fun at us when you suggest that by the Roman Catholic University of Ireland we meant the Queen's Colleges of Belfast, Galway, and Cork! We give the following facts, which can be certified by reference to any good

educational directory. In 1854, a Roman Catholic University was established in Dublin by the Romish Bishops, with the aid of Cardinal Newman. It depends for its maintenance upon voluntary contributions, and is intended to be a rival institution to the non-Sectarian Queen's University of Ireland, founded in 1850, with examining body in Dublin. The general ignorance of its existence demonstrates its practical failure. As regards London, we did not think it necessary to mention by name London University with its two Colleges in the Capital—an essentially unsectarian institution. The Roman Catholic Universities of Dublin and Kensington were established for very much the same reason implied in Mr. Eby's scheme,—as rivals to "Godless Colleges." We consider our historical analogy relevant to the present case.

This naturally brings us to the question of the test. The tendency everywhere in the Christian world is to abolish tests; we think this is incontrovertible. All the older colleges in Europe and America were originally founded to educate men for the church; and this is still largely their function. Gradually, however, in response to the demands of the age they developed in other directions of learning; and then the sectarian armour that was deemed invulnerable had to be doffed, that the College might grow with the times. The *raison-d'être* of the originally non-sectarian Universities of the United States in big America is sufficiently obvious. The newest University in Britain, The Victoria University, was for many years a College affiliated to London University; its growth may be taken as an index of the growing demand for higher education. From all sides is the conclusion forced in upon us, that a University grows and is not made; and that in these days a religious test retards progress.

True, Mr. Eby's test is to be "the broad one of Christianity versus Paganism;" and at first sight there might not appear to be much analogy between this kind of test and the sectarian tests of the Western Schools. But a Christian test in a non-Christian country is surely analogous to the Roman Catholic test in a Protestant country; here Mr. Eby and Cardinal Newman join hands. We do not ask what the "broad" test is to be, who is to determine it, who is to apply it; but we think the idea that such a broad test could ever be applied to the satisfaction of the Christian World singularly utopian. In this connection a phrase of ours is quoted, the condemnation of which seems to us to be the only attempt to make good the assertion that we have misunderstood Mr. Eby's statements. Unfortunately our phrase is not given in its own original setting. We wrote that "special colleges where Literature, Science, and Philosophy are taught explicitly from a theological point of view are miserable institutions." This is a statement of fact, and does not of course apply in the first instance to Mr. Eby's proposed University. But it would apply if the University came into being. For, as Mr. Eby himself says, "the object of the institution would be not to teach Christianity but to impart a thoroughly sound education under Christian influences and from a *Christian standpoint*." The italics are ours; our statement differs from his only in the use of "theological" instead of "Christian." The words certainly are not truly synonymous; but the word we use is the only one that could group together the Sectarian Colleges which abound in the other continent, and this proposed Christian anti-Pagan University. To take theological here in a dogmatic sense would be folly, considering the peculiar nature of the question we are discussing. Hence we have still to learn that our *sentence* in its immediate setting gives a new colouring to Mr. Eby's scheme.

After all, our great arguments have not been touched. We fail to see either in Mr. Eby's characteristic pamphlet or in your own re-statement any rational reason given for carrying out this magnificent scheme. A university must be in close sympathy with the national feeling. It can exist only by supplying a certain demand. There is no indication as yet of such a demand as Mr. Eby's scheme would meet. Under foreign control, this University could never become national. Its supply of students would be precarious as long as the native Christians number a few thousand. When the Christians become many, and Japan needs no more to be nursed by foreign missionaries, who would take charge of this strange exotic? Possibly by passing gradually under native control, it would become then a national university. We think, however, the same thing would come about more naturally and to better purpose, as it has done in all lands,—by the growth of native universities to meet the fresh demands of a growing nation.

We are, Sir, yours, &c.,

FERREX AND PORREX.

Tokyo, March 17th, 1884.

FOREIGNERS' KNOWLEDGE OF JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

My attention has been drawn to the statements of Mr. Fraser in a letter which appeared in the *Japan Herald* of the 17th inst. There are some things in his letter which show how very little a man may know of a country in which he has lived for many years. I, on the other hand, write as one who knows very little of Japanese in the open ports. But in a despatch sent to the British Government some time ago, I find it stated that certain Japanese in a certain port felt the advantage of foreign commerce to such an extent that they would take up arms against their own people in case of war. Now if this really expresses the disposition of the Japanese residing at the open ports, I think it may be confidently asserted that they do not represent the sentiments of the nation. It is, therefore, not surprising that Mr. Fraser, and others who think with him, should detect no national excitement or evidence of "terrible friction" "on the smooth surface of our daily life." That is hardly the place to look for it, nor yet among the Japanese cliques who reap advantage from the present state of commerce.

My experience with Japanese is of a different kind. I know something of their daily life, their schools, their press, their thoughts, their feelings, not second hand but by actual converse, in their own tongue, in large cities in the interior, where no other foreigner has been, with *Daimiyo*, *Samurai*, and peasants. For years, at every place I have visited, there has been perceptible a growing feeling of being humiliated by foreign Powers, of being defrauded by foreign treaties, and that Great Britain is chiefly to blame. In ordinary intercourse you meet with the ordinary gentle decorum of Japanese manners; but, whenever this subject is touched, up flashes a slumbering enthusiasm plainly held in control with much difficulty. And this is general among the young men of to-day, who were but boys 10 or 15 years ago. I think any one who does not know this by experience, can hardly have had much conversation on the subject with young Japan. And that the feeling has sprung from interested foreigners, seems an idea too absurd to mention. It has sprung from Western education, which is now becoming national in Japan.

In one thing I fully agree with Mr. Fraser, and that is that this affair of extraterritoriality and of opening the country, &c., should not be made a matter of mercantile profit and loss, or a question of a *quid pro quo*. It is an international question of right or wrong. It seems a pity, too, that we should talk of "conferring rights" on this nation. The question seems rather to be—has the time come when we can, to a certain extent, allow Japan to exercise her inherent rights in a wider field than hitherto with perfect security to every perfect right of foreigners. And with a great many more who are absolutely independent in opinion, I believe that the time has come when common justice demands a change.

Yours, &c.,

VOX.

Tokyo, March 22nd, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your remarks on the singular knowledge displayed by a leading member of this community in his newspaper essay on Treaty Revision found at least one appreciative reader. What we people in Yokohama do not know about Japan and the Japanese is not worth knowing. You yourself, Mr. Editor, are sufficiently familiar with Japanese character to guess how grateful our native friends must be when they hear their likes and dislikes interpreted for them so glibly by men who enjoy the advantage of not being able to speak five words of Japanese. But even the glorious assurance of "the late Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce" pales before that of your contemporary the *Gazette*, which, in its issue of Friday last, declares that this community is "far more competent to judge of the requirements of Japan than the Japanese Administration is to decide upon what is needful for themselves or beneficial to foreigners in the way of trade." I never knew that I was one of a body which knows so much. But then, to be sure, modesty generally accompanies competence. I am prepared to tell you henceforth all about "thinking Japanese:" how the present "condition of affairs became to them irksome, burdensome, and is now well nigh intolerable;" how "the people are of one mind with regard to the wisdom, propriety, and indeed necessity of granting permission to Japanese subjects to make use of foreign shipping," and how "they are equally unanimous in looking upon the two steamship companies substituted for that privilege as monopolies framed for no better object than to tax the industry of the farmer, thereby preventing the extension of his operations." All

this I am prepared to tell you about, but I deprecate any impertinent questions as how I came by my information. This nation, look you, Sir, is a very remarkable nation. It understands the true principles upon which navigation laws should be based much better than Englishmen did before the Reciprocity Treaty of 1815; much better than Americans or Frenchmen do to-day. What is more, it has a singular capacity for making its views known. You must not fail to observe, too, that it does not take the trouble to unbosom itself to its despotic Government. No! Sir. It is to the whilom despised aliens that the people of Japan communicate their feelings. We alone can speak with certainty of what they think and hope. We, once the reputed enemies of Japan, once distrusted and disliked, are now the recipients of the national confidence. How wonderfully the times have changed! The two steamship companies may take our word for it that "the people are unanimous in looking upon them as monopolies." The Government, too may learn from us who are "far more competent to decide upon what is needful for it than it is itself" that—. But hold! here is a horrible mistake. In this very article which so justly describes the singular perspicuity of our community and its power of feeling the pulse of the Japanese nation, I find it stated that "few foreigners know anything of the country and the mode in which business is done in the interior." What is the key to this conundrum? "Few foreigners know anything of the country," and yet foreigners are "far more competent to judge of the requirements of Japan than the Japanese Administration is to decide upon what is needful for themselves." Really, Sir, your contemporary must be "pulling our legs." Or perhaps, like some of the popular novels now appearing, his journal is composed by two editors of slightly different persuasions, one of whom writes the beginning, the other the end, of the leading articles.

Your obedient Servant,

AN ALL-WISE ALIEN.

Yokohama, March 26th, 1884.

A WARNING VOICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I hope you will not consider me egotistical when I say that I am glad to see that my warning notes have born fruit in some small measure, and that I take hope for the future, because the indications are strong that there has been a spirit evoked which will not bow down until it is crushed out by the logic of events. The arrival of Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary, and Consul-General for Japan, at Kobe, on the 13th instant, was a proper and most fitting time for the expression of the sentiments of that thriving settlement regarding the vital issues that are now the subject of negotiations between the Government of Japan and the Foreign Powers. I was glad to read the address of welcome presented on the occasion, inasmuch as there is disclosed therein as much moderation as could be expected, in view of the weighty matters touched upon. But when I read the extempore reply of Mr. Plunkett, I feel that there is danger ahead, danger to be provided for, danger that may whelm all English interests in ruin. Mr. Plunkett says:—"It is true I return at a time when important changes are likely to take place." Great Scott, just think of it. Important changes are likely to take place! A mountain of apprehension falls upon me as I contemplate the statement, for full well I know that diplomacy would have dictated more consoling assurances if such had been within the compass of His Honor's instructions from his Government. We must do our most heroic deeds to prevent the consummation of any changes we do not dictate; we would not be Britons else, for are not British interests involved. What care we for the sentiment of the world besides. It is enough for us that *our* interests are in the balance. A fig for the opinions or interests of others. And here again I am plunged in the depths of despair, and inclined to think that the Gladstone Administration has outlived its usefulness, and should step down and out, giving place to some of the large brained and conservative denizens of Yokohama, who can be counted on all the time to withstand the shock of any advancing wave of international justice that may be surging on its way hitherward at the supplication of Japan. For His Excellency says, further:—"You know, however, that these changes are not merely the subject of direct negotiation with England, but many foreign countries are taking part in the discussion." Alas! and has it come to this, that we should have to confer with others? That there are other powers who assume the rôle of negotiators? Must we acknowledge that we are not final judges where

we have interests? Has Britannic supremacy so thoroughly crumbled that it is possible other Powers are consulted in affairs of the Far East? Humiliation can drag us to no lower depth than the suspicion that this can be a fact. Yet, while the threatening evil is not an actuality, there are room and scope for action on the part of those who desire the present status to continue. The first thing we should do in the premises is to fabricate a million magnifying microscope, through which Her Majesty's Representative can look at British interests here, and furnish him at the same time with a pair of blinkers for his use when he would look at Japanese interests: we might induce him to use them. It might not be amiss, also, to ask His Excellency to inform us whether the plotting that must have been necessary to make it possible that our rights as Britons bold should be so invaded, could have had the cognizance of our whilom staunch friend, Sir Harry Parkes. We are at sea, and conjecture fails us to furnish a clue as to how the Government of Great Britain could have been so hoodwinked regarding affairs in Japan, and our particular wishes, as to coöperate, even in the remotest degree, in the nefarious project of depriving us of our privileges, so long enjoyed that we have come to consider them our birthright. I am glad to see that I was right in my estimate of the spirit dormant in the breasts of some of my fellows in Yokohama. I felt that all was not ashes, but that some smouldering embers of patriotism could be found to kindle into a blaze, and throw light upon the vital issues we have to consider in the possible "important changes" now imminent. I am jubilant over the effort put forth in our behalf by my fellow citizen, Mr. J. A. Fraser, in the *Japan Daily Herald* of the 17th inst. It stirs the cockles of my heart to read his article and think seriously of the deep impression it must make upon the minds of the old folks at home, and the flutter it will create when it is read by the "Lords and Gentlemen" of the Queen's Parliament. For most surely it will find its way there. The *Herald* will see to that most probably. If it has not been thought of already, I now make the suggestion.

I am glad to read that he feels. He says, "I feel sure that a feeling of uneasiness, amounting it may almost be said to anxiety, pervades the members of this community,—a feeling intensified by the thought that some changes in the status of foreigners in this country are in contemplation, possibly impending, but of the nature of which they have no exact information, and in regard to which their respective governments may afford them no opportunity of expressing an opinion. Enough, however, appears to have leaked out of the intentions of the Foreign Powers to lead to the belief that they are disposed to make concessions to the demands of the Japanese Government, and to agree to the abolition at a more or less early date, of the extra-territorial jurisdiction secured by the existing treaties." Then he pulls the *Mail* and some of your correspondents over the coals, and just roasts you and them. Altogether you must feel cheap indeed, because, don't you see, he shows that you "have interests of your own to serve in this matter," while he has none in giving utterance to his views. He paints you with a brush that cannot tar himself. What a splendid point he makes when he declares that among the Japanese there are none who take any stock in the great question of the return to Japan of the rights wrested from her, "but the official element, and sections of the educated classes, including the journalists," and that "it may well be doubted whether outside the precincts of the capital and the great cities of the empire, the question excites the smallest degree of interest." If that don't stamp you and your correspondents as working in a direction opposite to that from which the aspirations for national independence should come, I confess myself mistaken. That these named classes and communities advocate the jurisdiction of the Government being extended over the foreigners resident in the Empire should cover the proposition with ridicule. We should learn of the coolie and the untaught and uneducated of the land what are their aspirations, and give heed thereto, that is if they "possessed the necessary spirit of independence" to tell us what they wanted. Who can gainsay the dicta of Mr. Fraser when he declares he must decline to endorse the statement that there is ability in Japan to administer her laws, and when he says that "such an expedient as the so-called mixed tribunals, would probably fail to remedy the evil." We ask again, who can gainsay this? Can it be believed that the men who might be selected, after due thought and advice, by the Japanese Government, from among the hosts of foreigners, English, German, French, American, and other favored nations, to fill the important position of Judges in Japanese Courts, would be, or could be, other than unfit and incompetent to discharge their duties, or that the air and atmosphere of Japan

would not undermine their honor and integrity as soon as they set foot upon the soil of Dai Nippon? There have been men who have developed into good first class scoundrels after arriving in Japan, so let us be on the safe side and believe that every one coming here to officiate as a judge in His Majesty's Courts would take on that hue and complexion. Prevention is better than cure, and don't cost so much. Our peace and comfort depends upon our ability to prevent the possibility of mixed tribunals. We should urge with Mr. Fraser, the adoption of the "humane and enlightened systems of the west, before we consent to put ourselves under the operation of Japanese law."

The opening up of the country to foreign trade is handled with a breadth and depth of thought by Mr. Fraser that signals deep research regarding the possible advantage to accrue therefrom, and a true and exact measurement of benefit to be derived by both parties to the transaction, and it is his firm opinion that "it might be a desirable step, and might be productive in time of some benefit to the commerce of the country," but "that the balance of advantage would undoubtedly be to Japan." Now I hold that anything to the advantage of Japan should be frowned down, as not to be thought of for a moment. I am also of Mr. Fraser's opinion regarding foreign trade, that "it will be best carried on within the confines of the open ports," but I am afraid that there are elements at work which may lay in ruin my fondest hopes, centered as they are in the continuance of the present status. America takes all the tea exported from Japan, and it may possibly be considered of importance by American thrift that if the country is opened up to trade and residence profit may be brought to the shop. The purchasers of silk in Germany and France, as well as the United States, may think that it would be about as well for them if they could have resident agents in the silk producing districts, so they may not have to intrust large sums to irresponsible parties, wherein they claim they take large risks and sometimes lose large amounts, as happened in the case of one unfortunate firm within the past three months. Still, we must keep our pecker up, and not despair of what we may accomplish in defence of our rights.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.,

ANXIOUS WARNER.

Yokohama, March 20th, 1884.

THE GAIETY THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one of the audience at the Gaiety Theatre last night, will you kindly allow me to point out through the medium of your paper to the gentlemen who make it a habit to leave their seats between the acts on a chatting expedition to their friends, seated at other parts of the house, that by so doing they are not only spoiling the enjoyment of that portion of the assembly that attend mainly to hear the music, always good, and a good many more who consider the music as part of the entertainment, not to mention the slight (unintentionally I am sure) thus put on the members of the orchestra who labor so hard for our enjoyment, that it can't be very encouraging to them, when straining every nerve to please, to see a number of the audience leave their seats and commence talking and laughing and not paying the slightest attention to the music or letting others do so who want to. If these disturbers only "went outside to see a man," all well and good, the movement would be understood, and the disturbance would soon be over, but as it stands, I must say its very annoying to any one who is drinking in the delightful strains of "Sextuor," etc., to be suddenly brought up by hearing a remark made regarding the rise or fall of Satsu or on the consequent price of Cotton Yarns. Don't you think it is, Mr. Editor?

Yours, &c.,

NEMO.

Yokohama, March 25th, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE GOVERNMENT AND RELIGION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

Some of the vernacular papers have stated that during the delivery of a series of Shintoistic lectures at Hiroshima, in the province of Aki, one of the orators beheaded an image of Buddha, in order to convince the audience that the image had no power either to bless or punish. The *Danwaku-Kwai*, a society for the suppression of superstition, established in Hakodate, is said to have given lectures

on the Buddhistic theories, urging that Christianity is a depraved religion, and that its followers must be looked upon as national enemies. But no sooner had some young men, Christian converts, expressed contrary views and attempted to refute the lecturers' arguments, than a disturbance arose, which ended in the windows of the lecture-hall being broken. As such and other reports have reached us, we cannot help regretting that the conflict between Christianity and Buddhism disturbs the tranquillity of society, while it also threatens to affect the policy of our international intercourse.

The doctrine that politics and religion ought not to interfere with one another is very generally accepted, and does not admit of contradiction. But when religion evidences a tendency to violate the laws of a country, or endangers the well-being of a people, the Government must perforce interfere in the operations of the religious propagandists, and adopt measures to enforce their obedience to the country's laws. It is the legitimate function of the Government to enforce obedience to its laws, to formulate and carry out its own policy, and to maintain the welfare of its people. Can the priests of one sect openly contend with those of another without seriously affecting the tranquillity of the nation? As far as our opinion goes, certainly not. Look, for instance at the Buddhist-fanatics. If, in their presence, we audibly sneer at the image of Buddha, an image which they are accustomed to worship with genuflexions and clasped hands, they will undoubtedly become furiously angry. Fortunately, the sun does not shine now-a-days on over many famous and virtuous priests, and the faith of the general public seems to be very weak; unbelievers are in the majority, and no priest has actually attempted to shake the foundations of the Empire. But should a strict and upright priest appear upon the scene, declaring that those who oppose his doctrines must be regarded as the enemies of Buddha and that he intends to employ all the power at his command to crush these heretical foes, a serious disturbance would be the inevitable consequence, for many people would take up the cudgels in his defence. Such a state of affairs could not fail to throw the country into disorder. As everybody knows, most of our foreign allies are, with the exception of China and Korea, Christian nations; whatever is said derogatory to the Christian religion may, therefore, be held as insulting to the people of the treaty powers, and would infallibly give great offence to foreigners in this country. The result would give birth to a feeling of discord between Japanese and aliens, and this, in turn, would affect the policy of our Government, which aims at the consolidation of our international interests.

Many of the religious propagandists may be ready to declare that they would never attempt anything not in accordance with the policy of the Government, nor do aught calculated to disturb the tranquillity of the people; but they could not but strive to suppress all religious creeds other than their own, for the very nature of their undertaking forces this upon them. They would roundly assert that this is the only way in which falsehood may be vanquished and truth made triumphant, as it is impossible for non-Christian zealots to demonstrate the truth of their doctrines without proving the falsity of Christianity. Though this idea may itself be a justifiable one, there must be some other method of attaining their end than by having resort to offensive criticisms and insulting speeches. What this other method may be, or whether it exists at all or not, we cannot venture to state; but, at all events, so long as their proceedings are calculated to break the peace, to obstruct or hinder the national policy, or to infringe the nation's laws, politicians should not hesitate to call them to strict account. The fundamental principles of society forbid us to enjoy ourselves at the expense of others. The Government aims at the maintenance of social order, and must, therefore, place restrictions upon those who, by extolling their own creed and decrying those of others, endeavour to promote their own wellbeing at the expense of the happiness of others, thereby disturbing social harmony. We are forbidden to sacrifice even the pleasure of a smaller number of people for the convenience of a much greater number; and much more should we attempt to sacrifice the welfare of the majority for that of the minority. Suppose that the followers of Buddhism were to insult the believers in Christianity, urging that the doctrines of the latter were deceitful and false. Then would the Buddhists be open to the charge of having disturbed the harmony of the Christians. The same is true of those Shinto priests who reject the teachings of the Buddhists in an insulting manner. These remarks do not, of course, apply to those who pass their lives in seclusion, living in the forest or on the hill-side where they rarely meet with human beings. But those who move in every-day society cannot be allowed to pursue a course contrary to the principles of its organization, even though

their creed may sanction such a course. It may be justifiable from a doctrinal, but utterly unjustifiable from a political, point of view. If the conflict between the adherents of different religious creeds is to disturb the welfare of the people, the nature of the evil consequences it produces will be similar to those which characterize the violent speeches of political lecturers. The Government may therefore most assuredly prohibit the delivery of religious lectures of such a nature. And this is all the more forcibly the case if we consider the subject with respect to the policy of the Government. Christianity is, as we have stated, the national religion of the treaty powers. Now, take the case of two individuals, one of whom is a Christian, and the other a Buddhist. Should they desire to enter upon intimate acquaintance, they must have mutual respect for each other's creed, and refrain from saying aught against it. This is exactly the same case with regard to the intercourse of two nations. If Christians should cast opprobrium upon Buddhists, what feelings would the latter entertain towards the former? And what would be the sentiments of Christians to Buddhists were the latter to insult them in a like manner? The priests of this country have shown a strong inclination to contend with foreign religious zealots, regardless of the policy of our Government; and some plan must be adopted in order to prevent the outbreak of a great religious conflict. For should they persist in acting contrary to the welfare of the country, it is within the functions of the Government to interfere and check them.

The honour of a creed is not augmented over much if it calls forth the interference of the Government, and, on the other hand, it is not laudable for the Government to offer interference. We trust, therefore, that religion may not lose its independence, and that the Government will be saved from interfering. But this object can not be obtained otherwise than by persuading the priests in this country to remember that they are, individually, members of one great social community; that they ought not to do to others what they would not have done to themselves; that they should refrain from disturbing the peace of others for the sake of their own; and that they should not behave in such a manner as to endanger the tranquillity of this country or obstruct the policy of the Government.

THE LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

On the 15th inst., the Government published the long spoken of Land Tax Regulations, annulling therewith all other existing rules respecting the land tax. The new Regulations contain in all twenty-nine articles; they are short but clear, and, as they are rather a mere abridgment of the old Regulations, there is nothing very novel or original in them. The older Regulations were compiled in the sixth year of Meiji, and have undergone decided amelioration and alteration in the succeeding ten years; and so it is not a matter of surprise that the present Regulations do not contain many of the provisions that were clearly set forth in the former ordinance. Ten years ago, it was announced that the land tax, although fixed at 2½ per cent., should gradually be reduced to one per cent.; whereas the present statutes put the tax at 2½ per cent. on the value of land without giving any idea of a future decrease or increase. Again, the former Regulations stated that, although certain fluctuations in the value of land might occur after their publication, no corresponding change in the rate of taxation would be made for five years; and when, in 1880, the time had come for alteration, the Government announced that the Regulations would remain as they were until 1885. The new Regulations, however, simply intimate that due notice will be given prior to any change in the rate of taxation, without giving any prospect of an intended alteration in 1885. Further, it was formerly stipulated that, should the tax-payers deem the rates as established by a local Governor excessive, and report the matter to the Minister of Finance, the said Minister would despatch inspectors to the place where the grievances were said to exist, and change the rate demanded after practical investigation of the condition of the taxed lands. But the new Regulations definitely announce that the rate of taxation shall not be changed under any circumstances whatever, unless, indeed, the land be changed in kind, or desert land have been reclaimed. These are the principal differences between the old and new ordinances.

After careful perusal of the present Regulations, we find nothing in them particularly suggestive of future inconvenience in their practical enforcement. Yet the alteration of the Land-tax was a great national event ten years ago, closely following, as

it did, the abolition of the feudal system, and the establishment of local administration; and even yet, after the Regulations have been for years in working order, discontented murmurings are heard in various parts of the country. Although it may not be the actual desire of the general public to make a great change in the existing rate of Land-taxation, it is, nevertheless, undeniable, that the inhabitants in many of the rural and urban districts would gladly welcome a decrease in the tax so far as their own particular localities are concerned; many, too, undoubtedly hoped to see the fulfilment of their earnest hopes in 1885. Or at least those authorities who come into daily contact with the people might have made some verbal stipulation towards granting their oft-repeated wishes at a future date, instead of merely condoling with them on their own pressing needs and sorry condition. But so long as the new Regulations prohibit the alteration of the rate of taxation under any circumstances, except in case of a material change in the description of taxed land, there is no hope that the requests of any one particular district will be complied with, regardless of the possible difficulties consequent upon this policy. It is, in very truth, highly questionable whether a series of constant troubles may not be expected in various parts of the country.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Over the signatures of the Prime Minister and the Minister of State the new Land Tax Regulations were published on the 15th inst. After reading these ordinances through, we came to the conclusion that they were an improvement upon, and modification of, the various systems of taxation which have been in force since the first year Meiji. Our Government has, ever since the days of the Restoration, been actively engaged in revising the system of land-taxation, and has issued countless rules and regulations, the mere perusal of which is a wearisome matter. There would be a still greater difficulty if we endeavored to commit them to memory, so that it is quite out of the question for us to discuss all the various points at issue without infringing these and many other regulations which have been issued by the Government. We can, therefore, but approve of the course which our Government has taken with regard to the enforcement of a system of taxation which evidently epitomizes all the former rules and regulations. The new ordinance consists of only twenty-nine articles, but their use and intention are very extensive. The intricate paragraphs of the former regulations are abridged and simplified in the present system. So far as this is concerned, many people will doubtless give the present system their hearty approval; yet, when we compare it with the former regulations, there are many points of a dubious nature, at least so far as we can judge on the strength of our insufficient information. The preamble to Notification No. 7 runs as follows:—"The following Land-Tax Regulations have been established:—The Regulations for the revision of the Land-Tax as published by Notification No. 272 of 1873, the rules relating to the revision of the Land-Tax, and all other measures which conflict with these Regulations, are hereby abolished." Now, do the words "which conflict with" refer to the clause "all other measures?" Or do they relate to the "Regulations published by Notification No. 272?" Do they mean that the regulations for the revision of the Land-tax, as well as all other rules drawn up with regard to the manner in which this revision was to be conducted, and all the notices, enactments, and statutes, so frequently issued in the past, which do not correspond with the purport of the new regulations, are repealed: whereas those which are in accordance with the present system are to hold good? Or, do they indicate that even the regulations for the revision of the Land-tax, as well as those which relate to the manner in which the revision is to be carried out, are, so far as they are not incompatible with the new system, to be maintained? We have come to a private decision on all these points, yet we are not sure that this decision is a strictly justifiable one. If the words "which conflict with" refer to the rules for the revision of the Land-tax, and imply that those paragraphs which are not incompatible with the present system are to be maintained, we may roundly assert that the sixth article of the rules which provide for the gradual reduction of the Land-tax to one per cent., and which is therefore held by the people to be more precious than gold, is in no way inconsistent with the new system, and does not, therefore, come under the heading of "things to be abolished." But those who are disposed to urge the necessity for reducing the Land-tax in accordance with this stipulation only, are merely petulant children, who are ignorant of the real causes which necessitate the reduction. Those who are familiar with these

causes would never think of relying upon a single rule or enactment for effecting the reduction of the Land-tax, nor would they ever deem this one clause a lasting stronghold. As this is the case, neither the maintenance nor the annulment of the famous sixth article can be productive of any real sorrow or regret. Yet there are doubtless some amongst us who believe that the happiness or misery of the people depends upon the retention or abolition of this article. Granting even that the article in question is not invalidated by the enforcement of the new system, we may still declare that it is not capable of a literal interpretation. The phrase which limits the amount of tax on commodities to two million yen must be revised, as its tenor does not suit the practical point in view; in short, it would be absolutely without sense were it allowed to stand unaltered. We assume, therefore, that the Government has merely revealed its intention to reduce the rate of taxation in publishing this article. *Conscious that the real source of national wealth lies in the protection of the soil, and that measures to that end must needs immediately be adopted, our Government will not deviate from the policy which prompts the reduction of taxation, even though the sixth article be cancelled.* For these reasons we are not inclined to attach much significance to that article, and what we have said has been in the interest and on behalf of the popular sentiment.

Simultaneously with our enquiry into the state of the public opinion, we trust that Government will not lose sight of its intention to reduce the rate of taxation in behalf and for the sake of the agricultural classes. In May of the seventh year of Meiji (1874), a notification was issued, adding an eighth article to the regulations for the revision of the Land-tax; and this article stipulated that the tax should be levied in proportion to the value of the soil,—a value that had previously been determined upon. And this system was to be in force until the 18th year of Meiji (1885), in accordance with a notification issued in May of the 13th year of Meiji (1880). The public has eagerly been awaiting the arrival of this year of promise, 1885, and longed to see the result of a modified and reduced taxation. A new system of taxation has now stepped on the tapis, but the only mention of an alteration in the rate made is to be found in the eighth article, where it is stated that a notification will always be issued prior to the necessary reduction of the tax. There is no article in the new Regulations which speaks of any date on which the disparity between the value of the soil and the rate of taxation is so to be adjusted, and the public has begun to doubt that a revision is coming in 1885, basing its deductions on purely imaginative data. With this opinion we do not rashly agree, nor can we form a sound opinion until we are made more familiar with the intentions of our Government by future notifications. If our Government really desires to revise the rate of Land-taxation, it will certainly issue a notification to that effect; and if it does not desire this, it will never take any such a step. As for ourselves, we earnestly trust that the Government will, by the 18th year of Meiji, modify the system, as well as reduce the rate, of the Land-tax. It is not at all necessary to prove that the revision of the rate of taxation is a matter of no trouble whatever. Nor is it at all difficult to alter or modify the system of taxation.

In conclusion, the new Regulations are, as we stated at the outset, no more than an abridged and improved epitome of the intricate rules and enactments which preceded them. They have not introduced any novel device, and it is quite unnecessary to comment upon the twenty-nine articles *in extenso*. What is most important we have already sufficiently dwelt upon:—the reduction of the rate of the Land-tax, and the future revision of the system.

WHAT IS THE POLICY OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The fall of Bac-ninh formed the subject of an article in this paper the day before yesterday. This place was for the Chinese one of the most important in Tonquin. Its natural position was strong owing to its being surrounded by hills on all sides, and it served as a frontier protection for the three Chinese Provinces of Yunnan, Kwang-si and Kwangtung, and as it was clear that the capture of Bac-ninh by the French would bring into immediate contact the frontiers of the French and Chinese possessions, the Chinese, there is little doubt, made some effort towards the defence of that town. As to the extent of the aid lent by them there is as yet no positive proof. But it has been reported that secret orders were issued by the Chinese Government to the head of the Black Flags, and that supplies of money and grain were given, and

we know for a fact that many thousand Chinese soldiers were despatched from the Provinces of Yunnan, Kwang-si, and Kwangtung with the object of contributing to the defence of Bac-ninh. The report of Chinese assistance of some kind is, therefore, certainly not without foundation. The Chinese Government were clearly anxious for the defence of Bac-ninh, and hoped that the assistance they lent would at least enable the town to hold out against the French attack for some days or weeks, during which time they would carefully consider the question and decide upon peace or war with France.

Bac-ninh, however, fell into the hands of the French on the 12th instant, after an unexpectedly short and ineffectual resistance on the part of the garrison. Speaking for ourselves, we never thought for a moment that Annamese, Chinese, or Black Flags, however numerous, could successfully withstand the French troops for any length of time. But considering the two disadvantages with which the invaders had to cope, namely, the great numerical superiority of the enemy and the difficult character of the country in which their military operations were conducted, we considered it probable that Bac-ninh would not be captured without a severe struggle. But we were mistaken. Judging by the telegraphic reports, the French would seem to have taken Bac-ninh with the utmost ease, their trifling loss itself showing how small was the resistance encountered. This admits of three solutions. It may be that the despatch of Chinese troops to Bac-ninh was merely talk and never had had any existence in fact; or it may be that the Chinese troops in Bac-ninh withdrew before the French assault; or, again, it is possible that they scattered in panic as soon as the action commenced. But however this may be, two points have been clearly established,—that the statements of the Chinese Government in the Peking and Paris negotiations were empty braggadocio, and that China can no longer retain her influence in Tonquin.

The fact that China did not declare war when Son-tai was taken, and the further fact that she has not done so now that Bac-ninh has fallen, are sufficient to prove that the policy of the Chinese Government is not to go to war. This being so, it would have been better for her to have shown a pacific policy in conducting negotiations with the French. As matters stand now, she can neither effectually assert her suzerainty over Annam by assuming a threatening attitude, nor by the adoption of a conciliatory policy can she secure in Tonquin a frontier-protection for her provinces of Yunnan, Kwang-si, and Kwangtung. She has lost her opportunity for both peace and war. If she had intended to fight France she had her opportunity at Bac-ninh, though even that was late in the day for her. That opportunity exists no more. She has no alternative now but to acquiesce in the annexation of Bac-ninh by France, to recognize the fact that Annam and Tonquin are countries with which she has henceforth no concern, and to accept as her future frontier the boundary hitherto existing between China and Tonquin. If she would avoid further loss she cannot do better than submit to the mediation of England or of the United States.

The policy of France throughout this matter has been one of consistent advance. Her pretensions have increased with the extension of her operations, and she now seeks to annex the whole of Annam and Tonquin up to the borders of Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung. And although the French Government have made no declaration of an intention on their part to demand from China the reimbursement of the expenses of the Tonquin Expedition on the ground that those expenses were increased by the assistance given by China to the Black Flags, and failing such reimbursement to occupy the Islands of Hainan, Formosa, and Chusan, still, proposals of this nature have appeared in an influential French paper which is supported by the Government, and in view of this fact it is quite possible that advantage may be taken of China's incapacity for action to carry out some such designs.

On the other hand, should it happily occur that France, now that she has taken Bac-ninh, is content to rest satisfied with the accomplishment of her original intentions, and by accepting the mediation of England, America, or some other friendly Power to relieve China from her present dilemma, this would, indeed, be a satisfactory conclusion of the affair. Should she, however, provoke a controversy with China by raising the question of an indemnity, and eventually go to war to enforce her demands, all persons with a knowledge of the subject agree in thinking that she would invite disaster upon herself. Looking at the matter from the point of view of French interests, it appears to us that France has now a good opportunity to make peace with China and at the same time to secure the fruits of her victories.

The success of any mediation between the two nations must depend on the future action of the

two countries concerned. No satisfactory results can be hoped for unless France, on the one hand, exercises a wise moderation, and China, on the other, is content to accept the situation with which she is confronted. Unless both countries approach the question in the spirit we have indicated, negotiation will be fruitless. What, however, the results of negotiation will be it is impossible to predict. For while France can afford to be magnanimous and not push her pretensions to a point of direct conflict with the Chinese Government, the latter are divided into two parties,—one for peace and the other for war,—and no settled policy can be looked for with any confidence. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that the present state of uncertainty may be remedied, and that China may soon decide upon a firm policy and consistently adhere to it.

FOREIGN FUNDS AND FOREIGN LOANS.

(Translated from the *Fiyu Shimbun*.)

As has been elsewhere stated, the time has not come which admits this country's raising foreign loans. The success of any industrial enterprise does not, in our opinion, depend upon the question of capital, but upon the sagacity, experience, and skill of the originators of the scheme. These three qualities are not as yet sufficiently advanced among our people to admit of their undertaking such magnificent schemes as do the people of Europe and America; and we apprehend that, if foreign loans are ever raised, the money would simply be wasted in unprofitable undertakings. Now that rumours of the quasi-revision of the treaties are flying all over the country, and the question of mixed residence is being debated, the advantages and disadvantages of the introduction of foreign capital claim a large share of public attention. Whenever foreign loans are contracted by a country, its Government is responsible for their future repayment. Let us suppose, for a moment, that a nation has raised a foreign loan of ten million *yen*; that the financiers of the country appropriate one half of the sum in order to engage in extensive mining operations, but that their calculations turn out to be incorrect, and the profits of the mines fail to cover the incurred expenses; and that the other half of the loan is spent in the establishment of numerous manufactories under the direction of the most trustworthy persons, but that these establishments, for the most part, turn out to be failures, owing to the want of experience and skill on the part of the directors. Even under such adverse circumstances, the Government would not only be forced to pay the annual interest on the loan, but have eventually to redeem the original sum borrowed. How difficult and painful an affair! Should the Government fail to meet its obligations, owing to great financial embarrassment, the displeasure of the foreign creditors would be extreme. Matters might even go so far that other nations, either from an intention to protect their own interests, or with a view to take advantage of the financial embarrassment of the indebted country, might interfere under some pretext or other in the financial workings of the latter. A disastrous crisis would ensue, due alone to the fact that the Government had, in the first instance, rashly taken the responsibility of a foreign loan.

Not so, however, with foreign funds. However great may be their amount, the Government has only to sanction their introduction into the country, a vastly different proceeding from becoming responsible for a foreign loan. Foreigners bringing their capital into the country are themselves responsible for any loss that may arise from the manner in which they employ it. Even though they sank millions of *yen* in a mine which failed to yield one *sen*, neither the Government nor the people could be called to account; and though they lost immense sums of money in establishing profitless manufactories, they could bring no complaint against either the Government or the people.

While foreign loans would entail great responsibilities upon our Government, and the consequences of dire misfortune be inevitable in case of mismanagement or ill success, foreign funds might be readily introduced into this country without fear as to the results. Moreover, the people of the country would certainly derive great profit from the introduction of foreign capital, irrespective of the prosperity or failure of the introducers. For whereas our capitalists are wanting in sagacity, experience, and skill—qualities which will rapidly develop in the course of the next few years—they would profit greatly by the introduction and investment of foreign capital, guided by foreign skill, and invested in that sagacious and skilful manner which foreigners alone understand. The lesson derived from watching their proceedings would be most wholesome and salutary, and

speedily make our capitalists and enterprising men independent of further instruction. In fact, the development of this country with and without the introduction of foreign funds may not inaptly be compared with the relative speed of the hare and the tortoise. Although, indeed, our people might readily acquire the essentials of industrial enterprise by means of foreign loans, the probability of failure or loss would more than outweigh the momentary benefit derived. But not so with foreign capital invested in this country; all loss in connection with its investment would fall on shoulders other than ours, and in the meantime our people would be steadily acquiring great skill and experience.

Although our Government should contract a foreign loan with the laudable intention of furthering national industries, the result might prove wholly unsatisfactory and a complete failure. Just at present, most people find it easy to rely entirely on the Government, the wealthier classes in especial. And so, should the Government raise, just now, foreign loans to a large amount, and undertake various industrial schemes, these gentry would only idly look on and trust to the sagacity of those in power to make their enterprises a success. But they themselves would hesitate to take part in any scheme, unless it were a definite success. And thus the intentions of the Government would not secure the best good of the country. And even this is not all; for, should the Government enterprises prove unsuccessful, would the people derive any profit from this experience? On the contrary, they would cry out against supporting the payment of the interest of the contracted loans, and harbour doubts as to the sagacity of the contractors. Foreign capital is, however, free from the possibility of entailing any humiliation or disgrace, and would assuredly encourage the industrial spirit of the country, while giving a decided impetus to trade and commerce.

If the current report be true, that the Government has requested the Treaty Powers to abolish extraterritoriality and that a new treaty permitting mixed residence in the interior is nearing completion, then is it quite clear that the Government is persuaded that the introduction of foreign capital will be most advantageous. If foreign funds are really to be brought into this country, we must hit upon some scheme to induce aliens to bring their capital into competition. Would Europeans or Americans, breathing, as they do, the air of freedom, ever invest their capital in a country where the policy of interference predominates, or where the mischievous custom of protecting a few big merchants at the expense of the general mercantile community obtains? Besides this, as anything which comes under the heading of political oppression or interference, and undue partiality towards any one faction or party, not unfrequently seriously hinders the commerce of a nation, the people of Europe and America would think twice before transferring their capital to a country where such evils prevail. Now, although in our country political freedom exists to a certain extent, there are still many points which are distasteful to Western nations. So long as these unsatisfactory matters remain unaltered, Westerners will hesitate before investing their capital in this country. If our Government is really persuaded that advantages will certainly accrue from the introduction of foreign funds, it will be necessary to abolish and do away with everything resembling political oppression, or the protection of a few to the disadvantage of the many. In other words, make our liberal administration still more liberal. In that case our people would reap a double harvest; for not only would our arts and industries derive fresh vigour from the introduction of foreign capital, besides gaining greater experience and skill, but the people would enjoy greater political freedom and larger national liberty.

Despite the more than probable disadvantages attendant upon the contraction of foreign loans, there are yet people who fear the introduction of foreign funds still more than they do foreign loans. They imagine that foreigners are cunning and rich in resource, but that our people are unenlightened and dull-minded; so that, if these rich and clever gentry come amongst our poor, stupid countrymen, it will be like letting loose so many hungry tigers amid a flock of unprotected sheep. But such fears are utterly groundless. Suppose, for example, that a mine had been opened and a factory established in the interior by foreign capitalists. Such a mine and such a factory would never have been brought into existence, had it not been for alien money. And then, at that, the miners and workmen employed would needs be chosen from amongst our countrymen. And the produce of the mine and the goods turned out at the factory would have to be sent to the coast-ports and pass our Custom Houses, to the direct increase of the customs' revenue. Besides, after our countrymen had acted for a time as the agents of foreigners, or in any other

capacity, they would acquire sufficient skill and experience to start in similar business on their own account, or at least other native capitalists would eagerly embrace the opportunity to employ men of such skill and experience. However clever foreigners may be, they alone could not reap the benefits of their business without directly benefiting the people of this country, and opening up opportunities for us, which, without their presence, would never have arrived.

Viewed from this common-sense standpoint, the introduction of foreign capital will not only tend towards increasing our sagacity, skill, and experience, but will be a direct source of pecuniary profit to this nation. And, slowly, but surely, our countrymen would gain sufficient wealth to be able to compete successfully with their foreign rivals. We need not fear that we shall ever be enslaved by them; witness the settlements at Yokohama and in the other treaty ports. There our countrymen are far from being the lackeys of foreigners, nay, many are even keeping steady pace with them. Even bantos and petty clerks in foreign employ have succeeded in amassing great wealth after years of steady perseverance. A caterpillar has to contract its body and draw up its many legs before it takes a step ahead.

Nevertheless, we do not positively declare that no one will be imposed upon by, or suffer loss through, the craftiness of foreigners; indeed such and other abuses are unavoidable. But they are so insignificant when compared with the certain benefits to be derived from the introduction of foreign capital, that we may fairly proclaim them not worth our consideration.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy
Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
MONDAY 24th, March, 1884.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

General Van Buren conducted his own case.
Mr. Weiller appeared for the defendant.

The evidence given at the previous session by Mr. Rossettsu and Dr. Tripler was read, and also the documentary evidence that had been put in.

The plaintiff said that, having been ordered by the Court, he now produced the certificate from the vice Consul-General showing that the U.S. Government paid \$1536.40 for the use of the premises, which included the ground-rent, the jail, and all the buildings on the compound.

Mr. Osborn, called for by plaintiff, stated that since he had been in the Court before he had obtained permission from the Kenrei to tell all that he knew about the circumstances connected with the purchase and sale of the Consular buildings.

Plaintiff—Will you please state in your own way your recollection of the negotiation and the completion of that purchase and sale.

Mr. Weiller objected on the ground that this was not the best evidence. He had tried to get Mr. Nomura to attend, who could have given direct evidence, and had failed. The Court had given the plaintiff notice to bring certain documents which would show the whole transaction and it was to be presumed that he had brought them all.

Plaintiff said that he had introduced all the written evidence called for that it was possible to do. He proposed to show how the purchase came about. The ex-Governor's evidence was not the best. The land officers who accompanied Mr. Osborn could give the best evidence. He wished to examine the witness as to all the facts.

Mr. Weiller said that the plaintiff had stated and Mr. Nomura had also stated, in his letter, that the documents in the Kencho would show everything connected with the transaction.

The Court overruled Mr. Weiller's objection, but noted his exception to the ruling.

Witness said he would like to remark that since he had received the permission of the Kenrei to give evidence in this case, he had looked up the matter and posted himself as far as he could do so. The Kencho was at that time anxious to get rid of the ownership of the U.S. Consular buildings.

The Court said that what they (the Kencho) were anxious about did not matter. It wanted him to state what he knew and what he did.

Witness, resuming, said that he was sent on several occasions to General Van Buren; sometimes with the land officers and occasionally alone. He had asked General Van Buren whether the Government would not buy the buildings. He did not recollect whether he had asked the plaintiff to buy them. Plaintiff said that, it

was useless to ask the Government, they were unwilling to buy or own any property. The price was not mentioned at the beginning at all, for the reason that until it was decided that there was to be a sale they did not take steps to fix a price. After several conversations, and as he thought, one or two letters between the plaintiff and the Kencho, the price was finally fixed by having tenders from Japanese contractors as to the amount for which they would buy and remove the buildings. He thought that the price was then communicated to the plaintiff and accepted by him. That was all he could think of just then. The date of the first conversation he forgot, and whether he opened the question or it was opened by the land officers he did not recollect. He did not remember any mention being made of the sale of property similarly situated.

Plaintiff—Do you know whether properties of this kind are held by the Government as being profitable to them as rental property?

Mr. Weiller objected as the witness could not possibly know.

The Court sustained the objection, as the question was entirely foreign to the issue.

Plaintiff's exception to the ruling was noted.

Plaintiff then put the question as to whether he could recollect that it had been put to him in that way.

Witness said that after so many years it was impossible to positively say whether such a statement had been made to plaintiff. To the best of his recollection there had been.

The Court—Have you any recollection at all about it?

Witness—I cannot say more than to the best of my recollection and belief it was.

To Mr. Weiller—To the best of his recollection the U.S. Government or the Consul-General were asked to buy the buildings as they were a source of trouble. He could not recollect every particular but at the time, he understood that the trouble was about repairs, etc. A great deal of money had been paid for repairs and alterations. He could not say whether the Kencho had got rid of all the property so held and did not know of any buildings occupied by foreigners that were owned by the Kencho. He thought it extremely improbable that they should own any that he did not know about, but they might do so.

Plaintiff stated that he and the defendant, as the defendant had already said, had been on good terms for ten years past, and that he had been intimate at his house and a frequent guest at his table. Some time in the latter part of last summer, or the early part of last fall, they had a misunderstanding which at the defendant's request was settled by arbitration. After the settlement defendant wrote him very severely and abusively and soon afterwards he heard rumours that defendant was speaking ill of him on frequent occasions. During the last few months he had heard that the defendant had charged him with buying the Consular buildings contrary to law and with swindling the U.S. Government. He hesitated what to do, from the fact that he was a magistrate, but finally felt that he was obliged to commence an action at law in his own defence and he informed the defendant of his intention by letter. The defendant made no reply, and therefore he commenced the action. Referring to the sale or purchase of the Consular buildings, he had to say that some years ago a proposition was made to him by the Kencho that the Government should purchase the buildings, estimating the value at \$5,000. He communicated the fact to the Department of State and advised the purchase very strongly. The reply of the Department was that the application should have gone through the U.S. Minister. Afterwards the Department advised him (referring to this offer) that it was contrary to the policy of the U.S. Government to purchase any property abroad. In the latter part of 1880 the Kencho officials came to his office and stated to him that the Japanese authorities were anxious to part with all properties leased to foreign Governments; that the expenses were very large, and the buildings were constantly decreasing in value and if possible they were determined to get rid of them. These officials said that the authorities had determined to offer the buildings occupied by him as Consul General for the appraised price of the material, and wanted to know if he would send the proposition to Washington. He replied that he would not, and gave them as his reason that the Government had once informed him that any such offer should come through the U.S. Minister, and secondly the Government had informed him that it was against their policy to own property abroad. He told the officials that they might send the offer through the U.S. Minister on their own Minister in Washington; he preferred to have nothing to do with it. He thought there had been several interviews on the subject. Finally they asked him whether he individually would buy it. He said that he knew of no legal objection of any kind to

his doing so, that he knew of Consular buildings being owned in some instances by Consular officers, but he would prefer before giving an answer to examine the law and the regulations carefully to see if any prohibition to such a purchase existed. He did so and examined the Statute and Regulations and could find nothing opposed to such a transaction. At a subsequent interview, when they again urged the matter upon him, he stated to them that he would make the purchase and would write at once to the Department of State the offer made and his intention to close with it and would ask the Department's approval. He did so write to the Department, as per the letters already produced. They then, at another interview shortly afterwards urged him to complete the purchase as soon as possible, giving their reasons which referred to tax-paying, tithe-collecting, or something which did concern him: he forgot the exact reasons. He told them to submit to him the contract and price in writing, as he had not yet been informed of the price. They did so make the offer in writing, which was in evidence. He accepted, which was also in evidence; and so advised the Department of State, which was also in evidence. His accounts for rent have since that time been receipted by him in his own name (not officially), as the owner of the buildings, and the accounts have been paid by the Treasury Department and approved by the Department of State. He thought it proper to state that the property was offered to him as an individual and purchased by him as a private individual, which was perfectly understood by both parties to the transaction and also by the Department of State. The term Consul-General attached to his name in the title deed was simply a description of his person. He paid the ground-rent by his own cheque instead of an official draft, simply to save making more vouchers to the Department than necessary. The title to the lot and its position remained unchanged on the official Kencho map and is marked U.S. Consulate-General. In addition to this ground-rent which is part of the \$1,500, he had estimated the yearly repairs at about \$400, and from his experience of the place the time might come at any moment when he would have to spend a whole year's rent over the place. In addition to these expenses, he paid about 150 yen a year to keep the grounds in repair, and also \$288 insurance on the furniture and everything. He bought this property to make money out of it if possible. Could he rent the premises for commercial purposes he would double the rent. In comparison with the rentals of other properties in Yokohama the rental was very low.

To Mr. Weiller—His impression was that the proposition to purchase the buildings was first made to him in the latter part of 1875. When that proposition was made the value put upon the property was \$5,000 for the whole lot. The second proposition was made in the latter part of 1880. There was at that time no valuation put upon the property, except that they would sell it at the appraised price of the material. He did not know whether it had at that time been appraised, he could only speak of what they told him. By they he meant the land officers and Mr. Osborn who came to his office. These were the only officials he remembered in the matter, it might have been mentioned when the Kenrei was dining with him. He had looked through the revised statutes and Consular regulations. Any private individual could hold personal property on that lot, for instance his son had furniture there, but no private individual could lease the lot without the consent of the Consuls. He considered the U.S. Government leased the land as it paid the ground-rent. He had no further permission to lease the land than was shown by the letters he had already put in. The term Consul-General in the title-deed was simply descriptive. He signed the receipts for the rent T. B. Van Buren. He took no pains to have it so entered on the title-deed, it was brought to him by the Kencho officials ready drawn out. In his letter to Mr. Nomura he had signed T. B. Van Buren, Consul-General, as was his habit in signing official documents, and he considered that that letter was official.

This closed the case, and the plaintiff being in ill-health said that he was unable to address the Court, but that he had no objection to the defendant's counsel doing so.

Mr. Weiller declined to do so.

The Plaintiff then asked permission to put in a copy of the letter from defendant to the Department of State.

Mr. Weiller objected, as the case was closed.

Plaintiff said he had not said that his case was closed, but even if he had it was a matter purely within the discretion of the court. He added that he could not see how the defendant could introduce an answer to a letter without permitting the letter which provoked the answer to be put in. Defendant had charged him with not informing the Depart-

ment of the price paid, and the defendant in his letter to the Department of State had mentioned the price.

His Honour having expressed an opinion that this letter was testimony-in-chief, the matter was discussed at great length.

The plaintiff said that it was not that the defendant had written the letter that he complained about, it was that he had made certain statements about the truth of which he did not care. Had he made them? He also wished to know why he (the defendant) should object to the introduction of a letter written by himself.

His Honour said that he had not seen the letter in question, but as being written by a citizen of the U.S. States to the Department of State in regard to a public officer he considered that it was a privileged communication.

Plaintiff wished to add that as to the mystery about the price and that the Department of State were not informed of it, the letter he wished to put in would show that they had been informed by Dr. Tripler of the whole of his actions in the purchase, including the price paid for the buildings, long before they wrote to him acknowledging the receipt of his letter, and he repeated that if the answer to the defendant's letter were put in the letter itself should be put in.

His Honour, after perusing the letter, said he considered it a privileged communication and that it was totally irrelevant to the case; moreover, if it were testimony it would be testimony-in-chief and therefore could not be received.

Plaintiff said it was impossible for him to put it in in chief. His proof in chief was simply to establish the fact that the defendant had spoken the words charged, he had nothing more to prove. Any attempt to introduce it at that stage would have been rejected, and properly so. It was only after the defendant had pleaded and attempted to prove justification and especially after he himself had introduced the reply of the department of state that it became his right to introduce this evidence and it seemed to him to be a great wrong that he should be deprived of it.

The Court then adjourned, to meet on a subsequent notice some time after the 28th instant.

CHANGES IN THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD.

NOTIFICATION No. 25 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that the offices of the Senior Chamberlain, Chamberlains, and Vice-Chamberlains in the Imperial Household Department have been abolished, and the offices of the Chamberlains have been rearranged as follows:—Senior Chamberlain (a *Chokunin*), ranking with officials of the first class; Chamberlains (*Sonin*), ranking with officials of the fourth to the seventh classes; Attendants (*Sonin*), ranking with officials of the ninth class.

SANJO SANEYOSHI, Prime Minister.

NOTIFICATION EXTRAORDINARY.

To all Government Departments, Senates, Boards, Cities, and Prefectures.

Ito Hirobumi, Privy Councillor, of the Fourth Degree and of the First Order of Merit, has been appointed Minister of the Imperial Household.

Tokudaiji Sanenori, Minister of the Imperial Household, of the Second Degree and of the First Order of Merit, has been appointed Senior Chamberlain.

SANJO SANEYOSHI, Prime Minister.

21st March, 1884.

H.M. the Empress and the Empress Dowager have given the sum of 500 *yen* towards the establishment of the Heian School in Kiyoto.

[NOTE.—*Hei-an* is the ancient name of Kiyoto.]

The Commanders of the Japanese men-of-war will hold a conference at the Eastern Admiralty Office, in order to deliberate upon the new Naval Criminal Law.

Various experiments have been made in the Medical Department in order to test the value of acupuncture and the application of the moxa. The experiments have conclusively demonstrated the usefulness of both in surgical operations.—*Choya Shimbun*.

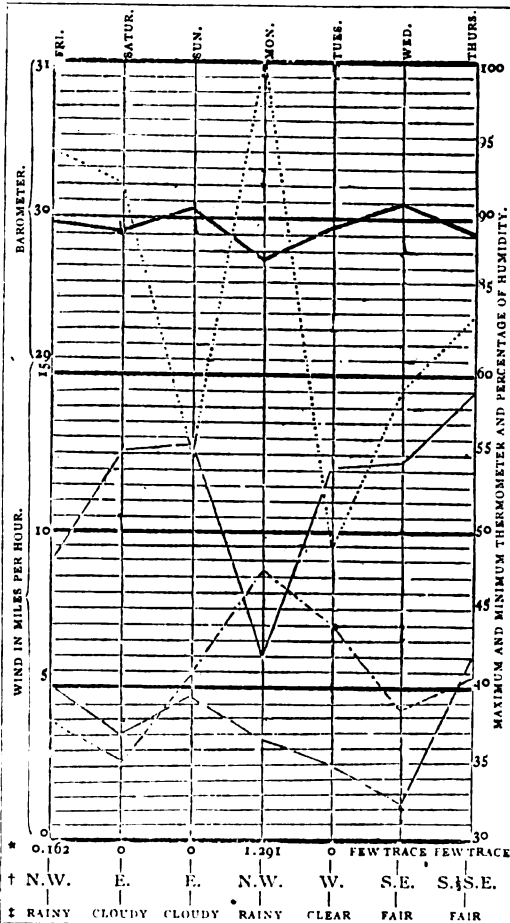
According to Notification No. 59c. of the Naval Department, the two men-of-war lately ordered from England are to be named the *Naniwa-Kan* and the *Takachiho-Kan*.—*Kwampo*.

[NOTE.—*Naniwa* is the ancient name of Osaka; *Takachiho* is the name of the mountain in the province of Hiuga on which the first human being—the Japanese Adam—is said to have descended from Heaven. The name has latterly been applied to denote the whole country.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 21ST, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 17.1 miles per hour on Tuesday at 4 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.157 inches on Wednesday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.665 inches on Monday at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 59.0 on Thursday, and the lowest was 32.4 on Wednesday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 56.3 and 28.1 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 1.453 inches, against 1.270 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per O. & O. Co. To-day.*
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Wednesday, April 2nd.†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, April 3rd.

* Oceanic left San Francisco on March 28th. † Menzaleh (with French mail) left Hongkong on March 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe ... per K. U. Co. Sunday, March 30th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, April 2nd.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, April 5th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Saturday, April 12th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 22nd.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Since the great battle, in which Osman Digma played a prominent part, the latter, having failed to rally the remnants of his following, has fled into the interior.

A complete stoppage of the traffic on the Nile beyond Berber has taken place, and the tribes are closing round Khartoum.

Despatches have been received from General Gordon dated March 15th.

THE FRENCH IN TONKIN.

The French claim an indemnity from China, and the sum is stated to be not less than six millions sterling.

The French troops have assaulted and captured Thaing-nyen without loss. The enemy's loss is said to be heavy.

London, March 25th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Spies have reported that Osman Digma, after his late retreat, has reached and is encamped at Tamieh. On receiving this information, the entire British force started in pursuit.

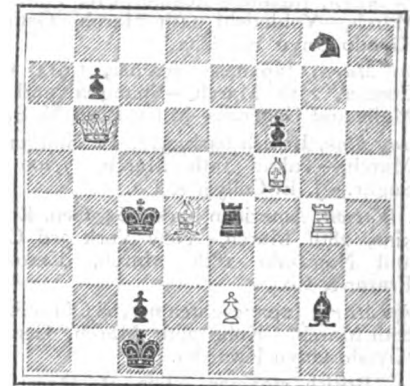
London, 28th March, 6.10 P.M.

Cotton, unaltered; Mid. Upland, 6d. Yarn, very firm. Shirtings, unaltered and steady. Silk, quiet and little doing.

CHESS.

By J. B. of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 22nd March, 1884, by "C. M. B." of Dundee.

White.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.—B. to R. 6. | 1.—Kt. to K. B. 5. |
| 2.—Q. to K. B. 5 ch. | 2.—K. takes Q. |
| 3.—P. to K. 4, mate. | |
| | if 2.—K. to K. 6. |
| 3.—Q. to Q. 3, mate. | |
| | if 1.—Q. takes P. |
| 2.—Q. to Q. 3 ch. | 2.—K. takes Q. |
| 3.—Kt. to B. 5, mate. | |
| | if 1.—R. to Q. sq. |
| 2.—Kt. to Q. 2 ch. | 2.—Kt. takes Kt. |
| 3.—B. to Q. B. 2, mate. | |
| | if 1.—Kt. to Q. 3. |
| 2.—Kt. to Q. 2 ch. | 2.—Kt. to Q. 4. |
| 3.—Q. takes Kt., mate. | |

Correct answers received from "TESA."

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with * run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with † are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kowyeiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Omura, 23rd March,—Yokkaichi 21st March, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 23rd March,—Kobe 21st March, General.—Seiriusha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, P. Hussey, 23rd March,—Kobe 21st March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 24th March,—Hakodate 21st March, Ogino-hama 23rd March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 1,787, W. G. Pearne, 25th March,—Hongkong 19th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 25th March,—Kobe 23rd March, General.—Nakamura-sha.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 25th March,—Yokosuka Dock 25th March.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 26th March,—Kobe 24th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, Owston, 26th March,—Hakodate 22nd March, General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Nomura, 26th March,—Shimidzu, 23rd March, General.—Seiriusha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 26th March,—Kobe 25th March, General.—Seiriusha.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 26th March,—Nagasaki 23rd March, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 26th March,—Handa 24th March, General.—Handasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 26th March,—Yokkaichi 24th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 27th March,—Yokkaichi 24th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 27th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Guiding Star, British bark, 312, H. Snitger, 27th March,—Takao 10th March, 7,200 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

B. F. Watson, American bark, 963, Geo. E. Hawkins, 28th March,—New York 3rd October and Nagasaki 18th March, Kerosene.—Frazar & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, MacFarlane, 28th March,—Kobe 26th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 27th March,—Hongkong 20th March via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 28th March,—Shimidzu 26th March, General.—Seiriusha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 28th March,—Yokkaichi 26th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 22nd March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 23rd March,—Hakodate via Niigata, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Eliza, American schooner, 75, Weston, 24th March,—Guam, Stores.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Hussey, 24th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Johann Carl, German schooner, 144, Schwartz, 25th March,—Taiwanfoo, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Kowyeiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Omura, 25th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 25th March,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 25th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Dithlefsen, 25th March,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,198, A. Webster, 26th March,—Kobe, General.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 298, Renny, 26th March,—Kobe, General.—H. MacArthur.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 26th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 26th March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 26th March,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 26th March,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 26th March,—Toba, General.—Yamamotosha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 26th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 27th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 27th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsukushi Kan Captain M. Matsumura, 27th March,—Yokosuka.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 27th March,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 28th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 28th March,—Hakodate via Ogino-hama Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 29th March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 29th March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeiki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—29 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—38 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Kasigawa, Susuki, Sirisawa, Awoki, Nakamura, Ono, Ooyama, Sirisawa, Habu, and Machida in cabin; and 151 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—Major and Mrs. Carr Dyer, Mr. Ah Chong and servant, and Mr. Chan San Pin in cabin. For San Francisco: Lieutenant G. B. Wyckoff, U.S.N., Rev. and Mrs. W. K. MacKibbin and children, Mr. and Mrs. B. O'Brien, and Mr. T. Leyburn in cabin. For Honolulu and San Francisco: 1,233 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Asahi Maru*, from Kobe:—78 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Goshing and 2 Japanese in cabin; and 105 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Will o' the Wisp*, from Hakodate:—Mr. Davis in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—87 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—66 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Yoshimura, Mrs. Fujioka and child, Messrs. Chas. H. Wilson, Alex. Center, J. W. Hellyer, A. T. Pritchard, J. J. Cowderoy, F. H. Hooper, N. J. Smith, Nishioka, Shin, Kojima, Mizuno, Hadano, Hirazawa, Yamamoto, and Matsuoka in cabin; Messrs. J. Gillespin, U.S.N., J. Shini, and J. White in second class; and one servant, 7 Chinese, and 146 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. Jansen, 7 children and European servant, Mr. P. Karbery; and 7 Europeans in steerage. For Liverpool: Mr. W. E. D. Bigsby in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Kobe:—48 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Scott, Dr. T. Scott, Dr. Cottell, Messrs. F. S. James, Ginsburg, Lowell, Fuld, Skinner, Kitaoka, and Queng Kung in cabin; and 7 Chinese and 23 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—22 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—78 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency Yenomoto, Minister to China, Mr. and Mrs. Ono and 2 children, Mrs. Kishida, Messrs. M. Baizing, J. Hunt, J. Rennie, O. Schubert, Yenomoto, Sakurai, Matsudaira and son, Ashida, Iba, Utsunomiya, Yekoshi, Fukuda, Takagi, Maiki, Nishimura, and Yoshimura in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—75 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco:—Lieutenant A. B. Wyckoff, U.S.N., Rev. and Mrs. K. McKibbin and 3 children, and Mrs. L. P. Perine in cabin; and 23 Europeans in steerage. For Honolulu: 1,214 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Jansen, 7 children and servant, Messrs. W. H. Chambers, U.S.N., H. W. Denison, and J. J. Cowderoy and child in cabin. For Liverpool: Dr. and Mrs. Watson, Messrs. W. E. D. Bigsby, W. Robertson, and T. Spencer in cabin. For Paris: Mr. F. Leyburn in cabin. For London: Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sinkins and Mr. C. Karberg in cabin.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. E. Pereira and Mow Loong in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—4,098 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$2,050.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,181.40. For San Francisco: \$38,700.00.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	301	—	—	301
Hiogo	119	451	2,557	3,127
Yokohama	1,947	650	306	2,903
Total	2,367	1,101	2,029	6,331

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	298	—	298
Shanghai	—	159	—	159
Yokohama	—	380	27	407
Total	—	837	27	864

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 14 bales; Treasure, \$13,700.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker reports leaving Hakodate on the 21st March, at 10 a.m. with fine weather to Ogino-hama, when arrived on the 22nd, at 10.20 a.m., and left on the 23rd, at 6 a.m. with moderate wind, and fine weather to Inu-boye; thence to port fresh adverse winds and thick rainy weather. Passed the *Niigata Maru* 49 miles south of Ogino-hama, and *Sekirio Maru* off Toyama Point, bound north.

The British steamer *Arabic*, Captain W. G. Pearne, R.N.R., reports leaving Hongkong on the 19th March, at 4.10 p.m. with moderate winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 25th March, at 1.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 20th March, at 4.25 p.m. with calms and light winds on the coast of China, and fresh northerly winds and rainy weather in the eastern sea. Arrived at Nagasaki on the 24th, at 4.20 p.m., and left on the next day, at 3 p.m. with light variable winds and overcast weather in the Inland Sea. Arrived at Kobe on the 27th, at 5.40 a.m., and left on same day, at 0.45 p.m. with light N.W. winds and a high S.W. swell in the Kii Channel, and rounded Oo-sima, at 9.5 p.m. with light variable winds to Cape Sima; thence to Rock Island moderate winds from the westward and overcast weather; thence to port fresh northerly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 28th March, at 6 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been very little business doing, owing, it is said by dealers, to the appreciation of *Kinsatsu*, and country buyers are disinclined to operate except from hand to mouth.

COTTON YARN.—A few small sales at full rates have been reported for early arrival, and holders are generally asking higher prices, but the Market is inactive.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Turkey Reds have been sold to a moderate extent, but Velvets as well as all plain Cottons are dull and neglected.

WOOLLENS.—The only article in good demand has been Mousseline de Laine, of which fair sales are reported.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.00 to 37.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.00 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

We are still without any further business to report in Oil, and the following quotations are therefore quite nominal. Deliveries have been 16,000 cases during the week, making our present Stock of sold and unsold Oil some 675,000 cases, including the cargo per *B. F. Watson* (35,276 cases) which has just arrived via Nagasaki from New York. The supply of Oil in second hands is very small, and will soon have to be replenished.

	PER CARR.
Devoe	\$1.75
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.68

SUGAR.

Business during the week, which has been on the smallest possible scale, has had no effect on prices, and the quotations below remain unaltered; Stocks are consequently increasing.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 20th instant, since when there has not been a large business passing, and

Settlements for the six days do not exceed 150 piculs. There has been a fair enquiry for the American mail, but desirable parcels are by no means plentiful, and the sudden drop in *Kinsatsu* has made holders very difficult to do business with.

Advices from European centres continue to report dull Markets there, and purchases destined for that quarter are very small. The business done has presumably been all for the outgoing O. & O. steamer, embracing chiefly *Hanks*, *Filatures*, and *Re-reels*, with a few *Kakedas*.

The Export figures for the week are quite insignificant, the only shipment made being 13 bales per P. & O. steamer *Kashgar* which left on the night of the 20th instant. These 13 bales were entered for France and bring the statistics of Export up to 28,063 bales, against 23,907 bales at same date last year, and 15,824 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—The Settlements recorded are not more than 30 piculs, and a good portion of this quantity has been sent back after inspection. Best quality is very scarce, and holders refuse business, except at very high rates. Prime *Hanks* are not to be found now, and anything grading above 2½ is held for a long price. Purchases made comprise *Shinshu* at \$520 and *Maibash* at \$515.

Filatures.—These have enjoyed the most favorable sales being reckoned at nearly 100 piculs. Good *Shinshu* kinds are very scarce, and the business done has ranged from Good *Koshu* at \$625 to Medium *Shinshu* at \$600. But little has transpired in the crack marks—a few bales *Nihonmatsu* have come in, and are expected to go in the *Arabic*. For *Tokosha* \$650 is talked about, but the owner is not inclined to press his goods for sale, having regard to the present quotation for currency.

Re-reels.—There is no Stock of these, and nothing has been done beyond the purchase of a few piculs No. 1 on basis of quotations given below. Some inferior *Oshu* are on offer, but so far without attracting any notice. We cannot expect any great arrivals for the remainder of the season, although with the mild spring weather, re-reeling will again commence, and some small parcels may come down next month.

Kakeda.—Nothing done beyond a couple of small transactions at \$580 and \$530 respectively. The Stock is very much reduced, and there are very few sellers. Some are inclined to hold for fancy rates, and the few enquiries made do not result in much business.

Oshiu and Coarse Kinds.—No purchases by foreign hongs; the small Stock is yet further attenuated by the demand on manufacturers' account.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 450 to 460
Filatures—Extra	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	615 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	Nom. 590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	Nom. 550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 2	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3	550 to 560
Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 26th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,871	11,997	7,796
America	8,553	8,191	5,093
England	2,639	3,719	2,935
Total	28,063	23,907	15,824

WASTE SILK.

Business has fallen off somewhat in this department, and Settlements are noted as 150 piculs only. Good Wastes are still in demand, but the Stock is

poor, and badly assorted. A few days ago dealers were a little anxious, and prices of *Kibiso* were looking weak. The course of the "*Satsu*" Market has made the Japanese less eager to sell, but doubtless buyers who can put up with inferior quality might be able to get in at something under our quotations. *Neri*, with any pretensions to quality, are wanted at an advance on late rates.

The P. & O. steamer of 20th instant took but 63 bales, and the Export up to the time of writing is very little over that of last year. The exact figures are 21,315 piculs, against 21,013 piculs to 26th March, last year, and 19,257 piculs at same date in 1882.

Noshi-ito.—Not very much done, the Stock being inferior, and of undesirable assortment, *Filatures* are wanted, but none are forthcoming at the moment. In *Joshu* *Noshi*, some few transactions, but purchasers are apparently inclined to wait for fresh arrivals and better quality. A small lot *Shinshu* quoted \$130, and some dribbles of *Kawamuki* were entered at \$55. Mild spring weather should start the *Filatures* and Reeling factories again; consequently arrivals may be looked for in small quantities next month.

Kibiso.—Some few parcels have found takers, but good quality is very scarce, and the lots offering of low grade stuff are very mixed and uncommon. The demand for Export is not strong, and prices of these inferior qualities must decline. The list of sales comprises *Shinshu* \$65 and \$55; *Sandanshu*, at \$47½. *Joshu* sorts look weaker at quotations. *Neri* has been wanted at an advance of \$2 on prices ruling six weeks ago.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshiu, Good to Best	Nom. 140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 22
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 26th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	19,120	17,845	16,026
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,168	3,231
	21,315	21,013	19,257

Exchange has drooped throughout the week; Sterling and Francs may be quoted unchanged, but U.S. Gold is lower. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 88½; 60 d/s., 89; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.65; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.67½. *Kinsatsu* have bounded suddenly, and, after touching 106, leave off 109 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 26th March, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,150		Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	300		Noshi-ito	100
Kakeda	140		Kibiso	520
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100		Mawata	20
Taysaam Kinds	10			
Total piculs	1,700		Total piculs	640

TEA.

The business transacted since our last report has been so trifling, that but little can be said about the Tea Market. Only a few scattering lots aggregating 90 piculs, comprise this week's business, and the Settlements at the corresponding period in 1883 was 340 piculs. Tea brokers are dictating their own prices, and buyers are obliged to submit to their terms in some cases. Over 400 piculs of Tea dust have been sold during the interval, and the prices paid for some parcels must show a pretty good profit to the seller. Tea dust cannot be bought now at less than \$5 per picul, as the Stock only amounts to some 200 piculs. The O. & O. steamer *Arabic*, which sailed on the 28th instant, took 2,903 packages Tea and her Tea cargo would have been larger had she more room. Quotations remain nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$14 & under
Good Common	16 to 18
Medium	20 to 22
Good Medium	Nominal

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Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
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May 1st, 1883.

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Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
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OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A COUNTRY residence for the Empress Dowager is in process of construction at Ikao.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club is advertised for the 8th, 9th, and 10th of May.

A COMPETITIVE exhibition of isinglass was opened at Shimashita, in the province of Settsu, on the 21st ultimo. There were 123 exhibitors.

NEWS from Korea says that the best Chinese troops have been recalled, presumably with a view to their employment in Tonquin.

AN appropriation of 5,000 yen has been made to defray the expenses of Japanese Exhibits at the approaching Dendrological Exhibition in England.

A FIRE occurred in Shirokane-cho, Tokiyo, on the 30th ultimo, destroying 72 houses and injuring 19.

A SERIOUS epidemic of small-pox is reported from Nagasaki and Kumamoto. The disease is said to be spreading to Fukuoka and Kagoshima.

ON the 30th ultimo, H.I.M. the Emperor went on a hunting expedition to Renkoji, in the Prefecture of Kanagawa.

A NAVAL regatta was held on the Sumida-gawa, Tokiyo, on the 2nd instant. His Majesty the Mikado was present. The programme included fifteen races, of which fourteen were for men-of-

war's men and one for cadets. A number of torpedoes were also exploded.

EXPRESSIONS of condolence on account of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany have been conveyed from the Imperial Household to H.B.M. Legation.

A VOLCANO in Mount Aso, province of Higo, has broken out into active eruption, and discharged considerable quantities of ashes and scoriæ over the neighbouring country.

THE Mitsu Bishi steamship *Kinoye Maru* ran down a junk of 55 *koku* burthen, near the island of Natsu, Sagami, on the 19th ultimo. One life was lost.

AN elaborate code of rules for the control of persons engaged in transactions with second-hand goods has been compiled and published.

It is reported that the Korean Government proposes to send a Representative to Peking, thus, for the first time, asserting Korea's complete independence of China.

THE *Tokiyo Statistical Journal* has published some curious figures showing that the number of thefts committed throughout Japan vary, with almost mathematical regularity, as the price of rice.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, embodying a set of Regulations regarding the engagement and discharge of sailors in vessels of foreign build owned by Japanese.

THE late master of the *Akitsuishima Maru* has appealed, to the *Kôso Saibansho*, from the judgment of a Marine Court (assembled under the authority of the Minister of Agriculture) which suspended his certificate.

ONE of the men concerned, six years ago, in the assassination of His Excellency Okubo, escaped from the Ishikawajima jail on the night of the 27th instant. He was arrested a few days afterwards by a detective disguised as a jinriki-sha coolie.

THE Accounts of the Charity performances by the French Amateurs have been published, showing a credit balance of \$364.31, which was divided between the Yokohama General Hospital, the Société Française de Secours, and the Amateur Orchestra (for charitable purposes).

AN action for libel brought by the United States Consul-General Van Buren against Dr. T. H. Tripler of Yokohama, was concluded on the 3rd instant. The Honorable J. A. Bingham, U.S. Minister, before whom the case was tried, reserved judgment.

THE Yokohama rowing season was formally opened on the afternoon of the 29th ultimo, by a procession of six boats, one six-oar and five four-oars, which pulled round the shipping. The water was too rough to permit the pair-oars and single sculls to join in the procession.

THE prefecture of Akita is suffering from an epidemic of *kakke*. Up to the middle of Fe-

bruary, 40 adults are said to have succumbed to the disease, and 300 others are suffering from it. A special office has been established in the Imperial Naval Department to carry on investigations in connection with the malady.

THE vernacular press still continues to discuss the question of treaty revision with unabated energy, the opposition journals condemning any measure which stops short of completely recovering for Japan those two powers—*hōken* and *zeiken*—judicial and fiscal, which are gradually passing into a species of national watchword.

STATISTICS have been published, showing that the average annual loss by fires in Tokiyo during the decade 1874-83 was 1,957,150 yen. The Government has submitted to the Tokiyo Local Assembly a project for increasing the numbers of the fire-brigades, and generally re-organizing them, as well as making provision for a larger supply of water.

A MERCANTILE Shipping Company (*Shosen Kwaisha*) has been started at Osaka with a capital of 1,500,000 yen. Fourth-fifths of this sum is represented by the vessels handed over to the new corporation by the former Cōoperative Steamship Co. (*Domei Kisen Kwaisha*), and the remaining fifth is to be raised by 6,000 shares at fifty yen each. Fifty vessels have been chartered by the officers of the Shipping Bureau (*Kwansen Kioku*).

THE Omi tea producers and manufactures have been the first to carry out the provisions of the Notification recently issued by the First Minister of State and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Forty-seven of them assembled at the end of last month, and drew up a number of bye-laws which have been submitted for the approval of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

NOTES.

It is interesting to observe that Italy, after setting the world an example in the matter of colossal ships of war, is beginning to wonder whether her huge playthings will really strike, in the day of battle, such effective blows as their projectors anticipated. A distinguished naval officer, Commandant Cottrau, has presented to the Minister of Marine, at Rome, a valuable memoir on the subject of coast-defence. He does not venture to shock public opinion by decrying the big ships openly. On the contrary, he pays them the pretty compliment of saying that Italy has reason to be proud of such magnificent monsters. But—and here comes the fine sarcasm of the thing—he doubts whether the possession of these remarkable *chefs d'œuvres* of naval construction may not lull the nation into a false security. Two years ago Sir William Armstrong said that the invulnerability of ships of war was no longer anything but a dream. He did not specially allude to the "splendid and terrible colossi" of Italy, but simply to the fact that guns had won the day against armour. No coat of mail a ship is

capable of carrying can withstand the blows she must expect to receive. Better, then, avoid the blows than invite them. Monsters like the *Inflexible* and the *Baudin* would be hard to miss in action. To hit the target they offer of 400 square *mètres*, one need only train a gun to the proper quarter of the heavens. True, they have water-tight compartments, so that several windows might be made in their sides before the danger of sinking became imminent. But who supposes that a ship could remain at sea, manoeuvre, and fight her guns, with holes in her ribs through which, to use a gallant officer's description, "an omnibus might drive?" So Commandant Cottrau thinks that these colossi ought not to be too much exposed. He would keep them for the decisive blow—as a sort of reserve, in short—and use smaller, swifter ships in the early stages of the war. This, we suspect, is the first note of the big ships' death-knell, so far as Italy is concerned. If they are too vulnerable to be trusted into the battle, they had better be laid up at once in glass museums. England will inevitably come to the same conclusion ere long. As military tactics have ceased to include the phalanx and the battalion of quarter distance columns among fighting formations, so naval tactics will discard these unweildy monsters, which only embody the principle of force against intelligence. The swift steel double-ender, handy, comparatively inexpensive, and capable of striking as heavy a blow as any colossus, is undoubtedly the battle ship of the future. Sir William Armstrong, the designer of this class of vessel, will hereafter be counted the chief of naval architects, as he is already reckoned the father of breech-loading ordnance in Europe.

A SUBJECT so important as currency redemption naturally provokes discussion. Were all the articles and letters it has inspired during the past five years in Yokohama collected, they would form a ponderous volume. How much of the volume would remain if everything contradictory and illogical were expunged from its contents, we cannot venture to assert. But certainly the process of excision would bring to light many illustrations of the happy irresponsibilities of ephemeral journalism. A recent instance is too remarkable to pass without comment. The Memorial presented to the Foreign Representatives by the merchants of Yokohama in March, 1882, recommended two distinct processes with regard to the currency: the one, a stimulation of the demand for *Kinsatsu*, and and therefore an improvement in their value, the other, an accumulation of specie to redeem them. A local journal, commenting on the Memorial, called this "a sound financial policy." Now it happens that since the Memorial was written, the measures taken by the Government have affected an appreciation of about 30 per cent. in the value of *Kinsatsu*. Those measures are, however, denounced by the same journal as "an unsound policy," and are said to have been "based upon principles diametrically opposite" to the recommendations of the Memorialists. In reality, the only difference is, that the Government, instead of seeking to increase the demand has diminished the supply. The Memorialists would have essayed to produce equilibrium between the volume of the currency and its functions by stimulating trade and increasing exports. The Government has nearly produced equilibrium by reducing the volume of the currency and directly encouraging exports. Both

plans are founded on the same economical principle, that fiat notes will circulate at par with specie so long as they are not issued in excess of national requirements. It would, no doubt, have been very convenient and pleasant to follow the Memorialists' plan, but unfortunately the signatories themselves were unwilling to submit to the only condition which could have rendered their programme practicable. Pursuing the comparison of the two methods, we find, that while the Memorialists "proposed, by fostering trade, to ensure a natural reaction in the currency," the newspaper which calls this "a sound financial policy," asserts, in the same breath, that "the Government's efforts have resulted in checking trade, whereby currency has acquired an artificial and untrustworthy nominal value." It appears, then, that in this wonderful country of Japan, fiat paper may be made to appreciate both by checking trade and by fostering trade. Nor is this all. Another objectionable feature of the Government's scheme, we learn, is that it "absorbs and exports the available produce of the people to cover the heavy foreign expenditure for which no return beneficial to the nation is received." Unless the plan set forth in the Memorial contemplated repudiation of Japan's paltry foreign debts, it is hard to see how their discharge could have been less necessary even though the measures recommended to stimulate trade were actually carried out. Perhaps there is something here not discernible by ordinary eyes. Perhaps if foreign-owned ships were permitted to enter unopened ports, the foreign expenditure of the Government might become beneficial to the nation. But the sequence of ideas is too subtle for our perception. So, too, is the assertion that "the redemption of currency with money is as far off now as it was in 1882." Seeing that the volume of the currency has been reduced from 160 to 125 millions; that its value has appreciated from a discount of 40, to a discount of 9 per cent., and that the specie reserve in the Treasury has been increased from four to twenty-two millions, it seems a little extravagant to say that resumption is as far off now as it was in 1882. The appreciation that has been produced by diminishing the number of *Kinsatsu* in circulation is just as real as the appreciation that might have been produced by increasing the demand for them. The latter plan would doubtless have been wholesomer and less disagreeable, but the Government, having to choose between the two, naturally, as it seems to us, choose the more feasible, and carried it out. If they did not clearly see their way to expand trade up to the volume of the currency, there was nothing for it but to contract the latter to the dimensions of the former.

THE Naval Regatta on the Sumidagawa, which took place on Wednesday, was very largely attended, many thousands of spectators being present. The day was fine, a bright sun in a cloudless sky, but a bleak north wind made it rather cold and raised clouds of dust. H.I.M. the Mikado, Ministers of State, and a large number of naval and military officers of all branches of the service were present, and the Empress and Empress Dowager, attended by fifteen ladies-in-waiting, were in the pavilion in Court costume, and presented a brilliant appearance. The programme consisted of fourteen races, between crews from the various men-of-war and the naval barracks and schools, and these were well contested, an extra race for cadets winding up

the afternoon's sport. After the races some torpedo experiments were exhibited to illustrate the method of counter-mining in an enemy's water where torpedoes are known to be laid down. The experiments were eminently successful, but were on a small scale on account of the narrowness of the river. Six torpedoes were exploded singly, each containing 180 lbs. of powder, and this was sufficient to raise an enormous column of water. The counter mine, consisting of six, of 50 lbs. each, was exploded in line, showing how a passage for vessels could be cleared of obstructions.

STEAMERS from Europe arriving at Boston, says an American paper, report that they encountered immense fields of ice. The *Virginian*, from Liverpool, when near the Grand Banks, skirted an immense field of ice for some hours, and was obliged to change her course to get out of the way of it. The *Virginian* met the steamship *Sidonian*, from Boston for Glasgow. The latter vessel had encountered an ice field on the 3rd Feb, and was many hours forcing her way through. A hole had been stove in her port bow, and her steering-gear was damaged. She is an iron boat, with five bulkheads, and did not require assistance. The *Kansas*, from Liverpool, passed four large icebergs in mid-ocean. Icebergs thus early in the season are regarded as indicating an open winter in Arctic waters.

ONE cannot but sympathise heartily with the project now on foot in this Settlement to combine several of the sporting associations into one strong club, really representative of Yokohama. The place is too small for such a division of strength as exists at present. In the discussion which the project has evoked, stress is laid on the possible injustice that may be done to members of the less important associations by requiring them either to sacrifice the peculiar game of their predilection, or to carry it on under the condition of supporting other games which, perhaps, they do not affect. It seems to us that this is entirely a question for the majority to decide. It is impossible to please everybody. There must be some sacrifices. If it can be shown that the balance of advantage is on the side of amalgamation, the few interests that will suffer must be content to suffer. Certainly the men who subscribe to all the associations and play all the games in question, have a right to more consideration, than those whose sporting capabilities are less fully developed. We confess that some of the objections urged against amalgamation do not commend themselves for profundity. We are told, for example, that the proposal "threatens the *raison d'être* of the Cricket Club and seems to turn it into an *olla podrida* of games, in which cricket—pure and simple—would be a thing of the past." Apparently the critic who wrote this is haunted by a phantasy that the results of amalgamation are to extend to the games themselves, and that in future the cricket-ground will be the scene of hybrid performances, partaking in part of base-ball, foot-ball, lawn-tennis, athletics, and cricket. To be sure, if cricket is so haughtily conservative that to share its account-books with other sports would contaminate it, the scheme must be condemned as sacrilegious. This novel view of the game appears, also, to be responsible for the notion advanced by the same writer, that because the Club in its present unadulterated form "produces" a good eleven, "any proposal

tending to radically alter its constitution, or to relegate cricket to the background" is to be looked on with suspicion. One would imagine that the strength of a team depended on the constitution of the club, and that the productive powers of the latter varied with its exclusiveness. Then, again, we are told that a Committee comprising members "elected on behalf of each separate game is, at once, enough to condemn" the scheme, "for the fact that different members are to be elected for the sake of advocating the rights of each particular branch of the sports, pre-supposes an antagonism between each—each member contending for his own particular hobby, as opposed to those of others—which would be destructive of any harmonious working of the Club as a whole." This chimera is about as comic as the apprehended disappearance of pure, unadulterated cricket. Why a foot-ball player should fight with a cricketer because both serve on the same Committee, or what idea of mutual antagonism is involved in the principle of each interest being fairly represented, we cannot pretend to understand. Neither, indeed, does the writer himself, so far as we can judge, for while foreseeing that everybody will fight if brought together, he admits that he could find a reason for bringing them together "had the Committee of the Cricket Club shown any particular objection to other games." That is to say, if cricketers were animated by a hostile spirit against base-ballers, they would be likely to work well together, but being friendly, their combination will involve disputes. Were cricket in any real danger, it would find, we trust, sounder support than this. But in fact, cricket, so far from suffering by the scheme, will be largely benefited. Mr. Abbott's letter to our contemporary, the *Gazette*, shows that the immediate effect of his plan will be to add 25 new members to the Cricket Club. Twenty-five new members means an increase of \$250 in annual income, or of \$200 net—deducting the Foot-ball Association's rent. This would enable the ground to be put in thoroughly good order, and other desirable improvements to be effected. Everybody concerned would gain, and we wish the proposal success if only for the sake of seeing Yokohama united in its sports, at all events.

It is not pleasant to live in company with the possibility of finding one's house tottering and crumbling at any moment about one's ears. Yet, on the whole, Japan's liability to earthquakes is compensated by her immunity from floods, tornadoes, and other horrors which visit more Western lands. The story that comes from America of the Carolina Cyclone is full of terrible details. The storm seems to have been first felt in Johnston County on the night of February the 19th. It was moving southward in a track from a quarter to half a mile wide, and everything it touched went down before it. Houses were wrecked, and whole families crushed to death or dashed into the woods and swamps. Wagons are said to have been lodged in tree tops, and beams hurtled along with such tremendous force that they cut off the heads, or broke the backs, of everyone they touched. After sweeping down a track ten miles long, the storm soared again into the air, to descend with renewed fury at a point forty miles distant. In its second onset it killed twenty-five people in one village and laid every house in ruins. Pitiably accounts are given of little children blown into swamps and killed by falling trees or

by exposure to the bitter cold. Altogether the losses of life in South Carolina are put at ninety, while the number of persons injured is a hundred. The wounds of the dead are described as most horrible; some having their heads crushed flat, others with immense splinters through their bodies, others impaled on broken trees, and others again "forced into piles of logs and having their intestines torn out."

It will be remembered that when General T'so T'sung-tang visited Shanghai last October, his escort showed themselves so truculent and disorderly that a complaint was addressed by the Municipal Council to the Board of Consuls. The Council's representations subsequently took the form of a request that limits should be set to the numbers of a Chinese high official's escort when passing through the foreign settlement, but as the Consuls declined to assume this position *vis-à-vis* the Chinese local authorities, the correspondence was ultimately forwarded to the Foreign Representatives in Peking. Since then, the new Chairman of the Municipal Council has again addressed the Senior Consul with regard to the outrages committed by T'so's soldiers on the occasion of that dignitary's second visit to the settlement in February. This last communication contains the following intimation:—

The Municipal Council, while according to a Chinese official the right to land in the Settlement with a well-behaved unarmed escort befitting his rank, take exception altogether to his landing with an armed force, and I have to request that you will communicate without delay the substance of this letter to the Diplomatic Representatives at Peking, urging that they should concert measures with the Chinese authorities to regulate official privileges in similar cases. Until the Foreign Ministers have had time and opportunity to arrive at an understanding upon the important subject which you are now requested to submit to them, it will be the duty of the Municipal Council to intimate to the Taotai through you, should the occasion arise, that in the interest of all nationalities only an unarmed escort should enter the Settlement, but that in all cases, Chinese officials of distinction, in Municipal limits will meet with the courtesies which usage and propriety entitle them to.

Undoubtedly this will hereafter be quoted as a very wonderful phase of foreign relations with the Middle Kingdom. The Municipal Council of Shanghai, primarily holding their authority from the Chinese Government, "accord to a Chinese official the right to land in the Settlement with a well behaved unarmed escort, but take exception altogether to his landing with an armed force." As a novelty, an unarmed escort is curious enough, but the notion of a municipal council interfering at all in such matters is still more curious. Conceive the municipality of Dover forbidding a guard of honor to carry arms when receiving General Roberts on his return from India! Chinese soldiers, it is true, seem resolved to misbehave themselves in foreign settlements, and the people of Shanghai have a right to claim immunity from outrages such as those they suffered at the hands of T'so's braves. But the position they have now taken seems quite untenable. The numbers and equipment of an Imperial Officer's escort are matters that come entirely within the province of the Imperial Government, and cannot, under any conceivable circumstances, be regulated by municipal authority. The Municipality of Shanghai, however, does not mean to wait for instructions from Peking. In the interim it takes the law into its own hands, and intends to intimate to the Taotai, if the occasion arises, that only an unarmed escort should enter the Settlement. But suppose the Taotai disregards this intimation, as he certainly will, not having any power to act upon it. Will the Municipal Police be then directed

to disarm the high official's escort? That would probably be a noisy business. We trust that dignitaries with armed followings will keep away from Shanghai for the present.

NEW YORK has done its best to honour the remains of the men who perished in the pursuit of that mischievous will-o-the-wisp, the North Pole. Perhaps in no part of the world and at no period in the world's history, were funeral rites invested with so much pomp and parade as they are in the United States at present. There is much that is shocking, if not revolting, in the morbid propensity that generally dictates these displays, but in the tribute paid to the memory of the *Jeanette's* dead one recognizes a feeling with which all can sympathise. After performing a species of triumphant procession half round the globe, the ten corpses, or what remained of them, reached the Hoboken Dock on the 20th of February. There, for the first time in their long progress, they seem to have been treated with some little neglect, for they remained, throughout the night, without a guard of honour or other mark of respect, and watched over by only two men, brothers of the meteorologist, Mr J. J. Collins, whose coffin was among the number. The following morning, however, this oversight was remedied, and a volunteer guard stood sentry over the dead, while hour by hour a crowd of respectful sight-seers surged beyond a barrier which the troops had erected. At noon Mrs. De Long arrived, and throwing herself upon her husband's coffin, "sobbed convulsively for many minutes." A curious, and, one cannot help thinking, fortunate, mistake seems to have been made by those who forwarded the caskets. When the latter were shipped at Orenburg, a quantity of cork chips were sent with them to serve as packing. The chips were, however, placed about the bodies inside the caskets as well as about the latter, so that the faces of the corpses were not visible when the shield plates were removed. On the 22nd the bodies were carried by water to the New York side, where, from the Battery to the City Hall Park, every building was either draped in mourning or otherwise prepared for the occasion. The crowds are described as immense. In fact the whole city seems to have turned out, and the colossal dimensions of the gathering were not more remarkable than the perfect decorum observed throughout. Arrived at the Navy Yard, the bodies were laid in state until the evening, there receiving visits from thousands on thousands of mourners. Ultimately they were carried off to be buried, each in the place chosen by its friends.

THE sudden death of the Duke of Albany was doubtless caused by a more severe attack than usual of the malady from which he has long suffered. That he was in no condition to excite alarm, up to the middle of February, is attested by the fact that, on the 15th of the month he took part in an amateur concert at Esher, in aid of a local charity, singing the ballad composed by Frederick Clay, to Kingsley's verses, "The Sands of Dee." A few evenings before, at Dorking, he was the victim of a most unpleasant contretemps. He attended a county ball, and at the moment of leaving, while lifting his hat in return to the farewell salute of the company, received in his face the greater part of the contents of a pot of beer, flung by one of the subscribers to the entertainment, whose name has not been published, although it is stated that he holds a good position in society, and belonged

to several clubs, from which he has since been expelled. The assailant immediately offered profuse apologies, declaring that he had intended the insult for another person; and with this lame excuse the Duke was inclined let the matter pass by. It had, however, been generally observed that His Royal Highness was at the moment surrounded by ladies only, one of whom was likewise drenched by the operation, so that the wretched attempt at explanation was held insufficient, and the culprit would probably have been subjected to severer penalties, but for the Duke's unexpected death.

MR. WALTER has offered the position of Editor of *The Times* to Mr. Leonard H. Courtenay, a gentleman well known in political circles, both as financial Secretary to the Treasury, and as member of parliament from Liskeard. He has long been a writer for *The Times*, holding about the same connection with the great journal as that of Mr. Lowe, in former years. It can hardly be doubted that he will accept, knowing, as he must from his associations with journalism, that the power and distinction attached to the editorial management of *The Times* are far in advance of anything that a secretaryship in a Government office can confer. The pecuniary advantage is also considerable, his official salary being only £2,000. His labors in the new sphere will be excessive, especially if he aims at restoring the paper to the condition of supremacy in which it was left by Mr. Delane. It may be questioned, indeed, if that feat is not beyond human accomplishment. To make *The Times* what it was ten years ago, two vigorous bodies and two powerful minds were sacrificed; the manager, so called, succumbing several years before the editor. The choice of Mr. Chenery as Mr. Delane's successor was not fortunate, and no newspaper reader needs to be told that the reputation of the leading journal began to decline from the time that it was controlled by an Oxford savant, instead to an active man of the busy world. A great daily cannot rest upon its past glories, and nothing but a constant renewal of intellectual energy can sustain its force. Mr. Delane contrived to supply this, while he remained in charge, not by his own personal effort altogether, but by the employment of the best available material. He seldom wrote, himself;—partly, perhaps, for the reason that while gifted with an admirable faculty of moulding the work of others, his own productions were anything but first class, but more particularly because a metropolitan editor cannot indulge in original composition without neglecting his proper duties;—and he devoted himself to the task of fusing all the elements under his sway,—often very discordant in their primitive shape,—blending them harmoniously, and stamping them with the unmistakable "hall-mark" of Printing House Square, before giving them publicity. How he toiled, year after year, few except those in his immediate confidence were aware. His heart was in his vocation, but his mind toward the end, could not stand the strain. Mr. Chenery's sympathies were with other walks of literature,—if, indeed, a daily newspaper comes fairly within the compass of literature. To the supreme requirement of enterprising journalism, the collection and distribution of news, he seemed indifferent; and of the vital necessity for disciplined organization he was apparently unconscious. His rôle was so lax that he permitted the

principal proprietor to take the reins out of his hands on more than one occasion; and this for purposes which were so palpably unworthy of an organ of English opinion as to call forth the severest public criticism. No one who followed the course of *The Times* during the last months of Lord Beaconsfield's administration can have forgotten the extraordinary surrender of independent spirit which then enfeebled its columns. Persons who pretend to speak with authority have stated that the losses of that period, in circulation and in advertising patronage, have never been recovered. But in spite of all this, there is only one *Times*, with its imposing dimensions, its mechanical perfection, its plenitude of omniscience, and its still haughty and autocratic bearing, which can never be found fault with, so long as it is sanctioned by popular submission. The mighty machine stands in its familiar place, a little rusty and out of gear, it may be, but capable of mighty deeds, if only the right hand to direct it be forthcoming.

THE *North China Herald* recently gave us a new and interesting version of the quarrel between Li Hung-chang and General Gordon about the slaughter of the Wangs at Soochow. According to the story told by our Shanghai contemporary, the massacre was ordered by Li's colleague, and the Viceroy's fault was limited to a want of becoming firmness. This information was furnished to the *North China Herald* by "an official who was attached to Li's person at the time of the occurrence and who spoke from personal knowledge." Another gentleman has now come forward with a different story which he publishes, in the form of a letter, in the same journal:—

When Soochow was taken, Li had been Futai of Kiangsu for about two years, and was not only in nominal but in very real command of the Forces by which it was recovered. He had made his mark under Tseng Kuo-fan, and, at the time you speak of, so far from being a struggling adventurer, was an object of considerable jealousy to the latter, and held the highest rank. As for his infirmity of purpose, he had shown on many occasions that he meant to have his way and would not bow to anyone, however great the odds against him, and I should have liked to see some of his Generals try to interfere with him. As for taking a man of six feet high, strong and vigorous as he was, by the waist, and pushing him into an inner tent, the thing is absurd. The Wangs were killed in his presence, and not in a tent at all, but in one of the Yaméns in the city.

Gordon did not become Li's adviser till he was well up. He certainly had a great liking for a man who served him well, but he used him as he used others, and never was indebted to him for more than loyal service. Li's was throughout the ruling spirit. Sir James Hope had some influence over him, but even him he met and dealt with as an equal, not as a dependent, and could and would say so very decidedly when pressed to any course he was not disposed to take, long before he was in the strong position he occupied when Soochow was taken.

Now, as for the supposed treachery. Thinking they had surrendered at discretion, Gordon had given his word that the lives of the Wangs should be spared; but he had done so without authority. The Wangs thought he had done more,—that he had guaranteed them continuance of power; and when they swaggered into Li's presence bearing themselves as if they were still the lords of the city, Li saw that the place was not taken though he was inside the walls, that in another minute the fighting would commence again, and the chances were he and his would be kicked out, possibly come to utter grief. It was no moment for hesitation; weakness would have been ruin, and the choice was given of instant submission or instant death. They would not submit, and off went their heads, and their followers were cowed. I never sympathized with Gordon's mad rage on the occasion, for it was always my opinion that he had not grasped the position, and that Li could not act otherwise. One can understand Gordon's rage, but it arose from a mistake as to what was the real state of affairs. We looked on him as the General in Command, and he did the same, but Li only looked on him as one of his lieutenants.

It is easy to see that here, too, we are listening to one who actually took part in the events he relates. But it is inconceivable that if Gordon

had acted without Li's authority in promising the Wangs their lives, he would have subsequently treated the Viceroy as a foresworn traitor. The English soldier was a just man before everything. He might have been incensed to the extent of immediately resigning his command when he found that his solemn engagement to the Wangs was not respected by the Chinese General. But would this have induced him to attempt the latter's destruction? Would he have tried to shoot his colleague and nominal superior merely because a slight had been put upon himself? We think not, and those that know Gordon will be of the same mind. We ourselves have heard it related by one who gave Gordon as his authority, that not only did Li promise to spare the lives of the Wangs, but that he also undertook to provide a banquet for them, and that Gordon's characteristic reply was, "I don't care about the banquet, but I want your word." On the whole, if Li is to be exonerated, it must be on the evidence of the *North China Herald's* first informant. The objection made by the correspondent quoted above—that a man of Li's size, strength, and known resolution could not have been thrust aside—loses its force when we remember that the story of Li being pushed into a tent by his subordinate is qualified by an explanation that he did not at the time suspect the latter of any immediate design upon the Wangs' lives. He might very well have yielded for the moment, believing that he still retained the power to keep his promise to Gordon.

THE Yokohama Bible Class holds a meeting every Sunday afternoon, at 3.30 p.m., in the rooms above the Bible Society, at No. 42. The class is open to all over sixteen years of age, and is presided over by the Rev. G. J. Smith.

MR. HENRY WATTERSON, who is about to introduce into Congress, in the interest of the press, a measure which he calls a newspaper "copyright" law, thus explains its object in the *New York Tribune*:—"It simply operates to protect property in news from piratical concurrent publication. This can be done by a clause in the copyright laws making collected news, the product of skilled labor and outlay, exclusive to those who pay for it, for twenty-four hours. I mean all news and news of every description and every association. As matters are, news is not recognized as property at all. Everything about a newspaper office, from the perfecting press to the newsman's pot of paste, is property, and he who steals it falls within the reach and compass of the law. But that which constitutes the real value of the newspaper property—its news franchises—costing vast sums of money and years of special enterprise, training, and labor—has no legal status whatever. It is practically outlawed; anybody can steal it with impunity. The proposed measure protects it from pirated use and concurrent publication for twenty-four hours. It creates, indeed, a new property; that is, property in news. No one can oppose it except those who want to rob others of their labor and money."

A LETTER from Constantinople, published in a Vienna paper, says that Secret Committees at Cairo, Beyrout, and the Turkish capital, are in active correspondence with Arabi, with a view to starting a general Pan-Islam movement in Western Asia and Northern Africa. The Sultan does not like the notion, it is said.

If we may judge by the rumours circulated in the columns of our Shanghai contemporaries, China is divided between two sentiments,—anger, bitter and deep, against France, and an eager anxiety to hide her own complicity in the resistance which the Black Flags have offered in Tonquin. It is stated that the recent publication by the *North China Herald* of the Imperial Edict appointing the chief of the Black Flags, Liu Jung-fu, to be Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Tonquin, has greatly incensed the Empress, and that a Secret Decree has now been issued to Admiral P'êng, ordering that official to inform all the Viceroys and Governors in the Eighteen Provinces that should such an indiscretion be repeated, immediate steps are to be taken for the arrest and decapitation, without further authority, of the guilty person; while the official from whose Yamên the document may have been stolen, is to be liable to the severest punishment and degradation. It is certainly highly inconvenient to a Government to know that its secret proceedings are likely to be blazoned abroad at any moment in the columns of a newspaper perused by its enemies, and we can sympathise with the Empress' indignation against the treachery of her subjects. "It would be difficult to exaggerate," says the *North China Herald*, "the consternation caused in official circles by the receipt of this Decree," and then naively adds, "we have hitherto been unable to obtain a copy of the document." Are we to presume from this that if our contemporary does obtain a copy he means to publish it? Liberty of the press is a fine thing in its way, and a newspaper's chief function is to procure news, but when the price paid for an item is the possible decapitation of one individual and the severe punishment and degradation of another, the claims of an inquisitive public begin to look insignificant. Regarding this matter from a Chinese standpoint, we should be disposed to doubt whether the privileges conferred by a treaty of commerce and amity extend to the publication, within Chinese territories, of a foreign journal in whose columns matter highly detrimental to China's national interests finds indiscriminate insertion. It ought not to be an extravagant claim that an English newspaper, printed and circulated on Chinese soil, should be as careful to avoid causing embarrassment to the Chinese, as to the British, Government. Certainly this would not be counted too high a code of ethics were the positions reversed.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in the United States to protect telegraphic and other original matter in newspapers for the period of twenty-four hours, by the introduction of a bill for that purpose which has been drawn up by Mr. Henry Waterson. This has become a necessity, according to many newspapers in the States, on account of the loose ideas upon the subject of *meum* and *tuum* entertained by some of their contemporaries. A recent *Alta*, says editorially:—"That news may become property is a fact too clear for dispute. To collect and transmit it requires skilled labor and a command of those modern agencies of commerce, the telegraph and post-office. The labor employed in collecting and transmitting the news costs money, and when it is purchased in this way, why should not news be subject to ownership, like other products of labor? If subject to ownership it is property, and if it is property, news ought to

enjoy protection as much as other descriptions of property. Property is a right, and the very essence of right, say the legal writers, is in the duty laid on others respecting the possessor of that right. Thus, liberty is a personal right, and liberty means nothing but the obligation imposed on others to respect the possessor of the right of liberty in the exercise of his personal faculties and the disposal of his property according to his own pleasure, subject to certain restrictions made necessary for the good of society. Property without protection is an anomaly, but that is the status of news at the present time. A great newspaper pays many thousand dollars every month for telegraphic news, and yet it cannot protect itself against the piracy of that news by dishonest competitors. It usually happens that a paper which pays a great deal for news has a large circulation, and it requires hours to print enough copies to meet the daily demand. The dishonest competing newspaper, which has but a small circulation, holds back its issue until it can obtain an early copy of its rival, when the telegraphic news is cut out, put in type, and the paper printed and sold on the street in competition with that which is the real owner of the news. One pays \$1,000 for the news and the other not a penny. Is it common justice or common sense that the law should give the latter the same enjoyment of this property as that possessed by the newspaper whose money has bought it! Or take the case of the afternoon paper which scissors all its telegraphic news out of the columns of its morning contemporaries. The latter are the sufferers by this practice, for the evening newspapers necessarily compete more or less with the sale of the morning papers. Many subscribers are lost to morning newspapers because they find a full summary of the morning news in evening papers which obtain it, not by purchase, but by a simple act of appropriation. The Waterson bill protects property in news only for the term of twenty-four hours, which is surely a very modest demand. If the public would be in any way the loser by the adoption of this bill—if it would tend to reduce the quantity of news collected and transmitted by telegraph—there would not be so good an argument for its passage. But instead of an injury to the news-reading public, it would be a benefit, for if protected in their rights, the papers which pay for telegraphic news would be able to buy more news and better. Now they are in the position of a merchant who not only has to pay for the goods he himself sells, but for those stolen from him by a dishonest neighbour, who daily replenishes his stock in this way. It is unnecessary to say the legitimate trader must charge a higher price, to keep even, than if a part of his stock was not regularly stolen."

At 11.30 p.m. on Sunday (30th) a fire broke out at No. 17, in the first ward of Honshirokanecho, in the Nihon-bashi district, Tokiyo. A strong wind, blowing from the north-west, fanned the fire into such vigour that about 50 houses were destroyed before the flames subsided at 12.40 p.m. It does not appear to be clearly established whether this fire was accidental or the work of an incendiary. The former, however, seems more probable. Tokiyo has been comparatively fortunate this season in the matter of fires, but, on the other hand, an improved system of statistics and detectives has removed all doubt as to the prevalence of incendiarism on a large

scale. In view of the facts which have come to light the efficiency of the present penal code to restrain this particular species of evil-doing is called in question. Incendiaries, it will be remembered, used to suffer death under the old codes, and of course the effects of such a law were more deterrent. But it seems to us that a change of social conditions has more to do with the apparently increased license of these times than a change of penalties. Fifteen years ago almost every man in Tokiyo was virtually a policeman in the pay of some *Yashiki*, with the safety of which his fortune was more or less bound up. Obligated, in case of fire, to repair at once to the *Yashiki*, whatever might be the danger to his own premises, he naturally spared no pains to avert such a contingency. Each householder was, in short, a spy on his neighbour, so far as the prevention of this variety of crime was concerned; while, at the same time, the very malefactors of the city were themselves enlisted in the cause of public security by a system which condoned their petty crimes for the sake of their services in more serious crises. These conditions, disappearing, gave place to a police service, which, until very lately, could not pretend efficiently to take the place of so thorough, though so peculiar, an organization. The two seasons, 1882-83 and 1883-84, have been, as we have said, comparatively free from fires, and to this freedom has now to be added the recent discoveries and arrests of incendiaries. Doubtless degrees of punishment produce varying effects, but it seems to us that with an efficient detective service, penalties ranging from five to twenty years ought to meet all the requirements of the case.

SAYS a writer in a London paper:—Trial by jury has been suspended in the districts of Vienna and Koenenbourg. Naturally there is much excitement over the business on the Continent. We fail to see the necessity for disquietude in the matter. Trial by jury has of late years become such a solemn farce that it would be of very little moment if it were abolished altogether. Were we called upon to stand in that prominent but uncomfortable position in a court of justice called "the prisoner's dock," and had we the choice of election, we should choose, if innocent, to be tried by one of her Majesty's judges; but, if guilty, we should much prefer a jury—there would be at least a 6 to 4 chance for us then.

JAPANESE artillerists, as well as the gentlemen who through the medium of these columns have instituted comparisons unfavorable to England's reputation as a scientific manufacturer of artillery, may be interested by the following passage from a letter addressed to *The Times* by General Sir J. Lintorn Simmons:—"The weight of guns is not the only direction in which artillery has progressed. The velocity of projectiles has been increased by means which were not even dreamt of formerly, and it is from the vastly increased penetration due to this cause (in great measure the result of the energy and scientific skill of Sir W. Armstrong) that the sea-forts run their greatest risk." It will be argued, no doubt, that this tribute to the genius of Sir W. Armstrong is an English opinion, and therefore not to be accepted without reserve as applying to English weapons. We readily admit the objection. But the verdict of General Simmons with regard to Armstrong's achievements seems at least as worthy of credit as the verdict of Mr.

Krupp with regard to those of Mr. Krupp. It is not to be expected that either manufacturer will readily admit the other's superiority, but so far as Japan is concerned, the comparison has hitherto been subject to very unequal influences. We doubt whether an English artilleryman has ever been present at, or ever taken part, directly or indirectly, in a trial that might have furnished trustworthy data; whereas, on the contrary, German experts, German agents, or persons more or less pledged to Krupp's interests, have, in the great majority of cases, assisted to ensure the results obtained with the Essen ordnance in this country. It is not by this meant to imply that any desire to be partial has been allowed to prevail. Japanese artillerymen presumably want to judge the various weapons on their merits. Nevertheless, the conditions have not been equal, and we should be sorry to see this country finally pledge itself to either system on the evidence of its experiments up to the present.

THE 5,000 lawyers of New York city embrace many ranks, classes, and conditions. Less than one-half the number enjoy a competency, but there are many who make immense sums every year. Some of the "shyster" lawyers—men who know nothing of law and practice only in the Police Courts—realize as much as \$25,000 a year. Dickerson and Dickerson, patent lawyers, have made \$5,000,000. Their present income is \$40,000 a year. Frederick W. Betts, also a patent lawyer, has an annual income of \$25,000 a year. Roscoe Conkling probably makes \$100,000 a year. The firm of which William M. Evarts is a member—Evarts, Southmayd & Choate—do a business of about \$80,000 a year. Mr. Evarts is supposed to be worth about half a million. David Dudley Field has made \$11,000,000 out of his profession. In the Tweed suits he received a fee of \$100,000. Lord, Day & Lord received a fee of \$175,000 in the Hicks Lord suits. Their income is about \$65,000. General Roger A. Pryor started in New York after the war without a dollar, and now has an income of \$10,000. The Covbert brothers do a large practice for foreigners and make \$60,000 a year.—*San Francisco Post*.

THE *Voltaire* says that in a house at Hanoi there was found a general order addressed to the Black Flags. It was written on a sheet of yellow paper, framed in a deep blue border, round which were depicted all sorts of warlike animals, as lions, dragons and mythical monsters. Translated the order ran thus:—"General Order issued to the Braves, by me their Mandarin and Chief. Tremble and obey. Thirteen days before the battle, eat tiger jelly so as to possess the wrath and ferocity of that animal. On the twelfth day before the battle, eat lion's liver roast, so as to absorb the natural intrepidity of the lion. On the eleventh day before the battle, eat serpent soup so as to acquire finesse. On the tenth day before the battle, eat chameleon cream, so as to dazzle the enemy by constantly changing colour and appearance. On the ninth day before the battle eat crocodile baillon, so as to be able to follow the enemy by water and by land. On the eighth day before the battle, eat jaguar's spleen steeped in wine, so as to fall on the foe with the rapidity and fury of the jaguar. On the seventh day before the battle, eat kites' heads, so as to discover the enemy with the incomparable vision of that bird of prey. On the

sixth day before the battle, eat the intestines of the zebra, to have the terrible voice of that animal. - On the fifth day before the battle, eat hippopotamus brains, so as to have the impenetrable skin of that amphibian. On the fourth day before the battle, eat monkeys' backs, so as to climb to the assault with the agility of that quadrumane. On the third day before the battle, eat a plate of scorpions, so that the wounds you inflict may be venomous and mortal as scorpions' stings. On the day before the battle, eat the breast of a panther, half raw, so as to be pitiless as the panther. On the morning of the battle, swallow twelve pinches of powder steeped in leopard's blood, so as to tear your foes like the leopard. And on the evening after the battle.—this is the *Voltaire's* addition.—*Mangez de la poudre . . . d'escampette*.

THE wrestling matches at Kobikicho, Tokyo, continue to attract immense crowds of spectators. On Sunday, shortly after one o'clock, the audience that had assembled, to the number of several thousands, occupied the whole of the sitting and standing room, and gate-money had to be refused. The sport was never allowed to flag, and some very exciting contests took place. In one bout, the antagonists, said to be two celebrities, had a "hitch" which lasted over four minutes, and after a terrific struggle, in which it was apparently anybody's "back," a splendid "fall" resulted, the winner giving his antagonist the "flying mare" in capital style. This raised a roar of applause from the assembled thousands that must have been heard a mile away.

THE electric light has been called into requisition, says a home paper, for the first time publicly, in aiding the microscope in the development of its marvellous powers. What has previously been done by the lime light and by battery current is now successfully effected at the Crystal Palace by the Gölcher electric light in combination with an exceedingly powerful microscope. The result is the entertainment entitled "Les Invisibles," which is given in the Entertainment Court of the Crystal Palace. The exhibition is not only interesting, but instructive, and at times even amusing, as when living animalculæ in stagnant water and the mites in cheese are projected on the screen. It is, in fact, a display of every variety of microscopical objects on a very large scale, so large that the eye of the smallest sewing needle made appears to be about six feet long by four feet wide, the needle itself appearing to be almost twenty feet thick. From this it will be judged how well the minutest details in the minutest specimens are brought out. One of the most beautiful objects shown was the process of the crystallisation of sugar and of salt, the forms of the crystals being in each case very elegant, but totally different in structure. The Gölcher dynamo machine which generates the current is placed outside the court, and is driven by a small Otto gas engine. The light produced is excellent, but slightly unsteady.

THE result of the prohibition of the United States Government against Chinese immigrating to that country and carrying on business there, is that the Chinese are moving in great numbers towards Hawaii. Lately the mail ships bound for San Francisco which have passed through Yokohama have always had about a thousand Chinese on board. In the *Arabic*, which arrived in Yokohama from Hongkong, on the 25th instant, there were 1,233 Chinese emigrants

bound for Hawaii, who in spite of their being packed below like so much cargo, seemed to be enjoying themselves as they were cheerfully playing their "gekkin" (guitars) and other instruments.

THE newly-announced determination of the Russian Government (says the *Pioneer*), with regard to the trans-Caspian Railway, namely, to hand over the working of the line to "a powerful Trading Company subsidised by the State," will not escape the notice of any one who cares to pay attention to the progress of the Russian advance. In the course of two years more, Russia will come very near India. The Railway will be pushed on to Askabad. That place is just half way between the Caspian and Merv; from Merv onward to the Oxus is figuratively but a step, and a railway line from Askabad that should reach the Oxus, would be just that link between the two great wings of the Russian Empire in Central Asia that her statesmen there have so constantly sought for.

THE Japanese have many curious ways of advertising their wares, but we think the latest novelty has been produced by a member of that enterprising guild, the patent medicine peddlers. The merchant carries his two cases of medicines at either end of a pole as usual, but fixed on the pole is a frame containing photographs of persons suffering from the ills which his nostrums are supposed to cure. One photograph is of a child being run over by a jinrikisha, another a lady with the tooth-ache. Several are depicted as suffering from rheumatism, and others with indigestion and stomach ache. We do not know whether the idea is taken from the fertile brains of American advertisers, if not, no doubt, it will soon be adopted by them.

THE Honganji Priests have recently effected great changes in the organisation of their sect, with a view towards starting wide-spread propaganda of their doctrines. Sermons are preached twice every month to the workmen employed in building the new temple in Kiyoto, and a great number of priests have been sent all over the country to "save the souls of the seven million believers" (*Jiyu Shimbu*). It is at all events certain that the Honganji Priests are making prodigious efforts to save their doctrines from falling into disrepute. Even the number of workmen employed upon the new temple has been greatly curtailed, in order to save money to defray the expenses of the itinerant propagandists. About one thousand workmen are still kept busy, and the building of the temple is progressing rapidly.

THE miserable poltroonery of the Egyptian troops is rendered plainer by each account that reaches us of the doings about Suakin. The very sound of musketry suffices to make them abandon an upright posture and fall on their hands and knees complaining of stomach-ache. The Arabs in revolt, on the other hand, appear to possess the courage of fanaticism. As an illustration of this an event that occurred at Suakin in the beginning of February is related. A spy was discovered lying outside the camp. He was a lad of fifteen, and a number of Egyptian soldiers, seeing a mere stripling armed with a spear only, surrounded him gallantly. The boy, however, fought desperately, and his opponents were obliged to bayonet him before they could overcome him. Lying afterwards in a moribund

condition, he was asked whether he wanted anything. His answer was:—"Let me spear one Egyptian before I die." Between men animated with this spirit and the wretched Egyptians, there cannot be much fighting. There can only be flying and pursuing. It is said that within eight minutes from the time when the Arabs commenced their rush upon Baker Pasha's forces, the latter were either in full flight or on their knees praying for mercy. Next to that piece of Puritanical persecution that drove one of England's finest cavalry officers "out into the wilderness," Valentine Baker's life probably includes no bitterer experience than to have been obliged to lead such cravens against a gallant foe. So far as his tactical dispositions are concerned, they appear to have been precisely the same as those adopted previously by General Hicks and subsequently by General Graham. But there is a difference between the fighting qualities of a square formed of Egyptian fellahs, and a square with Highlanders in its front face and English hussars as an advanced guard. From the detailed accounts of General Graham's first encounter with Osman Digna's force, it is plain that the latter fought fiercely, and that had the Arabs been properly equipped and fairly disciplined, it would have been no easy task to get the better of them. Their notion of the position in which they were placed could scarcely have been simpler. The true prophet, they said, had written to tell them of his successes over thousands of men led by English officers, and to bid them rise and join him. If they died, he promised them paradise; if they refused to join him, he promised to come and kill them all, sending their spirits straight to hell. Osman's army probably exists no longer. After its first defeat, it seems to have fallen back among the hills near Sinkat, and to have received there the second onset of Graham's little force, the result being the total rout of the Arabs with a loss of fifty per cent. of their number. The fight must have been sharp while it lasted, but the comparatively trifling casualties on the English side in the second, as well as the first, encounter show that the enemy's weapons were virtually harmless. Major General Graham, who commands the English force, is an officer of distinction. "He entered the Royal Engineers in 1850, and rose to his present rank in 1881. He served in the Crimea, and at the assault of the Redan gained the Victoria Cross for courage in leading a ladder party. He was twice wounded during the war. In 1860 he went to China and served in many engagements, being present at the assault of Tangku and the Taku forts; he was also present at the surrender of Peking. He was wounded in this war with a jingal ball. In the summer of 1882 he was appointed to the command of the Second Brigade in the English expedition to Egypt, the other brigade commanders being the Duke of Connaught, Sir Archibald Allison, and Sir Evelyn Wood. He was actively engaged in the preliminary movements of the campaign against Arabi Pasha and took a prominent part in the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. He is thus familiar with campaigning in Egypt." There has, of course, been talk in Parliament about the apparent anomaly of one English General negotiating with the Mahdi at Khartoum and another fighting with his Lieutenant, Osman, at Tokar and Sinkat. But the fact is that Osman was really fighting on his own account. He hoped to be ruler over all the north-eastern districts of the Soudan. His chief connection with

the false prophet appears to have been the use he made of the latter's prestige. He told his followers that the Mahdi would pass through Egypt from north to south; kill all the Egyptians, Turks, and Christians; overturn the world and then put it right; that other parts of his force would cross to the Hedjaz and Mecca, kill the Sultan of Turkey and take India. It is said, too, that Osman assembled his men daily, read them letters received from the Mahdi, and excited them to such fury that they danced, yelled, and clamoured to be led to the attack. Probably this mood underwent a slight modification when Graham's Highlanders appeared upon the scene. Whatever gentlemen in Parliament might think, however, and whatever negotiations General Gordon might carry on at Khartoum, it was obviously impossible to let Osman Digna get command of all the country between Suakin and Berber. That would have been to virtually cut off Gordon's retreat from Khartoum, and make the rebels complete masters of the situation.

THE *Figaro* of Paris is a mighty power on the continent of Europe. Its earlier years were years of struggle and poverty, but its profits last year were over \$500,000. No journal has a bolder, more talented editorial staff, and no paper is more widely quoted, praised and blamed. M. de Villemessant, a born journalist, was the founder of the *Figaro*. For a long time he was the editor-in-chief, head reporter, and business manager of his journal. When he died this work was parcelled out among three men, Magnard, Perivier, and Rodays. To these three men de Villemessant said on his dying bed: "Always make up the paper as though you knew I was going to read it the next morning." The placing of this triumvirate at the head of the *Figaro* was a wise selection. Magnard originated the piquant epitome headed "Paris from Day to Day," a column made up of many articles condensed from the newspapers of the preceding day. Each paragraph is short, terse, and to the point—the quintessence of common sense and condensation. Magnard's letters are signed "F. M.," and never exceed forty lines of long primer. This phenomenal journalist is a man of the size and build of General Grant, and is apparently about forty-four years of age. He is highly educated, a severe judge of "copy," and is withal a very pleasant gentleman. The staff of editorial writers is quite numerous. One of the writers, M. Wolff, earns as much as \$15,000 a year. He is the dramatic critic. On this journal reporters receive from six to twenty cents a line. The editorial rooms are fitted up with every luxury and convenience, embracing fencing rooms, card tables, etc. An American would not consider the *Figaro* a great newspaper, but it certainly displays more enterprise in the collection news than any other journal in Europe. It goes everywhere, and is read with as much pleasure on our Pacific coast, in South America, at the Cape of Good Hope, in short all over the civilized world, as it is in the Parisian cafés. It is without exception the most cosmopolitan journal in existence.

REFERRING to the entertainers about to visit Yokohama, the *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—"The Lynch Family of Bellringers gave their second performance at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on Thursday (20th ult.) There was a good attendance, and amongst those present were His Excellency the Governor and the Misses Bowen,

Vice-Admiral Sir W. M. Dowell, Mrs. Marsh, the Hon. P. Ryrie, &c., &c. The programme was well carried through, and the bell-ringing was warmly applauded all through, "Come Home, Father," the "Blue Bells of Scotland," and "College Hornpipe" being especially well received. Mr. H. Lynch's performance on the musical glasses also met with applause. Mr. Farron's cosmic sketches caused much amusement, and his Irish impersonation "Biddy, the Pride of the Ballet" was loudly encored. Tonight the Company will make their last appearance in Hongkong, for which occasion an entire change of programme is announced. We strongly recommend those who have not yet seen them to avail themselves of the opportunity, as the bellringing is a performance seldom to be met with, and is alone well worth going to hear.

A TELEGRAM in the *Alta*, dated Chicago, March 6th, says:—"News has just reached El Paso of a terrible accident yesterday at the Precetas mines, Sonora. Only the most meagre details are yet stated, but it is known that twenty men are buried in one shaft, which is said to have caved in without a moment's warning. None of the bodies have yet been recovered. There is no hope entertained that any of the unfortunate miners at work in the shaft at the time of the accident are alive, as the cave-in was so instantaneous and complete as to cut off every chance of escape, or to make any kind of preparation on the part of the miners to protect themselves, until they could be dug out. The greatest excitement prevails here, pending the receipt of the names of those known to have been at work in the shaft when the accident occurred.

A RATHER serious hoax has been discovered by the *Bukka Shimpō*. It has been rumoured for sometime past that the Government would shortly issue convertible paper currency, and this report was so widely credited that the price of silver fell with amazing rapidity. But it now appears that the rumour was entirely unfounded, having originated solely in the scheming brains of some far-sighted speculators. A Japanese banker, who was believed to be *au fait* with the financial policy of the Government, gave considerable impetus to the rumour by buying \$400,000 of silver when the quotations had reached the lowest figure. Now that the truth has been made public, a general outcry has been raised against him, as what he did is said to be contrary to the principles of honest transactions.

THE British coal export trade is growing rapidly. In 1874 the United Kingdom shipped 13,927,205 tons abroad; in 1878, 15,494,633 tons; in 1881, 19,587,063 tons, and in 1883 it exported 22,771,348 tons of coal. From 1878, inclusive, the aggregate exported was 75,685,881 tons, while from 1879 to 1883, inclusive, the total was 98,465,135 tons, a gain in the second half of the decade of 30 per cent. At this rate the export will double itself in thirty years more. There was a slight falling off in the Russian takings in 1883, but more was sent to Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Egypt, Brazil, Malta, British India and other countries. Germany took 2,425,298 tons as compared with 2,320,121 tons in 1882, and France, 4,476,995 tons as compared with 4,096,953 tons. France is Britain's largest foreign customer for coal. Including coal used by British steamers running to foreign markets and coal supplied to foreign steam-

ship lines, it is noted that 29,171,942 tons of coal were sent out of the United Kingdom in 1883 as compared with 26,509,608 tons in 1882, and 22,814,651 tons in 1881. This increase in two years of 4,357,291 tons attracts attention. British coal-owners derived £10,642,013 from coal sold to foreign and colonial customers last year.

THE Bureau in the Home Department charged with the censorship of the press has hitherto been known as the *Annai-kwa*. Henceforth its name will be changed to that of *Shimbun-Kenyetsu-gakari*, which, though more cumbersome, is more descriptive, than the former title. Nothing would give the Japanese or their foreign friends greater pleasure than to hear that the Bureau was about to be abolished altogether, instead of having the number of its officials increased, as is now said to be the intention. It is true that countries which can afford the luxury of a free press are in an unhappy minority at present, but it is none the less true that public opinion must always be the enemy of those who seek to restrain its open expression.

THE annual report of the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs contains, says an American paper, some statistics which furnish a possible basis of comparison with those of our own Indian Bureau. There is a total Indian population in the Dominion of 131,137, of whom 34,520 are in Manitoba and the North-west, 36,483 in British Columbia, 18,181 in Ontario, and 11,930 in Quebec. The number of pupils attending the Indian schools is 4,394. The agricultural and industrial statistics show that the Indian population resident on the reserves is 86,270; the quantity of land cultivated, 64,051 acres; new land cultivated during the year, 3,986 acres; houses or huts, 11,584; barns and stables, 3,391. There were large quantities of wheat, oats, peas, barley, rye, potatoes, and hay raised by the Indians in addition to considerable sales of fish and furs. Canada's Indians are more industrious than ours, and their cost to the Government is a mere trifle compared with what the United States annually pays for the support of its wards.

A WELL-KNOWN resident of this Settlement, who returned from San Francisco in the *Oceanic*, was made the victim of a practical joke, some of his friends having inserted in the passenger list "and Mrs." before his surname, which made it appear that he had brought back a wife to Japan. As the *Japan Mail* published the passenger list containing this error, we now apologise for having been unwitting parties to the deception.

THE official title of His Excellency Tokudaiji, hitherto Minister of the Imperial Household Department, is *Jijiyu-cho*; a term which may be rendered with tolerable accuracy by "Lord High Chamberlain." His Excellency's new post carries with it the same emoluments as his previous office, though in point of official rank it is of slightly inferior grade. The duties connected with it have reference entirely to the details of the Imperial Household.

A CASE came before N. J. Hannen, Esq., Judge, at H.B.M. Court, on Tuesday, in which F. Bischoff sued A. Clark for the sum of \$400, alleged to be due for wages as master of the British schooner *Guam*, and for dismissal without proper notice. Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the plaintiff,

and defendant conducted his own case. The point at issue, as alleged by the defendant, was the position of the plaintiff, Mr. Clark attempting to prove that he engaged plaintiff as a rigger and to fit out the *Guam*, and not as master of the vessel. Evidence was given, however, which showed that third parties had considered Bischoff in the light of master of the *Guam*, and His Honour proposed a settlement on a basis of \$5 per diem in addition to the sum of \$73 paid into Court. To this the defendant consented, as well as to costs to the amount of \$50.

"CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Co-operation of Neutral Powers for the Protection of their Subjects in China in Case of Necessity" is the title of a Parliamentary Paper just issued. It opens with the following despatch addressed by Lord Granville to Her Majesty's representatives at Berlin and Washington:—

In view of the crisis which appears to be imminent in China, I have to request your Excellency to propose to the German Government that the British and German Admirals should be instructed to concert together in case of necessity for the protection of their respective nationals.

I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Washington in a similar sense.

Count Hatzfeldt, on behalf of the German Government, acceded to the suggestion. The reply of the American Government was as follows:—

American Admiral will be instructed to act in concert with the vessels of England and other neutral Powers for the protection of their respective subjects.

In consequence of the wording of this telegram Lord Granville again wrote to Lord Ampthill at Berlin, suggesting that the reference to "other neutral Powers" should be introduced in the instructions which it was proposed to send to the British and German Admirals in the China seas. To this Lord Ampthill agreed, and subsequently the adhesion of the Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Japanese, and Spanish Governments was obtained to the proposal. On December 11 Lord Granville sent a despatch to Lord Lyons, the British Ambassador in Paris, reporting a conversation with M. Waddington respecting certain remarks in Lord Hartington's speech to his constituents which had excited some attention in France. Lord Granville reports the substance of the explanation he gave to M. Waddington as follows:—

The proposal which had been made, and which had been received favourably by the Governments concerned, had simply been that those Powers who had vessels in Chinese waters should instruct their naval commanders to concert together with the view of affording protection to foreign subjects in the event of a rupture between France and China. It was unnecessary to say that any measures which might be adopted in such a case would be taken in a friendly spirit both to France and China.

M. Waddington thanked me, and gave me the assurance that the French Government have no intention of going beyond the programme they had announced, unless forced to it by some extraordinary act on the part of China, and that they would do their utmost to avoid any measures of a nature to interfere with legitimate foreign trade such as a blockade of the Treaty ports.

—Times.

It is a recognized fact, says the *Choya Shimbun*, that certain curious European customs are coming into vogue in this country. In Kiyoto, on the occasion of the opening of the Tenman Temple, a number of photographs of the gentle sex were exhibited; the idea being undoubtedly adopted from the similar exhibition of favourite beauties which was lately held in London.

It has hitherto been the practice in Tokiyo when a child was found abandoned, to hand it over to the Divisional Officers, who either put it

out to nurse at the expense of the people of the Division, or handed it over, with a gratuity, to any person desirous of adopting it. In future, however, all foundlings are to be placed in the Foundling Hospital (*Yoku-in*) in Idzumicho. In consequence of this change more than 110 foundlings, now supported here and there throughout Tokiyo at the public charge, are to be all sent to that institution.

WE learn by telegraph that His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany died at Cannes, on the 28th inst. H.R.H. Leopold George Duncan Albert was born on the 7th April, 1853, and was married on the 27th April, 1882, to the Princess Helen, daughter of the Prince of Waldeck. The late Royal Duke leaves a daughter—Alice Mary Victoria Augusta Pauline, born on the 25th February last year.

THE German brig *Minerva*, Captain P. Duhme, the British bark *Velocity*, Captain R. Martin, and the German bark, Captain W. G. Roder, all arrived on Sunday from Takao, and report moderate winds and weather throughout. The German bark *Will Homeyer* left Takao for this several days before the arrivals above-named, and may be in harbour at any moment. The British barquentine *Glenury* and the British bark *Lucia* were loading at Takao for this port when the recent arrivals sailed.

MATSUDA, the convict who escaped from the Ishikawa-jima jail on the 27th inst., was recaptured early on the morning of the 28th inst. at Itabashi. It appears that he had engaged a jinrikisha at Hongo, but unfortunately for him, the jinrikisha-man was a detective in disguise. The other convict, Akai Kagetaru, is still at large.

It is stated that the Presidents of all the Courts of Appeal throughout the Empire will assemble in Tokiyo during the course of next month, for the purpose of discussing various reforms which it is in contemplation to introduce into the working of the law courts in their districts.

THE Society for the Preservation of Celebrated Places (*Hoshokwai*) has contributed a sum of one thousand yen towards the restoration and repair of objects of national interest in the provinces of Omi and Tamba.

WHEN Bismarck, or rather the Reichstag acting under his direction, excluded the American hog, the newspaper press of the United States was unanimous in denouncing the "outrage;" but now that Bismarck has snubbed the American Congress, about half the papers express indifference to the insult. This shows the relative esteem in which Congress and the pig are held by some thoughtful patriots.—*Alla*.

THE REV. T. J. Scott, D.D., for twenty-two years a missionary in North India, will preach at the Union Church Tsukiji, Tokiyo, at 11 a.m. on Sunday next.

THE Russian steamer *Kamtschatka* was towed to Yokosuka on Friday for minor repairs to her machinery.

THE British bark *Guiding Star* sailed on Monday for Takao where she expects to load a cargo of sugar for this port.

WE are informed that the *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco in the 29th ultimo for this port.

FOREIGN VERSUS DOMESTIC
LOANS.

FORTUNATELY, for the clear understanding of certain propositions stated—but not proved—in a letter which we produce to-day, the *Fiyu Shimbun*, in a recent issue, discussed, at some length, the relative advantages of foreign loans contracted by the Government and foreign funds introduced at the risk of foreign capitalists. We say fortunately for the clear understanding of this problem, not because "Protectionist's" letter, so far as it goes, leaves anything to be desired in point of lucidity, but because it confines itself, in two places, to an undemonstrated statement of points which are the reverse of self-evident. The writer avows his "firm conviction that neither MILL'S writings, nor those of any theorist whose studies are confined to the European field of observation, are applicable to the conditions of this Eastern empire," and deprecates "the practice of applying, to the exigencies of this country, the doctrines and arguments of Western writers who have no knowledge of, or regard for, Japanese affairs." Interpolations of this nature when found in the context of a purely economical discussion, naturally assume an economical complexion, and suggest the idea that the uses of wealth, its fashions of fructification, and the sources from which it is derived, are not subject to the same general laws in Japan as in Europe. Such a theory cannot be seriously propounded. Japan, whether she progresses towards opulence or lapses into indigence, must fit her feet into the footsteps of all those that have travelled the same routes before. There is no side-path for her. If she is ever to grow rich, it must be by improving her means of internal and external transport, developing her foreign commerce, and extending the now paltry area of her cultivated lands. Since, then, each and every one of these processes is a recognised factor of wealth, similarly employed and similarly effective, throughout the civilized world, it becomes necessary, if we are to regard Japan's case as exceptional, to show that she is otherwise affected by conditions beyond the ordinary domain of economical science. What those conditions are our correspondent fails to indicate, and we can only suppose that he alludes to the dangers incidental to pecuniary obligations contracted by a weak, *vis-à-vis* a strong, Power. We, however, desired to keep these political considerations out of the discussion. They deal with an entirely distinct class of problems; and certainly, whatever influence they may exercise on the people of this country, to mix them up with purely economical arguments is confusing and illogical. It seems, nevertheless, an indisputable fact that the instinct of the Japanese is against foreign loans at present. They see what has happened to Egypt; they see what

has happened to Turkey; and they ask whether Japan ought not to be warned by these examples. The *Fiyu Shimbun* states the case plainly enough; though underlying its arguments is a desire, natural but a little exaggerated, to show that nothing good can come out of Japan until the people have a share in the Government. It says that the possibilities of ultimate failure would more than outweigh the momentary benefits derived from enterprises inaugurated by foreign loans; that the national habit being still to rely implicitly on the Government, the latter could not count on enlisting the active coöperation of the people in its schemes; and that great misfortune would be inevitable did mismanagement or false calculations attend the employment of the funds obtained abroad. There is much truth in these remarks. The stories of the Kaitakushi and of the Kamaishi Ironworks are in themselves sufficient evidence that the Government is not infallible, and that the nation has reason to be apprehensive of industrial ventures under official management. But while heartily endorsing our Tokiyo contemporary's general position that Japan would be adopting a perilous and unwise course did she enter the European market as a borrower of money to be employed by the Government in the ordinary routes of industry and trade, we think that the line ought to be drawn distinctly on this side of roads and railways. The urgent need of such works in Japan, and the incalculable benefits that would result from them, are beyond all doubt; while the ability of the people to construct them—not expert, but financial, ability—cannot, in our opinion, be assumed for a moment. It passes our comprehension to understand what political risks Japan would run by borrowing money at a reasonable rate of interest abroad, and employing it to supply herself with works which are absolutely essential to the development of national prosperity, which involve no chance of failure, and which would be at once the security for, and the means of repaying, the funds expended in their construction.

The question of fixing large portions of a country's capital by employing it to build railways, is one that has received much attention at the hands of writers on political economy. At the time when MILL discussed the problem, a majority of his countrymen were disquieted by the idea that England's conduct was recklessly unwise in this respect. The great economist undertook to combat their apprehensions, and showed, pretty conclusively we think, that "the railway operations of the various nations of the world may be looked upon as a sort of competition for the overflowing capital of the countries where profit is low and capital abundant, as England and Holland." He called "the English railway speculations a struggle to keep our annual increase of capital at home," and "those of foreign countries an effort to obtain it." In short,

he rested his whole case, for or against the expediency of thus fixing home capital, on the presence or absence of accumulations seeking investment. His immediate purpose, it is true, was to prove that England, possessing such accumulations, need not fear the consequences of applying them to railway construction; but the converse of every argument he deduced from England's overflowing opulence applies, with logical rigidity, to countries where capital is scarce and rates of interest are high. We are quite willing to admit, however, that MILL is not an infallible guide. The confusion he fell into by attempting to fit a capricious terminology to inflexible ideas has discredited much of what he wrote, and is forcibly, though not always quite justly, we think, illustrated by our correspondent. But though he was sufficiently illogical to call the man who makes a musical instrument a productive labourer and the man who plays on it unproductive, and though he differed from MACDONNEL, ADAM SMITH, and M'CULLOCH as to what ought and what ought not to be included in capital, while these three, again, differed equally radically from one another, there never yet has been any writer of note who pretends that money in all its forms is capital. Our correspondent evolves a number of ingenious and entertaining paradoxes from the apparent vagaries of MILL'S definitions, but he will pardon us if we say that no one of these paradoxes seems so startling as his own assertion:—"For my part, I must adhere to the statement that Japan, five or ten years hence, in possession of her railway *plus* the capital required for constructing it, will be richer than if she had only the railway without the capital—which would be the case if the amount were returned to lenders in Europe." What then becomes of the capital which, by the hypothesis, she originally obtained in Europe? And what, during this interval of five or ten years, becomes of the home capital which would otherwise have been diverted to the construction of the railway? Does that, too, go abroad? It cannot be pretended that a country parts with its own capital when it only repays what it has borrowed. If "Protectionist" takes the trouble to reduce the problem to a mathematical statement, he will find that, in the case of a foreign loan, so far from having a railway *minus* the money—not the capital, but the money—spent in constructing it, Japan, at the moment the line is opened, would have the railway *plus* the greater part of the borrowed money (which would then be circulating in the ordinary channels) *plus* the capital and its earnings which, in the case of a domestic loan, would have been diverted from other uses. The former plan takes nothing away, but simply enables the work to be accomplished without any call upon the national funds until the benefits conferred by the line begin to facilitate the repay-

ment of its cost. When transport is cheapened, when commodities are made accessible at trifling expense, when new markets are opened for districts more or less isolated, when the necessity for accumulating stocks is dispensed with throughout the land, when production is stimulated, and when the innumerable advantages a railway brings are actually experienced, the burden of paying the original cost of the line out of its earnings would scarcely be felt at all, whereas the task of finding the money now may, and we believe will, prove seriously embarrassing. The subject is so vital that we will venture to quote at some length from the writings of a living economist—Mr. BONAMY PRICE—between whom and our correspondent there is this bond of union, that both are equally sensible of the confusion into which MILL'S inelastic definitions betrayed him :—

There is no cause so common of financial crises and commercial depressions as an excessive construction of fixed capital. Large quantities of wealth are consumed and disappear altogether in the opening of great mines, the formation of railways with their tunnels and embankments, or the creation of great iron works. The food, clothing, and materials have been eaten and drunk up and worn out; they are cleared away, and nothing left except the works which have been made. So far, the consumption is a creator of poverty; for tunnels and shafts by themselves alone do not restore the food and clothing which have perished. The deficiency is not filled up even if these mines and railways go to work, and produce profits and yield good dividends. The capital, the wealth consumed in their construction, is still unrestored, and is not replaced until out of the profits, and before dividends are distributed, the original cost of making these works is repaid. The nation is poorer in things to use. The inevitable consequence is that there is less trade, for there is less to buy with, less to exchange, diminished traffics, fewer and reduced profits—precisely because there are fewer things, fewer goods in the country. This excess of creation of fixed capital—of capital, be it remembered, which is destroyed, and is not, for a long time, practically restored by wealth available for use—commonly follows a season of exceptional prosperity. Men are then hopeful, profits are good and abound, extension of business fascinates, trade is active, and demand for goods ever on the rise. At such times, as happened a few years ago in the iron and coal trades, new works are commenced in profusion. All this while the consumption of the national wealth proceeds rapidly in maintaining many labourers and in the development of luxurious consumption, in the fine weather of large profits; and it is followed by the consequences just described. Amongst these offenders none are so mischievous as railways. Promoters, desirous of premium, stock-brokers, and many others, who eagerly excite one another: the railway works are begun, and often the revulsion overtakes them before they are completed: the nation is stricken with poverty by their construction.

All these events react on the money market. The depositors of banks are unable to meet their calls; many fail, the others press for loans to save them from ruin. Deposits diminish; on many mercantile accounts, or bad bills, the banks incur heavy losses. Suspicion spreads in every quarter, as to what house is sound, on what bank a run may take place. Failures multiply—often amongst those who were the most favoured chiefs of financing. Then finally comes the crisis, which is in substance the settlement of losses, the discovery who are to be the ultimate losers, whether banks or individuals. When the agony has subsided, a long depression ensues; trade is painfully slack from the reduced wealth in movement; bills are scarce in the banking world, and 1 per cent. becomes its king. The suffering reaches its height in those very trades which had been stimulated in the day of sunshine to multiply new works for enlarged production. The means of producing are found to be in painful excess above the power of buying, and shut-up mines and closed factories visit wages and profits with annihilation.

Such are the terrible calamities with which construction of machines, which are amongst the most enriching known to man, may visit a people when carried to excess. A man with £ 50,000 a year

who does £ 100,000 worth of draining in one year, must be poor and in difficulties. A single individual may borrow, but a nation which puts itself in that position has no resources beyond itself, and must suffer. Railways and other fixed capital are to a people what draining is to the landlord—most powerful instruments for obtaining wealth; but they cannot be constructed without great destruction of wealth involved in making them. It is long before they come into action to replace what they have consumed; meanwhile food, clothing, iron, coals, are gone. In this vital matter there is only one way to escape injury: not to make more fixed capital beyond the amount of savings. Within that limit there is perfect safety, and such an application of surplus wealth is excellent. Savings may be thrown into the sea, and no poverty will ensue; if converted into instruments for production they become permanent gains.

It may be asked, how is a people to learn the extent to which they may create fixed capital without loss? how are they to discover how much they are saving? No rule can be given; it is a matter of actual trial; it can never be ascertained accurately. But one influence may exercise immense power in guarding against the danger: a thorough understanding of the principle which governs this vital subject by all who take a lead in commencing new enterprises. If every banker, every trader, and every producer grasped firmly the truth that savings must not be exceeded by the nation, and profoundly felt the disasters which the neglect of this truth must entail, a spirit of caution and observation and prudent reflection would be engendered which would control extravagance in the costly investments on fixed capital.

Now what we would enquire is simply this—has Japan savings to invest in railways, and have her financiers “grasped firmly the truth that savings must not be exceeded by the nation, and profoundly felt the disasters which the neglect of this truth must entail”? We cannot honestly answer either question in the affirmative. The country is now passing through that crisis which has everywhere attended the resumption of specie payments; a crisis of which the most salient features are that capital is withheld from the channels of industry and production, and that the commercial energy of the nation is paralyzed. Yet this is the very moment chosen to divert large sums of capital to uses which cannot for several years begin to return the wealth they absorb. That the instincts of the people should turn, at such a time, in the direction of railways and roads as the only means of developing production and stimulating industry, is natural enough, but it will be truly unfortunate if a scheme so excellent in itself should entail fresh disaster by an unwise method of prosecution.

THE FOREIGN MERCHANTS AND THE CURRENCY.

THE Memorial of the Foreign Community, addressed to their Representatives in March, 1882, contains an interesting assertion; namely, that were industry stimulated by allowing the people to freely charter foreign vessels, a salutary “influence would be exerted upon the present seriously depreciated and fluctuating paper currency.” The reasons assigned for this statement are as follows:—“More trade means a greater demand for a circulating medium of exchange; a demand which would have a direct tendency to raise currency to a near approach to, if not entirely to par with, specie. The increased income of

the Government would enable them to undertake a moderate scheme of redemption of currency with specie; and that, combined with the cheering influences of a reviving commerce, would inspirit the people and exert a most beneficial influence upon the nation.”

This, being the first expression of opinion publicly placed on record by the community, as a body, with regard to the currency, deserves more than a passing notice. Speaking briefly, the memorialists, in 1882, advised Japanese financiers to leave *Kinsatsu* alone, and confine themselves temporarily to a measure which, by augmenting the facilities for marine transport, might stimulate production and trade, and so create a greater demand for a circulating medium. Then, subsequently, when the revenue from taxation increased, a moderate scheme of resumption could be undertaken. This plan has certainly the advantage of deliberation. The prediction of the memorialists depends mainly on a hypothesis that the production of cereals is already largely in excess of home consumption, and that agricultural industry languishes for lack of new markets. We have shown in a previous article that the annual crop of rice does not appear to be much more than the people require for their own use, and that the peculiar conditions under which the coasting trade is now carried on by Japanese junks, render it likely that their displacement by foreign bottoms, even if the latter were easily procurable, would be a very gradual process. The case might be different were foreign traders able to visit the interior, buy what they wanted, and ship it directly. We should then have the combination of merchant and carrier which the junks offer, and to which producers have become attached. But this means opening the country, and the measure on which the memorialists based their hope of currency appreciation did not ostensibly contemplate more than extending the employment of foreign vessels by Japanese. They assumed that the factor chiefly needed to develop trade is increased facilities for marine transport, and that those facilities could be obtained by permitting Japanese to charter foreign vessels; and on the strength of this assumption, they recommended the Government not to meddle with the currency until an increased revenue brought a moderate scheme of redemption within reach. It would certainly be unjust to hold this community responsible for the utterances of the local newspapers which profess to represent it, but we may be pardoned if we recall, here, the journalistic censure persistently uttered against the apparent inaction of Japanese financiers both before and after the period when this document was presented to the Foreign Representatives. And, indeed, it is difficult to believe that either foreigners or Japanese would have been content to

see the policy advocated by the memorialists adopted. The Government's only normal source of specie revenue, and therefore the only source from which it could derive funds for currency redemption, is the Customs. Assuming that in the course of four or five years the proposed shipping facilities produced an augmentation of 20 per cent. in the bulk of the foreign trade, there would be available an annual sum of half a million dollars to redeem *Kinsatsu*. If in five years more, trade doubled, redemption would be proceeding at the rate of a million a year; and granting this liberal rate of development, the total redemption affected in fifteen years would amount to twelve millions. In the meanwhile commerce would have been fighting an uphill battle against that most fatal of all opponents, a depreciated and constantly fluctuating currency; for it is impossible to suppose that such petty operations as these could sensibly increase the value or stability of *Kinsatsu*. Neither would the silver thus dribbled out remain in the country. It would be displaced by the inferior medium as fast as it came into the market. In general every objection advanced against meddling with the media of exchange may be freely endorsed. But it is difficult to believe in any measure that stops short of actual redemption, and to make redemption possible, it was necessary to bring the bulk of the *Kinsatsu* in circulation within manageable limits. That the Government has been somewhat precipitate in its efforts to secure that end seems proved by existing conditions. The memorialists, by increasing the demand for paper tokens, would have reduced the ratio their volume bore to the functions they had to perform: the Government, by diminishing their volume, has attained the same result in a different way. The former process would have been exceedingly slow, if, indeed, it could ever have succeeded entirely: the latter has been unduly rapid, and the consequences entailed are still severely felt. But it is only fair to observe that had the Government's proposals for treaty revision met with reasonable consideration,—had these privileges of trading passports and the free employment of foreign ships, together with other concessions, been exchanged for a slight modification of the present extraterritorial system—the measures recommended by the memorialists might have been in force long ago.

As things stand now, however, it can scarcely be contested that the mitigating influence of some measure calculated to foster industry and commerce would be widely beneficial. Unless the conditions of Japan have greatly changed during the past two years, such a measure is indicated in the Memorial of the foreign merchants. What is wanted is the opening of the country. Anybody might then charter foreign vessels to go anywhere, and if there are products waiting to be exported, foreigners could go in search

of them. It is impossible, with this Memorial before us, to doubt that the commercial community is generally sensible of the advantages to be derived from the abolition of restrictions which have long ceased to be necessary. We have the unanimous declaration of all the merchants in Yokohama that enlarged privileges of trade, travel, and residence "bear closely upon the future commercial progress of the Japanese and strike at the very foundation of the grievances of which foreigners justly yet vainly complain," and to this may now be added, that to these enlarged privileges alone can we look for any rapid revival of trade and consequent relief from the hardship and suffering inseparable from the period that precedes a resumption of specie payments.

A RECENTLY CONCLUDED CHAPTER OF JAPANESE HISTORY.

AS an illustration of the working of Japanese Government machinery under the old *régime*, the events which led to the recent issue of Notification No. 1 of the Imperial Privy Council possess much interest. The Notification itself was not likely to attract foreign attention. It simply gave expression to the will of HIS MAJESTY the EMPEROR that the posthumous title of DAJO TENNO and name of KEIKO TENNO should be conferred upon NORIHITO SHINNO, father of the Emperor KOKAKU. Hitherto this Prince had been known as DAZAI SOTSU-NO-MIYA, or the second KANIN-NO-MIYA. His father was NAWOHITO SHINNO, son of the Emperor TOZAN. As the Emperor GO-TOYEN (TOYEN the second, known after his death as MOMO-ZONO II.) had no child, he adopted the fifth son of SOTSU-NO-MIYA, a youth named KANEHITO SHINNO, who was not only HIS MAJESTY'S nearest relative but also conspicuous for intelligence and erudition. This adoption took place in 1779, and, in December of the ensuing year, KANEHITO ascended the throne. He is known in history as KOKAKU TENNO. The reigning EMPEROR is the great-grandson of KOKAKU, and consequently great-great-grandson of NORIHITO SHINNO or SOTSU-NO-MIYA.

The idea of conferring the title of DAJO TENNO upon NORIHITO SHINNO was first conceived by his son, the Emperor KOKAKU, but met with determined opposition at the hands of the nobles attached to the SHOGUN'S Court. The principle involved in conferring such a title is connected with the rites of ancestral worship. So long as this particular mark of respect was not paid, the body of NORIHITO would have to lie after death facing the north, and would be condemned to enjoy only the imperfect measure of rest attaching to that posture. On the other hand, NORIHITO had never ascended the throne, and precedents for raising him to the rank of TENNO (Son of Heaven, *i.e.* Emperor), if not absolutely

wanting, were, at all events, few. In old times there had been no instance of such a course,¹ though it had certainly been pursued in various cases from the twelfth to the sixteenth century. The proposal of the Emperor KOKAKU was, therefore, not absolutely without historical warrant, and, for the rest, could only have emanated from instincts of filial piety. Nevertheless it provoked vehement opposition. History says that the discussion commenced in 1792, but there is documentary evidence to prove that KOKAKU had conceived and given expression to the design as early as 1789. This evidence is in the form of a letter forwarded by the *Shoshidai* (Representatives of the SHOGUN) is Kiyoto to MASTUDAIRA YETCHIU-NO-KAMI, one of the SHOGUN'S Councillors of State. It ran as follows:—

Kanin-no-Miya, who now wields the Imperial sceptre under the title of Kokaku Tenno, desires to confer the title of *Dajo Tenno* upon his father. He communicated his wishes to us in the first year of Kwansei (1789); and in order to obtain an answer from the Shōgun, we forwarded a copy of a document addressed to us by the Court Nobles. In accordance with your instructions, we have now persuaded the Nobles to reconsider the question, pointing out to them, as you explained, that the bestowal of high titles is a matter of grave importance.

It appears, indeed, that all the Court Nobles approved the EMPEROR'S idea, for though some were disposed to think that the title of *In*, which is less exalted than *Tenno*, should be first given, and that of *Dajo Tenno* afterwards, the rest insisted that the whole matter should be left to the EMPEROR'S decision. Neither were they shaken in their opinion when instructed to reconsider it, and we find them once again admonished by MATSUDAIRA through the *Shoshidai*, in the following terms:—

Whatever peculiar custom may exist in the Imperial Court, or have been handed down from generation to generation, must not be observed without reference to the actual circumstances of the time and to public criticism. It is not imperative that all precedents should be followed. The Shōgun will doubtless give the Emperor's project his careful consideration, but it is not probable that he will express a definite opinion immediately.

The EMPEROR, finding himself thus opposed by the SHOGUN'S Representatives in Kiyoto, despatched two delegates to Kuantō, namely, the two Dainagon, NAKAYAMA TADANARI and OGIMACHI KIMI-AKIRA.² The SHOGUN was then IYENARI. By a strange coincidence, he, too, was anxious to confer exceptional rank on his father, who had not been SHOGUN, and was then occupying the post of Dainagon.

¹ It had not been pursued in the cases of Yamatotake-no-Mikoto, father of Chiuzi-Tenno; Ishibei Oshiha-no-Oji, father of Kenso Tenno; Hiko-ushi, father of Keitai Tenno; Oshisaka Hikohito Oye-no-Oji, father of Keihin Tenno, or Chimu, father of Kōkiyoku Tenno. In the middle ages administrative etiquette was more or less capricious, and posthumous honours were first conferred on Prince Kusakabe father of Bumbu Tenno. He was given the title of Okano-Miya Tenno. Subsequently the appellation of Sōdō Jinkei Kwotei was conferred on Iyehito Shinno, father of Juntei Tenno; and that of Tawara Tenno on Yoshimoto Shinno, father of Kōjin Tenno. Later on we find Morisada Shinno, father of Go-Horikawa Tenno (1222) called Go-Takakura-in; and Sadanari Shinno, father of Go-Hanazono Tenno (1429) called Go-Sōkō-in. These two princes received the titles during their lifetimes. The most recent example of a posthumous title had been that of Yōkō-in, conferred on Nobuhito Shinno, father of Go-Yōsei Tenno (1587).

² There are several books such as *Nakayama Yumono-gatari* and *Nakayama Mondōki*, which contain accounts of the arrival of the Imperial messengers in Kuantō, but these accounts partake rather of romance than of history.

IVENARI, therefore, was impatiently looking for an opportunity to relieve his father from active service and remove him to the Western Castle under the title of OGOSHO. Here, however, cropped up the same difficulty that stood in the EMPEROR'S way. The title of OGOSHO was usually confined to those who had actually held the rank of SHOGUN. IVENARI, then, hoping that if the EMPEROR'S proposal with regard to NORIHITO were carried out, a powerful precedent would be established in favour of his own design, eagerly awaited the arrival of the Imperial delegates, and in the meanwhile informed his principal officers of his purpose, which received their approval. But MATSUDAIRA YETCHIU-NO-KAMI again interfered. He repeated his arguments that, whatever ancient precedents might exist, to confer the title of DAJO TENNO upon a prince who had not ascended the throne would be a breach of etiquette, adding that if the SHOGUN were to follow the EMPEROR'S example, the result could scarcely fail to lead to trouble, and might possibly obscure the great distinction which ought to exist between the EMPEROR and the SHOGUN. MATSUDAIRA seems to have advanced these objections with many expressions of respectful reluctance, but his tone was exceedingly firm, and his reputation as a man not less virtuous than wise gave irresistible weight to his views. His colleagues ultimately came over to his way of thinking, and when the delegate NAKAYAMA, himself a noble of great erudition and eloquence, laid his Imperial Master's proposal before the Council, a vehement discussion ensued. Finally the delegates were told that a conclusive answer would be given after further consideration, and, obliged to be content with this, they returned to Kiyoto unsuccessful. The SHOGUN'S expression of a corresponding purpose had, in fact, added largely to the difficulties of the situation, for though a point might have been stretched in the EMPEROR'S case, the notion that this departure from etiquette was to be immediately made a pretext for a still more radical and unprecedented proceeding on the part of the SHOGUN, shocked the conservative propriety of the times.

The delegates, however, did not yet acknowledge their defeat. On August 9th, 1792, we find them addressing the following letter to the Shoshidai :—

Your Lordships—We await the Shogun's reply with regard to the bestowal of a title upon the Prince Kanin-no-Miya. We have already had the honour, in several despatches, to make you acquainted with the Emperor's real sentiments on the subject, and His Majesty will be much distressed if we fail to obtain a definite answer from the Shogun before the approaching Festival of the Harvest. Various unavoidable circumstances render the necessity of obtaining a speedy reply imperative. In the beginning of November steps will be taken with a view to conferring the title in question.

The EMPEROR, it will be seen, or at any rate his advisers, were determined to bring matters to a conclusion. Nevertheless, the Yedo Court remained silent until the 28th

of August, when the following despatch was sent to the Shoshidai in Kiyoto, over the signatures of all the SHOGUN'S Councillors :—

With regard to your recent private correspondence on the subject of conferring an honorary title upon Kanin-no-Miya, the Shogun has expressed an opinion that as the Emperor's desire is dictated by an earnest anxiety to show his filial piety, some measures should be taken with a view to satisfying His Majesty's wishes. But as the proposed title of *Daijo Tenno* is of an exceedingly exalted nature, it seems unbecoming that it should be conferred on the Prince. If, however, the Emperor desires to honour his father, he may augment his estates, or adopt some other method of accomplishing that end. In such event, the Shogun will take the matter into consideration and decide it in conference with his Ministers. You will be good enough to communicate the contents of this despatch to the Court Nobles.

It was plain enough from this that the SHOGUN'S Ministers were not disposed to yield. Nevertheless, the Court Nobles again addressed the Shoshidai as follows :—

Although the Prince's estates may be enlarged and palaces constructed for him, yet the existing rules of etiquette would require him to lie facing northwards after death, so long as he possesses only the rank of Shinno (Prince). The Emperor cannot reconcile himself to this notion. It is nevertheless true that the measures contemplated by His Majesty will, if carried out, furnish a precedent to future generations, so that the question demands the Shogun's careful and disinterested consideration. We consequently take the liberty of giving expression to the Emperor's ideas in the sense indicated by himself. His Majesty, it appears, is obliged by unavoidable circumstances, having reference to the approaching Harvest Festival, to put his intentions into practice, and he intends to bestow the proposed title on the Prince in November. Although we have been instructed to persuade His Majesty to devise some other plan of accomplishing his purpose, we fail to see how he can suggest anything unsupported by precedent.

On the 2nd of October this despatch was followed by another from the same source, announcing that the EMPEROR had become still more fixed in his purpose, and that he had actually communicated his intentions to the Prince, his father. But the day after its receipt this communication was handed back to its writers by the Shoshidai, accompanied by a despatch in which the SHOGUN, while giving credit to the EMPEROR'S filial piety, repeated his refusal to sanction the Imperial proposal without further consideration, and desired that the EMPEROR'S delegates, who had again repaired to Yedo, should be instructed to leave the Kuantō without delay. The EMPEROR at last yielded to this determined opposition. His Nobles handed to the Shoshidai a despatch couched in these terms :—

Considering that to enforce his ideas without regard to the circumstances of the time can scarcely fail to create serious complications between his officers and those of the Shogunate, the Emperor has signified his willingness to put off conferring a title upon his father until he receives a definite answer from the Shogun.

The EMPEROR'S remarkable moderation did not save his Councillors from punishment. The delegates NAKAYAMA and OGIMACHI were ordered to remove from their residences to a temple called Seishoji, and during their confinement there, steps were taken to have them deprived of their offices at the Imperial Court. Others were similarly disgraced and several received severe reprimands. Writers of the

present time,³ while agreeing that intelligent public opinion was opposed to the EMPEROR'S design, and that MATSUDAIRA YETCHIU-NO-KAMI was well-advised in his opposition, condemn the proceedings he subsequently instituted against the Imperial Councillors, and hold that the considerate yielding of the Court ought to have ended the affair. Had MATSUDAIRA and his fellow-thinkers, say these critics, refrained from finding fault with the EMPEROR'S intention after its abandonment, and apologized for the opposition their duty had obliged them to offer, they would have left behind them the reputation of wise statesmen and loyal subjects. Unfortunately, however, they fell into the vulgar error of pushing their advantage beyond the accomplishment of their object. The EMPEROR himself seems to have harboured no umbrage on account of the rebuff he had received. On the contrary, he celebrated the restoration of concord between the two Courts in the following couplet :—

The sweet notes of the harp that sounds in the East (Yedo)
Are now harmonized with the melody of the birds
That warble songs in the trees of my courtyard.

Yet when we remember all that is meant in Japan by filial piety, we can readily understand with what reluctance and chagrin the EMPEROR must have yielded to an opposition so careful of the form and careless of the spirit. KOKAKU reigned more than twenty years after this event, but he never made any fresh attempt to carry out a purpose which now, more than a century after it was first conceived, has been consummated by a Sovereign less dependent and not less pious than his ancestor. It is a strange episode in the history of this strange country, and those who read it carefully will not fail to find food for reflections of larger scope than we can attempt to note here.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

AT the last meeting of the Shanghai Literary and Debating Society, the Rev. Y. K. YEN, a Chinese divine, delivered a remarkable discourse on Foreign-Chinese intercourse. Mr. YEN is a courageous man. He does not hesitate to stand up before an English audience, and tell them plainly what he thinks, whether his statements are calculated to flatter or to offend. Not less creditable than his pluck was the courteous appreciation it received from his hearers—an appreciation which goes far to show that if English generosity does not always display its best aspects in Oriental intercourse, it is, at least, ready to accord its accusers a fair hearing. Mr. YEN commenced by disputing the theory that international law imposes on nations any obligation to enter into commercial relations. He held that intercourse of that nature is nothing more than "a duty, an exercise of good-will." To the former fallacy he ascribed many unjust phases of

³ Vide the *Nichi Nichi Shimbum*, from which most of the above facts are extracted.

the treaties that have been concluded between Western and Eastern states. He did not travel to Japan for an illustration of his proposition, but one cannot help reflecting how truly his words are borne out by the state of affairs actually existing in this country, where foreign journalists and writers in the local English press insist on elevating into perpetual and inalienable rights privileges granted under terminable treaties; and where, on the other hand, the same persons disavow any obligation to extend their commercial intercourse with Japan beyond the narrow limits they themselves laid down a quarter of a century ago. Mr. YEN did not travel to Japan probably because he thought there was sufficient material for his purpose at home; and it seems to us, perusing his lecture, that he was right. He admitted, frankly, that "the average European, in his normal condition, is more honorable, humane, and noble than the average Chinese of the same class," but of the average European in an abnormal condition—that is to say, in the Orient—he entertained a less favorable opinion. None but principles so deep-seated as to be almost innate survive the shock of life among men who are less enlightened than oneself and moreover of a different race. There is a law of evolution, but there is also a law of reversion. Even the civilized Western is more or less the creature of his environment. At one time the instinct of self-preservation impels him to be aggressive; at another, the absence of restraint tempts him to be immoral. In fine, living in the Orient, he retrogrades in character and conduct. So, at any rate, thinks Mr. YEN, and in support of his plausible theory he adduced some facts worth quoting:—

Certain foreigners, under the avowed object of building a tramway, so blinded the Taotai that he stretched his paternal influence in making the farmers sell their lands. When they got the title deeds, lo and behold! they laid a railway. The official remonstrated, and even threatened to lie on the track to stop the locomotive. Their answer, which was worthy of a sophister, was that as they were owners of the road, they could do what they chose with it, and that as to the threat, the life was his and in his power to keep or to lose. Did this affair reflect honour or dishonour on those concerned? Again, when our government, in order to preserve its right of saying when, where, and how the rail-road will be, bought the company up at the full value, instead of making an international question of it, the foreign press generally taunted it with stupid waste of money and with anti-progress. Was not this taunt adding insult to injury? Several years ago, a European bought goods from the Chinese with promise to pay as soon as they were shipped. When the steamer had gone, it was found that he had used the bank advances, to satisfy his own countryman. Now, whatever he was to them, certainly he was not honourable to the Chinese. There is a European selling his name to a Chinese hong to aid him to defraud his government; there is another doing the same to a river lorch; at every port, there are members who make it a regular business to obtain transit passes for Chinese-owned goods. In each case a treaty privilege is outrageously misused, which, even if legally enjoyed, is nothing less than an over-reaching, and therefore utterly wrong from the beginning. It is yet more incredible, that when such abuses had been noticed at all by Consuls, it was the buyers of the privilege who were punished, while the sellers were allowed to go their way rejoicing.

It may well be supposed that Mr. YEN did not fail to notice the physical violence so

generally resorted to by Europeans in their dealings with Chinamen, as well as the strange sense of justice which induces the foreign rate-payers of Shanghai to withhold all share in the municipality from their Chinese fellow-residents, who, nevertheless, contribute equally to the municipal funds. We in Yokohama are accustomed to the often re-iterated assertion that the foreign residents are entitled to a voice in the local government. Here, however, the simple answer is, that in no part of the world does such a right belong to aliens who neither pay taxes nor are subject to the laws of the State. But on what grounds the exclusion of the Shanghai Chinese is justified, we have never heard and cannot conceive. Another point made was that while Chinese in Shanghai are tried by a Mixed Court with mixed penalties, the foreigner is tried by his own Court, "his judges being often his friends, or of the same club or society." Altogether the lecturer concluded that the character of foreigners in China is not the same as their character when in their own countries, and that a corresponding difference ought to exist in the codes of law applied to them. Whether it was intended by this to assert that Chinese Laws are good enough for foreigners in China, Mr. YEN did not explain. Probably his secret opinions inclined in that direction; but, openly, he confined himself to claiming that for foreigners also there ought to be a Mixed Court "where those who behaved like savages or barbarians should be governed by barbarous laws."

This is a startling proposition, and it might be supposed that the statements upon which it was based would have been combatted by Mr. YEN'S audience in the debate that followed the reading of his paper. Two or three gentlemen did, indeed, take exception to a general charge of inhumanity or injustice being preferred against foreigners in China, but no one questioned the lecturer's facts. Perhaps the most interesting explanation was advanced by a speaker who referred the antagonism between foreigners and Chinese to the circumstance that the whole Chinese nation is impregnated with the idea of its intellectual superiority to other nations. This was treading on dangerous ground. The average foreigner in Japan, if asked why he refuses to pay to Japanese rights even a measure of the respect he claims for his own, will complacently reply that he is a superior being, and that the Japanese, being inferior, must not expect equal consideration. He does not perhaps carry his self-sufficiency quite so far as to expect that the Japanese will be pleased with this comparison. But among the rights he denies them is certainly included that of being displeased. Yet if the Chinaman's arrogance entitles him to be disliked by foreigners, it is difficult to see why the latter's openly asserted superiority should seem less unattractive in Japanese eyes.

We do not believe in the advisability of applying severer codes to foreigners in the East, first, because it is rather the apathy of public opinion than the leniency of the law that is in fault; and secondly, because, although there are Western ruffians as well as Oriental ruffians, the former are the exception not the rule. But we do wish that there were a good many Mr. YENS both in China and Japan, to tell us candidly how we look in Chinese and Japanese eyes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN LOANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In asking permission to discuss still further the question of the relative advantage of domestic and foreign loans, I am not moved by any vain desire to persist in a public controversy, but by a sincere anxiety to support, as far as I am able to do so, a policy which I regard as essential to the welfare of this nation. I would have been glad, if possible, to hold strictly to what concerns Japan; to limit myself by considerations of her interests only; and not to wander into economic inquiries which relate especially to Western States, and are not precisely suited to a country so peculiarly circumstanced as this is. But you have thought it desirable to draw so largely upon a distinguished English author, that I am in a manner compelled to examine the various statements you have quoted from his works; notwithstanding my firm conviction that neither his writings, nor those of any theorist whose studies are confined to the European field of observation, are applicable to the conditions of this Eastern empire. I am compelled, I say, to do this, partly because I am appealing to readers, many of whom are in the habit of regarding an advocate as vanquished in a debate, if he allows any strong—or apparently strong—argument against him to pass unanswered. I am not ambitious to be set down as vanquished, any more than the next man;—above all, when I believe myself to be absolutely in the right. I shall therefore take the liberty to investigate certain remarks of Mr. Mill,—by which you are largely influenced,—upon their own merits, before proceeding to show that, even if they were invulnerable in themselves, they would have little or nothing to do with the subject in hand.

I believe I am correct in saying that you accuse me of a general inability to understand the question at issue, because I do not appreciate the difference between capital and money. "Underlying the whole of 'Protectionist's' argument, and for the most part vitiating it," you declare, "is an apparent confusion between money and capital." Again,—"all through his argument there is observable the same tendency to confuse money and capital." To prove that there is, and must be, a broad distinction between the two things, you cite a passage from the Fifth Chapter of Mill's First Book. I might reject this evidence entirely, if I chose, for the reasons, (1) that it refers to a subject quite apart from that immediately under scrutiny; (2) that you have omitted a line which, I think, would demonstrate its inapplicability, and (3) that, in the original, the word "capital" does not occur at all. The phrase which you give thus:—"simply confounding capital with money,"—appears in Mill's work in these words,—"simply confounding money with wealth." But I shall not take advantage of either the oversight or the slip of the pen. I admit that Mill does, in various places, strive to set capital and money apart, and that in this effort he has been followed by numerous disciples, greatly to the bewilderment of students,

and by no means to the advantage of his own reputation for consistency. It is no doubt true that, among the primary teachings of what is called "political economy," certain clear statements as to the meaning and the importance of money are necessary; together with warnings of the impropriety of considering money and capital identical. But it is one thing to say that money is not exclusively capital, and quite another to attempt to dissociate them utterly. In doing the latter, Mr. Mill pushed a favorite idea of his to the verge of fanaticism. He undertook to establish, as an axiom, a mere sophism which no other great authority in economic science ever attempted to demonstrate, and which he found it impossible to maintain in his own pages. The one teacher to whom Mill looks up with unvarying admiration is Adam Smith, and it is worth while to glance back, for a moment, to that eminent master's view of this matter. A few brief extracts will serve the purpose as well as a hundred, and I will avail myself of the privilege, (here and throughout this communication), of italicising such words as are decisive:—

That part of the capital of the farmer which is employed in the instruments of agriculture is a fixed, that which is employed in the wages and maintenance of his labouring servants is a circulating, capital. . . . Both the price and the maintenance of the cattle . . . are a circulating capital.

The third and last of the three portions into which the general stock of the society naturally divides itself, is the circulating capital. . . . It is composed of four parts:—first of the money by means of which all the other three are circulated, etc.

Money, no doubt, makes always a part of the national capital, etc.

Further examples are, I trust, unnecessary. Probably the last sentence, by itself, would have been sufficient. Let me now turn to Mr. Mill, himself.

In the Fourth Chapter of his First Book, he gravely propounds theories which I find it as difficult to take seriously as the enunciations of the grave-digger, in "Hamlet," concerning "crown's quest law." "What capital does for production," says Mill, "is to afford the shelter, protection, tools, and materials which the work requires, and to feed and otherwise maintain the labourers during the process. . . . A manufacturer has one part of his capital in the form of buildings. . . . Another part he has in the form of machinery. A third consists, if he be a spinner, of raw cotton, flax, or wool," etc. These things are capital; but money, we are told, is not. Suppose we inquire how the manufacturer got them. He did not erect the buildings, nor make the machinery, nor grow the cotton, with his own hands. Certainly not—he bought them; paid for them with money. Nevertheless, we are expected to believe that until he had paid over the money, and become the owner, he was not a capitalist. But how is it with regard to the food and maintenance? Mr. Mill explains that "it is not the custom of the present age that he (the manufacturer) should directly provide" these. "Instead of this, each capitalist has money, which he pays to his work-people and so enables them to supply themselves." Now, we are instructed, this money is not capital while the manufacturer possesses it, nor is it capital after he has paid it to his work-people. With it, however, the latter buy food, which is capital, if you please.* Mr. Mill would affirm that, though a man may have a million dollars, in coin, notes, bills of exchange, or what-

* I may mention incidentally that Mr. Mill gives the following definition of capital:—"Things destined to supply productive labour with its various pre-requisites,"—including food. His use of the word *pre-requisites* is not accidental, yet he forgets that the employer does not as a rule, pay out wages until after the day's work, or the week's work, is completed. Now, suppose a labourer to have finished a job for one capitalist on Monday, and to begin another, for a different capitalist on Tuesday. The food which he eats on Tuesday, before he gets any return for the second job, is of course capital, according to Mr. Mill. Then who is the capitalist, in this instance? Not the first employer, certainly; his enterprise is at an end, and under any circumstances he would not be the capitalist of a stranger's enterprise. Not the second employer, for he has not paid over even the money which Mr. Mill admits may be converted into capital. Not the labourer, on any ground recognized by that author. Who, then, is the capitalist that supplies the capital eaten on Tuesday morning, as a "pre-requisite" of the work to be that day performed by the labourer? Accepting Mr. Mill's doctrine, it seems to be nobody. As a matter of fact, the money paid by the first employer was that employer's capital, until it had been used for his purposes and handed over to the workman. Then it became the latter's capital, until he exchanged it for the food of Tuesday,—which was capital in another form until it was eaten,—or, to be more minute, until it was digested.

ever, and may be seeking for opportunities of investing that sum, he possesses no capital until after he has bought the several implements required for a particular enterprise. He actually draws the picture of "the arrival of a foreigner in a place, with a treasure of gold and silver," and sends him into business there. But he scrupulously avoids admitting that this stranger possesses any capital. He calls it "treasure," "fortune," "money," "funds," and exhausts his vocabulary of synonyms; yet diligently guards himself from designating it as capital. But are you, Mr. Editor, prepared to assert that theory? If a foreigner should come to Japan, bringing a hundred thousand dollars to invest, would you say he had no capital—would you decline to call him a capitalist—until he had actually exchanged a portion or the whole of his money for machinery, tools, houses, or what might be needed for his undertakings? Mr. Mill would seem to go still further, for he announces, in so many words, that "the distinction between Capital and Not-capital" lies "in the mind of the capitalist"—in his will to employ them (*i.e.* the commodities he has purchased) for one purpose rather than another,—so that, if we accept this proposition unreservedly, a man is or is not a capitalist, according to the temporary turn of his imagination. When he is thinking of employing his property for productive purposes, he possesses capital; when he fancies he will use it otherwise, he possesses no capital. I am afraid some readers who are unacquainted with Mill's writings may suspect that I am straining a point for a particular effect. I can hardly blame them; but I wish to have it understood that I consider the subject, in its broad bearings, much too serious for such levity of treatment. Anyone who will read the closing lines of Mill's Book I., Chapter IV., Section I., will see that I have quoted his words with literal fidelity.

Mr. Mill is never weary of reiterating his assertions as to the intrinsic insignificance of money. He makes it a text wherever he discovers an opportunity for doing so. In one place he goes to the remarkable length of stating that "it is not with money that things are really purchased." But when he enters upon practical discussion, he becomes inadvertent, and speaks of money in a less visionary way. Before he has finished the paragraph in which the above curious asseveration appears, he contradicts himself by speaking of labourers' selling certain articles, corn, hay, etc., "for money." In the paragraph next following, he remarks that "things which by barter would exchange for one another, will, if sold for money, sell for an equal amount of it." Thus, in the very same page, he tells us that things are not bought for money, and that things are sold for money. In the ensuing chapter, moreover, he observes that "if prices are low, money will buy much of other things," etc. Again, he informs us that "money carries its purchasing power wherever it goes." Numerous instances of similar wavering may be seen in his volumes. On one occasion he modifies his cherished theory by saying that "money and finished goods are not wholly capital;"—thereby admitting that they are partly so. On another, he talks of "£1,000, of capital." On another, he plainly refers to the funds used by a buyer of velvet as capital. On another, he alludes to the "portion of capital which is paid as the wages, or consumed as the subsistence, of labourers." Even in the supposed case, previously cited,—of a foreigner bringing "treasure" into a country, and investing it,—although he will not acknowledge that the new comer's "gold and silver" are capital, he speaks of their effect, when invested, on the "floating capital" of other persons in the same country, which he thinks may be sent abroad for foreign investment. Now this "floating capital" consists of money, and cannot be anything else; and is "sent abroad" in some portable form. So, mark you, the money which a foreigner brings to a country for investment is not capital; but the money sent out of a country for investment is capital. Finally, in a

moment of relaxed vigilance, one might suppose, he expresses himself in the following words:—"A fund may be seeking for productive employment, and find none adapted to the inclinations of its possessor: it then is capital, but unemployed capital." Into such entanglements does this distinguished writer lead himself, by his theoretical adherence to an idea which his practical sense rejects. These inconsistencies, which are plenty as blackberries in Mill's works, go far, I take it, to invalidate his allegations respecting the impossibility of associating money with capital. He has fallen into an error against which he warns others when he admonishes them how "fatal is the habit of thinking through the medium of only one set of technical phrases." The truth is, I make bold to affirm, that while money is not exclusively capital, and while capital has always existed in many other shapes besides money, the latter is, in all civilized societies, a form of capital the importance of which ought never to be disputed, nor even doubted.†

Carrying this branch of the subject to a legitimate conclusion, I might ask, Mr. Editor, why you object to the investments, by Japanese citizens, in the new railway bonds. What do they invest? Money, and nothing but money. What you contend against, however, is the "sinking of capital," which must not, you assert, be confounded with money. So long as the public offer only money in exchange for the bonds, you ought not to remonstrate. When they begin to offer (and the Government to accept) machinery, tools, clothing, and other articles, it will be time for you to protest,—these things being capital. But if I pursued this line of reasoning I should be justly accused of quibbling. Quibbling is a practice which affords me no satisfaction, nor am I overjoyed when others indulge in it. I think, therefore, I may omit further consideration of the fallacy that money is not capital, and endeavour to present, in words which will allow of no misunderstanding, what I believe to be your real cause of anxiety. It is premised that there is a certain amount of money "lying idle," at the present time, in Japan. Incidentally I must remark that in your article of March 1st (*Weekly Mail*), you threw the burden of that hypothesis upon me; whereas, in my previous letter, I simply adopted it from your earlier article of Feb. 9th (*Weekly Mail*), expressly quoting the words. But I assume there need be no dispute as to the existence of money lying idle at this moment. You are convinced that this money will be needed for "industrial and commercial enterprises," "so soon as prices shall have completely adjusted themselves to the altered value of *Kinsatsu*," and that it should consequently be kept lying idle until that time; or, at any rate, that it should not be used in an investment from which it cannot be promptly extricated. This, I think, is the true substance of your objection to the employment of Japanese funds in the building of the railway. I observe, necessarily, that you say nothing as to the character of the domestic enterprises to be developed in the future, nor as to the period when they may be set on foot. The latter item, indeed, can be only guessed at. From present appearances, no definite or fixed adjustment of prices can be looked for at an early date. It would have been convenient if you had named a time when these industries might reasonably be expected to awaken. You would hardly desire people to keep their money lying idle for a year or more. Adam Smith was of opinion that "in all countries where there is tolerable security, every man of common understanding will endeavour to employ whatever stock he can command, in procuring either present enjoyment or future profit. . . . A man must be perfectly crazy who, where there is tolerable security, does not employ all the stock which he commands," etc. I do not forget that, in the case of Japan, you do

† I should not deem it requisite to give such profuse evidence of the recognition of money as capital, but for my desire to supply Japanese students of industrial science with all the citations they may need, to convince themselves and others that money is considered capital, even by Mr. J. S. Mill, although capital is not necessarily money.

not blame the people for investing in railway loans, but rather the Government, for tempting them by placing such loans on the market. But how is the Government to know, any better than the simplest individual, when the predicted revival of industry is to make its appearance? Yet you think that the Government is not warranted in now proposing a good and advantageous investment, like that of the railway bonds, lest it interfere with other opportunities of investment, which may be indefinitely deferred.

And then the question arises,—What kind of enterprises would you approve and consider fit objects for the employment of Japanese capital? Railroads are barred out. So, also, on Mr. Mill's authority, are "machinery, permanent improvements of the land, and the like." He excludes, moreover, "manufactories, ships, canals, mines, and works of drainage or irrigation." It is difficult to say what he does not exclude. Everything, apparently, resulting in what he terms "fixed capital,"—not forgetting "all or most things known by the name of implements or tools." Now, if the "commercial and industrial enterprises" which you anticipate are of a different class from any of the above, and are of a nature even to forbid a workman from investing in "implements or tools," I fail to discern precisely how Japan is to be benefited by them. Trade alone,—the mere exchange of goods and commodities already on hand without continued productive operations,—is not likely to expand a nation's greatness or increase its power. A marked characteristic of "circulating capital," as described by Mill, is that it circulates itself out of existence. When it is all gone, what next? That is what we come to, if we lean upon Mr. Mill. But it is my conviction, Mr. Editor, that you place too much reliance on him, and make use of his arguments to an extent which circumstances do not warrant. To begin with, the whole purpose of his discourse on the proper employment of capital is not only different from, but is in one sense exactly the reverse of, that to which you seek to turn it, in your quotations. You assume that he is endeavouring to prove the impropriety of certain investments in poor countries. The fact is, that he is endeavouring to prove the propriety of those same investments in rich countries. That is the real burden of his theme. He is engaged in demonstrating that such investments are desirable and judicious in rich countries, and he casually mentions, as a wholly secondary consideration, that they *may be* undesirable in a poor country. He does not seem particularly sure about it; nor to care much, one way or the other. He simply admits that the rule he lays down for rich nations *may be* inapplicable to those which are poor. If any one doubts this, let him look at your first extract, beginning,—"*In a country where capital accumulates slowly,*" etc. It consists of fifty-five lines. Of these, forty-six are devoted to the proposition he wishes to enforce,—namely, the expediency of the investments in question in a wealthy State; and nine are surrendered to an acknowledgment that *perhaps* they are not suited to a nation of inferior resources. The forty-six lines have no bearing upon the situation of affairs in Japan; the nine lines concede the possible correctness—but do not affirm it—of a theory similar to that which you have adopted.

It does not seem to me, if I may venture to say so, that there is anything very tangible in Mr. Mill's testimony against the use of capital for permanent productive investments in Japan; but I will look for a moment at his reason for discouraging such a course in any nation. He says:—

In a country where capital accumulates slowly, the introduction of machinery, permanent improvement of land, and the like, *might be* for the time extremely injurious; since the capital so employed *might be* taken from the wages fund, the subsistence of the people and the employment of labour curtailed, and the gross annual produce of the country actually diminished.

And, again:—

If the sinking of capital in machinery and useful works proceeds at such a pace as to impair materially the funds for the maintenance of labour, it is incumbent on legislators to take measures for moderating its rapidity.

Observe the cautious methods of expression in these extracts. The measures referred to "*might be*" injurious, since the capital "*might be* taken from the wages fund." "*If* the sinking of capital" impairs the labour fund, then its rapidity should be moderated. Nothing could be more carefully guarded. And rightly so; for, as I have remarked, these statements are mere incidental acknowledgments of a possibility in poor countries, to which the author neither endeavours nor desires to direct the close attention of his readers. Moreover, it is important to remember that the whole theory of the "wages fund," as originally elaborated by Mr. Mill, twenty-five or thirty years ago, has been set aside by the majority of prominent economists, including Mr. Mill himself. Its first assailant was Mr. Longe. Its most effective was Mr. Thornton, by whose arguments Mr. Mill frankly declared himself to be convinced. Without stopping, however, to contend against a theory which its author abandoned, I may say that the danger you apprehend could not be proved to exist, even if the "wages fund" doctrine were accepted as fully established. Your assumption (without reference to Mr. Mill) is, I believe, that Japanese labourers will suffer for want of the money, or for want of their share of the money, which is about to be invested in the railway bonds. But we all know that the money is to be devoted, almost as soon as it is paid over, to a great enterprise in which the services of thousands of workmen will be required. I have already suggested that you do not specify the industrial operations which you see looming in the future; but if they are to be of the very limited number not prohibited by Mr. Mill in the passages you quote, they cannot possibly benefit the labourer in anything like the degree that the building of a railway will benefit him. In fact, whatever they may be, I fail to perceive how they can give more employment to, or contribute more directly to the maintenance of, working men. And if it comes to a question from which source labourers are likely to derive the greater and more immediate advantage;—the construction of a railway, to commence within a definite brief period, or the inauguration of some unknown and unnamed smaller undertakings, to begin nobody knows when,—I can conceive of but one reasonable answer.

It now remains to be considered whether the Government has done wisely, or the reverse, in relying upon a home loan, instead of borrowing from abroad. To a certain extent I have answered this inquiry (from my point of view) in the foregoing paragraphs; but it is desirable to examine it in direct opposition to the citations you draw from Mr. Mill. That eminent philosopher has much to say, in divers places, on the subject of domestic loans, and it is interesting (parenthetically), to note his candid avowal, in one part of his work, that a person who buys, *with money*, Government securities for the purpose of assisting in the construction of a railway, lends his *capital* for a productive employment. The most forcible set of utterances you have reproduced, and those to which you look,—I presume I may say,—for the most substantial support, are the following, gathered, though not quite consecutively, from his chapter upon national debt:—

If the capital taken in loans is abstracted from funds either engaged in production, or destined to be employed in it, their diversion from that purpose is equivalent to taking the amount from the wages of the labouring classes. The system of public loans, in such circumstances, may be pronounced the very worst which, in the present state of civilization, is still included in the catalogue of financial expedients. There are, however, other circumstances in which loans are not chargeable with these pernicious consequences: namely, first, when what is borrowed is foreign capital, the overflowings of the general accumulation of the world; or, etc.

It should first be pointed out that this extract does not, like others which you have chosen, refer especially to poor countries, but to all countries,—an illustration from English history being given in connection with it; and next, that it deals with loans intended *not* for productive and industrial development, but loans for the emergencies of war

or other wasteful requirements. It amounts simply to this: that when the Government of any nation, great or small, is in want of money for *unproductive* purposes, it should choose some other method of obtaining it than by a public loan. The proposition has no bearing upon money, or capital, needed for *productive* purposes. In other words, it has no bearing upon the transaction we are contemplating here in Japan. Instead of being used in "defraying the expenses of a war," or in any unfruitful operation, the sums subscribed for railway bonds will be devoted to a work of great public utility, and, in a large degree, will be disbursed in wages to labourers. You have yourself indicated that "Mill is here speaking of loans for unproductive purposes;" but I am surprised to see, appended to the acknowledgment of that fact, your remark that "even in that case he still prefers the introduction of foreign capital," etc. "*Even* in that case!" Why, what other case is there? That is the only case under discussion. Yet you would have it appear that there is no question about his preference for foreign capital when productive enterprises are concerned, and that *even* for unproductive enterprises his preference is the same. The truth is, Mr. Editor, that he is speaking of nothing else but unproductive undertakings. He has not a word to say, regarding the others. From beginning to end, his discourse is about expenditures incurred for war, or similar profitless operations. If the word "*even*" is to be properly used, it must be in this way:—Mill objects to domestic loans for unproductive purposes, but *even* for these purposes, he believes that under some circumstances, "the sum wanted may be obtained by loan, without detriment to the labourers or derangement of the national industry, and even perhaps with advantage to both," etc. That he really does say; but he never says anything remotely hinting at an objection to internal loans for productive objects.

It is unnecessary for me to prolong the examination of an argument which, obviously, was never intended to embrace such measures as those just instituted by the Japanese Government. But I have no intention of admitting that, even if Mr. Mill and all of his school had advocated foreign loans in the most emphatic and unmistakable terms, it would shake my conviction in the slightest degree. I regard it as more or less of an evil that strangers should have any opportunity of subscribing to a loan which the people of a country are themselves able to take up. In a case like the present, the outside investments are not likely to be extensive, and may therefore be no more injurious than those of Europeans were to the United States at the time of the Southern rebellion. But, opulent as America is, it did not enchant her citizens to see the annual payments of interest go abroad, after the war, nor to know that money lent to us when gold was at an immense premium, paid back and sent away, perhaps twice over, as the currency gradually returned to the normal rate. All bonds (with their interest) held by Americans were paid *at home*. Mr. Mill himself recognises the difference, as a matter of national gain or loss, between interest paid "when the creditors are members of the same community," and when they are not. For my part, I must adhere to the statement that Japan, five or ten years hence, in possession of her railway *plus* the capital required for constructing it, will be richer than if she had only the railway without the capital,—which would be the case if the amount were returned to lenders in Europe. I desire to remind you that on my side of the argument there is nothing supposititious. It is all straightforward fact. The railway *is to be* built with money voluntarily supplied by the Japanese; and the money supplied by them, with its interest, *is to be* paid back to them. But, as you put it, "the money expended is withdrawn from the available capital of the country where, *by hypothesis*, it is wanted, and where its absence *may be* seriously injurious,"—and so following, along a line of conditional and

mutually dependent assumptions. Yet you dispose of my remark, that "we have, when the work is completed, a new railway in Japan and also the twenty millions required to construct it,"—as simple and unadorned a truth as that there is water in Yedo Bay, or that two and two make four,—by averring that "this statement is most misleading." I do not so regard it, and, which is more to the purpose, I cannot believe that the rulers or the people of Japan would so regard it. Neither in the plain aspect of the affair, considered by itself alone, nor in the various theories and arguments drawn from distant sources and grouped about it, can I discover anything to awaken a doubt as to the wisdom and sound judgment of the policy to which the Government has adhered.

I apologize sincerely, Mr. Editor, for the demand I have made upon your space,—a demand which is not likely to be ever repeated, even if you permit me again to address you on economic topics since I have on this occasion departed, rather widely, from the strict boundaries of the question at issue, in order to "cleanse my bosom" with respect to a branch of the subject which has not before been fairly weighed, in this region, yet which, in my estimation, is entitled to careful consideration. I refer to the practice of applying to the exigencies of this country, the doctrines and arguments of Western writers who have no knowledge of or regard for Japanese affairs. One man, and one alone, since the days of Adam Smith, has studied economic science from an altitude which overlooks society in all its aspects and conditions, and has embodied his conclusions in general laws so harmonious and beautiful that it seems incredible to me how any mind capable of understanding them can conscientiously reject them. But Mr. Mill, like the majority of English economists, discusses his theme almost exclusively with a view to English interests, and without the least regard to such peculiar phenomena as are, for the present, inseparable from Japanese development and progress. Moreover, these foreign authors, with hardly an exception, fall into the habit of using words and expressions which obscure their meaning to all readers, and must render them well-nigh unintelligible to the Japanese. Each new expounder of "political economy" (so called) manufactures a set of fresh definitions and phrases, often antagonistic to all that have preceded them, and uses them as if they had been formally stamped with universal acceptance. Hence, the unaccustomed explorer is apt to find himself floundering in the midst of a jargon which is fully comprehensible to the inventor alone,—and perhaps not invariably to him. I will undertake to pick out half a dozen different, not to say conflicting, explanations, by standard authors, of such ordinary words as Wealth, Value, Trade, or Capital. How Mill has contradicted himself with respect to the last, is apparent in the extracts I have given. Whewell, in his lucid rules concerning technicalities, states that "when common words are appropriated as technical terms, their meaning and relations in common use should be retained, as far as can conveniently be done;" and that care must be taken that the words "are not ambiguous in their application." Political economists, however, are generally far too self-reliant to be guided by established laws of diction. For these reasons, not to speak of others scarcely less significant, I should, as a custom, oppose all attempts to appeal to the intelligence of Japanese readers by references to, or citations from, foreign works on this subject. Even Mr. Carey's masterly expositions may be rendered more effective by such modification as will adapt them to Japanese habits of thought and methods of reasoning.

Again offering my excuses for the extreme length of this communication,

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

PROTECTIONIST.

Tokio, March 6th, 1884.

[We have to apologise for the delay that has occurred in the publication of this letter. Its length obliged us to hold it over.—Ed. J. M.]

THE FRENCH AMATEURS' CHARITABLE PERFORMANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have the pleasure to enclose, for the information of the public, the accounts of the "Charity performances" given by French Amateurs in January and February last, and I take this opportunity of thanking, on their behalf, the local press, Mr. Hegt, Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Mr. E. J. Moss, Mr. Culty, and all those who by reduced charges or gratuitous services contributed to the result obtained: i.e. a donation of \$364.31 to the local charities.

Yours truly, D. FITZ-HENRY.
Yokohama, April 2nd, 1883.

MEMO. OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR TWO PERFORMANCES GIVEN BY FRENCH AMATEURS IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL AND OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

	FIRST PERFORMANCE.	SECOND PERFORMANCE.	
Receipts.....			\$384.00
Rent of Theatre, gas, &c.....	\$33.02	\$50.00	
Painter, Carpenter, Coolies, Scenery and Stage accessories.....	76.91	39.95	
Costumes, wigs, &c.....	37.55	15.07	
Printing, copying parts, &c.....	14.03	15.00	
Piano hire.....	15.00		
Gatemen and Sundries.....	21.50	24.15	
Special train.....		38.61	
	198.91		182.78
	\$163.09		\$301.22

Total \$364.31 distributed as follows:
Yokohama General Hospital..... \$230.17
Société Française de Secours..... 67.07
Amateur Orchestra (for Charitable purposes)..... 67.07
\$364.31

KRUPP V. ARMSTRONG GUNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—We have to trouble you again in reference to the Krupp-Armstrong question, and to request that you will inform your readers that as yet no further correspondence on the subject has appeared in the home papers, at least so far as we are aware, and certainly not in the *Engineering*, to which we are subscribers.

Should any reply to Mr. Krupp's letter be made by "Artillerist" we shall be happy to forward it to you. We are, Sir, Yours, faithfully,

TAKATA & Co.,
Agents for FRED. KRUPP.
Tokio, 28th March, 1884.

FIFTH LECTURE AT THE MEIJI KUAIDO.

The fifth lecture of the free series at the Meiji Kuaido, Tokio, was delivered, on the 22nd ultimo, by the Rev. Dr. Verbeck to an audience of about twelve hundred persons. The subject was Pantheism and Christianity, and in comparing the two creeds, the speaker necessarily touched the susceptibilities of his hearers somewhat roughly. He was nevertheless listened to with quiet attention, the rare exclamations of dissent his remarks elicited being confined to a few students, who were more disposed to be clamorous than reflecting. Dr. Verbeck commenced with a brief historical introduction, outlining the salient features of Pantheism. He explained the etymological meaning of the word, and then proceeded to derive its significance, first from substance, which is infinite in time and space; secondly from two attributes, namely, mind—or thought—and matter—or extension,—and thirdly, from the accidents of substance, which he called "mode." These three are coeval and inseparable from eternity to eternity. Considered internally, they are God; considered externally, the Universe. God may be called the Soul of Nature, and Nature, according to Pantheists, the body of God. Without God, there were no Universe; without an Universe, there were no God. Thus, in this creed, God and the Universe are not two things; they are identical. From these premises many strange conclusions follow. If the Universe is God, then all separate parts and

beings in Nature are components of God. If Nature is God, and all natural objects parts of God, then all powers, faculties, and workings contained in them are, wholly or partially, powers, faculties and workings of God. In this category would be included even the song of the nightingale and the perfume of the plum-tree. Pursuing this train of thought, Dr. Verbeck showed to what unreasonable and illogical tenets the Pantheists are committed. They confound Cause with Effect. Without God, they say, there can be no Nature, which is true enough; but then follows the paradox, without Nature there can be no God. They confound, too, the Finite with the Infinite. For God's infinity, they hold, consists in all the finities in Nature, as though any number of finities could ever make an infinite. They confound Mind and Matter, since they teach that God, the living Soul of the Universe, is, at the same time, the Universe itself. Their doctrine, further, involves a virtual denial of the Personality or Individuality of God, since their God is the sum total, the aggregate, of "all things and beings." An aggregate of persons and individualities may be an ideal person—as a corporation, society, or body politic—but cannot possibly be a real person, to whom the thoughts and prayers of sentient beings can go out. Again, they ignore man's personality or individuality, because they regard him as only a brief moment of God; as a wave on the surface of the sea; as a leaf on a forest tree— notions which are inconsistent alike with facts, with consciousness, and with reason. A further examination of this phase of Pantheism, shows that it denies man's liberty, and reduces him to the category of brutes or machines. "Our activity," says Cousin, "is only a temporary manifestation of God's activity; all our acts are God's acts." Man, then, "does" not, but is "made to do." His very sins are not his own. They are the deeds of a power beyond his control. He ceases to be responsible for the indulgence of his evil passions. He loses his free will, and losing with it his liberty, has no longer duties to perform or obligations to fulfil. It is not for him to distinguish between good or evil; virtue and vice; praise or blame. He is simply the creature of necessity, without motive or inducement to be virtuous. The basis of morality, in short, is swept away. Following this line of argument, we come to the grotesque aspects of Pantheism. If every object or being in nature is a part of God, then all the mutual actions of life, whether conflicting or concordant, are interactions between different parts of God. When a man murders his fellow, one part of God is destroying another. When Napoleon was pitted against Wellington on the field of Waterloo, it was one part of God manœuvring against another. Thus all history becomes a chain of necessities, and man's life a chapter of uncontrollable impulses. The speaker then passed to a direct comparison of Pantheism with Christianity. He showed, first, the resemblances between the two creeds. Both teach the existence of God: neither is atheistic. Both recognise the oneness of God: neither is polytheistic. Both condemn idol-worship. In both, God is omnipresent and omniscient. Both recognise the grand unity of the universe. In the scriptures of both are to be found common expressions, or, at any rate, expressions acceptable to both. But if these similarities exist, the dissimilarities are more striking and radical. Thus the God of Pantheism is dependent on, and his existence conditioned by, the Universe and its existence; whereas, the God of Christianity is the great and free Creator of the Universe. Nature is in no sense the necessary outward manifestation of the Christian God's inner substance. Again, while the God of Pantheism must be affected by every change in the things and beings on which his existence depends, the God of Christianity is changeless and the same from everlasting to everlasting. Neither can the former be worshipped, venerated, loved like the latter; for though Nature

may be admired, she is incapable of awakening in the hearts of her beholders those feelings so well expressed in the Christian Scriptures, where it is said that God's pity for his children is as that of a father, and that he must be loved by them as a child loves its parent. Pantheism robs man of his individuality, his personal liberty: it makes him the mere creature of impulses which he cannot control. Christianity, on the contrary, gives him the position of a free agent; a being endowed with the power to choose between good and evil, between reward and punishment. In the Pantheistic creed there is no sin, either of omission or commission, because the impulse that prompts our deeds, being God-directed, cannot be erroneous. Christianity, on the contrary, like a true teacher, tells men plainly that they are not what they ought to be; that their sins, as well as the power to abstain from them, are their own, and that there is always before them a higher standard of holiness and purity. Thus Christianity is the religion of Progress and of Civilization. Its object is to purify the world and make man conform to God's will. It is the basis of all true Civilization. Pantheism destroys the distinction of mind and matter; and at the time of death destroys man's identity, if, indeed, it every acknowledges that he has any. Like a wave of the sea, like a drop of dew, like a name written on the surface of a running stream, he disappears, and is extinguished. But according to the Christian creed, man, made in the image of God, does not die. His body, indeed, returns to the dust, but his spirit to the God that gave it. The glorious belief in an immortality of joy, is Christianity's gift to man, even as her doctrines teach him the way to attain it. The speaker concluded by telling his hearers an anecdote of some medical students who, listening to their teacher's lecture and hearing him explain minutely the symptoms of various diseases, began to be conscious that they themselves were suffering from ills they had not before appreciated. "Should there be any among my audience," said Dr. Verbeck, "who, like those students, feels, as he listens to what I have said, that all is not well with him; feels that he too is suffering from a malady hitherto unrecognised, then let me recommend him to have recourse to a medicine which knows no failure nor has any peer, Christianity."

YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Cricket Club was held last evening at the Club Hotel, at which between thirty and forty members were present.

On the motion of Mr. GORDON, Mr. Barlow took the Chair, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, acting as secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that this was an Extraordinary General Meeting, called by notice and under the rules, but he thought it really an extraordinary meeting, as since the Club had been first started twelve years ago there had never been occasion to call an extraordinary meeting. At the Annual Meeting the Committee had been elected in the usual way, but a short time after three of the committeemen resigned, leaving only two. Now, according to the rules, it took three to form a quorum, consequently the two left found themselves unable to act and therefore resigned. There being a deadlock, the late Secretary, not finding anyone to whom he could pass over the books, called the old committee together, and they came to the conclusion that the only thing to be done was to call this meeting. There was nothing in the rules to decide how the ballot should be taken, but it was customary that the first five should be elected, and that if any of them refused to serve that those next in point of numbers be elected. He wished to know if any member had any objection to the ballot proceeding in the usual manner.

No objection having been raised, the ballot was then taken, and the following gentlemen were elected to serve for the ensuing year, viz.:—B. Durant, Groom, Melhuish, Hamilton, and A. R. Robinson.

Mr. GROOM said that perhaps the members thought it was strange that he should accept office after refusing to serve on the previous committee, but the fact was that he had not the time to attend to the work, and he believed that this Committee was only a temporary one, as in a few days there would be another meeting to discuss the amalgamation scheme, and then he hoped the present Committee would hand the matter over to a general Committee.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting adjourned.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

FOREIGN INTERCOURSE OF JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

In like ratio with the progress of civilization do the relations between individuals of all classes become more frequent and more intimate. The true secret of such relations lies in the clear understanding of individual characteristics, for a considerable degree of intimacy is only possible when each knows and appreciates the condition of the other. A man met with for the first time cannot be made the confidant of one's pecuniary troubles; nor can a newly-hired servant be sent out to collect bills. A new acquaintance is not always unkind, nor is a new servant invariably untrustworthy; and yet it is a chief characteristic of human nature to be doubtful of anything with which it is not familiar, and, in an especial degree, to be reticent and shy with first acquaintances. And all this holds good in reference to international intercourse.

A true knowledge of each other is the key to international intimacy. A great sage* once declared, —over two thousand years ago—that a man should rather regret his ignorance of the condition of others than theirs of his own, and this apothegm is held in high esteem by slow-witted scholars and students. Such a saying, if consistently carried out, would give rise to very objectionable abuses. In the days long gone by, when as yet human affairs were in a state of torpid inactivity, men were quite content to live and die within the little circle of their daily life, a circle in which they played an important rôle; and so, whether they lived in seclusion and retirement or not, it had little or no effect on their national interests. But now that civilization is pressing to the front with giant strides, each moment is of importance, and ignorance of others is an inexcusable fault. The talented should endeavor to make their talents appreciated; the wise should use their wisdom for the public weal. In a word, men must strive to make themselves known before others chance to find them out. For, unfortunately many of the readers of foreign books of science in their translations only can never,—inexperienced and undeveloped as they are,—hope to make their names echo in the halls of Fame. The way to become famous is to strike out a new path for oneself, and not be content to follow in the tracks of others.

Since the opening of this country, Japan has been constantly adopting the civilization of the Occident, from steamers and telegraphic lines to such abstract matters as politics, literature, art, and science. In only twenty years time Japan has swept off all the dust of antiquity and antiquated fashions with the brisk broom of European civilization. Not one of our foreign imports but what has added to and increased our knowledge of foreign lands. The students of Western jurisprudence have seen that the love of justice is characteristic of the European; the disciples of moral philosophy have learned to appreciate the exactness of European logic; the students of mechanical science have been astounded at the marvellous adroitness of European mechanics. The more we learn of Europe the dearer do her countries become to our hearts, and this feeling is the true key to the maintenance of intimate relations. But foreigners are far from knowing us as we know them; as they are not really acquainted with this people, they feel no desire to respect them. And hence the contemptuous disregard for Japan which is so often apparent. The actions of a man show the true bent of his mind. Aliens despise us and treat us with contempt. Still, it is not judicious to angrily decry this spirit, before we have learnt the reason of its existence. Foreigners are

* Confucian Analects, Chap. XVI.—The Master said, "I will not be afflicted at men's not knowing me; I will be afflicted that I do not know men."

arrogant, it is true, but their arrogance will not continue to all eternity; they despise us because they know little or nothing of us, and it is thus our imperative duty to make ourselves known to them. It is the experience of many of those who have visited foreign lands that most people outside of Japan confound the Japanese with the Chinese, and are even not familiar with the whereabouts of this country. This seems strange enough, but it is a fact, nevertheless. Japan is a small island in the East; and though the foreigners which visit these shores are not few, and many officials, students, and merchants of this country have visited western lands, these facts hardly do more than introduce the name of Japan to European nations. For if we count all our people together, their number is limited in comparison with the countless millions of foreigners, and their mixing with other aliens is but a drop of information in an ocean of ignorant indifference. Our intercourse with foreign lands, intimate as it may seem to the people of this country, is but a passing event of minor importance in the eyes of Western Powers. It is natural enough that they should know little or nothing of us, and we must, therefore, adopt some way in order to being ourselves prominently before them. We belong to the great comity of civilized nations, and so soon as Europe knows us she will not withhold her respect.

And yet, the tide of national advance in Japan is at low ebb. The active revival of Chinese scholarship and learning has been a cause of anxiety to not a few of our people. But we are utterly indifferent to it, for the very nature of true civilization negatives the existence of such doctrines in these enlightened days. Confucius divided the human family into two great classes:—superior men (*kun-shi*), and inferior men (*shō-gun*), the former comprising those who act according to the moral standard, the latter, those who live but for the sake of self-profit; and so the Chinese sage declared that acquaintance or intimate relations should not exist between the two classes. This injunction, as well as the distinction implied, is certain to be the cause of mischief, and history is not wanting in examples which amply prove the baneful results of an implicit belief in this absurd principle. But the Confucianists would be quite content were all our countrymen to speak and act as did Confucius and Mencius.

In these times of enlightenment, however, our people must enlarge the circle of their intercourse as far as possible; they must act for the benefit of the whole community, and, for the present, include themselves in the category of so-called "inferior men." Should foreign residence in the interior be, once for all, permitted,—and this event is certain to ensue in no long time—the "inferior men" of western lands would crowd into this small island:—now those of England, then those of France, and so forth. The "inferior men" of all nationalities will then be able to occupy land in the interior as they please. Is it possible in such a moment to refuse to hold communication with the "inferior men" of foreign lands and to hold ourselves aloof in a self-sufficient spirit? The Confucianist, however much he may detest these alien profit-seekers, cannot stem the mighty tidal-wave of civilization. We ought and must compete with these foreign "inferior men." In the course of a few years, the Confucian ideal of Japan will be brought into active communication with "inferior men," but we congratulate this country in advance upon such an event,—in the interest of true civilization.

So much for the falsity of Chinese doctrines. Yet one spot which they have printed on the heart of the Japanese people is left untouched. We refer to that spirit of polite conservatism which is an obstacle to the national progress. Should our people adhere to the old worn-out principle of national seclusion amidst the ever-increasing complexity of human affairs, the tide of civilization will sweep past us, never to be overtaken. The true ideal of civilization is forever unattainable until we know as we are known.

THE BALANCE OF JAPANESE TRADE WITH AMERICA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*).

America is our neighbour for her westernmost coast is opposite to our eastern shores. The Pacific Ocean, vast as it is, can be crossed in half a month by steamers; and it may not be a vain hope that, as science progresses, the duration of the voyage between the two countries will be reduced to ten days, or even a week. Should the Panama Canal be completed in 1888, Japan's trade with America will receive an extraordinary impetus; and the never-ending clouds of smoke pouring from the funnels of countless steamers, added to the constant shadows of the huge white sails thrown ever and anon on the surface of this vast ocean, will add one more glorious feature to the panorama of sublunary civilization. The communication between the two nations is constantly increasing, as are our hopes for its future.

In reviewing the Japanese foreign trade of 1882, we see that the total exports amounted to 27,230,000 *yen*, America's share of which reached the respectable figure of 14,250,000 *yen*. It will thus be seen that six-tenths of the total exports from Japan are destined for the American market. Now silk is the most valuable item in our exports, yielding an annual revenue of 19,000,000 *yen*; and tea comes next, which brings in about 7,000,000 *yen* every year. These two articles contribute mainly towards the wealth and strength of this country. But America annually consumes 6,370,000 *yen* of our silk and 6,910,000 *yen* of our tea, and this fact alone more than establishes the vital importance of Japan's trade with America. The United States form a great and prosperous nation, and although their population does not exceed 50,000,000, the industrial activity of the inhabitants has brought the country into the first rank of the nations of the world; nor is it behind England in financial power; nor does it yield an inch to any European country in point of commerce. If the America of to-day be in so prosperous a condition, there can be no doubt but that, as time rolls on, her wealth and influence will increase with enormous rapidity, so that there is really no saying what an affluent and influential position she may hold at the end of the next two decades. The evidence of such rapid progress is as clear as can be. The export of silk to America is increasing year by year; the sole cause for apprehension being that the supply will fall short in future. As to tea, despite a lively demand for other articles, a decline is distinctly noticeable; yet the reason of this decline is not due to decreased consumption of the article, but rather to the poor quality manufactured in this country for the sake of a trifling temporary profit, and this defect of manufacture has produced an unfavourable impression upon American buyers. Should Japanese producers take proper care to encourage the excellence of this staple, and appeal to the taste of the buyers by treating them with the utmost fairness, it would be a by no means difficult task to increase the present demand for tea ten-fold. In a word, our general produce, outside of silk and tea, does not fall short in any particular of being in active demand in America. From the manufactured lacquer-ware, porcelain, paper, and *shoyu*, to the crude produce of copper, sulphur, and coal, there are unlimited stores of goods which will tend to enlarge Japan's future trade with America.

Turning to the import trade of Japan for the same year, we find that America's share of the whole, 29,160,000 *yen*, amounts only to 3,100,000, or about one-fifth of the goods exported from this country to the United States. And of this sum, 2,320,000 *yen* represents the value of the kerosene we import; so that we can justly state that our import trade with America consists of kerosene and nothing else. This does not augur well, at all events. Japan has a population of say 37,000,000,

who are not so very idle as to waste the night in sleep alone, and we may rest assured that the demand for kerosene will, as a matter of course, increase many fold. But, when we take the future into consideration, and remember that the oil-lamp is already superseded by gas, and that gas itself is threatened with the electric light, we require something more stable on which to place our hopes. Except, perhaps, in the remotest villages, all of the larger towns will soon be illuminated by gas or electricity. Progress demands that the customs of olden time should fade away before the inventions of the present, and this regeneration is rapidly going on in Japan. Therefore, as we earnestly desire to see the trade between Japan and America materially increased, we do not wish our American import trade to be restricted to kerosene, but we sincerely hope that the description and nature of the imports will be enlarged, so that there will be a practical equilibrium of trade between the two countries. In good truth, our demand for butter, condensed milk, salted meats, leather, hides, rope, wheat-flour, and timber—the principal articles of American agricultural export, as well as for all kinds of machinery, iron-ware, watches, and rifles, will be rapidly and greatly increased in the course of the next few years; but what we expect from the American people is not limited to these miscellaneous imports. Should they pay greater attention to the wants of this country and export wools, yarns, cotton-goods, and others of like description, it would not be a difficult matter for them to supply the demands of our thirty-seven million inhabitants. If the people of the United States have the least intention to increase their trade with this country, they will certainly export their produce to Japan in greater quantities and of better and more universally useful quality, and not be content with sending us but 3,000,000 *yen* of miscellaneous articles in return for the 14,000,000 *yen* which they import from Japan.

TRADE IN KOREA.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*.)

The Consular Trade Report from Ginsen, Korea, as published in a recent number of the *Kwampō*, says:—"The total amount of exports from this port for November, 1883, was 16,342.40 *yen*; of imports, 168,600.38 *yen*, giving an excess of 152,257.98 *yen* over the exports. As trade in this country is rarely carried on in specie, but is mostly the outcome of barter in exports and imports, the above-mentioned amount of exports represents the actual transactions done in imported goods, while other goods worth 152,257.98 *yen* remained unsold, and were kept over till December. The exports for the month of December reached 36,673.20 *yen*, as against imports amounting to 48,369.29 *yen*, showing again an excess of the latter over the former of 11,696 *yen*, which sum, added to that of the preceding month gives a total of 163,155.06 *yen*. And this total represents the value of the goods accumulated at the end of December, 1883. The depressed condition of trade at this port needs no further explanation." The same report says further:—"Copper, lead, and shirtings, the most important articles in the import trade, have already given signs of a future decline; shirtings, in especial, being no longer in the hands of our merchants. The import of copper is destined to fall off rapidly, as this metal has only been used in minting the new coins. But should the trade in copper and lead cease, our merchants would be utterly without employment. Should this unpleasant state of affairs come about, our merchants would fail to reap any profit whatever, despite the fact that we were the first in starting the foreign trade of Korea. It is most important that some means should at once be devised, whereby our merchants may be enabled to maintain their trade with the Koreans in perpetuity. And the maintenance of trade with Korea cannot

be effected otherwise than by giving the initiative to a demand for articles other than copper, lead, and shirtings."

Although the above remarks are taken from the important parts of the Consular Report on the trade of Ginsen alone, they enable us to gain a fair idea of the state of trade not merely in Ginsen or Pusan, but in all the Korean ports. We stated, some time ago, that our trade with Korea would not yield us great profits commercially, but would be rather of a diplomatic value. Last year, trade depression was not restricted to Korea, but was felt by the whole world; but where barter takes the place of specie payments, where commodities of other than one or two kinds never find a market, where commerce is in a state of steady decline, where the settlers are like shipwrecked people cast away upon some lonely island, anxiously awaiting the sight of some passing vessel to rescue them,—it needs no lively imagination to picture their sufferings. Were there the golden hope of a future improvement in commerce, they might endure the present misery without murmuring; but the stagnant trade is on the verge of total cessation, and there is no hope of future amelioration. It is, of course, in these days most important to assist our Korean trade, and we must, to that end, awaken a demand for other goods outside of copper, lead, and shirtings. But how can this be effected? Certainly not by folding our hands and bemoaning the stagnation of commerce. A radical change in the customs, requirements, and present commercial system of the Koreans is absolutely indispensable. To make our meaning clearer, we shall refer to the Korean trade of 1882. The total imports of the two ports of Pusan and Ginsen amounted, in that year, to 1,773,379 *yen*; 1,587,682 *yen* being the value of the goods imported from European and other foreign countries, the remaining 185,697 *yen* being the whole value of the Japanese imports. This was due solely to the reason of the demand in Korea being for articles other than those produced in this country. The total exports were 1,202,475 *yen*. But then these sums were obtained simply because our merchants were then the sole licensed vendors of foreign goods. Now that English, American, and other foreign firms are themselves opening establishments in the interior, our agencies yield us no profit whatever. And so our merchants will have to relinquish all their former ideas and go to work on a totally different plan.

This new plan will be a very keystone to the maintenance of our Korean trade, and may, perchance, alter the customs and fancies of the Koreans, thereby opening up a new channel for the export of our produce. And yet this is by no means an easy task. Korea exports her own productions not for the sake of the development of her national industries, but in order to defray the cost of the imported goods she consumes. Our object may, therefore, be obtainable only when Korea has grown eager to develop her national resources. Just at present, there is nothing to justify us in looking for any over great amount of gold-dust, cereals, hides, and the like. We cannot, in sober truth, discover anything in Korean trade which promises to yield our merchants a golden harvest. It remains to be seen how England, America, and China will proceed with regard to their trade with Korea.

The Imperial Household Department has ordered a large number of porcelain flower-vases, of excellent workmanship, from Kiyoto. These vases will be presented to foreign dignitaries on occasions of their having an audience with H.I.M. the Mikado. The same Department is making arrangements for a great exhibition of fencing, to which all the swordsmen in the country will be invited. H.I.M. the Mikado will be present.

More than 400 cases of compromise were filed at the Yokohama *Saibansho* on the last day of March.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy
Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

THURSDAY, 3rd April, 1884.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

General Van Buren conducted his own case.

Mr. Weiller appeared for the defendant.

The plaintiff waived his right to open the case, to save time, and agreed that the Counsel for the defendant should plead first and he should reply to their arguments. The evidence taken at the last session was then read and filed on the record of the Court. The letter from defendant to the Department of State was placed on the file, not as evidence, but as part of the record of the Court.

The Court remarked that it had allowed the letter to be filed, but it could not be received as evidence for the reasons previously stated. It appeared to have been sent in good faith to the Department of State and therefore was privileged. It had been referred to a subordinate officer to see whether anything ought to be done about it, this was a matter for the Department of State. His Honour considered the letter in the first place privileged, in the second irrelevant, in the third case if it were admissible it would be evidence in chief, and therefore could not be admitted as the case was closed, and lastly it could only be admitted by way of rebuttal or impeachment. The objection was therefore sustained, and the plaintiff's exception noted.

Mr. Weiller, for the defendant, said that no doubt the Court would agree with him that before it decided the case there were four points to be considered. First, were the words alleged in the petition uttered by the defendant of and concerning the plaintiff. Secondly, if the said words were uttered by the defendant, were they slanderous and had they injured the plaintiff in his office. Thirdly, was the utterance if made privileged, and fourthly was the utterance if made justifiable. As to the first point, he would briefly call the attention of the Court to the discrepancies in the evidence. Mr. Pritchard had undoubtedly given conscientious testimony, but the said evidence, besides being contradicted by the defendant, was not corroborated by the plaintiff's other witnesses. Mr. Pritchard had said that Messrs. Beato and Walker, besides numerous others, who were in or had gone through the hall overheard it. Mr. Walker did not remember hearing the defendant speaking of the plaintiff between the hours of 5 and 7 when Mr. Pritchard said the conversation took place, but he heard a similar conversation after dinner about 9 o'clock. Mr. Beato could not remember the defendant saying all that Mr. Pritchard said, and further he said the conversation took place on the opposite side of the hall. The defendant had most positively denied using the words alleged. It was in evidence that at the election most of the members of the Club were excited and that the candidates for Presidency were more or less abused. His Honour knew that under such circumstances all the items of a conversation could not be correctly remembered. Mr. Pritchard had drawn one inference as to what Government was meant, might be not have drawn another inference as to whether the word swindled was used, at any rate it was admitted that considerable excitement prevailed. There was a distinct difference between the main witness for the plaintiff and that for the defendant, and as neither had been impeached each was of equal value, and the term swindler as stated by Mr. Pritchard had not been corroborated. Although Mr. Rossettsu said that the defendant had used the expression "swindle on the Government," it was a privileged communication, he being in the defendant's employ and he (the

counsel) thought that evidence ought to be struck out. The question was, if the words already quoted were uttered, did they amount to a slander? To justify a verdict for the plaintiff, it must appear that such act was imputed to the defendant, and that such an act was of a criminal and indictable nature, and cited Folkard's Starkie on Law of Libel, page 120. Even if the defendant had used the words alleged, these words were connected with a certain line of facts. It might be unlawful for the plaintiff to buy the buildings, but it was not a criminal offence, and therefore the words if used could not be slanderous. He might call a man a thief, and say that he had stolen something, but if the article that was stolen was not subject to larceny it would not be a slander. As to the third point, that of privilege, the counsel insisted that what passed between Mr. Pritchard and defendant was privileged as a communication from one member of the Club to another. Defendant had only made the statement after Mr. Pritchard had remonstrated with him, saying that he was doing himself an injury in trying to persuade members not to vote for General Van Buren, and was making himself inimical. It was then that the defendant in a private and privileged communication said that the plaintiff had wrongfully purchased the buildings, and he (the counsel) held that he had a perfect right to use any knowledge he had to defeat the plaintiff. Again, it was a privileged communication as between one American citizen and another, and he had yet to learn that any officer in the United States service was so high, so great, and so almighty, that his actions were not open to be criticized by any American citizen, no matter how poor or lowly he might be. Mr. Weiller cited the following authorities on privileged communications:—Bouvier's vol. II., page 375, and Starkie on Libel and Slander, page 526, which read: "A privileged communication was one made *bona fide* upon any subject matter in which the party communicating has an interest, or in reference to which he has a duty. If made to a person having a corresponding interest or duty, although it contain criminating matter, without this privilege, it would be slanderous." The counsel also quoted Cooley on Torts, page 210. Continuing, he said that the defendant had received certain information as to the purchase of the buildings by the plaintiff in his capacity as Consul General. He had also received information that the price paid for them was small and the rent charged excessive. He understood that the plaintiff stood in the position of an agent of the United States Government and therefore any benefit that might accrue ought to go to the Government. Whether the inference he drew was right or wrong did not matter, he had a right to state what he had heard. He had written the letter to the Department of State and said he had done so, and had a perfect right to comment upon what he had written. As to the fourth point, namely, justification, it was shown that before the defendant made any utterance he had taken care to find out what he supposed were the facts. That information was used in his letter, and upon it he did some of the things alleged by plaintiff. The counsel alluded to the plaintiff's strange conduct in saying he had nothing to conceal, but when the documents were called for he objected to produce them as "it would take a train of cars to bring them up to Tokiyo." It was only when ordered by the Court that he had produced them. The plaintiff had not missed a point in the case, and had laid his finger on every weak spot of the defence. He had tried in every way to evade handing the documents in. He said the Japanese Government would not like it known what price they had sold the buildings for, although his own witness said that he had permission from the Kencho to tell all about the transfer, and the ex-Governor of Kanagawa had written to say that the whole of the documents referring to the transaction would be found in the Kencho archives. Lastly he said that the United States Government might not like

it known what rent they paid for the buildings, although the expenses of the Consulates were open to any American citizen to examine at the Department of State in Washington. There was a rule of law that, if any material evidence be suppressed, it was *suppressio veri, expressio falsi*, that was to say that the suppression amounted to a falsehood. The letter to the Department of State from plaintiff was not disingenuous. It did not explain to the Department that the lot was in a part of Yokohama that no American citizen was allowed to hold private property in. It also did not mention the price to be paid for the buildings. In the first communication the price mentioned was \$5,000 or \$6,000 for the jail alone, and that was only one sixth of the area. Had the Department known that the purchase price amounted to little more than one year's rent, it might have changed its mind. This knowledge coming to the ears of a third party, what inference might he not draw? Counsel cited Starkie on Slander, page 42:—"In the next place it seems to be clear that a party who acquires an advantage by concealing the truth, which he could not have attained to had he divulged it, is so far guilty of fraud in the concealment that he cannot upon any principle, claim a right to acquire that benefit and therefore cannot complain that he is injured by a publication of the truth." There was one thing he (counsel) had tried to understand and failed. That was how the plaintiff divided himself between being Consul-General and a private citizen. The title deeds were drawn as Consul General, the ground rent notices were sent to the Consul General, and the plaintiff signed the cheque as a private citizen. There were only a few more words he had to say in the matter, if the Court should find that the defendant had a plausible reason to believe what he had stated was true, the Court could not give the case against him; it was not necessary for the defendant to prove the truth of the statements. In confirmation of which he quoted the *Albany Law Journal*, vol. 28, page 433. Counsel claimed that defendant had offered sufficient proof to show that he was justified in holding the opinion that plaintiff's action had been wrong and unlawful, and even if he had drawn a false inference from the facts within his knowledge, it was done *bona fide* and without malice, and therefore he had not perpetrated a slander on the plaintiff.

Mr. Litchfield said that, after the exhaustive speech of Mr. Weiller, he had only a few remarks to make. The question arose as to whether the defendant was legally liable or not for damages. He did not propose to enquire whether the words were uttered or not, but what was the defendant's legal liability if they were so uttered. The plaintiff had claimed \$5,000, and no evidence had been produced to show that he had suffered anything. Of course it was well-known that juries have given heavy damages to soothe the very highly sensitive feelings of some people, but he thought it had never been done in the case of a high official; a man in the position of the plaintiff could afford to despise comments. Some evidence must be produced to show that damage had been sustained; no such evidence had been produced. Even if the Court ruled that the defendant was not justified, the damages must be merely nominal. As to the charge itself, the words uttered by a person, in order to render the person liable, must be false and maliciously uttered, the person knowing them to be false and the occasion not justifying them. There was no end to the comments that might be made about the actions of a public officer. On the occasion in question there was an election for the President of the Club and he brought up this point to show that if the words were uttered it was on a justifiable occasion, and they were free from malice. Mr. Pritchard and Dr. Tripler had a conversation on the 31st December last, and, some remarks being made about the election, Mr. Pritchard asked the defendant why he worked against the General, having at previous elections worked for him. He

also said that the defendant was doing himself no good. Dr. Tripler then stated his reasons, which were the words complained of. They were therefore uttered on a justifiable occasion as comments upon a public man to a person interested in the subject matter of the conversation. The case was a similar to a character given to a servant, which although it might be injurious to him, had been held to be justifiable. It had been held, and rightly so, that a man should be allowed to speak his mind freely in the interests of society. That being so it now remained to consider the bearing of the words used. The defendant had taken pains to get the best information in his power, he was entitled to procure that information, if he thought that it would interest him as was the case in connection with the acts of a public servant. If defendant made a wrong deduction he was not responsible, and should not be made to suffer either in pocket or otherwise. Drawing a false impression was not sufficient to criminate a man; it must be false and malicious. No man would seriously say that using the words "swindling the Government" as a phrase was a criminal offence. It would be as bad as saying that a man stole an umbrella or that he exchanged a dude-like silk for a gamp. Shortly before the words were supposed to have been uttered, the phrase "who stole the library" was quite common, and if there had been a sufficiently unscrupulous lawyer in Yokohama at the time there might have been sufficient actions for slander to keep all the Courts fully employed from that time till the country was thrown open, if such an event ever occurred. He referred the Court to Starkie on Slander, page 276, and 1st Law Report, Queen's Bench, page 699, to show that comments might be made upon anyone holding a public office on any fitting occasion, and especially when made to a person interested in the matters in hand. Upon these grounds he argued that the comments were justifiable. There had been no evidence of malice in fact, and he asked the Court to dismiss the petition with costs.

Plaintiff, in addressing the Court, said that he had been very strongly inclined to submit the case to his Honour without a word, and would have done so had the defendant's counsel done likewise. He was so convinced that the complaint had been proved and the defence had lamentably failed, that he was at a loss as to what point to address himself. He would, however, proceed to break down the flimsy barricade and tear aside the curtain from behind which they had fired their shots. He thought that his Honour in common with all who had read the case could not have failed to observe the pitiable exhibition that the defendant had made of himself in this matter. They had been old friends and the defendant had been a constant guest at his table. They had a trifling dispute which had been submitted to arbitration and settled. From that moment defendant became his active and malignant foe. He heard of him all over Yokohama abusing him and using outrageous threats and accusations. After a time, finding that he (the plaintiff) did not take any notice, he became emboldened, and, losing all discretion, employed an attorney to enquire into his private affairs. From a common defamer he blazed all at once into a flaming patriot, and boldly charged the Consul General of his own country with a violation of law and with swindling the Government. To use his own choice language, he boasted before admiring crowds that he would smash him into a thousand pieces. All this went swimmingly, and the blazing patriot was all right till the strong arm of the law seized him by the throat. Then he whined out that he did not say all these naughty things, but only wrote a nice letter. He swore in the Court that he did not make the statements, or any one of them, and tries to justify himself. Then, as the minstrels observed, the "trouble begins." Then an amusing scene occurred, almost without parallel.

Defendant's Counsel both made frantic endeavours to draft a plea, however, the effort was not successful and an adjournment had to be made.

At this point the plaintiff was interrupted by the barking of a dog in the Court. His Honour ruled the dog out of order, and it was ejected. The plaintiff remarked that he was unaware that he had three counsel against him.

Plaintiff, resuming, said that at the next meeting the defendants counsel came in triumphant with an answer in which he (the defendant) said he did not make any of those statements, and in the next paragraph said he had uttered most of them and could justify them. He respectfully wished to say that the law did not allow oaths to be trifled with in that manner. Perjury in a document was just as foul as when given from the witness-box. The plaintiff wished to remind His Honour of the appearance of the defendant whilst on the stand. A more forgetful, a more wandering, or a more completely demoralized witness he had never seen in his life. He remembered nothing, and when his own answer was placed in his hands it became as unmeaning as Sanscrit. When asked did he make the statements in the answer, he asked what statements, and the Court had to ask him could he not read, and called him to order. This blazing patriot was a very different man when in the United States Court to what he was in the atmosphere of the Y.U. Club. Here this modern Cicero stood a trembling and convicted slanderer. Referring to the issues, the plaintiff said that the defendant was charged with uttering certain false and malicious statements concerning the plaintiff, viz.:—that the Consul-General had improperly purchased certain buildings and swindled the United States Government. That this statement had been made before many people, some of them strangers, was proved beyond doubt by Mr. Pritchard's evidence who gave the exact language as he had previously detailed it to him. The second witness, Mr. Beato, did not give the exact words, but added that the defendant had, two months before, said that plaintiff had swindled the Government. Mr. Rossettsu, a witness for the defendant, also said that he had used the words "swindle on the Government." The defendant pleaded that these words were privileged; he would remark that he had learnt more about privilege during this case than he had ever known before. Mr. Rossettsu said he was employed by Mr. Weiller, and when the defendant thanked him for his information he said he did not know that he had been getting it for him. The defence set up was that he did say that the plaintiff had unlawfully made the purchase, and that it was true. Now the defendant had not proved anything about it. There was not a word in the proceedings to show that it was unlawful. The only evidence on the subject of the purchase was what the Court had compelled him to bring into Court and hand to the defendant. He renewed his contention that this evidence was improper, and ought to be struck out of the record. The gravamen of the charge was that he had purchased the buildings as an official and had deceived both the Japanese authorities and the United States Government. It would have been a swindle had he made the slightest attempt to tamper with the rights of his office. But it had been proved by the defendant's own witness, Mr. Osborne, that it was conveyed to him as an individual and that it was a private transaction and the price paid was the price asked. He submitted that that should have ended the evidence, and the defendant should have been estopped from producing evidence to the contrary. The Court had ordered him, on the motion of the defendant, to produce his private papers about his private business, and he thought it was a piece of impertinence on the part of the defendant. Moreover, he had been obliged to state the price that he had paid for the buildings, and he did see how that affected the case.

The Court said it had explained this point before. The United States Government were the original lessees, and it went in mitigation of damages. Plaintiff remarked that he did not see how it could help them. As to the letter from defendant to the Department of State, an objection had been raised by the defendant's counsel to its being put in, on the ground that the case was closed and that it was too late. This was a matter in the discretion of the Court and the Court, had ruled adversely to him. He had endeavoured to prove to the Court that all he could prove in chief was simply the speaking of the words, and he could not at that time bring the letter in. It was material for the Court to know what statements the Department of State were replying to. As to the question of privilege, he would like to know to whom it applied; if to the defendant, he submitted that he had repeatedly waived it. In the first place the defendant had made no objection on those grounds to its introduction.

Secondly he waived it by putting the most of it into his first answer; and thirdly he had entirely waived it when he put in the letter from the defendant to the Department. If it were privileged by the Government, the privilege was violated by the defendant. He was compelled to produce the Department's correspondence, and he contended that if one part of the correspondence was introduced they were bound to admit the other. He then quoted Greenleaf, vol. 1., sec. 201:—"Where one party produces the letter of another, purporting to be in reply to a previous letter from himself, he is bound to call for and put in the letter to which it was an answer as part of his own evidence." He argued that no one letter could be produced and the others left out. It was not within legal rights that one man could bring in a letter and the other not be allowed to put in the reply. His papers had been brought in and had established the fact that he had the temerity to purchase some buildings in Yokohama without the permission of T. H. Tripler, M.D., and that after he had purchased them he had rented them without the permission of T. H. Tripler, M.D. Who this gentleman was the Court had not allowed him to show out of his own mouth. But sufficient had been shown to establish the fact that his opinion on any subject could not be of much use. "He who touches pitch," etc. He was free to confess that where they were both known, the defendant could do him no damage, but when he spoke before strangers and threatened to publish them at home he appealed to the laws of his country. The plaintiff cited from Kent as follows:—"However contemptible the slanderer, however illiterate, mendacious, ignorant, and revengeful, the just and righteous law says the slandered shall be protected." If the evidence did not establish the fact of utterance, no comment of his would do so. Two witnesses for the plaintiff and one for the defendant had given their evidence. As to Mr. Walker's want of memory, he could only say that he remembered a great deal more before he came into Court. As to the contention of the defendant that to make a case actionable a criminal offence must have been imputed, he cited Folkard's Starkie, pages 112 and 119; also 2 Kent, page 16. Now came the question of the defendant claiming privilege because the words were uttered in the Club on the eve of an election. He failed to see how the defendant could so plead as he had thereby not only tried to prejudice him in his office, but had also tried to injure him socially. He was as mild as a lamb on the stand, not the belligerent foe. He said he only wanted to defeat the plaintiff, as he was inimical to making it a member's club. That was his only reason. Where did the privilege come in to make use of the words he did. He contended that it amounted to a criminal offence, but whether or not he had proved that the words were actionable, in support of which he quoted Folkard's Starkie page 293. As to malice, the authorities stated that it was inferrable where the words themselves were actionable. The learned counsel for the defendant had dwelt at some length on the point that the defendant had heard these statements and drew certain inferences for which he was not responsible. When a man repeated something that he had heard, and believed it true, it was different to when he employed another to ferret out matters that proved to be wrong. Could anybody believe the defendant was not influenced by malice. He had never spoken to the plaintiff about the matter: if he had he would have been told all about it. It was all above board. Plaintiff had told it to everybody. His friend Mr. Weiller knew all about it. He had told everyone who had come to the Consulate. The defendant had failed to show that there had been any impropriety in his actions. There had been no law violated. The Department of State had sanctioned the transaction and put its seal on it. It was a matter solely between the Japanese Government and himself. As to the price, it did not matter if he paid five or five thousand dollars for it. If he had thought there was any impropriety in the transaction, he would as soon have handled a black snake. He did not think that there was any impropriety then, and he did not think so now. Regarding his paying the ground rent by a private cheque, he did so as he had before stated so as to simplify the vouchers. The Department was satisfied. He had not been injured very much by defendant's words, but the law said that a slanderer was not only liable for actual damage, but such damage as the judge or jury might see fit. He wished the defendant to know that there were some things a United States citizen might not do, and one was he could not take away a man's character in the way defendant had tried to do his.

Both parties having agreed that the Court should send copies of the Judgment to them without their going to Tokiyo, subject to exceptions the case concluded, His Honour remarking that he would deliver Judgment in due course.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 30th.

DEATH OF A ROYAL DUKE.

The Duke of Albany died yesterday at Cannes. It is believed that His Royal Highness died of apoplexy.

London, April 1st.

FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF ALBANY.

The funeral service, which is arranged for Saturday, will take place in St. George's Chapel.

London, April 2nd.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

The Pilotage Dues, hitherto paid by all vessels passing through the Suez Canal, have been abolished.

[FROM THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."]

(THROUGH CHINESE SOURCES).

Haiphong, 20th March, 4 p.m.

On the 12th instant, the French commenced their attack on Bacninh, whereupon Liu Jung-fu, the Black Flag Chief, carrying with him all his Black Flag and Chinese soldiers, evacuated the place and fled to Chên-nan Kuan. The French Commander, suspecting that there might be a trap set for his troops, kept them at a considerable distance from the Citadel and sent a few scouts on ahead to reconnoitre. These men, on their return, reported that there were large supplies of arms and provisions, whereupon the Commander appointed a party to go into the city and bring them out.

On the 15th, at 9 p.m., Liu Jung-fu attacked the French on two flanks, when each Black Flag soldier proved himself the equal of ten Frenchmen, and a heavy slaughter of the invaders was the result, in which the leader of the French was killed.

London, 24th March.

HUNTINGDON ELECTION.

Sir Robert Peel, the Conservative Candidate, has been elected by a narrow majority as Member for Huntingdon.

THE POPE LEAVING ROME.

The Cardinals will consider the expediency of the Pope leaving Rome.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.00; First-class, yen 1.78; Third-class, sen 89.

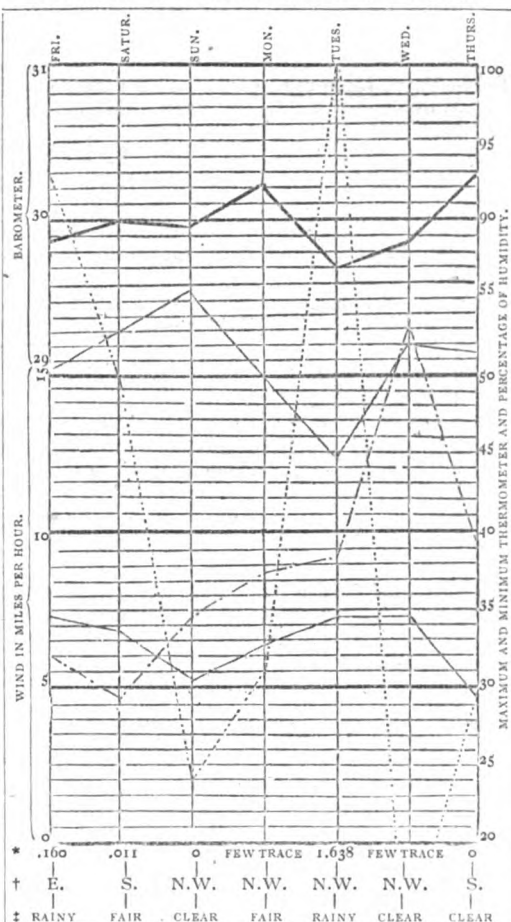
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 28TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Dotted line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 38.2 miles per hour on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.303 inches on Thursday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.411 inches on Tuesday at 11 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 54.8 on Sunday, and the lowest was 29.7 on Thursday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 61.0 and 25.5 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 1.809 inches, against 1.152 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Monday, April 7th.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Tuesday, April 8th.†
From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, April 9th.
Kobe, and }
Nagasaki }
From America ... per P. M. Co. Friday, April 19th.‡

* City of Peking (with English mail) left Hongkong on April 1st.
† Kashiwa left Hongkong on March 31st. ‡ City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on March 29th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Korea, via Coast Ports ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, April 5th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, April 5th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Monday, April 7th.
For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, April 9th.
Kobe, and }
Nagasaki }
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, April 12th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, April 27th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

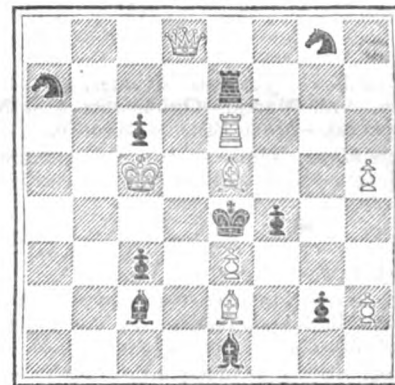
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By HERR. J. KOHTZ, of Brunswick.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 29th March, 1884,
by J. B. of Bridport.

White. Black.
1.—B. to Q. B. 3. 1.—K. to Q. 4.
2.—B. to K. 5. 2.—Anything.
3.—Mates accordingly. if 1.—K. takes B.
2.—B. to K. 6. 2.—Anything.
3.—Q. mates.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

Professor Gottsche, who has resigned his appointment in the Department of Science, has been presented by the Daigaku with a pair of copper flower-vases, as an acknowledgement of his valuable services whilst in the University.

Noto is a mountainous district inhabited by numbers of deer and wild boars, and, especially about Haguigori, the whole country swarms with game, owing to so few hunters having visited the place of late years. Towards the beginning of the warm season, the deer and boars wander out into the fields and do much injury to the crops; but during last winter more than 300 head were killed, so that the farmers in the vicinity can look forward to a better summer.

Silk is one of the chief productions in Akita Prefecture. In Okatsugori alone the annual silk output weighs some 5,400 *kwamme* (over 45,000 lbs). Some time since the silk-producers engaged a skilled instructors to aid them in improving the quality of the silk, which had grown very coarse, so that silk produced this year on the new system has fetched 70 *sen* in advance of other silks, per 100 *kwamme*.—*Kwampo*.

In reply to a question brought forward by the Court of First Instance in Yamagata, the Judicial Department decided that the sending of defamatory and insulting letters to officials was criminal, and should be dealt with under Article CXLI. of the Penal Code. This decision was based on the argument that the writing is the transcription of an expressed sentiment, and that the sending of defamatory letters amounts, in fine, to making verbal use of the obnoxious expressions in the presence of the defamed party.—*Choya Shimbun*.

During 1883, thirteen foreigners had audiences with H.I.M. the Mikado.

The last section of the Ueno-Takasaki line of the Nippon Railway Company will be completed on the 15th inst. The opening of the new line will be celebrated on the 18th inst., when H.I.M. the Mikado will go to Takasaki by the first train.

Admiral Yenomoto, Minister to China, who is at present in this country, will return to his post about the middle of this month.

The Tea Exporting Company, which was established by Mr. Fukuda and others in Miye Prefecture, has opened a branch office at Kobe.—*Fiji Shimpô*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Penelope, British schooner, 84, Miner, 29th March, —Bonin Islands 20th March, General.—Langfeldt & Mayers.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Dithlefsen, 29th March,—Oginohama 27th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, Hussey, 29th March,—Kobe 27th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 30th March,—Takao 11th March, 6,600 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 30th March,—Hakodate 27th and Oginohama 29th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 30th March,—San Francisco 8th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Orient, German bark, 460, W. G. Roder, 30th March,—Takao 14th March, 11,600 bags Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Velocity, British bark, 490, R. Martin, 30th March,—Takao 13th March, 12,000 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Claymore, British steamer, 1,667, Gulland, 31st March,—London via Hongkong 23rd March, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 31st March,—Kobe 30th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 31st March,—Kobe 29th March, General.—Handasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 31st March,—Toba 29th March, General.—Yamamoto-sha.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 864, Spiegelthal, 31st March,—Nagasaki 20th March, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Lydia, German steamer, 1,196, Thygesen, 1st April,—Kobe 30th March, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,382, B. Blanc, 2nd April,—Hongkong 26th March, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 2nd April,—Yokkaichi 31st March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,960, Steadman, 2nd April,—Hakodate 31st March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 3rd April,—Shimidzu 2nd April, General.—Seiriusha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 3rd April,—Kobe 1st April, General.—Seiriusha.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 434, Sakai, 3rd April,—Kobe 1st April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 3rd April,—Yokkaichi 1st April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 3rd April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 3rd April,—Fukuda 2nd April, General.—Fukudasha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 3rd April,—Shimidzu 2nd April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Glenury, British schooner, 283, Thomson, 3rd April,—Takao 17th March, 7,500 piculs Sugar.—E. Flint Kilby & Co.

Wilhelm Homeyer, German bark, 512, W. Holtz, 3rd April,—Takao 8th March, 10,200 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 4th April,—Yokkaichi 2nd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, P. Hussey, 4th April,—Kobe 2nd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 5th April,—Handa 2nd April, General.—Kowyeikisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 5th April,—Toba 3rd April, General.—Handasha.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 4th April,—Hakodate 2nd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 29th March,—Kobe, General.—Nakamura-sha.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 29th March,—Nagasaki, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 29th March,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 29th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Walter Siegfried, British bark, 416, P. Hannsen, 29th March,—Guam, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, Owston, 26th March,—Hakodate, General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, J. H. Arnold, 29th March,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 30th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Hussey, 30th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Lampert, 30th March,—Hakodate and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Guiding Star, British bark, 312, H. Schnitger, 1st April,—Takao \$10,009.00 Treasure.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 1st April,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 1st April,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 2nd April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,245, Williams, 2nd April,—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Christensen, 2nd April.—Yokosuka Docks.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Lydia, German steamer, 1,196, Thygesen, 3rd April,—Havre, Rotterdam, and Hamburg, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 654, Thomas, 2nd April,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 834, Kawaoka Hikoza, 3rd April,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 3rd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 3rd April,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu M. Bishi S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 3rd April,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 3rd April,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto-sha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 4th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 4th April,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 5th April,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 4th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Dithlefsen, 4th April,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,960, Steadman, 4th April,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 4th April,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 5th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Seikisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamaura Maru*, from Oginohama:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—42 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. Aritake, Mayebara, Ishikawa, Sugawa, Yamakawa, and Misawa in cabin; and 82 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Rottmann, Messrs. J. Mayers, H. M. Kersey, Thomas McGrath, P. Schlichter, and Frank W. Harrell, M.D. in cabin; and 6 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong: Messrs. J. A. Wilson and A. Robinson in cabin; and 200 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Schniten and son, Pojarsky, Chamberlain, Watanabe, Yoshizaki, Hirai, and 106 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Kobe:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—25 Japanese.

Per German steamer *Lydia*, from Kobe:—12 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong:—Madame Blat, Messrs. P. Grillo Garberoglio and Pustau in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Hakodate:—63 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Kobe:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Yoshino Maru*, from Kobe:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—82 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Cutter, Miss Lena Cobden, Mr. W. H. Morse and servant, Mr. A. P. Adams and servant, Mr. Kawada Koichiro and servant, Messrs. John Walker, Duncan Glass, G. S. Piper, D. S. MacPhee, G. Prat, H. Blum, M. Mariaus, W. Alexander, R. H. Adams, Yoshikawa, Tsuge, Saijo, and Ota in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 11 Chinese, and 188 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—19 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—78 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeiki Maru*, from Handa:—46 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Toba:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Hakodate:—56 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, for Oginohama:—Mr. Y. Kawamura in cabin; and 25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, for Kobe:—20 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. J. A. Wilson, and A. Robinson in cabin; and 200 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Conrad and daughter, Miss Shaw, Messrs. W. J. Manifold, G. H. Rhodes, A. Clark, and Kobayashi in cabin.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. Wladimer and 2 native missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Watson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and servant, Messrs. Dolling, Shaw, Buchanan, Owens, Mynoes, Pollock, H. M. Kerserg, Schlichter, Hellyer, Tanabe, and Lye Lin in cabin; and 12 Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—\$218,800.00.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong:—6,899 packages.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—29 bales for France.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 27th March, at 10.15 a.m. with fresh S.E. winds and foggy weather to Sanemura Point; thence strong N. and N.W. winds to Oginohama where arrived on the 28th, at 1.30 p.m. and left on the 29th, at 6 a.m. with light variable winds and cloudy weather till arrival. Arrived at Yokohama on the 30th March, at 11 a.m. Passed *Takasago Maru* on the 29th March, at 11 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The general tone of the Market has been steady, but there has not been a large amount of business passing in any department.

COTTON YARNS.—The firm tone of holders and the small supply of spinnings in demand has limited transactions in English Yarns. Buyers are offering fair prices for early arrival. Bombay 20's have become rather dull, but a small demand has sprung up for 16's of certain spinnings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Velvets are difficult of sale at lower rates; a fair quantity of Turkey Reds have again been disposed of; some small sales of Grey Shirtings 9lbs. have been made at quotations, but the demand has been small.

WOOLLENS.—There is no change to report, Mousseline de Laine being the only article in moderate demand.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.00 to 37.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.50 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

The Oil Market remains without change. No sales, and deliveries during the week amount to only 12,000 cases. Quotations are nominal.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.75
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.68

SUGAR.

The Market is still dull, and the copious arrivals of Formosa, with slow sale, have had the effect of lowering the quotations for that kind, between 50 and 60 thousand bags having accumulated. The prices for Whites remain unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.40 to 3.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last issue, on 26th March, there has been rather more business in this Market, Settlements for the eight days reaching a total of 200 piculs. Buying for the *Arabic* was completed at full rates, and since her departure there has been a brisk enquiry for the same destination, buyers paying long prices for some favorite chops. *Kinsatsu* have steadied, and holders of *Hank* sorts are

apparently more disposed to entertain business, especially for the Good Medium grades.

The bulk of the Settlement has been returned in *Filature* kinds, the remainder consisting of *Hanks* with a modicum of *Kakedas*. Arrivals have been very small, and the Stock is reduced to 1,500 piculs.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which left for Hongkong on the morning of the 29th ultimo, carried no more than 14 bales entered as going to France. The O. & O. steamer *Arabic* with the American mail of 28th ultimo took a fair shipment consisting of 407 bales, and of these 18 bales were direct shipment on native account. The Export now stands at a total of 28,484 bales, against 24,710 bales last year, and 16,374 bales at 3rd April, 1882.

Hanks.—Business done amounts to about 50 piculs on the basis of quotations given below. The business done by foreigners has been in Good Medium kinds, and a fairly large parcel has been sold to a native dealer, the prices paid for *Hachoji* being reported as equivalent to \$465. Among the sales we observe *Shinshu*, \$520; *Annaka*, \$500.

Filatures.—These have again commanded the greater share of buyer's attention, and the Stock of desirable kinds is much reduced. Settlements are quite 150 piculs, and all grades must be quoted at an advance over last week's prices. *Tokosha* has cleared out the balance of his holding at \$650 for regular cargo, with \$570 for defective and rejections. Prices have been somewhat irregular, a parcel of *Hida*, which some time back was offered at \$580, being now settled at \$630. *Tajima* and *Hikone* are noted at the same figure. *Oshu* sorts at \$600, with Medium *Koshu* at \$590, and Common *Foshu* at \$580 to \$570, complete the list.

Re-reels.—The only transaction reported is a very medium parcel of *Koshu* at \$580, and even this may be rejected on inspection. Stocks of Good *Maibash* are reduced to nothing, although some small arrivals are looked for during the current month. Prices in the absence of supplies are all more or less nominal.

Kakeda.—Beyond one small purchase at \$600, the list is a blank. Stock remains practically unchanged—there are a few enquiries, but the divergence between the view of buyers and sellers appears insurmountable just now.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—Once more we have to report no business. Shipments coastwise are not so large, but arrivals do not come in to any extent, and there is very little Stock in Yokohama of these descriptions.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Hanks—No. 1	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	490 to 500
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	470 to 480
Hanks—No. 3	460 to 465
Hanks—No. 3½	650 to 660
Filatures—Extra	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	630 to 635
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	560 to 570
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	560 to 570
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 570
Kakedas—Extra	620 to 630
Kakedas—No. 1	590 to 600
Kakedas—No. 2	560 to 570
Kakedas—No. 3	560 to 570
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 3rd April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,885	12,651	8,268
America	8,960	8,191	5,093
England	2,639	3,868	3,013
Total	28,484	24,710	16,374

WASTE SILK.

We note an increased trade in this branch, the Settlements for eight days reaching 400 piculs; an average of 50 piculs per diem being a very good business for the time of year. The purchases have been about equally divided between *Noshi* and *Kibiso*, other sorts not participating. Dealers are beginning to unload some of their holdings in low Waste at prices which look dear, having regard to the mixed quality. The arrival of a few bales good *Noshi* was notified, but we learn that they have been sent on to Kioto without being offered on this Market.

The M.M. steamer of 29th ultimo carried 92 bales bringing Export to date up to 21,601 piculs, against 21,449 piculs last year, and 20,788 piculs in 1882. Supplies have been more plentiful during

the week, and the Stock on offer is not reduced below 500 piculs.

Noshi.—The chief feature has been the final Settlement of about 100 piculs fine *Foshu* and *Hachoji*, at \$115; negotiations had been pending for a long time, but the bargain was at last concluded and part of the lot went forward by the *Volga*. A small line in *Oshu*, at \$150; and some medium *Foshu*, at \$80 to \$85, bring up the rear. *Filatures* are reported settled for the interior on basis of \$155 for a parcel *Utsunomiya*.

Kibiso.—Considerable purchases have been made chiefly in the lower grades, but the quality is very unsatisfactory; we fancy the lots purchased will entail great trouble in sorting and cleaning. From the list we cull the following:—*Oshu*, \$82½, \$60; *Yechigo*, \$52; *Goshu*, \$47½; *Foshu*, \$37; *Kaga*, \$29, \$23, \$22; *Hachoji*, \$27½. *Neri* is in request, and some small parcels have been put through at \$14½ to \$11, uncleaned.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	Nom. 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	Nom. 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	Nom. 130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 3rd April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	19,406	18,248	17,325
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,201	3,463
	21,601	21,449	20,788

Exchange weakened until a couple of days ago, when things improved suddenly about one-half per cent. from the lowest point. Present quotations are:—LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 88½; 60 d/s., 89; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.65; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.68. *Kinsatsu* have been fairly steady at about 109 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 3rd April, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,100		Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	160		Noshi-ito	40
Kakeda	140		Kibiso	440
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100		Mawata	20
Taysam Kinds	—			—
Total piculs	1,500		Total piculs	500

TEA.

There is no new feature of any importance to note in the position of our Market. We give the Settlements as reported for the past week, viz.:—Common 25, Medium 125, Good Medium 35, total 185 piculs, for which buyers have been found at unaltered quotations. The equivalent of 80 piculs arrived during the week. There appears to have been a cold wave swept over the New York Tea Market, for judging from the latest wire information from that port the Market has collapsed. Everything now seems to point to a quiet and dragging course of the Market for the remainder of the season. The following were the number of pounds Tea shipped on the *Arabic*, which sailed on the 28th ultimo:—for New York 48,109 lbs., for Chicago 8,325 lbs., for Portland (Oregon) 1,000 lbs., for California 67,465 lbs., and for Canada 7,170 lbs., making a total of 132,069 lbs. Fired Tea.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$14 & under
Good Common	16 to 18
Medium	20 to 22
Good Medium	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

The transactions during the week have been extremely small, and the rates close steady at the following rates:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.56
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.67
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	87½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	88½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	87½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	88½

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South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
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May 1st, 1883.

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No. 15, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, APRIL 12TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS : ADVIENNE QUE POURRA !"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Shidzuoka Local Assembly is said to have vetoed a proposition to build a railway through the province by means of a local loan.

RUMOURS are current pointing to slight changes in the Cabinet. It is said that His Excellency Mori, whose return from England is daily expected, will be appointed Minister of Education.

A TEA-EXPORTING Company, established last year in Miye prefecture, has opened an office in Kobe, where it will offer for sale teas fired and prepared for immediate shipment.

It is stated that Messrs. Saito, Takahira, and Kurino have been appointed to act as Secretaries at the approaching conferences on Treaty Revision.

THE electric light is at present used in Kiyoto to illuminate the performance of a celebrated dance called the *Miyako Odori*, which takes place in the spring of every year at the Western Capital.

A HEAVY rain-fall on the night of the 5th instant resulted in a land slip (on Monday) of a portion of the Yokohama Bluff. Three Japanese houses were destroyed, but the inmates were not injured.

At a Special General Meeting of the Yokohama Cricket Club, held at the Club Hotel on the afternoon of the 7th, it was decided that the Cricket, Foot-ball, Base-ball, and Athletic Clubs should be amalgamated, under the title of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club. It is

expected that the results of this step will be to strengthen all the Clubs concerned, and increase their popularity as well as their finances.

It is stated that His Majesty the Emperor recently inspected the works now in progress in connection with the building of a new palace, and desired that the estimates should be reduced from fifteen million *yen*, to two and a half millions.

AN American citizen, named Portell, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Kobe for theft. The man is said to be one of a gang of disreputable characters who have come from Hongkong to carry on operations in Japan.

ADMIRAL YENOMOTO, H.I.M. Minister to China, and Mr. Kitagaki, Governor of Kiyoto, were amongst the passengers by the Mitsu Bishi steamer *Hiroshima Maru* which arrived on Wednesday.

A CURIOUS gathering for social and athletic purposes was held on the 10th of March at the foot of Asama-yama. About 1,000 youths are said to have attended, and flags were displayed with inscriptions "Liberty for ever," "Away with the evil customs of the Orient," &c.

THE *Bukka Shimpō* explains the apparent anomaly of a contemporaneous appreciation of rice and silver by saying that the farmers, taking advantage of the high prices ruling for barley, beans, &c., have paid their taxes by sales of those cereals, and are holding their rice in expectation of better quotations.

THE Order of the Rising Sun, Fourth Class, has been conferred on Messrs. William Gowland and Robert MacLagan, who have for several years been employed at the Imperial Mint in Osaka, where their valuable services have deservedly won the high approbation of the Japanese Government.

A COMPANY has been formed for the construction of a railway in the provinces of Shinano and Yechigo. The line is to run through Naoyedzu, Niigata, and Uyeta, a distance of about 140 miles. The company is to commence operations with a capital of 5½ million *yen*, and it is expected that the work will be completed in 10 years.

THE work of Treaty Revision has not yet actually commenced, but it is expected that when the Conferences commence no lengthy delay will take place, as the questions to be discussed have been reduced to practicable limits. H.E. the Honorable F. R. Plunkett, Her Majesty's new Representative, has produced a most favorable impression in Japanese official circles by his genial and courteous demeanour.

TRADE in Korea is said to be suffering from complete stagnation. Japanese newspapers in Tokiyo publish correspondence from Gensan and Pusan to the effect that constant disputes take place between the soldiers organized *à la Japonaise* and those organized *à la Chinoise*; that the Chinese settlers carry on a species of com-

merce of compulsion, and that the Government's financial difficulties are becoming serious. Some Japanese fishermen are about, it is said, to form a company for whale fishing in Korean waters.


THE *Tokiyo Trade Journal* (*Bukka Shimpō*) has published statistics showing that the rice harvest of 1883 was slightly above the average. In ten provinces the crop was poor, owing to long continued drought; in fourteen, it was abundant, and in two (Shima and Tsushima) something very like famine was experienced. Taking 100 to represent an average yield, the figure for 1883 was 108.75. An average crop in Japan is reckoned as 31 million *Koku*, in round numbers, so that the crop of 1883 was 33½ million *Koku*, approximately.

THE vernacular press has contradicted a rumour recently circulated in Tokiyo and repeated by the *London Daily News*, to the effect that the Japanese Government has it in contemplation to establish Mixed Courts for the trial of cases in which foreigners are concerned. It is suggested that in all probability this rumour owes its origin to the proposal that, in connection with the first modification of extraterritorial jurisdiction, the Japanese Judiciary should include a number of foreign judges, who would be associated with the Japanese judges in all mixed cases.

NO SYMPTOMS of commercial revival are yet discernible in Japan. The post office returns for February show that the number of letters which passed through the post during that month was 208,878 less than the number for January, and the number of postal cards 699,187 less. It seems to be generally felt that the only source from which a healthy impetus can come in the immediate future is the recently issued railway bonds, which, if they were used as means of bringing foreign money into Japan, might restore some vitality to industry. Unfortunately, however, political considerations appear to have more weight in Japan at present than financial, and public opinion is opposed to contracting any pecuniary obligations towards foreign countries.

THE question of Treaty Revision still continues to be keenly discussed by the foreign local press. One English journal declares it "unnecessary that merchants should penetrate the interior in pursuit of their respective callings," and says that "at the places appointed for foreign residence and trade, operations, practically unlimited, can be carried on." Another journal, in accord with memorials presented by the foreign mercantile community and the Chamber of Commerce, advocates the opening of the country to trade under a passport system, and adds that "all foreigners, while beyond the treaty limits, should be upon the footing of Japanese subjects in all things with the exception of trial for breaches of the Imperial law or as defendants in civil suits." The more liberal and just view of the latter journal is probably endorsed by the great majority of the leading merchants in Yokohama.

NOTES.

DR. S. WELLS WILLIAMS, long known in the Far East as an attaché of the United States Legation at Peking, and as one of the few thoroughly accomplished American sinologues, died on the 16th of February, at his residence in New Haven, Connecticut, where he had filled the position of professor of the Chinese language and literature at Yale College. He was seventy-two years of age, and had passed the greater part of his life in this part of the world, having settled in Canton as early as 1833, where he originally served as printer to the American Missionary Board. In 1835 he had an opportunity of studying the Japanese language, a ship from  country having been wrecked on the Chinese coast, and the sailors temporarily entrusted to his care. It is stated that the knowledge thus acquired enabled him to translate parts of the Old and New Testament into Japanese. He wrote and published several works of reference and instruction, during the first twelve years of his sojourn in China, and in 1845 returned for a short visit to the United States, where he delivered the lectures afterward reproduced in the volume entitled "The Middle Kingdom." Resuming his labours in Canton, he took charge, in addition, of the *Chinese Repository*, until that periodical was discontinued in 1851. He joined Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan, in 1853 and 1854, and conducted the diplomatic communications between this country and the United States until the arrival of Mr. Harris, the first Minister. For several years following, Dr. Williams served as interpreter and Secretary to the American Legation in China, also occasionally acting as Chargé d'Affaires. In this latter capacity the usually placid course of his career was sometimes disturbed by vexing international questions, the incidents of the Japanese expedition to Formosa creating, in particular, complications into which he was drawn, possibly against his inclination, but from which he did not escape without reminders from the State Department that his interference with the Japanese proceedings was scarcely warranted. After the publication of his most important work, the Syllabic Chinese Dictionary, in 1874, he took final leave of Asia, and accepted the newly endowed professorship of Chinese, at Yale. His health was good until two years ago, when a serious accident was followed by a paralytic stroke, from which he recovered only partially. He was not, however, considered in danger until about two weeks before his death.

THE announcement of the proposed attempt to dive for the remains of Greek and Persian ships sunk in the great sea-fight off Salamis has caused (say the *Whitehall Review*), much fluttering in archæological circles. We know very little about the vessels of the antique world; the great galleys with their banks of oars are not familiar things like Greek temples and Roman houses. Mr. Alma-Tadema had to evolve the splendid ship in his "Antony and Cleopatra" picture "out of his moral consciousness" more or less. We have indeed descriptions preserved to us in the delightful gossip of Athenæus of two ships built by Ptolemy Philopater and one built by Hiero, tyrant of Syracuse. But these accounts are devoted chiefly to the interior of the vessels. They seem to have been even more sumptuously fitted up than the *Livadia* of the late Czar of Russia. We read of rooms in these ships with

columns of Milesian cypress and capitals of gold and ivory, of marble statues of Venus, of purple hangings, and exquisite carvings, of gardens with trees and plants, and all varieties of bath-rooms. One of these marvellous vessels, we are told had twenty banks of oars and another forty, but we are unable to form any clear idea from the description of what they looked like externally. It is hardly to be hoped that the divers of the Ægean Sea will bring up any vessels of this magnificent description.

THE *Meiji Nippo* says that the next financial estimates will contain an appropriation of twelve and a half million *yen* for the War Department. The appropriation in former years was eight millions, but it was subsequently reduced to six, and afterwards gradually increased till it reached ten and a half millions. Under the revised conscription regulations greater expenses will be inevitable, and to cover these an additional two millions are, according to the above authority, to be granted from July next. It must be confessed that if Japan manages to support a standing army of nearly a hundred thousand men with two and a half millions sterling, she will deserve credit, but, at the same time, one cannot help regretting this unproductive expenditure, especially just at present.

IF the Anti-opium Society would procure and lay before the public some trustworthy information with regard to the attitude really taken by the Chinese Government towards Chinese cultivators of the poppy, people would be in a better position to form a sound judgment. So long as China herself produces, and derives a revenue from the production of immense quantities of the drug, her efforts to prohibit its import must be regarded as part of a fiscal, not of a moral, policy. The general belief, promoted by the writings of such high authorities as Sir R. Alcock, is that the cultivation of the poppy is virtually unrestricted within the limits of the Middle Kingdom, and that the prohibitory edicts which have been issued from time to time are dead letters. It appears, however, that this is not always the case. In a Poscript Memorial recently addressed to the Dragon Throne by Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, authority is requested to dismiss a certain District Magistrate, who, among other offences, "had neglected to show proper energy in enforcing the edict against the cultivation of the poppy," and who had "gone so far as to tax the yield in many places under pretext of augmenting the *likin* revenue." The officer has been dismissed, and it is evident that, so far as at any rate as the province of Shansi is concerned, the Chinese authorities are sincere in their desire to stop opium-smoking.

AMONG those who barely escaped with their lives from the terrible disasters which overtook Baker Pasha's force outside Trinkitat was Colonel Burnaby, of "Ride to Khiva" fame. The curious in such matters are naturally asking how it comes to pass that the officer commanding one of her Majesty's regiments of Household Cavalry should find himself in such straits. "Que diable allait-il faire dans cette galère?" The correct solution of the enigma is that Colonel Burnaby applied for leave of absence from his regiment, and, with the Horse Guards' sanction, betook himself to Egypt. It was, however, little imagined that he intended to join Baker's force in the vain attempt to relieve the garrisons

of Sinkat and Tokar. His love of adventure of course took him to Suakim, and very nearly caused a regrettable vacancy in the colonelcy of the Blues. Oddly enough, Colonel Burnaby, who is always "so spoiling for a fight," has never yet had the opportunity of drawing his sword in her Majesty's service.

Entrance into the army by enlistment is still apparently in favour with the younger sons of some of our best families. The sergeant gazetted last week to a commission in the 13th Hussars bears a name which will be found in the pages of "Burke," and is cadet of a family which has returned a member for Tewkesbury in four successive generations. Mr. Hamilton Martin, the officer in question, rode in the ranks of the 19th Hussars at Kassassin and Tel-el-Kebir, and has successfully gone through the experiences which have been so well chronicled by Captain Acland Troyte in his work "Through the Ranks to a Commission." It would be interesting to know how many young gentlemen are at present serving in the ranks with a view to similar advancement. The cavalry is of course the popular branch of the service for such enlistment.

Many old gunners will hear with regret of the death of Lieut.-General "Nat" Turner, C.B., a name of note in the siege operations before Sebastopol and in the Oude campaign. To his battery—B, 4th Brigade—the Duke of Connaught was first attached on his joining the Royal Artillery at Woolwich in 1868. General Turner had only recently retired from the active list of general officers, and has died at the early age of fifty-five.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE "Travelling Correspondent" of the *Daily News*, who appears to have reached London just after the appearance of the first of the two articles published in that journal over the signature "Asiaticus," has addressed to the *Daily News* the following letter:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Since my return to England I have seen a letter addressed to you by the Secretary of the Japanese Society, in which he points out "the danger of criticising foreign customs through the measure of one's own country." He proceeds to cite, in illustration, three statements from my letter descriptive of the festivities on the Mikado's birthday. It is not necessary to occupy space by recapitulating these, since the Secretary severally admits that the description is perfectly accurate, and proceeds to refute inferences which he himself draws. I write simply to express my regret that, by any perversity, words of mine could be construed as importing unkindly criticism of Japan and the Japanese. The efforts now being made by the enlightened statesmen who guide the destinies of Japan are, as I hope to show in an article I have undertaken to write for the *Fortnightly Review*, full of interest for the Western world and claim the sympathy and respect of younger nations.—I remain, Sir, obediently,

YOUR "TRAVELLING CORRESPONDENT."

London, February 4th.

We may observe here, though indeed the statement seems superfluous, that the reprints of "Asiaticus" articles published in the *Japan Mail*, were taken directly from the columns of the *Daily News*. The *London and China Express*, in reproducing the latter of the two articles, appears to have unaccountably mutilated it, by omitting certain portions and neglecting to indicate the omission in the usual way. It does not concern us to discuss the motive of such a strange and unprecedented proceeding. Plainly, if there rests with a republishing journal discretion to cut out as much as it pleases of the article it professes to reproduce *in extenso*, not only the sequence of the writer's arguments, but

even the very spirit in which he writes, may be confused and misrepresented. What seems most probable is that the compositors of the *London and China Express* failed, through some momentary carelessness, to insert asterisks in the place of the sentences omitted. We cannot for a moment suppose that any intention to mislead existed.

Says the *Alta* of the 6th ult. :—A Washington despatch was printed a couple of days ago by all of the city papers except the *Alta*, to the effect that Congressman Rice had charge of the Newspaper Copyright Bill and would report it adversely. This elicited a chirrup of joy from a few obscure dailies which depend upon the scissors for their telegraphic news; but both the exultation and the Washington despatch were premature. At the time Rice was represented as pronouncing the sentence of death on the bill, it had not even been introduced in the House, and, inasmuch as Rice constitutes the tail, and not the head, of the Committee on Patents, it is improbable that he will ever be charged with the duty of reporting either for or against the News Copyright bill. There are still some who hold the belief that a news-despatch cannot be copyrighted, because it is not a sufficiently high order of literature, or because news is something too evanescent and unsubstantial to be protected by law. But a city directory, a catalogue, or even an advertisement may be copyrighted under the existing law, and news-despatches certainly have as much literary quality as a mere list of names, and are, therefore, equally entitled to protection.

THE Lord Chief Justice's Court, in the case of the Duke of Vallambrosa against Mr. H. Labouchere, proprietor and publisher of *Truth*, seems to have laid down the curious principle that a dead man is legally beyond the reach of libel. *Truth*, with characteristic brutality, had placed before its readers the following spirited version of the Duke's accession to wealth and title :—"The Duke of Vallambrosa is, of course, *plus royaliste que le roi*, his father having been an army contractor, who was nearly hanged on the charge of supplying as meat to a French army corps the flesh of soldiers who had died in the hospital and who had been killed in action. Luckily for him, the first Empire came to an end before the trial could take place, and the contractor having returned to Italy and purchased a dukedom became a Grand Seigneur and an ardent adherent of the Bourbons." The Duke found this story a little disagreeable. He described it, in his application to the Court, as "a false and malicious statement, libellous in itself on the memory of his father, and calculated to bring himself and his family into public hatred, ridicule, and contempt." The defendant appears to have confined himself to two pleas—first, that the application for a criminal information was not admissible, inasmuch as the Duke was resident in France where he held no official, or public, position; and secondly, that the *fiat* of the Public Prosecutor had not been obtained prior to the commencement of the proceedings. Lord Coleridge partly admitted the justice of the first plea, did not notice the second, and gave it as his opinion that "the libel was not on a person who had been individually aspersed, but on his ancestor," and that "there was no precedent that an action could be maintained for libel on a deceased person." The law, then, is not tender of the

reputation of the dead. If it does not acknowledge that a man is wronged when his father is publicly accused of cannibalism, one wonders how it would treat a charge of immorality against his mother.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Herald*, writing over the signature of "One who knows better," confirms the story originally published by that journal with reference to the actual facts of the treacherous murder of the Wangs at the fall of Soochow. The *N.C. Herald*, it will be remembered, stated, on the authority of an officer serving under Li Hung-chang at the time, that the murder had taken place without Li's consent, and had been caused by a precipitate order of his second in command. To this version a correspondent, "One who knows," took exception, on the grounds that Li was not a man to let his authority be defied, even temporarily, by his subordinate, and that, in truth, he never gave any promise to save the lives of the Wangs: the promise was Gordon's, and Gordon's only. "One who knows better" explains that Li's second in command, Chên Hsüch-chien, was the fighting man of the pair. Li worked with his head; Chên with his arms. The former knew well what he owed the latter, and would have been careful to avoid offending him. When, therefore, Chên pushed Li into an inner tent, and insisted on the execution of the Wangs, Li made no very vigorous resistance, believing fully that no steps would be immediately taken. In this he was mistaken, for Chên ordered the Wangs to be decapitated forthwith. "One who knows better" concludes his letter thus :—

As to the charge of treachery, none of course can so well explain the matter as Li and Gordon themselves. Your correspondent says that Gordon gave his word to spare the lives of the Wangs without authority. It could not have been possible that the Wangs surrendered to the foreign General only. They must have given themselves to both the Generals or to the Chinese Commander only. Li and Gordon knew the surrender of the Wangs to be conditional, for the Taipings could well fight on, and sell their lives more dearly, and a joint consent was given to spare them. It is certain that Gordon with his vast experience and superior knowledge in military matters could not have failed to grasp the situation in which Li and his army were placed; and it is equally certain that the Wangs could not have been so foolish as to trust to the word of Gordon only and to think that he guaranteed a continuance of power, when before and during the siege they heard of Imperial proclamations resounding everywhere inviting any one who could capture Soochow to be the Fu-t'ai of that city and the province of Kiangsu. Experience and instinct alone would have kept the Wangs from swaggering into Li's presence and bearing themselves as if they were still lords of the city, as your correspondent so graphically describes the scene. Gordon's rage was perfectly justifiable, and I conclude by saying that the version given you by your informant coincides exactly with the character of the Great Chinese statesman who erred in being indecisive and not in being teacherous.

THE following curious history of a ship that has been on the stocks for nearly 70 years, is taken from a recent *Nautical Gazette* :—"Between 10 and 11 o'clock on Saturday morning the old line-of-battle ship *New-Orleans*, which has been on the stocks in Sackett's Harbor since 1815, and has been undergoing demolition the past three weeks, parted directly in the centre and fell to the ground, instantly killing a workman named John Oates and seriously injuring Ralph Godfrey, M. Jeffrey, and a man named Hemens. Eight other workmen narrowly escaped. Oates was terribly mutilated, a spike being forced entirely through his head and a bolt through his back. The *New-Orleans* was begun by Henry Eckford, of New York, about the 1st of January, 1815, under contract with the Government. Her name was fixed by the authorities after Gen. Jackson's victory at New-Orleans

on Jan. 8, the same year. She was to be 3,200 tons burden, 187 feet length of keel, 56 feet beam, and 40 feet depth of hold; pierced for 110 guns, but could carry-120. When Eckford was awarded the contract a large force of men was secured and timber was gathered from the surrounding forests. Nails, spikes, and bolts were forged on the ground, the bolts being entirely of copper. The timbers were mostly cedar and oak, the beams in the keel being of an extraordinary size. The gun carriages were carted across the country from the Mohawk Valley, and were composed of mahogany and lignum vitæ, and are still in the storehouse at Sackett's Harbor. The Peace Commissioners from England and the United States met at Ghent, Belgium, and declared peace on Dec. 24, 1814. The news did not reach Washington till the February following, and it was not until two weeks later that Eckford received orders to cease work, which he did about March 1. During 60 days the immense ship had been nearly finished, the main deck was laid and supports for the bulwarks raised. The *New-Orleans* was intended to be used as a sort of floating battery, to be stationed at the head of St. Lawrence River to prevent the British fleet from entering the lake. As she was constructed entirely of green wood, it is an open question whether she could ever have been navigated. Eckford some years later accepted the position of Superintendent of Naval Construction under the Turkish Government, and he died abroad. In 1823-4 he built several vessels for the United States, among others the *Jefferson*, whose hulk may now be seen during low water at Sackett's Harbor. The Government caused a house to be erected over the *New-Orleans* several years ago, but that was finally destroyed, although the place was visited by hundreds of tourists and curiosity seekers each season. In 1882 Congress ordered the sale of the *New-Orleans* at auction. Last August Alfred Wilkinson, of Syracuse, bid her in for \$400. While being demolished under his orders the accident occurred. Wilkinson, it is said, will net about \$4,000 from his investment.

Few men have ever been so popular in England as General Gordon is just at present. That in itself would account for the sneering comments his religious proclivities elicit from certain American newspapers, which think it necessary to distinguish themselves from the respectable journals of their country by an unreasoning hatred of everything English. Here is a story told by one of them, or rather by its London correspondent, of the truth of which our readers can judge for themselves :—"General Gordon is very much to the fore here, of course. He is, to begin with, a very religious man. Shall I say from Soudan to Beersheba? Indeed, he impresses one as a sort of half fanatical Cromwellian. He is, perhaps, as great a believer in himself as an instrument of Heaven as is Mahdi, the prophet of the desert. Canon Wilberforce, in a sermon last Sunday preached in Canterbury Cathedral, read a letter from "Chinese [now Egyptian] Gordon," asking for congregational prayers. When this letter was dated General Gordon was *en route* to the Congo, as an agent of the King of the Belgians, on the well known expedition. The letter said :—"Pray for me that I may have humility and the guidance of God, and that all spirit of murmuring may be rebuked in me." When the General reached London, and the fickle-minded Gladstone Government

changed his destination to the Nubian desert, etc., he wrote Canon Wilberforce a second letter in which it was said:—"Offer thanks at your next prayer meeting. When I was upborne upon the hearts of these Christians I received from God the spiritual blessing that I wanted, and I am now calmly resting in the current of His Will."

THE following account of the eruption of Aso-yama has been sent the *Fiji Shimpō*:—About 7.50 a.m. on the 21st of March last, the mountain could be heard at a great distant rumbling with subterranean thunder. A short time afterwards, immense clouds of pitchy-black smoke and ashes arose out of the crater, so that the sun's rays were completely darkened and the country for miles around was under a shadow. About ten minutes later, stones began to fall, the largest of which weighed 26 *momme* (15 oz.) Then again came a shower of ashes, which kept on till about noon, when the ground was covered with a layer over an inch deep, while the colour of the trees and grasses was completely changed. This dangerous eruption happily did not result in loss of life, as it took place in broad day-light. At Nobeoka, thirty-five *ri* from the volcano, not a cloud was seen until 9.20 a.m., when dark clouds suddenly covered the sky, and a horrible smell of sulphur was noticeable. The inhabitants in the neighbourhood of the volcano call the eruption *Aso-are*, "the tumult of Aso."

THERE were some curious exhibitions in the House of Commons on the occasion of Mr. Gladstone's powerful defence of the English Government's Egyptian policy. The "grand old man" seems to have been in a mischievously playful humour. He developed a most inconvenient knack of setting traps for his opponents, and they, on their side, fell into them with obliging precipitancy. The first of these pretty tricks seems to have been in part accidental. Mr. Gladstone, in the opening of his speech, had occasion to repeat the words of Sir Stafford Northcote's vote of censure, whereupon the Opposition cheered lustily. "Yes," said the "grand old man," and one can imagine the regretful solemnity of his tone, "Yes, you are ready to cheer these words or any words, it matters not what, provided only they are sufficiently condemnatory." Again the Opposition cheered loudly, and then Mr. Gladstone, to use an American expression, "shut down" on them. "I am delighted," he said, "with the frank and truly English response which that affirming cheer gives to the sentiment I have indicated. I was not sanguine enough to hope for it. I admit that it was in the nature of a decoy offered to honourable gentlemen, and they took it and cheered it to the echo when I said it did not matter whether the proposal was this or that, provided it was condemnatory." The Opposition had certainly put their foot into it, and they doubtless became, thenceforth, more circumspect. But it is not easy to escape the "grand old man's" rhetorical ruses. After fifty or sixty minutes of eloquence, he became mischievous again. He eulogized General Gordon; spoke of him as a hero; said that he has "that faculty which produces effects among those wild Eastern races almost unintelligible to us Westerns," and worked the House up into quite a fever of excitement about the modern Bayard upon whose shoulders such an immense burden has been placed. Then, seeing that the memory of their previous mishap had faded from the minds of the Con-

servatives, he continued thus:—"Perhaps it may be said, 'if General Gordon has all these gifts why did you not call him sooner?'" Thereat the Opposition again cheered themselves hoarse, and again the wily old politician held up a warning finger:—"You have fallen into the decoy. The suggestion to employ General Gordon in the Soudan was made at a time when it did not come within the practical responsibility of the present Government. As early as November, 1882, Sir Charles Wilson suggested the employment of General Gordon. There were difficulties in the way. It is difficult to marry persons, one of whom has an aversion to the other. It is still more difficult if unfortunately there is an aversion on both sides. That was found to be the case between the Khedive and General Gordon. However, when an increased responsibility was placed on us by the defeat of General Hicks, it became our duty again to have regard to the possibilities of what might be done through General Gordon. It was already known to us that the Egyptian Government objected to General Gordon. On the 1st of December, Lord Granville had reason to believe that he was in a position to offer the services of General Gordon to the Egyptian Government. Unfortunately they refused the offer, but refused it not entirely without reasons. Those reasons did not satisfy us, but they went far to silence us. The objection was this—the Soudan is a country of strong Mahommedan fanaticism, they said, and to send a Christian as our agent with a view to its recovery would be a dangerous course, and might cause a still worse outbreak. We were not satisfied, but it was difficult to brush that objection roughly aside, and there was some further delay after the offer of Lord Granville; but we became acquainted with the sentiments of General Gordon as time went on; the aversion of the Egyptian Government became mitigated, and at length entirely removed. It was not until the 16th of January that we obtained an intimation that the Egyptian Government would accept the services of General Gordon; on the 18th General Gordon was on his way to the Soudan." After this the Conservatives probably became timid of cheering. They could not trust themselves to be sure whether the "grand old man" was not slyly inviting them to applaud their own discomfiture beforehand.

* * *

The Home Rulers seem to have made an amusing blunder on the same occasion. They had an unimpeachable opportunity to cheer when Mr. Gladstone said:—"Few, indeed are the people so degraded and lost to every noble sentiment that it shall be a matter of indifference to them whether they are governed by persons who belong to the same political constitution with themselves, or whether they are governed by those who come from remote quarters, with foreign instincts, sentiments, and faiths." The Irishmen might have hollered then, but they let their chance slip, and watching too keenly to recover it, made themselves a little ridiculous. "The Soudan," Mr. Gladstone presently observed "is a vast country, equal in size to France, Germany, and Spain; a desert country with a deadly climate, inhabited thinly by sparse and warlike tribes, but still it is the country of those tribes and they love it as their country." Then the Home Rulers shouted with delight. They did not mind recognizing the political comrades of struggling Irishmen in the semi-

barbarous tribes of the Soudan, or confessing that some parallel might be established between the Emerald Isle and that desert country with a deadly climate. This sort of burlesque must be a little shocking to sober Britons.

AMONG our translations will be found an article from the *Meiji Nippo* containing an interesting account of the action taken by His Majesty the Emperor with regard to the new palace. The foreign public will probably be surprised to hear that it was in contemplation to spend fifteen million *yen* on the work. Such an outlay would be enormous even in the wealthiest country in the world. In Japan, just at present, it seems almost reckless. This country can afford a good deal, no doubt. People are apt to be misled by the fact that it suffers from the curse of an inconvertible and depreciated currency; but in reality its financial condition is not only sound, but remarkably sound. The Government, however, has a duty to perform before it can think of sinking a fifth part of the annual national income in such an unproductive work as a palace, if, indeed, it ever seriously entertained such an intention, for we can scarcely persuade ourselves to believe that our Tokiyo contemporary's information is quite trustworthy. Even assuming, however, that the appropriation were only half the amount named, the Emperor has acted most wisely in interposing his veto. Whether His Majesty spoke under advice or of his own motion, his Ministers have probably been considerably relieved by his words. We do not share the opinion of the *Meiji Nippo* as to the embarrassment the Cabinet is likely to experience in choosing between obedience and loyal instincts. Those who are at the head of affairs know very well that the country would benefit as little in reputation as in pocket by such a piece of extravagance, and they will doubtless shape their course strictly in accordance with the Emperor's economical recommendation. The sum of 2½ millions indicated by His Majesty will suffice amply to construct and furnish a really handsome palace in foreign style. If, indeed, the building is to be of wood according to Japanese models, there is probably no limit to the millions that may be sunk in it. But we trust that it is not yet too late to alter that part of the project. The *Meiji Nippo* says that ostentation and grandeur characterize foreign architecture. It would be far more correct to say that extravagance and peristability are the distinguishing features of Japanese. Few persons will be disposed to credit what is, nevertheless, an incontrovertible fact, that first-class Japanese buildings cost half as much again as foreign. Add to this that they last about one-tenth of the time, and we find a somewhat startling ratio between the relative cost of the two. The Japanese building has its architectural beauties, many beauties, indeed, which all men of taste would be sorry to see sacrificed. But if Japan means to record her verdict in favour of wood as a building material, she will be taking a line which all the rest of the civilized world has long agreed to abandon.

WRITERS on Japan are occasionally met with, who, though knowing little of the country and less of the people, have expatiated upon the immorality of the Japanese as a nation. If the figures in the following paragraph from the *Whitehall Review* are correct, there are nations

who cannot afford to cast the first stone:—"Scotland is still in a very bad way so far as illegitimacy is concerned. It looks as if she tries 'to atone for sins she is inclined to, by damning those she has no mind to.'" Here are a few facts from the official returns for the last quarter of last year fitted to make Scotchmen well-nigh ashamed of their country. In one parish in Nairnshire 24.4 per cent. of the births are illegitimate, while in an Aberdeenshire parish about 50 per cent. of the births were of this kind. In the country of Wigtown about one fourth of all the births were illegitimate, namely 19.7 per cent., and most of the northern counties show anything but clean bills of health. If Free Kirk pastors would turn their attention more to the consideration of this evil and that of whisky drinking, and let politics alone some improvement might be hoped for. But to most of these the placing of a Liberal at the top of the poll in a Parliamentary election is apparently of more importance than placing their county or parish in a good position on this black-list of the Registrar-General."

THERE has been published at Berlin a volume called "Bismarck; or, Twelve Years of German Politics," which contains some startling statements. The author asserts that immediately after the conclusion of the Austro-German alliance in 1879, the great Chancellor laid before M. de Saint-Vallier, Ambassador of France at Berlin, certain propositions framed with the view of putting an end to the antagonism between France and Germany. According to the scheme then mapped out, France was to enter the alliance of Central European Powers, and assist in achieving a programme of which a leading feature was the settlement of the Eastern question on a basis excluding England and Russia from the Turkish succession, in favour of France, Germany, and Austria. M. Bismarck is said to have opined that the Alsace-Lorraine problem ought to appear quite insignificant in the presence of these vast interests, and to have undertaken that, in any division of proceeds, Germany would spare no pains "to heal France's wounds." The book goes on to explain that France neither accepted nor rejected these advances, the Government considering that its duty was to organize its forces thoroughly before attempting to play a rôle in foreign politics. Some of the European journals profess to credit this story. They hold that the dream of Prince Bismarck's declining years is to see the *entente cordiale* re-established between France and Germany, and that to secure such a result, no sacrifice would deter him. They say, too, that to be prodigal of other people's belongings has always been a propensity of the Great Chancellor: that, in 1864, he offered a slice of Denmark to Austria; subsequently tendered Belgium to France; caused Bosnia and Herzegovina to be given to Austria, and would dispose of Constantinople to-morrow if the opportunity presented itself. M. Bismarck is too conspicuous a figure in the international arena not to be made the mark of many slanders. We are quite prepared to believe that his most earnest wish is to see Germany and France sincere friends. That would be a noble ending to his wonderful career. But to set about compassing such a purpose by deliberately provoking the enmity of England and Russia would be a clumsy and reckless process, quite unworthy of the Chancellor's reputation. There is here another point, too, which demands

some credulity. Why should France plead the incompleteness of her military preparations as a reason for rejecting a proposition which would have removed her principal cause to prepare? She might, and most probably would, have refused to take part in any such scheme of international spoliation, but the pretext assigned for her reluctance is illogical and unlikely. This last political brochure will not seriously disturb the public mind, we suspect.

M. HUGUES KRAFFT, on his return to Paris after two years' travelling in India, China, and Japan, exhibited, in the hall of the Geographical Society, a collection of Japanese articles of daily use and of photographs taken by himself. The photographic part of the display included portraits of celebrated *danseuses*, as Tsuru, Kodzuma, and so forth, but the *Révue Scientifique*, from which we extract these details, particularly emphasizes as worthy of note "a group of youthful runners, who tie themselves to carriages and carry you from place to place with unheard-of rapidity." The notion of taking to Paris specimens of Japanese dress, furniture, utensils, &c., such as are now in actual use among the people, is novel and excellent. It has often been said that the most charming and genuinely artistic articles to be found in Japan are those which attract least attention as not coming properly within the category of so-called curiosities. Such things, however, are more truly characteristic of the national habits and civilization than rare specimens of porcelain or lacquer, and from an ethnological point of view, M. Krafft's collection will doubtless prove most valuable and interesting.

WE have long ago abandoned the fruitless task of disavowing the strange sentiments and assertions constantly attributed to this journal. Experience showed that to persevere in such an attempt, it would be necessary to devote our whole time and space to a series of contradictions and refutations. Even if the performance were at all congenial in itself, we should hesitate to enter upon it, believing, as we do, that the chief function of a newspaper is not literary pugilism. Nevertheless, it may be worth while to give our readers a specimen of the methods pursued in the Far East by way of elucidating "the broad principles of truth, justice, and expediency." In a recent issue we said:—"The fact is that Lord Elgin's tariff was fixed on a twenty per cent. basis. Certain articles paid duties of only five per cent., and as cotton and woollen manufactures were included among these, the average duty actually leviable did not, probably, exceed 9 per cent." Here was a simple and perfectly unmistakable assertion, that the duties actually leviable under Lord Elgin's tariff were about 9 per cent., on the average. Would anybody imagine that in the face of such a statement this journal could be charged with asserting that the duty was 20 per cent.? Such, nevertheless, was the version attributed to us, by a very easy process of ignoring everything we said except the words "the fact is that Lord Elgin's tariff was fixed on a twenty per cent. basis." The possibilities of this controversial method are infinite. An expression may be clipped and twisted into any convenient shape by skilful manipulation. Here is another example. In our issue of Monday last, we wrote:—"But now, foreign writers, falsely claiming to represent the views of the mercantile community, contend that the balance of advantage resulting from extended intercourse

would be on Japan's side; that she has no sufficient equivalent to offer foreigners for consenting to emerge from their isolation, and that things being very well as they are, any radical change is to be deprecated as dangerous and unnecessary." This assertion also is subjected to an abbreviating process. The semi-colon at the end of the first clause is replaced by a full stop, and we are severely censured for pretending that the balance of advantage would not be on Japan's side. It is scarcely necessary to say that we pretend nothing of the sort. We have pointed out over and over again that the total benefits accruing to Japan from the free introduction of foreign capital and foreign enterprise, would be much greater than the benefits accruing to foreigners, just as Japan's national gain by foreign intercourse up to the present has been far larger than the gains of the Treaty Powers. It is not there that the views of the mercantile community are falsely represented, but in the pretence that things had better be left as they are, because Japan cannot give as much as she gets. That, we assert, is not the view of the foreign mercantile community, and we base our assertion, not on the Memorial of 1882 alone, but also on the action recently taken by the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. The foreign merchants as a body, and the foreign Chamber of Commerce, are, in our opinion, more trustworthy exponents of their own views than any newspaper.

WITH reference to the discussion which is anticipated in the matter of the Hawaiian Treaty, American journals publish some strange details about the actual state of affairs in King Kalakaua's dominions. That monarch is now said to be the puppet of one Claus Spreckels, a German-American speculator, to whom a large tract of so called "crown lands" have been hypothecated for a loan of \$1,000,000. The story is that the King had no valid title to these lands, and Spreckels, having discovered the fact, holds the dusky potentate in terror of legal proceedings. The capitalist first used his power against the adventurer Celso Cæsar Moreno, who, in 1879, attempted to obtain from the King a subsidy for a Chinese line of steamers to the Sandwich Islands. The following account of this incident and of Spreckels' present position, is given by the *Brooklyn Eagle*:—

Soon after Moreno's arrival at Honolulu, he captured the ambitious King, and also practically controlled the native majority of the Hawaiian parliament, then in session. He filled the King and his ministers with the idea of forming an island confederation, of which Kalakaua would be the chief. He persuaded him that the French, German, and Italian governments, with possibly the Russian Government, also, and certainly those of China and Japan, would be sure to encourage the organization of the brown races in the world's mid-ocean island and countries, with the view of checking the progress thereby of the English speaking peoples—Great Britain and the United States. To accomplish this magnificent scheme, Moreno was to be sent to Europe as Ambassador and Envoy Extraordinary, just as China had sent Anson Burlingame accredited to all the Powers of Europe. He was also to be guardian to the King's sons, who were to be sent to Germany for education. While this was in progress, Moreno did not forget his Chinese employers, but pushed their project of a subsidy for the proposed line of Chinese steamers. It is well known that plans of men and mice, "aft gang agley." And the sententious wisdom of Burns received a new illustration by the landing one day at Honolulu of an American named Oakford or Oaksmith, I don't remember which. He was an accredited agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and of Claus Spreckels, but Moreno did not know that and opened his hand wide to Oakford's view. Spreckels was to follow in the next steamer, and the first thing to be done was to knock the underpinning from the Chinese subsidy scheme. By thus discrediting Moreno, the work of destroying his political influence would be very much easier for Spreckels to tackle. The agent went at his task. Moreno, to emphasize his policy, had sought to abrogate a subsidy of \$1,000 or \$2,000 per month (I forget

which sum), that had been paid the Australian branch of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, for calling each voyage to and from San Francisco, California, and Sydney, New South Wales, at Honolulu. Oakford's first business was to defeat this measure and thereby secure also the defeat of the Chinese subsidy.

The manner in which this was achieved is worth telling. It illustrates, too, the absurd conditions that prevail in that bouffé kingdom. The bill for the Pacific Mail subsidy finally passed. After it had gone through the Parliament, the native Minister of War, a bright and reckless Kanuck, well educated, witty and corrupt, informed Oakford that he had to "be seen," or the next day he would secure a reconsideration. Under the Hawaiian constitution, however, the reconsideration motion must be made before noon the next day. Oakford determined not to "see" the Kanuck, but to endeavor to prevent a session, or at least to bring about an adjournment before the motion could be entered. And this was his mode of procedure:

Among the talents possessed by the Secretary of War was that of caricature. His chief parliamentary victim had been a German member from one of the smaller islands. Hans was a big, good natured person, who had some peculiar habits, which the Kanaka humorist had reproduced by his sketches in a most indecent but witty manner. Oakford had secured a number of these for his own amusement. He took them with him, and found the German representative. Having wine and supped him well, the caricatures were shown and his anger excited. He was taken care of that night by one of Oakford's friends; next morning the worst specimen of the caricature, which put our German along with a certain long eared animal, in a nameless attitude, was shown to the half drunken member of the Hawaiian House of Commons. He was urged to get up in the Chamber and walk over to the ministerial seats, and there and then personally chastise the offending cartoonist. This he was only too ready to do. Soon after the House opened, Hans came in. He did not wait long, but, just as the Secretary of War arose to move the reconsideration, Hans unsteadily but deliberately walked across the floor with the offensive cartoon in one hand, and, with the other, after showing the picture to the Kanaka, he proceeded to give him an unmerciful mauling. No sooner was the blow struck than confusion reigned supreme, and, one of Oakford's friends moving to adjourn, the motion was carried and the Pacific Mail subsidy remained law. The company's agent has chuckled over this neat little plot a good deal, reciting the fact that it only cost \$50. He does not tell what it cost the company, however.

But to return to Spreckels, himself. Moreno's success endangered every interest of the sugar monopolist. He had been in favor of Chinese labor there; Moreno would make their presence in large numbers a chief source of the Californian's undoing. The English interests, and the German also, were as hostile to Moreno as were those of Spreckels himself. But the Italian would have won, still, but for the King's impetuosity. An appropriation of \$15,000 was secured for the diplomatic move. But it was not enough. So Moreno persuaded the King to turn out his ministry shortly after the parliament adjourned and make him (Moreno) Prime Minister. The object, of course, was to get the revenues under his own control. At this point in the game, Spreckels came in with his legal backing as to the so-called crown land. The King had decided to raise money on large leases of land adapted to sugar plantations. Other parties beside Spreckels and a few other Americans stood ready to step in. Among these were both European and Chinese operators. Spreckels waited on the King, routing him out of bed, it is affirmed, and frightened him with threats of suits (which he had arranged for), so that Kalakaua consented to restore a ministry subservient to Spreckels, and to accept from the latter a loan of \$30,000 with which he was to visit Europe and the United States again. Moreno, in the meanwhile, had secured the \$15,000 and left with the princes for Europe. His powers as Ambassador were revoked. Since then he has disappeared from the stage, but it is to be supposed without feathering his own nest, except so far as the \$15,000 is concerned.

Spreckels has virtually been the King of the Cannibal Islands ever since the events above narrated. Curiously enough he has also been in the Kingdom of Hawaii since then a bitter opponent of Chinese labor importations. "John" and the Italian, Moreno, came very near being too much for him. He has gone on from one thing to another, absorbing all sources of trade and profit, and gradually and quite openly consolidating his control. Mr. Spreckels is willing to pay for Kalakaua's follies. The tour of the world was one; the coronation absurdity was another. With all this, the King has become more and more dissipated. The revival at the coronation festivities of the bestialities of the old savage and lascivious native songs and dances does not sit well with the small but genuinely Christian and educated portion of the native race, or with the influential element that still remains of the American and English merchants and missionaries, by whom this people were civilized—or at least whose parents did that work.

The Spreckels influence tends to debauch the Hawaiians. The American and European laborers that, under contract, have been obtained for work on the plantations are intensely dissatisfied. Spreckels and his confrères have obtained the passage of infamous labor laws and the magistrates are their tools. The

Californian has secured a monopoly of the carrying trade, contrary to the Reciprocity Treaty. He has also negotiated this loan of \$1,000,000, which it is said threatens the dethronement of Kalakaua and the placing of ex-Queen Emma in possession. That, of course, means the re-establishment of English influence, as Emma is of mixed blood—her father having been an English dentist, Dr. Rock. Spreckels has acted only as any other of the new rich would do, placed where he could use and bamboozle an inferior or helpless people. He has no sense of the responsibilities of power or civilization, and, like the Californian millionaire in general, exercises and uses the appliances of both with no purpose other or higher than the merest lust of gain. It is, of course, true that he has set in motion extensive industries; that he had constructed large works for irrigating and manufacturing purposes, that he has made a vast fortune, that in its accumulation he has employed thousands of persons and enabled several score to get rich—but none of these things prove him to be other than he had been described herein. The Government of the United States is practically in this matter of the Reciprocity Treaty only the tool and agent of Claus Spreckels and of the Pacific Coast Sugar Refinery Company, which controls the Californian market and monopolizes the produce of the Sandwich Islands.

As an instance of absence of mind, a French surgeon's recent experience is without parallel. Dining at a friend's house in the country, where still prevailed the good old fashion of showing people what they are about to eat before it is dissected, the doctor was asked by his hostess to carve a turkey. Rousing himself from a reverie in which he was plunged, the practiced expert, with two rapid sweeps of the knife, nearly severed the bird's wing. But before the operation was completed, he lapsed again into his brown study, and looking pensively at the gaping wound, took out of his pocket a case of instruments, lint, etc., and proceeded to bandage the turkey's limb with infinite care and skill. The guests, too much astounded to interfere, looked on in silence, till the doctor, his task completed, was heard to murmur:—"Avec du repos et des soins.....ca ne sera rien."

THE *National Gazette*, a German newspaper, says of the Lasker incident, "That the courtesy of a foreign legislative body could be regarded as an act of interference and likely to provoke ill feeling, could be the opinion only of people who cannot hear a word of praise addressed to a political adversary." This is an eminently sensible view of the matter. Bismarck not only forgets the rule which requires charity toward the dead, but strains a point when he says he could not conscientiously approve of the Lasker resolution because it took a view of the political influence of the deceased which he (Bismarck) could not approve. The resolution spoke of Lasker's "firm and constant exposition of and devotion to free and liberal ideas," and this is presumably the offending expression. Now, during the greater part of his political career, Lasker was a follower and supporter of Bismarck, and if the latter had the least liberality of sentiment, he would be prompt to overlook recent differences of opinion between himself and the deceased, in respect to their former harmony. Political rivalries and animosities are pretty bitter in the United States, but we do not carry them beyond the border of the grave. Both the fact that it was an obituary tribute, and the courtesy usual among nations should have inclined Bismarck to overlook minor points of difference and accept the resolution, which, after all, was intended more as an international than a personal compliment, in the spirit in which it was tendered. The oddest thing about the whole affair is the position of those American newspapers which can see nothing to complain of in the conduct of the German Government toward our own; though in Europe,

disinterested witnesses regard it as an unpardonable discourtesy. But, then, there are persons who, after being kicked, require to be told of it, in order to bring the circumstance fairly into the field of their consciousness.—*Alta*.

THE Finney-Garmoyle case is going on, says the *World*. "Sassiety," with Boss Booboo at its head, is greatly scandalised at the young lady's proceedings, and thinks she ought to be content with a stipulated sum, and not expose "one of their order" to vulgar comment. But a great many people, who care nothing for "Sassiety" or its head, think otherwise. The trial will take place, Lord and Lady Cairns will be put in the witness-box, and many of the youth's letters, including the last one, with its singular mixture of hyperbolic regret for the loss of his "blue-eyed darling," and its practical desire for the name of her solicitor, will be read in court. The Savoyards, under their leader, Schwenk, are confident of victory. Meanwhile, Manager Abbey cables from New York his willingness to engage Miss Fortescue as a star, and there is talk of her going on a provincial tour, under the auspices of the *Carte du jour*.

IN this age of testimonials it is a rare occurrence for an employer to receive one from his servants, except on the occasion of a marriage or some such special function. That Lord Falmouth should become the recipient of such an unprecedented compliment from his trainer and jockey will not create much surprise, perhaps, when the undisturbed relationship between the triumvirate is duly considered. No similar precedents exist in connection with the Turf, as the testimonials presented to Lord George Bentinck—which assumed the shape of the Bentinck Benevolent Fund—and Admiral Rous in years gone by were from the general public, in recognition of their services on behalf of racing. The gift to Lord Falmouth consisted of a handsome silver salver of large dimensions, bearing the following inscription:—"Offered for the kind acceptance of the Right Hon. the Viscount Falmouth, by his trainer and jockey, Matthew Dawson and Frederick J. Archer, as a token of gratitude and esteem to the best, kindest, and most generous of masters on his retirement from the Turf, January 1884." The simplicity of this language is eloquence itself, and cannot fail to be duly appreciated by the recipient, whose Turf career has ever been *sans peur et sans reproche*.—*World*.

THE progress of morals in England during the last quarter of a century formed the subject of a recent interesting address by Professor Leone Levi before the Manchester Statistical Society. The general result of Professor Levi's researches did not indicate a very remarkable progress during the period mentioned, though an improvement in certain particulars was shown to have occurred. There appears to be a tendency towards an increase in the number of divorces in England, though the proportion of the number of divorces to marriages appears to be considerably smaller in England than in most other countries. A decrease in the number of irregular relations of the sexes in proportion to the population is noted. Some improvement is noticeable in the case of offences against the person, but the statistics of suicides show a considerable increase. Offences against property are still numerous and a marked increase appears to have taken place in the cases of burglary, house-breaking, breaking

of shops, frauds and forgery, offences which require ingenuity and a certain amount of planning to accomplish. The statistics appear to reveal the existence of a direct relation between the state of trade and the number of offences against property, those offences increasing as trade declines and diminishing in number as trade revives. It is not certain on the whole that any improvement has been made by the working classes in habits of providence. The amounts on deposit at the savings banks show a slight increase, but on the other hand the number of cases of drunkenness has increased from 1857-61 to 1877-81 to the extent of 68 per cent. The morals of trade still leave much to be desired. Complaints are often made of want of good faith in commercial transactions, of the prevalence of customs in trade and manufacture often altogether at variance with the principles of equity, of the wretched condition under which shipping property is subjected to the danger of the sea under the protection of marine insurance, and of a great variety of modes in which the requirements of morals are set at naught, whilst the character of the stock exchange transactions often illustrates the prevalence of a speculative spirit approaching to gambling, but of these it is difficult to produce statistical evidence.

THE *St. James's Budget*, after commenting on the Park Club gambling prosecution, relates the following story of a brace of gamblers who, after staking their last coin, tossed for their clothing and ultimately for the life of one:—"Two men, one tall and stout and the other short, were charged under the following remarkable circumstances:—A Bow-street officer named Croker was passing along the Hampstead-road when he observed the two prisoners at the top of a wall. A moment later he saw to his horror the tall man hanging by his neck from a lamp-post attached to the wall, being that instant tied up and turned off by the short man. Croker rushed to the spot, when the tall man fell to the ground, the handkerchief with which he had been suspended having fortunately given way. Croker produced his staff, said he was an officer, and demanded an explanation of the proceeding; the only reply he received to his inquiry being a violent blow on the nose from the tall man, which nearly knocked him backward. The short man ran away; but the officer procuring assistance, managed to capture both. They explained to the bench that they worked on canals. They had been tossing for money, and afterwards for their clothes. The tall man, who was hanged, won the other's jacket, trousers, and shoes. They then agreed to toss up which should hang the other, and the short man won the toss. They got upon the wall, and the tall man paid his debt of honour by allowing the short man to hang him. They both agreed in this statement; and the tall man said if he had won the toss he would assuredly have hanged his friend. The magistrates expressed their horror and disgust at this method of gambling, and ordered the tall man to find bail for his unjustifiable attack upon the officer; and the short man also to find bail for hanging the tall man. Not having bail, they were both committed to Bridewell for trial."

THE following is the text of the document, given by the Mahdi to his five Lieutenants, sent to organise the insurrection in Darfour, Sennaar, &c.:—"Written in my camp at El Obeid, on the 11th day of the month of Muhorrum, in the

year 1301 after the advent of Mahomed, for ever our Lord and Prophet. To all my brethren in Darfour, who believe in Mahomed and the 120,000 Prophets, and who pray for the Four Caliphs.—Hail blessing, and long life:—As soon as you shall have read this epistle, hesitate not, but girt your loins with the sword, to join the fight for Islam and its purification, so that you may do away with your present ruler who is more the servant of the Christian than of the faithful. I will then be your chief, I will govern you with kindness, I will rid you of your burdens, and make you masters of the country you inhabit. Until I arrive amongst you, obey my representative, who is taking you this letter and my greeting. Take up the sword and pray for me —(Signed) Mahomed Achmed, Servant of the Prophet and Leader of the Faithful."

THERE were three fires in Tokiyo on the last day of March. The first occurred at 6 o'clock P.M. in a bath-house in Himono-cho, Nihon-bashi: it was immediately extinguished. The second was at 8.30 P.M., in the suburb called Hachimondzuka: it destroyed two houses. The third was in Aomono-cho, Nihon-bashi: it also broke out at 8.30 P.M. but was extinguished before attaining serious dimensions. During the first week in April the capital enjoyed comparative immunity, only one fire—in Yotsuya—having occurred: it destroyed two houses.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the deliveries of imports in Yokohama during last month (March) amounted to \$1,100,771, while the sales of exports were \$489,658, the balance in favour of imports being \$611,113. The same journal states that, between February 28th and March 28th, the weight of silk sold to foreign merchants was 84,700 *kin* (112,227.5 lbs.), and that of tea 706,700 *kin* (273,877.5 lbs.)

THE total number of cholera cases in the six years 1877-1883 amounted—according to the *Fiji Shimpō*—to 239,952, of which 154,714 were fatal. In 1879, the epidemic raged with extreme virulence. The disease originated that year in Yehime Prefecture, in the month of March, and spread all over the country. Out of 162,637 cases in 1879, 105,786 resulted fatally. The average death-rate amongst those attacked by cholera is 54.9 per cent. Many more cases occurred in the south-western districts than in the north-eastern.

THE next American beauty promised to us from across the Atlantic, says a home paper, is Miss Julia Jackson. Her name ought to insure her as enthusiastic a reception in English society as her reported beauty, for she is the daughter of one of the bravest and the most gallant of Confederate generals—Stonewall Jackson, whose untimely and unhappy death—he was killed, it will be remembered, by his own men in mistake—was as bitterly regretted by his foes as by his friends.

THE Emperor of Russia, says an Indian paper, will commence racing on an extensive scale this year, and intends to send some horses to run in England at no distant date. General Havaisky, Director of the Imperial studs of Russia, has recently visited England and France, and, during his stay in the latter country, purchased a dozen thoroughbreds which were recently shipped to Russia.

THE reply of Secretary Chandler to a Senate resolution calling for a statement showing the

date of construction, original cost and total expense for all repair, since their construction, of vessels borne on the Navy Register in November, 1883, has been sent to the Senate. The report shows that there were 92 vessels on the register. Of these 20 were built prior to the Rebellion, 31 during the war, and 41 since the close of hostilities. The original cost of the 29 vessels amounted to \$40,796,613. Repairs on all the vessels aggregate \$41,200,822, making the total cost amount to \$81,997,435. The repairs, as the figures shows, have exceeded the original cost by \$404,209.

A good story is current in Scotland, says a London journal, regarding a noble lady of pronounced temperance habits, and whose name is a good deal in people's mouths just at present. She had invited to dinner at her shooting lodge one day the young clergyman of the parish. Talking to him in the drawing-room before dinner, her ladyship said: "You are a moderate drinker, I think, Mr. So-and-so." "Yes, Lady —," said the clergyman; "I am a moderate drinker. I take a glass of wine when I feel disposed." "Ah!" said her ladyship. "Now, Mr. So-and-so, can you tell me if you ever heard of a confirmed drunkard who was not first a moderate drinker?"

A PATENT has been taken out in Germany for a new process of enamelling ceramic articles. The glass, terra-cotta, stoneware, porcelain, or similar article is covered with a film capable of conducting electricity, by painting the article with a solution of chloride of platinum or nitrate of silver, and burning this in, and then decorating as desired with enamel. This is burned in, and the article is afterwards covered electrolytically with the metal. The galvanic coating does not adhere to the enamel, and very varied effects can be produced by gilding, silvering, colouring, polishing, platinising, &c., the metallic surfaces of the articles.—*Pottery Gazette*.

THE use of beef, mutton, and pork as articles of diet is growing in Tokiyo. According to figures furnished by the vernacular press, the number of oxen slaughtered in the capital during 1883 was 9,855, the number of pigs 1,108, and the number of sheep 2,311.

IT is announced that the necessary arrangements have finally been completed for inaugurating a system of return postal cards, and that this addition to postal conveniences will be made without delay.

THE *Iroha Shimbun* says that a number of Annamese arrived in Nagasaki a few days ago, but that they were not allowed to land until communication had been held with Tokiyo.

OWNERS of ponies are reminded that the entries for the Spring Meeting close on the 15th instant, and that the measuring mornings at Negishi will be the 10th and 15th, from six to eight o'clock.

THE American ship *Frank Pendleton* sailed for Victoria, B.C., on Tuesday, in ballast, and the British bark *Annapolis* for New York *via* Kobe.

THE British schooner *Guam*, from this port, arrived at Kobe on Friday the 14th inst.

JAPANESE FINANCING.

THE article which we reproduce to-day from the *Manchester Guardian* on the subject of "Japanese Finance" deserves the attention of those charged with the duty of tiding this country over the commercial depression from which it is now suffering. The *Manchester* journal takes, in our opinion, a sound and impartial view of the situation. There can be no doubt that, considering what the Japanese Mediatized Government was called upon to do, and what it has actually done, it deserves, in the main, credit—not condemnation—for its financial record. It came into power with an empty treasury, with a considerable burden of debt, and with a seriously disordered currency. Looking back now at the course things have taken, we can scarcely doubt that, so far as her finance is concerned, Japan has benefited by what, under ordinary circumstances, is anything but a benefit—the autocracy of her rulers. A representative government could never have succeeded in carrying through, even if it might have ventured to propose, a measure so partial in its bearings as the capitalization of the pensions of the *Kwa-soku* and *Shizoku*. History furnishes no instance of any step so radically hurtful to the pecuniary interests of these that took it. There are writers who have applied to the proceeding terms as harsh as "spoliation" and "dishonesty," but it seems extravagant to deny that the country had a right to expect the speediest possible relief from a burden which had been gradually imposed upon it by a military despotism. Out of Japan's total national debt of 260* million *yen*, in round numbers, 176 millions come under the heading of Pension Bonds, so that the debt actually contracted by the Government since 1871 only amounts to 84 millions, or say, sixteen millions sterling. When we consider that with this sum 231 miles of railway have been laid; all the principal places in the empire connected by 12,580 miles of telegraphs, with 207 telegraphic stations; a standing army of considerable dimensions armed and equipped in European fashion; 5,080 post-offices established, and 13,467 miles of postal routes put in working order; 9 mines opened and supplied with machinery; 16 industrial works and manufacturing establishments; 47 light-houses built and 23 light-ships, buoys, etc., moored in their places; the nucleus of a mercantile marine formed; 122 hospitals, besides alms-houses, opened; a mint, chemical laboratories, survey, and meteorological,

departments, observatories, etc., established; 28,139 schools and colleges organized and supported; large numbers of students sent abroad and educated; 15 libraries and 7 museums opened and stocked; 1,496 police offices established with a force of twenty-five thousand police; prisons, courts of law, and many other public buildings, dock-yards, and arsenals provided; a navy of twenty-five ships formed, six of them being ironclads; legations and consulates established in all the principal cities of the Treaty Powers; large numbers of foreigners employed in various capacities; a rebellion subdued at an expense which still figures for 15 million *yen* in the national debt; and sundry other matters undertaken or completed—considering all this, we say, the wonder is, not that Japan has a domestic debt of 16, and a foreign debt of less than 2, millions sterling, but that her liabilities are not two or three times as great. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that the public is a little bewildered by what it sees, and that nothing has puzzled it more than Japan's last feat of financial energy. In two years she has brought her fiat notes from a depreciation of 40, to a depreciation of only 9 per cent., and the way she has achieved such a result is by diminishing their volume to the extent of 50 millions, approximately. That her financiers have been able to accomplish this, shows that the depreciated condition of the currency was never any measure of their competence to deal with it. But that they have resorted to such a sweeping measure shows, also, a certain amount of recklessness. Men cannot help asking whether this state of affairs is stable, and the answer, after all, is that the volume of the currency in circulation, and therefore its specie value, varies with the option of a virtually irresponsible Government. There is nothing, *prima facie*, to prevent the reissue of as many millions as have been recalled, and until the public begins to feel quite confident that such a catastrophe is in the last degree unlikely, industrial and commercial enterprise will not revive. The *Manchester Guardian* says all this plainly enough, and its opinion is the more valuable on account of its evident impartiality. It regards the most recent measures adopted,—the issue of Railway, and *Kinsatsu* Redemption, Bonds—as "intelligible and definite," and says that, "if they are honestly carried out," a general improvement of trade may be expected. This opinion is based upon the hypothesis that the object of the loan is "to enable Japanese to substitute foreign capital for the native capital invested in the railways, and thus, as far as possible, prevent any stringency on this account." But this, it seems to us, is just what the Japanese are not doing. There is a possibility, of course, that native holders of these Railway Bonds may employ them as security for obtaining advances from foreigners, but nothing of

that sort is likely to take place on any considerable scale within Japan, for the very sufficient reason, that neither the foreign merchants nor the foreign banks at the open ports have money to lend at present. The *Manchester Guardian*, alluding to the fact that the Bonds may be held by foreigners, applauds "this removal of the old conservative restriction," not reflecting, apparently, that at the root of the so-called "conservatism" is the difficulty of allowing foreigners to hold property outside treaty limits. However this may be, we doubt whether the new measure will continue to be so favorably regarded when it is known that no earnest attempt has been made to bring the Bonds really within foreign reach. The advertisement which appeared in the local English press, calling for tenders, had scarcely been understood when it was withdrawn, and the public learned that nearly double the amount of the first instalment—five million *yen*—had been subscribed by Japanese banks and capitalists. It seems scarcely necessary to demonstrate the recklessness of sinking home capital in railways at the very moment when the country is suffering from the effects of currency restriction. Most persons believed—and the *Manchester Guardian* echoes the belief—that the Bonds would have been employed as a means of bringing specie into the country, and that, with this view, active measures would have been taken to place them on the foreign markets. Such a course would have shown that the Government is not careless of the consequences its very drastic financial policy has entailed, and would probably have supplied the impetus needed to move enterprise from its present dormant condition. We can only hope that these considerations will commend themselves strongly to Japan's financiers before the opportunity ceases to be available.

PAST AND PRESENT.

A STRIKING illustration of the change that has come over Japanese ideas during the past ten or twelve years is to be seen by comparing the recent writings of the vernacular press on the subject of treaty revision, with the articles and essays that appeared in the same journals between 1871 and 1873. In one respect the sentiment of the two periods is identical. There is observable the same urgent, almost impatient, desire to compass the integration of Japan's "rights as an independent power." But, whereas, in 1871, a majority of the Tokiyo newspapers combatted the notion of extending the treaties so as to remove all restrictions upon foreign intercourse, even though the extension should simultaneously achieve this national aim; we find, in 1884, a much larger majority either openly advocating an extension in the former sense, or opposing it only so

* The *Manchester Guardian* is not quite accurate in its figures. The actual state of the national finances, as shown in the last Budget, was as follows:—

New Debt	10,852,925
Specie Bonds	5,844,800
Loans for Public Works	11,649,050
Loans in connection with Satsuma Rebellion	15,000,000
Domestic Debt not bearing interest	8,555,196
Various Pension Bonds	176,267,375
Paper Money	98,290,352
Foreign Debt	8,906,488
Reserves, Loans due to Government and other funds	335,366,186
Total Debt	75,259,252
	260,106,934

long as it is unaccompanied by the latter desideratum. A dozen years ago the idea was that to admit the strong-minded, strong-bodied, fat-pursed alien to competition on equal terms with the inexperienced, simple-hearted, impecunious native, would be a proceeding somewhat analogous to letting the fox into the hen-coop or the wolf into the fold. Now, on the contrary, these apprehensions seem to have disappeared. Writers in the vernacular press either treat them as unworthy of consideration, or dispose of them by pointing out that if Japan is ever to progress permanently it must be by complete emergence from her shell, and by fearless contact with conditions which, to be beneficial to either side, must be beneficial to both.

Turning to the foreign local press, we find a change equally radical but in an opposite direction. When vernacular journalists were setting forth the material perils of unrestricted intercourse between nationals so differently endowed with experience and resources as Westerns and Japanese, foreign writers ridiculed the pusillanimity, or combatted the irrationality, of this notion; pointing out that commerce, being from its very nature reciprocal, could not be extended so as benefit aliens without conferring corresponding advantages on natives, and that so long as Japan withheld from her Western visitors any portion of the privileges her own subjects enjoyed abroad, she must be content to rank with semi-civilized nations. But now, foreign writers, falsely claiming to represent the views of the mercantile community, contend that because the balance of advantage resulting from extended intercourse would be on Japan's side, and because she has no sufficient equivalent to offer foreigners for consenting to emerge from *their* isolation, things are very well as they are and any radical change is to be deprecated as dangerous and unnecessary.

These contemporaneous variations of opinion have a significance too plain to need comment. For our part, we do not propose to insult the intelligence of our readers by pausing to consider whether this particular phase of the position taken by foreign conservatives is, in any sense, defensible. That the onus of opposing extended intercourse should ever be shifted from Eastern to Western shoulders was a contingency which the most bizarre prophet could not have foreseen one moment before it became an accomplished fact. Even less likely was it that, within the limits of a still brief career, the same Japanese statesmen should find themselves obliged to combat, first the reluctance of their own nationals to yield to foreign insistence, and next the reluctance of foreigners to permit the consummation of the object on which they formerly insisted.

To complete this comparison of past and present, a point of close resemblance must be noted between the consequences of foreign conservatism to-day

and those of Japanese conservatism twenty years ago. It is matter of history, that the Government which admitted foreigners to Japan in 1858, placed in the hands of its enemies a weapon it could never successfully parry. It is matter of observation, that the Government which fails to overcome foreign conservatism in 1884, is in danger of losing its prestige and forfeiting its title to public confidence. At the former date, it was easy to unite the hereditary enemies of the House of TOKUGAWA against rulers who had violated the patriotic traditions of the country; at the present time, it is not less easy to rouse public opinion against a Government which fails to obtain from Foreign Powers any recognition of the nation's efforts.

Nothing could be more misleading than to omit the latter fact from any review of the situation professing to be complete. Doubts have recently been expressed by prominent members of this community with regard to the degree of interest really taken by the nation at large in the question of treaty revision, and some writers have even gone so far as to assert that the attitude of the people in general is quite apathetic. This erroneous estimate ought not to surprise us, when we remember what very faint echoes of the thoughts that move Japan can permeate Yokohama's environment. The Settlement is virtually in a state of siege. Its commerce is a commerce of investment. It is cut off from free communication with the people of the country, and surrounded by an army of monopolists, to whose interests any radical relaxation of existing restrictions would be fatal. No wonder that within the lines of the *saitori* and *hikitori* nothing is heard of an agitation directly opposed to the monopolies they enjoy. Yet that such an agitation exists, that it is daily extending and gathering strength—not from the patriotic instincts of the people alone, but also from the friction of political parties,—is absolutely certain. Underlying everything that is written in the journals of the opposition is a strong current of suggestion that, were the Government more careful of the national dignity and more resolute in asserting it, Foreign Powers had long ago restored to Japan the rights inseparable from independence. This is what political agitators have been teaching the people everywhere for years, and there can be no doubt that by their persistence, many a man, otherwise indifferent to such questions, has been roused to regard them as vital to his country's honour. The tendency of history to repeat itself would be curiously, and not very creditably, illustrated, were this latest phase of foreign intercourse to become a second factor of disturbance, and did foreign illiberality prove as fatal to the Government of the Restoration as Japanese liberality proved to its predecessors. Happily this peril is not likely to become more than a possibility. Blind conserva-

tism preferring certain evils to every change that is not absolutely guaranteed against risk, is the creed, not of the majority, but of a small minority, of thinking foreigners. Things have already begun to move out of their rusty groove, and we may hope ere long to see the day when antique timidity and distrust will have given place to a more liberal and rational mood.

KOREA'S TROUBLES.

IF the statements of the *Fiji Shimpō's* Sōul correspondent are correct, the state of affairs in the Korean capital have a very ugly look. One can easily understand that there should be enmity and hard feeling between the Chinese and Japanese troops, or rather those trained after Chinese or Japanese fashion, but that their bickerings should result in serious disturbances without authoritative intervention shows that the Government is practically powerless. Taken altogether, the news from Korea is anything but encouraging. From the Consular Trade Report of Ginsan,—a translation of which was published in the *Japan Mail* of the 28th March—it appears that both imports and exports are falling off with amazing rapidity; though, it is true, the fact that the port of Ninsen is nearer to the great commercial provinces than Ginsan, is somewhat to blame for this. But, beyond all doubt, the trade of Korea may be expected to collapse totally unless some radical changes are brought about without loss of time. The cause of the prevailing commercial depression lies not so much with the people or the mercantile classes as in the palpable inefficiency of the Administration. That the Government itself is in great financial straits is apparent to the most casual observer. Not long ago the news reached us that the Chinese loan of \$200,000,—a very paltry sum, by the way, taking the size of Korea into consideration,—was not only completely expended, but that there seemed to be no way in which to pay off the loan, and that the Peking Government had expressed unwillingness to make any further pecuniary advances. In order to retrench, the Korean Government thereupon proposed to do away with the foreigners employed in the costly and nearly useless Customs' Service, under the excuse of engaging natives and Japanese, who would not have to receive nearly so high salaries as the foreign employés. This proposal, however, came too late, as Mr. VON MÖLLENDORFF, Vice-President of the Korean Foreign Office, very justly opposed its being put into execution. He represented that it would be decidedly undignified, as well as insulting to the foreign employés, to dismiss them after barely six months' service, and though his advice was followed, its justice does not seem to have been acknowledged by the Korean Government. Of course, his position of authority effectually prevented the proposed change, but the Government has,

apparently, borne him an ill-concealed grudge ever since. Moreover, it seems from trustworthy sources that Mr. VON MÖLLENDORFF has been an unpaid member of the Foreign Office ever since his tenure of office. For our own part, we have always believed that his position as Vice-President of the Foreign Office is merely an honorary appointment without any over-enticing pecuniary advantages included; and that he is rather a Chinese than a Korean pillar of state. Be this as it may, his influence with the Korean Government is said to be considerably diminished.

It is a question whether the opening of Korea to foreign intercourse has been of direct benefit to that country up to the present. That it will be so in the future admits of little doubt; but for the moment, Korea has lost certainly more than she has gained. Yet this fact is chiefly due to Chinese mismanagement. So far as Japan has been, and is, concerned, her traders have given a decided impetus to Korean commerce, and it is well to remember that the first trading-vessel, since the ratification of the treaties, ever sent from the Hermit Kingdom, made her way to Japan. It is undeniable that the Chinese have the first claim upon Korean commerce, but the manner in which they have established trade in that country savours more of the entry of a victorious army than of the honest dealings of peaceable merchants. According to the correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō*, their mode of dealing with the Koreans is in the most highly developed form of mercantile speculation. Natives inveigled into any of the smaller Chinese shops rarely leave with much ready money in their possession, and the rapacity of the petty store-keepers seems absolutely without a limit. If the Japanese writer may be credited, there is more force than persuasion employed to induce Korean customers to invest in Chinese commodities. This practice has been appealed against by the authorities, but the Chinese Consul seems powerless to control his countrymen. Altogether, the lot of a Chinese consul in the Korean ports is evidently far from being a luxurious sinecure, for no day passes without its attendant complaints and remonstrances from the local authorities.

A great deal of this trouble is directly traceable to the presence of the Chinese soldiery. These errant warriors are stalwart, muscular men, mostly from Shantung and Pechili, naturally of kleptomaniac propensities, and as unruly and rough customers as one would care to meet. Their officers, whatever may be their own standard of morality, seem completely powerless to check the unruly spirits under their command. Thieving, highway-robbery, and house-breaking are the least vicious pastimes in which a great part of the Chinese soldiers are wont to indulge; and ugly whispers of still darker crimes are not wanting. There are some unpleasant re-

reflections suggested by the rumour that the wealthy merchants of Sōul are sending their wives and daughters out of the capital to save them from the violence of the Chinese troops. The latter's ill-treatment of the natives is public, for they have little or no respect for anything Korean, Foreign Office and KING included. That this sort of thing should continue is a matter of serious reproach to the Chinese Government. Whatever position Korea may hold in the eyes of the sages of the T'sung-li Yamên, China's pretensions as a tutelary Power will be much weakened in the eyes of her so-called tributaries, should it appear that the cost of receiving assistance from her is barbarous immorality and violent rapacity. On the whole, the position of a country tributary in word or deed to the Middle Kingdom does not bring over-many blessings with it.

JAPANESE CHARACTER.

TO those who have lived long in Japan, and whose knowledge of the language enables them to enjoy something like intimate converse with the people, there is gradually brought home a conviction that while some traits of Japanese character are difficult to reconcile with each other, or with any of our preconceived standards, others, again, are so strange as to be incomprehensible. Without any desire to speak slightly, it may be truly asserted that by one class of foreigners only is any pretence made to a thorough comprehension of this problem. There are to be found in this Settlement of Yokohama many men who, claiming to have analyzed exhaustively every phase of Japanese disposition, do not hesitate to announce that their education is complete in this respect, and that what they do not know on the subject is not worth knowing. It must be confessed that the extent of this knowledge looks a little incompatible with the opportunities enjoyed for acquiring it. The French guest at Mrs. POTTS' *déjeuner* who occupied himself piecing fragmentary conventionalities into a picture of English social life, was, in truth, more rationally engaged than are men who, living entirely apart from this nation and having no access to its written or spoken thoughts, undertake to describe accurately all the processes of the national mind. The probable fact is that, by the great majority of Westerners living in Japan, Japanese character is counted a profitless study. Recognizing the hopelessness of obtaining any trustworthy data for an independent estimate, and, at the same time, constrained to form some estimate as a basis for mercantile intercourse, they deem it shrewdest, and find it safest, to suspect and distrust everything. It must be confessed, however, that when the basis of this distrust comes to be examined closely, it looks but a frail affair. Take Yokohama, for example. We venture to assert that the conditions

under which commerce is carried on there are of a nature to test severely the strongest moral fibre in the universe. The Japanese trader enjoys virtual immunity. Whatever he does will not disgrace him in the eyes of his countrymen, who are always ready to attribute his failures to foreign guile, rather than to his own want of integrity. In nine cases out of ten, he believes that to show any consideration for the men he deals with would be mere silliness, since, however he protects himself, they will be sure to get the lion's share of the profits in the end. Nothing can possibly persuade him that this is not the case, so long as the foreign merchant's scale of living is far beyond anything he can think of affording himself. "The strangers tell me," he says, "that their gains are only so much or so much, but if that be true, they must spend on their food and houses a great deal more than they make by their business, and they are much too shrewd to behave so thoughtlessly." Thus he labours constantly under the conviction that somehow or other the balance of advantage is against him, and that the utmost exercise of his five wits is needed to avoid discomfiture. This idea is probably at the root of a peculiarity often attributed by foreigners to Japanese merchants; namely, their inability, or unwillingness, to perceive that every one legitimately engaged in a transaction ought to have a share of the profits. By no people in the world, perhaps, is this fundamental principle more strictly observed than by the Japanese themselves in their dealings with one another. But when a foreigner joins the *partie*, they seem to imagine that he will take care to have his full portion with or without their consent, and that unless they keep their eyes very wide open, it will be a BENJAMIN'S portion indeed.

Our immediate purpose, however, is not to conduct an independent investigation into the peculiarities of Japanese character, but to speak of a lecture recently delivered on the subject by the Rev. D. THOMPSON, a gentleman whose qualifications to express an opinion are of no common order. Mr. THOMPSON, having divided character into "native" and "acquired," declared that, so far as his experience went, he could detect no material difference between Japanese and Western native character. The essentials he pronounced the same in both cases. Referring to the general notion that Japanese regard for truth is small, he said that even here the difference was not so great as is commonly supposed, and that in Japan, not less than in Europe or America, there are to be found many men who will sacrifice a great deal in the cause of abstract truth. Despite Mr. THOMPSON'S dictum, however, we are disposed to think that the love of truth for truth's sake is an exceedingly rare trait of Japanese disposition. The general creed is that circumstances are a man's safest

guide. To insist upon speaking the truth when some positive or probable evil may be avoided by a trifling subterfuge, is counted rather a senseless performance. This doctrine, so far as our observation goes, is not less altruistic than egoistic. The *hōben no uso*, or fib of convenience, is a justifiable device in one's neighbour's interests quite as much as in one's own. The same principle leads to another species of insincerity, which has induced superficial observers to pronounce the Japanese a passionless people. A man will tell of some terrible calamity that has befallen him, the death of his wife or the loss of half his fortune, with an air of unconcern so unsuited to the circumstances that one concludes he is either a hypocrite or heartless. The fact is that he is only obeying a social creed which requires sorrow to be unobtrusive before everything; which tells a man that dissimulation is not only legitimate but imperative when its purpose is to avoid making others participate in griefs that do not belong to them. Certainly this is not honest, as Westerners understand the word, but it closely resembles a quality not less admirable—unselfishness. Were it possible to pursue this analysis accurately, we should probably find that what Japanese character seems to lack in one direction is compensated by a peculiar development in another.

After treating "native character" very briefly, Mr. THOMPSON passed on to consider "acquired character," which he defined as "character inscribed or engraven by environment;" that is to say, by social life, customs, maxims, literature, education, religion, polity, and so forth. This phase of disposition is naturally of minor importance, since, being engendered by external circumstances, it can also be altered by them. Among the traits thus developed, the lecturer placed an apparent inability to distinguish easily between what is practicable and what is impracticable, and a consequent proneness to undertake impossibilities and neglect possibilities. The same trait is displayed, he thought, in a tendency to precipitancy—a disposition "to do things with a rush." He ought, perhaps, to have added, that the prelude to this precipitancy is generally considerable hesitation. A Japanese is essentially slow to make up his mind, but having once adopted a resolution, he wants to carry it out with a minimum of delay. Such, at any rate, is the impression his conduct conveys to Westerners. But it must be noted that the judgment of the latter is, for the most part, formed by observing the Japanese under conditions comparatively novel to him. We do not see him in his every-day life, dealing with circumstances to which he has long been accustomed; but we see him confronted by problems which, simple as they may seem to us, are for him full of perplexities and strangeness. Mr. THOMPSON did not, in our opinion, sufficiently recognise this point. He was

inclined to think that the apparent lack of practical discrimination he detected among the Japanese is the outcome of the feudal system, when the struggle for existence was comparatively easy, and the instincts of self-help were not largely developed. This is not the estimate we should have been disposed to form of life under a military despotism.

Pliability, or readiness to adjust oneself to circumstances within certain limits, is another feature of Japanese acquired character which Mr. THOMPSON discussed, referring its origin to the Buddhist religion. "Of all religions in the world," he said, "the Buddhist in its spirit is the most pliable, the most flexible, the vastest, vaguest, most indefinite and most uncertain. Since its origin in India it has adjusted itself harmoniously to all the Gods of the Brahmans and the Chinese without annihilating any or provoking any. It also absorbed all the Gods and sages of Japan." This conclusion would have had more value were the premise better established. But pliability is about the last characteristic we should have attributed to a Japanese. True, he seldom formulates a direct refusal, and will carry the etiquette of assent to almost-curious lengths, but at the point of action, his opposition is little short of invincible. Strangers who attach to his forms of expression the precise value of their sound, are often deluded into believing that he is still open to conviction or has not yet pronounced his ultimatum. Experience soon dispels this delusion.

The whole subject of Japanese character is as full of interest as it is difficult to investigate. Mr. THOMPSON has made a good beginning, and it is much to be desired that his example may be followed by others of his cloth, for certainly the missionaries are in every way best qualified to conduct the investigation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN LOANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have so well exposed the unsoundness of the leading idea of "Protectionist's" last letter on the above subject that it is like trying to "slay the slain" to offer any further refutation of his fallacies. But he has raised such a cloud of argumentative dust with his powerful pen, that you may be willing to accept some aid from me in laying it.

Having no copy of Mill's works at hand, I must assume that "Protectionist's" citations are verbally correct. But it seems to me that he wholly fails to comprehend Mill's dominant purpose, which was to show that the functions and utility of Money being only that of an instrument or medium of exchange, it is not itself the subject of exchange, and consequently cannot be properly called Capital, the latter term being applicable only to those forms of Wealth which are used reproductively. Although Adam Smith did not actually draw this distinction between Money and Capital, it is a logical deduction

from his principles. Mill was, if I remember rightly, one of the first to draw it; but it has been followed by most of the later economists. Thus Fawcett says, "The Wealth accumulated with the object of assisting production is called Capital;" and again, "The Capital of a country is that portion of its Wealth which is appropriated to reproductive purposes;" and, in distinguishing between the working of circulating Capital and fixed Capital, he says, "All Capital is intended to be, sooner or later, consumed; circulating Capital is destroyed by once ministering to the production of Wealth—implying immediate consumption it must also necessarily imply immediate reproduction. But fixed Capital is only gradually consumed, and therefore the Wealth so expended is not immediately reproduced."

Now Money is a form of Wealth which is practically *unconsumable*, that being one of the requisites of good Money. Consequently Money is held not to be Capital in the sense of the strict definition above given.

This restricted definition of Capital, and the exclusion of Money from it, may appear to some minds pedantic and unpractical. But it is, nevertheless, a true definition, and the statement that Money is not Capital is also true, and involves important practical consequences. If "Protectionist" could but once apprehend this fact, it would greatly contribute to clear his view.

Regarded as a mere instrument of exchange, like a yard-stick or a pound-weight, it is easy to see that Money is not the thing invested in reproductive works, but only the *unconsumed* medium of that investment. *Capital* is the thing invested, and has to be consumed to be productive. But the Money employed remains, after the investment, for other uses. Therefore it cannot be called Capital. No one denies that Money (*so far as it has intrinsic value*) is part of Wealth, but it is generally agreed that it is not that part of Wealth which, being devoted to reproduction, and necessarily consumed therein, is entitled to be called Capital.

A clear apprehension of this economical rule, would, I repeat, have saved "Protectionist" from his strange delusion that Japan could have, at the same time, both her railways and the Capital (which he calls Money) invested in them. He would have seen that, Money not being Capital, its survival in circulation after the investment, did not imply that the Capital invested also survived.

He insists, however, that Money *is* Capital. He admits that Capital does not consist solely of Money (though even this he puts in the bewildering form that "money is not exclusively capital"); but he contends that Capital comprises Money, and from this he draws what he calls the "legitimate conclusion" that when people build railways they "put Money, and nothing but Money, into them;" and, again, that "the railway is built with Money."

It will be readily seen how naturally his first error leads to this second one; and how both are sure to induce further errors.

Now it is an obvious fact that neither railways nor mills, nor reproductive agencies of any sort, are "built with Money." No Money whatever is "put into" any of them, but only iron, wood, labor, and similar commodities. No sensible person will dispute this fact. Your correspondent will probably not himself dispute it; but he completely ignores its profound significance, when, thinking only of the Money employed in procuring these commodities, he declares that railways are "built with Money." He could not have written "built of Money" without seeing his fallacy, nor could he write "by means of Money" without perceiving that Money was a mere instrument in the business. But he says "*with* Money," leaving us to find out, as best we can, what he really does mean. Perhaps he does not know his own meaning quite precisely. For if he did he would perceive that there *must* be something wrong in his proposition that Japan, by using her own Money in building railways, could get them for nothing (that being what the proposition logically comes to). He

recognizes that the Money which he declares was put into railways, is afterwards found circulating among the people; and to account for this surprising fact he propounds the doctrine that railways, and the like, may be built without cost to the country which builds them with its own Money.

Had he understood Mill, he would have comprehended that it is Capital, not Money, which is put into these works, and that this Capital, consisting of the commodities consumed in the work, is withdrawn from the Capital of the country, becomes fixed, and is no longer available for other uses, while the instrument employed in procuring the commodities, the Money, remains for fresh service.

"Protectionist's" delusion on this fundamental point naturally leads him into other errors. Having brought his mind to believe that Japan may invest twenty millions worth of Capital in a railway, and then possess both the railway and that Capital (which proposition he considers as indisputable as that two and two make four), he easily reaches the conclusion that any assistance from foreign Capital in making railways in Japan, is quite superfluous. He does not deny that Capital is scarce in this country, but, holding that it can be used in reproductive works without being consumed, he finds its scarcity of no consequence whatever.

If he were himself in need of a coat, and had not enough Capital of his own to induce the tailor to make the exchange, he might perhaps admit that a loan of Capital from some friend's stock might be serviceable; but when Nations want railways this simple principle is, it appears, inapplicable.

And then, again, he considers the conditions of Japan so peculiar that borrowing Capital from foreigners might, under any circumstances be dangerous for her. Better even to go without the coat than incur any obligation to obtain it.

Now this is the common Japanese view, and one may, perhaps, admire its lofty independence of spirit.

But is it not somewhat fantastical and impractical? Here is a country notoriously deficient in Capital. Industry and commerce in every department are suffering terribly for want of it. Yet the few individuals who have it at command (possessing the Money required to bring it into action) are gravely urged, not to employ it as circulating Capital in quickly reproductive operations, but to bury it, as fixed Capital, in undertakings which can, at best, be only slowly reproductive. All the Capital required for such undertakings could be easily obtained from foreign countries, and domestic Capital would then be free for ordinary industry. But no! Japan must not borrow, because borrowing may give foreigners too lively an interest in this country.

But why do not people who reason in this timid manner see, that to interest foreigners in Japanese development is far more likely to be a source of security, than one of danger? Creditors, if not mad, are not generally hostile to their debtors' prosperity. How, then, could Japan have anything to fear from those who should lend her Capital?

In most foreign countries she is now regarded with indifference, being but little known. But should she appear as a borrower, she becomes immediately an object of interest to all lenders. They begin at once to study her geography, her history, her character, and her resources, and to feel a direct personal concern in her welfare. If their own or any other Government proposed by some unjust act to provoke war, and imperil that welfare, the lender's interest at once impels him to cry out against such provocation and to try to avert the rupture of peaceful relations. For he knows that, by the law of nations, war cancels all obligations to enemies. He is, therefore, against war and all that could lead to it.

It may safely be said that England and America would have quarrelled seriously many times during these last fifty years, but for the immense sums which the American people have borrowed from England for railway construction. This indebted-

ness inclined England to peaceful conduct, and has had no small influence at some critical moments. Has American independence suffered—have American interests been injured, by her borrowings? Even protectionists would hardly assert the former. To the latter they might answer—Yes! because their theories oblige them to believe that, if the American people had only known how to do it, they might now have had their 100,000 miles of railways without owing foreigners a dollar for them, whereas it is well known that they do owe foreigners hundreds of millions.

But somehow the Americans themselves, though in general a very shrewd people, do not take this view of the matter, and most of them consider that but for foreign Capital, they would not to-day have had all those railways, nor have been either so prosperous, so strong, or so much respected as they unquestionably are.

But I fear that neither the American example, nor the many other examples which support the arguments of this letter, will have much influence in Japan as long as such clever writers as "Protectionist" are in the field. I must, however, leave him in possession of it, for I have already taken too much of your space in merely trying to clear away some of the dust he has raised.

Yours truly,

L.

Yokohama, April 2nd, 1884.

NO COMPULSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Considerable attention has been bestowed, by one writer and another, upon the recent pronunciamentos of two esteemed Yokohama merchants, whose identities of thought and expression recall the pleasant Ephesian legend which the genius of Shakespeare has perpetuated. But I have seen, as yet, no mention of a curious lack of perception by which they appear to be afflicted,—although the infirmity does not manifest itself in the discussion of the same subject by both of them. I refer to their inability to distinguish between permission and compulsion, in their criticism of anticipated actions on the part of the Japanese Government. In certain important particulars, they seem to discern no difference between what they may be allowed, and what they will be constrained, to do. This deficiency of analytical power throws them into no little uneasiness, from which a simple explanation may perhaps extricate them. One of the couple is disturbed by apprehensions of the conjugal confusion which may light upon foreign households in the event of a general submission to Japanese jurisdiction. The other recoils before the exhausting prospect of being obliged to "perambulate the country," whenever the restrictions upon internal trade and residence are set aside. In neither case is there the slightest ground for the anxiety so naïvely confessed. It resembles the trepidation experienced by conservative opponents of English and American legislation for the extension of women's privileges. The painful spectacle of their wives and mothers, not to speak of "their sisters and their cousins and their aunts," exposed to the horrors of an election, is always vividly before them; and in their agitation they overlook the circumstance that no woman will be compelled to vote, if she is disinclined to. Even in the home of Mormonism, where supplementary espousals are sanctioned by local authority, no man is obliged to wed more wives than he wants; and if he considers one sufficient, although he may be set down as eccentric, he will not be required to add to his encumbrances. So far as Japan is concerned, the renunciation of extraterritoriality will in no wise render it necessary for alien heads of families to depart from the decorous, steady, and moral course of life to which they have been accustomed. Not one of them will be expected "to tell his wife she may go," or that "he does not want her any more."

They will stand just as high, in Japanese estimation, if they never do anything of the kind. I venture to say that no native of any class—official or mercantile—will exhibit the least surprise or dissatisfaction if he discovers that his foreign friends continue to remain on perfectly good terms with their wives. The ladies of Yokohama would labor under a sad misapprehension if they thought that the abolition of consular jurisdiction would inevitably be the signal for them to settle their affairs and pack their trunks, preparatory to being told "they may go," and that they are "not wanted any more." They must not be led astray by the groundless apprehension of a single individual. As regards the supposed fatiguing increase of labor which would fall upon the "already hard worked merchants," if the empire were thrown open,—the assumed necessity of "perambulating the country,"—that, also, is a visionary evil, the outgrowth of an incapacity to discriminate between the potential and the imperative conditions of a compact, or a notification. If the Japanese Government chooses to proclaim that foreigners may freely visit the interior, and trade there, the announcement need not be interpreted as a peremptory order for them to do so. They will be wholly at liberty to remain where they are and have been, in the open ports, if that suits them better. There will be no forcible suspension of trade in the settlements,—no closing of counting houses, or interruption to the existing methods of commercial intercourse. The ex-chairman of the Chamber of Commerce appears to see himself and others driven out into the by-ways and villages, "to dispute the vantage ground of local market places with their native competitors," "to buy at cottage doors the skeins of silk fresh from the reeling basins"; and permitted to dispose of their "yarns and shirtings," only on condition of being "brought face to face with the consumers." He does not appear to realize that this course of procedure would be entirely optional. There may be some among us whose poetic instincts would by no means be shocked at the pretty pastoral picture of the European merchant, escaped from the "hard worked" atmosphere of Yokohama drudgery, wandering blithely over lane and meadow, his pack well stored with alluring variety, and singing, like the prince of ideal peddlers, as he meets some shy and blushing customer "face to face,"—

"Will you buy any tape,
Or lace for your cape,
My dainty duck my dear-a?
Any silk, any thread,
Any toys for your head,
Of the news't and fin'st, fin'st wear-a?"

Many a delightful bargain, I dare say, might be consummated in this off-hand fashion; and if Autolycus in the Far East should diffidently distrust his aptitude for the new style of enterprise, an attentive study of "The Winter's Tale" would qualify him without further effort. From its pages he might learn how to "dispute the vantage ground of local market-places" with

"Lawn as white as driven snow"

and other gay commodities as flattering to the peasantry of modern Japan as to that of ancient Bohemia. But I presume, in the language of the ex-Chairman, that "any such ideas may at once be dismissed as impracticable." He, at least, would prefer to "carry on" his trade "within the confines of the open ports." There is not the slightest doubt that he can do so. Even if every other dealer in "yarns and shirtings" should rush, in headlong rivalry, to meet the rustic consumers "face to face," he alone, provided he can resist the contagion, may remain at his post, and resolutely conduct his business on the old principles and at the old stand. There will be no compulsion,—none whatever; either in the choice of locality for trading, on the one hand, or in the unloosening of marital ties, on the other. The gentlemen who entered this wide-spreading controversy in such close kinship of misconception may now retire from it, as free from all disquieting delusions as the twins of the comedy go forth from their error,—"like brother and brother; hand in hand, not one before another."

I am, yours, etc.

LIBERTAS.

Yokohama, April 2nd, 1884.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB.

A Special General Meeting of the above Club was held at the Club Hotel on Monday evening, at which about fifty members were present. Mr. BRYAN DURANT, the Chairman of the Committee, took the chair, and in opening the proceedings said that he did not think it necessary to read the minutes of the last meeting, but would proceed to business and ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting. (Read). He continued and said that sufficient members had signed the application calling the meeting. The proposed changes in the rules had been printed, and by them the constitution of the Club would be materially altered, the idea being to bring all the sports under one ruling body, as it would add to the popularity of the club. The Committee had received a letter signed by the majority of the members of the foot-ball Club advocating the amalgamation.

Mr. MILNE asked the Chairman whether the present meeting had power to alter the rules, as according to the bye-laws notice must be given before the 1st March.

The CHAIRMAN said that, under Rule 21, ten members could call a meeting, and after due consideration the Committee had allowed them to call the present one.

Mr. MILNE argued that a special meeting could not alter the bye-laws.

Mr. GROOM was of the opinion that the ruling of the Chairman was final, but if it was disputed he thought the question should be put to the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had discussed the question, and had called the meeting. The meeting was in order.

Mr. DODDS agreed with Mr. Milne. The question had frequently been discussed by the old Committee who had come to the decision that a special meeting could not alter the bye-laws.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think the new Committee were bound by the actions of the old one.

Mr. GROOM said that the Committee did not propose to alter the rules. They called the meeting and left the question to be decided by a majority of the members.

Mr. MILNE did not see what a majority had to do with the matter. If they altered the rules and found out afterwards that the meeting was informal the new rules would fall through.

The CHAIRMAN thought the best plan would be to put the question to the meeting. The meeting was called under Rule 21, as to Rule 24 regarding notice of any alteration having to be given before the 1st March and circulated among the members, this could only apply to the Annual General Meeting. He then put the question as to whether the present meeting was in order (carried by 20 to 13).

Mr. BARLOW wished it entered on the minutes that he and Mr. Milne had raised the question.

The CHAIRMAN said the scheme had been fully discussed by the press, he therefore had very little to say. The majority of the members of the Foot-ball Club and the Captain of the Base-ball Club had expressed their approbation of the scheme. It had been favourably received by nearly all the people who liked sport; they had received promises of donations amounting to \$310.00 for the purpose of enlarging the ground and improving the pavilion should the amalgamation be effected. He trusted that the members would look at the matter in an unselfish light, not giving undue preference to one particular sport, but would consider whether the union would not be beneficial to all.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, and Mr. HAMILTON seconded that Rule I. read:—

That the Club be called the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club.

Mr. BARLOW rose to order, and wished to have the ruling of the Chair. It appeared to him that if the rule were so altered it would amount to a dissolution of the Cricket Club, and the question arose could it be dissolved. In most clubs there was a

rule by which in case of bankruptcy, etc., the club could be dissolved, but in their bye-laws there was none. Again, how far could the majority of members force the minority to hand over their property which they had subscribed for for years, to a new Association which was not yet formed? Could the majority dissolve the Cricket Club and divide the property?

The CHAIRMAN said it was not proposed to dissolve the Cricket Club. This meeting was called under the rules, and it was only proposed to alter some of those rules.

Mr. BARLOW remarked that the Chairman had previously stated that the proposed alterations would materially alter the constitution of the Club.

The CHAIRMAN said a majority of the members had power to alter the constitution of the Club.

Mr. MILNE said that had the new Association proposed to take over the ground, pavilion, and material, and pay for it say \$2,000, he could understand it, but as it was, if the members who played cricket were ever in the minority it might be decided that there should be no cricket.

Mr. BARLOW again asked the Chairman to rule as to the power of the meeting.

Mr. KINGDON said that, to stop the discussion, he proposed that the opinion of the meeting be taken as to whether they should hear the proposed alterations.

Mr. WILSON seconded the proposition.

Mr. DODDS asked whether the proposers were prepared to force the alterations upon a minority of the members. He thought they would be unwise to do so, as they might lose several members.

Mr. GROOM said that if the majority were in favour of it they could get on without the others.

The CHAIRMAN said he had already given it as his opinion that a rule affecting the constitution of the Club could be passed by a majority of the members.

Mr. TOWNLEY thought it was their own property, and it was quite in the discretion of the meeting to decide what should be done with it.

Mr. Kingdon's proposition was then put and carried.

Mr. BARLOW did not think there was the slightest reason for altering the name of the Club even if the amalgamation scheme were carried out.

Mr. ABBOTT's proposition was then put and carried by 25 to 15.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, and Mr. MELLUISH seconded that Rule II. read:—

That the affairs of the Club be managed by a President and Committee of Fifteen Members, to be elected annually at a General Meeting to be held during March. Captains to have full control with regard to arrangements of their respective matches, and selection of their teams.

The following to constitute the Committee:—

THE PRESIDENT.
Cricket.
Captain of Eleven and two Members.
Base Ball.
Two Members.
Foot Ball.
Two Members.
Athletics.
Two Members.
Lawn Tennis.
Two Members.
The Hon.-Treasurer.
The Hon.-Secretary.

Mr. GROOM proposed an amendment that there be only a President and Committee of Ten, viz., President, Vice-President (to be Captain of Cricket) two members for Cricket, one Base Ball, one Foot Ball, one Athletics, one Lawn Tennis, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. KINGDON seconded the amendment, which was carried by 26 to 2.

Mr. DODDS presumed that, as they now had a President and Vice-President, one of them would take the chair at the meetings, but he would like to know, in the absence of both of them, who would be Chairman. This was the first time that the Chairman had not been elected by the meeting. It made a difference as to who was Chairman, as at the present meeting several questions had been decided by the chair which might have been ruled differently.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that, as

soon as the business was over, the resignation of the Committee was in the hands of the members. He was always under the impression that the Chairman of Committee took the chair at the meetings.

Mr. GROOM proposed a vote of confidence in the Chairman.

Mr. DODDS said he had not meant any reflection on the Chairman, he simply asked the question whether the Committee meant to make any proposition as to who should be Chairman in the event of both the President and Vice-President being absent.

Mr. GROOM said that, if he had misunderstood Mr. Dodds, he would withdraw his proposition and apologize.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, and Mr. ROBINSON seconded, that Rule III. read:—

That Seven Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

This was carried by 19 to 2.

Mr. ABBOTT then proposed, that Rule IV. read:—

That in the event of any vacancies occurring in the Committee, the remaining Members of the Committee shall have power to elect Members to fill such vacancies for the unexpired term of office.

This was seconded by Mr. ROBINSON.

Mr. DODDS proposed an amendment to the effect that in the case of a President the office shall be filled by a ballot among the members.

Mr. LITCHFIELD seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, and Mr. MELHUISH seconded, that Rule VI. read:—

That at all General or Special Meetings twenty shall form a quorum, the Chairman having a casting vote.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, and Mr. HAMILTON seconded, that Rule VIII. read:—

That non-resident Naval and Military Officers and visitors be eligible as Hon. Members, free of subscription for a period of one month, and for a further period on payment of a subscription of Two Dollars per month without Entrance fee.

Mr. PLAYFAIR proposed that the subscription be \$1.00 per month.

This was seconded by Mr. E. J. Moss, but upon being put to the meeting was lost.

The original proposition was then put and carried.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed, seconded by Mr. PLAYFAIR, that Rule IX. read:—

That the election of Members and Hon. Members be by ballot of the Committee, two black balls to exclude.

Carried.

Mr. BARLOW asked if the present Committee would not act till another had been elected.

Mr. COPE proposed that a ballot-box be open for a week at the pavilion.

Mr. MILNE seconded this proposition. He objected to the ballot being taken then as proper notice had not been given. Many of the members present were not prepared to vote, although no doubt the promoters of the scheme had come with their ticket all ready.

Mr. PLAYFAIR said it would be very inconvenient to have the ballot-box at the pavilion.

The CHAIRMAN ruled Mr. Cope's proposition out of order, as he had not given previous notice.

Mr. BARLOW wished the sense of the meeting to be taken on the question.

Mr. GORDON said they were not prepared to vote, some might vote for members who after being elected would not act and the votes would be thrown away. If the committee would act for a few days then everyone would know what he was doing.

The question was then put to the meeting, 23 being in favour of the election taking place at once and 12 against it.

The ballot was then taken which resulted as follows:—N. J. Hannen, Esq., President; B. Durant, Esq., Vice-President and Captain of Cricket; Messrs. Abbott, Melhuish (Cricket), Townley (Tennis), Sutter (Foot-ball), Samuels (Athletics), Hepburn (Base-ball), Robinson, Secretary, and Harris, Treasurer.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Club flannel and ribbon had arrived that day, and he hoped it was an omen of success to the new Club.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting adjourned.

REVIEW.*

We presume that the intention of the publishers in issuing a second edition of Mr. W. E. Keeling's "Tourists' Guide to Yokohama, Tokiyo, Hakone," &c., is to provide something cheaper and less bulky than the Guide Book of Messrs. Satow and Hawes. It seems a pity, however, that with such a source of information as the latter volume at hand, this smaller essay should not have been purged of its grosser blunders and inaccuracies. It does not, of course, pretend to be anything more than a guide book in the most ordinary sense of the word. Yet, apart from itineraries and maps, it embodies a great deal of useful information, none the less excellent because the matters enlarged upon are often of the commonest and most familiar nature. People writing about Japanese things after many years of residence and research, are apt to forget their own early impressions, and to pass over much that strikes the new-comer as novel and interesting. Mr. Keeling does not fall into this fault, and we should be the more obliged to him were it possible to avoid a suspicion that his good-natured simplicity marks the novice rather than the sympathetic man of knowledge. But when we find him gravely telling his readers that *Yoshiwara* means "good plain," that the most famous bridge in Tokiyo is called "Nihom-bashi," and that a bazaar is translated by *akrankai*, we are constrained to think that his consideration for very ignorant people is more the result of affinity than of study. There is one charming feature about his book: it is very old-fashioned. Thus, in describing the reception a foreign way-farer may expect to receive at a Japanese inn, after telling of the host or hostess bowing his or her head upon the floor by way of salutation; of the bringing out of the brazier and of the offer of tea and cakes, he proceeds thus:—"These preliminaries being attended to, the host, hostess, and servants attending upon the visitor enter, in succession, and bowing in the manner before described say: *Yoku irashaimashta*." Mr. Keeling has been fortunate in his travels. These successive bowings from host, hostess, and servants are not within the range of our experiences, and are probably to be reckoned among the extinct species of Japanese etiquette, so far as foreigners are concerned. Ceremony, however, is a small matter compared with comfort, and we could readily forgive the author for inculcating conventionalities were his advice equally sound in practical matters. But he is scarcely kind when he recommends the traveller "not to encumber himself with eatables when going into the interior; for unless an invalid or very particular, he will find at every respectable hotel, a sufficient variety of good and wholesome food to satisfy ordinary requirements." We trust that, for the present at all events, this counsel will not delude many unoffending wayfarers. Some of Mr. Keeling's theories are equally deluding. "*Gesha*, or dancing girls," he says,—*gesha*, by the way, does not mean "a dancing girl," but "to get out of a carriage"—"are an order of society in themselves, above the actors in social standing and about on a par with the concubines of the higher classes." How pleased the little *geisha* would be to hear, and how disgusted the actors and concubines of the higher classes! But Mr. Keeling is not particularly accurate. He writes thus, in another place:—"Until within the last few years, men and women, boys and girls, bathed together indiscriminately. But now in Tokiyo and other large towns, a railing divides the males from the females. This is only sufficient to prevent the mixing of the sexes, but not to screen them from being seen by each other." It would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to find a bath-house in Tokiyo answering to this description; nor have we ever met a Japanese who could recall

a time when the male and female bathers were divided only by a railing. Such a statement is on a par with the extraordinary assertion that the tableaux at Asakusa are made of wax. Mr. Keeling surely ought to know the difference between clay and wax. His historical knowledge, too, is occasionally somewhat mixed. Consider, for example, the following:—"Near this place happened the assassination of the Gotaïro, or Regent of Japan, March 23rd, 1860. The Shogun who concluded the treaty with the United States, died August 15th, 1878, and his remains were interred (*sic*) at Ueno. As his successor was a boy of only 12 years, Ii Kamon no Kami was appointed Regent. His arbitrary and domineering conduct roused the wrath of the *daimios*. Sixteen *ronins* (wanderers without a master) determined to put an end to the existence of one they considered so odious," etc. That the Minister Ii, having been assassinated in 1860, should have served the successor of a Shogun who died in 1878, is a startling piece of history, but that the real motive of the Regent's murder should be described as above, is even more surprising. Mr. Keeling is not, however, always so unfortunate. His information is generally correct, and of a thoroughly useful nature to passing tourists: his maps are clear, and the volume is of a handy size. At the same time it must be confessed that, having regard to the almost immediate issue of a second edition of Messrs. Satow and Hawes' Guide Book, this reprint of Mr. Keeling's compilation does not seem likely to be a financial success.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE NEW FIRE BRIGADE.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

During this year's session of the Tokiyo Fu Assembly, the Government submitted certain bills for discussion relating to the improvement of the method of extinguishing fires, and the expenses incurred in adopting the improved system. These bills were passed with alterations of only minor importance, to the unbounded gratification of every resident in the Capital. Our readers are only too familiar with the fact that Tokiyo is annually the scene of immense conflagrations, and that the misery of the sufferers from these calamities is great. It is popularly said that, if the number of houses burnt every year be compared with the whole number of dwellings in Tokiyo, it will be found that the Capital is reduced to ashes once in every seven years. Though this may be somewhat exaggerated, it proves, at least, the immense destruction by fire that annually occurs in Tokiyo. According to the Government returns, the number of fires in the Capital since the establishment of the Police Bureau in 1874 up to the end of 1883 amounted to 3,224. Out of these, 2,645 were speedily extinguished; 257 resulted in the destruction of the houses in which they originated; and 322 spread to other houses. The number of houses burnt to the ground was 67,185, covering an area of 674,677 *tsubo*.* Granting that the average value of one *tsubo* is 28.91 *yen*, the actual loss by fire amounts to 18,507,150.44 *yen*. Besides this, 115 lives were lost. And so a simple calculation will show that annually 6,700 houses are destroyed, worth upwards of 1,950,000 *yen*. This is, indeed, a most serious matter.

It is true that the Police Bureau has done all in its power to suppress conflagrations, and that the fire brigades as well as all the members of the Police have readily risked their lives in combatting the flames,—the public has ever acknowledged their untiring exertions,—but the Capital is, nevertheless, constantly exposed to the risk of great conflagrations. This can only be ascribed to the want of the necessary fire-extinguishing apparatus

and the defective system adopted. Our Government therefore proposes to dig new wells; to buy improved engines; to alter the organization of the fire brigades, and to pay for the services of the firemen; and has, finally, appropriated 50,000 *yen* towards defraying the necessary expenses. With these plans the Government sought the approval of the City Assembly. It must, however, be remembered that forty thousand *yen* of the above mentioned sum are to be disbursed at once, the remaining ten thousand *yen* to be added year by year as necessity demands. And the members of our City Assembly, who have acquired great skill and experience in such matters, did not hesitate to approve the proposals of the Government, although, as a rule, they are inclined to reduce the amount of proposed appropriations. In doing as they have done they have showed themselves worthy of the confidence of the residents. According to the new system adopted, it appears that the firemen are to be divided into forty, instead of thirty, brigades, each brigade to consist of fifty men instead of seventy as formerly: six stations, with branch-stations, are to be formed in fifty-seven different localities. Each station will have twelve men; each branch-station ten men; while twenty men will stay at the head-quarters. Two of the force in each branch station must patrol the section under the immediate supervision of their station. Whenever a fire breaks out, some of the men at the head-quarters must proceed at once to the spot in a carriage, in order to render assistance and call together the men from other stations. According to these provisions, at least one brigade may be expected to arrive at a fire within two minutes of its breaking out; while seven or eight other brigades can reach the spot in less than six minutes. During the winter season, 662 men out of a total of 2,000 will be in constant attendance. The former system of extinguishing fires, by means of a *tobiguchi*, a kind of small pick-axe, and weak pumps, which were chiefly instrumental in keeping the clothes of the firemen moist, is to be abolished. Two handy hoses, which can be managed by five or six men, are to be provided for each brigade; while two hundred and ten wells are to be dug in the three urban divisions of Nihonbashi, Kiyobashi, and Kanda. The firemen are to be properly clothed, and will receive pecuniary compensation in case they sustain any injury, and their families will receive the same in case of death. Good service will be rewarded in a similar manner.

We do not doubt for a moment that, if the new system be carried out, that fires in the Capital will be more quickly extinguished than ever before. In the days of the Shogunate, there was a special fire brigade in Tokiyo known as the *Fiunin Hikeshi* (Ten-men Brigade). This brigade received an allowance of 112 bags of rice, and had stations in Iida-machi, Akasaka, Hanzo, Ichigaya, Surugadai, Tameike, Ochano-midzu, and Yayosugashi. Each station had several tens of firemen, who were commanded by thirty policemen and six head-constables. Ten officers were further chosen from among the *Hatamoto*, who were to be present and assist in extinguishing conflagrations. Again, there was another brigade styled the *Daimiyo Hikeshi*. This brigade was supported by the Daimiyo in various provinces whose income exceeded ten thousand *koku* of rice. The members of this brigade kept watch at the following places:—the great gate of the Castle, the Sakurada gate, the citadel of *Ninomaru*, the parks at Momijiyama and Fukiage, the rice-godowns at Asakusa and Hongo, the timber-yards at Saruye, and the buildings of the Seidō School. The Zōjoji and Ueno temples were placed under the care of the great Dukes, while four Earls were ordered to look after the fire brigade at the great gate of the Castle, and another four were required to superintend the Sakurada brigade.

The stations of the firemen under the direction of these Earls were established in several places,

* "Tourists Guide to Yokohama, Tokiyo, Hakone, Fujiyama, Kamakura, Yokoska, Kanazawa, Narita, Nikko, Kioto, Ōsaka, Kobe," etc., compiled by W. E. L. Keeling, M.A., 2nd Edition, revised and enlarged. A. Farsari & Co., No. 80, Main Street, Yokohama.

* About 562 acres.

while they themselves kept men in their own mansions, in proportion to the amount of rice they received from their estates; and thus held themselves ready to render assistance whenever a fire broke out within a distance of four or five *cho* (about 600 yards). Besides these brigades, there were forty-eight companies of firemen in the Capital, who were maintained by local taxes levied upon the residents in the various streets. The total number of firemen in the metropolis was very large. But from the time of the Restoration up to the present date, there have been only forty-eight brigades upon which we could rely. Although these men were sufficient in number to suppress the breaking out of serious conflagrations, especially with the help of the police and the gallant exertions of the firemen, it is not to be wondered at that the results were far from being satisfactory. Now that the Government has devised a new system, matters look decidedly brighter. Although the City Assembly slightly diminished the amount of the appropriation originally suggested by the Government, as well as the number of wells to be dug, the new system has introduced considerable improvements; and we most sincerely trust that the result will be eminently satisfactory.

THE EMPEROR'S PALACE.

(Translated from the *Meiji Nippo*.)

After the great work of the Restoration was accomplished, Tokiyo became the capital of the empire and the internal administration of the country was remodelled. Yet His Majesty the Emperor has lived in a temporary palace for more than ten years. Is there even one Japanese subject who is content with the condition of His Majesty's present residence, or who does not desire to see the Imperial comfort better consulted? On the contrary, his people are animated by no wish more earnest than that of constructing for him a palace worthy of the respectful gratitude they owe him. Not only do they remember that the comfort and repose of their Emperor and his descendants depend, in great measure, on the nature of the palace, but they also wish that the building shall not disgrace their country in the eyes of foreign nations. Considerations of domestic and foreign policy alike dictate the construction of a handsome and spacious building suited to His Majesty's state and requirements. Under no circumstances can we be content with his present temporary residence. The Cabinet, fully sensible of all this, took steps some years ago to construct a suitable palace. But the magnitude and importance of the work forbade anything like precipitancy. Plans and projects were frequently changed, so that those responsible for the undertaking might not be open to a charge of having proceeded without due thought. We, on our side, devoted our editorial columns to advocating the advisability of constructing a sumptuous palace, and the same opinion was expressed by the *Fiyu Shimbu*, which urged that the building should be substantial as well as handsome. It thus appeared that public sentiment was unanimous on the subject. The Cabinet, after mature consideration, resolved to increase the appropriation for the building to fifteen million *yen*, and the work was finally commenced. A few days ago, however, there reached us information of such a nature that we find no way to express our admiration and gratitude for His Majesty's benevolence. It appears that the Emperor recently paid a visit to the place where the work is in progress, and after inspecting the plans and such portions of the foundations as are completed, began to show signs of grave dissatisfaction. He remained silent for several moments, but at last, calling to his side one of the high officials who were in attendance, enquired how much the building was to cost. The official respectfully replied that the estimate was fifteen million *yen*. The Emperor frowningly asked why the original design has been so much increased in

magnitude. To this the official made no answer, and the other dignitaries who were present stood equally silent for some time. At length, the situation becoming irksome, one of them stepped forward and said:—"Your Majesty's question causes us some embarrassment, but we pray Your Majesty to remember that all countries, whether great or small, Occidental or Oriental, are possessed of palaces, characterized by grandeur and beauty, for the residence of their sovereigns. Your Majesty's Council accordingly decided that Your Majesty's palace must be constructed on a scale demanding an expenditure of fifteen million *yen*." It is said that at these words a flush of indignation rose to the Emperor's brow, and that he addressed the attendant officials in tones of grave command, as follows:—"So far as I can judge from what I see and hear, the condition of my people is by no means so happy as I could wish, nor are the sovereign rights of my Kingdom recognized fully abroad. Under these circumstances, I cannot permit myself to live luxuriously in a splendid palace. The efficient maintenance of the prerogatives handed down to me by my ancestors does not depend upon the beauty of my residence. Should it be my good fortune to succeed in augmenting the prosperity and strength of my country, I may hereafter think of constructing a magnificent palace. When that time comes, it will not be at all too late to undertake the work. I desire, therefore, that the plans of this building be at once altered, so that the total cost may not exceed two and half million *yen*. Let my wishes be made known to the officers charged with the execution of the work." The Emperor expressed himself with the utmost clearness and decision, and the officials in attendance were deeply moved by the Imperial benevolence.

History contains many examples of the practice of frugality by wise monarchs of antiquity, whose abstinence from all manner of indulgence won for them a high reputation. Ostentation and grandeur are characteristics of foreign architecture, and the simple tastes of our Emperor must excite not less admiration among the high officials of the Government than among us, His Majesty's humble servants. His Majesty observed, as we have said, that since the happiness of his people is not such as he deems satisfactory, and since the national prestige is not extended, he cannot be content to undertake the construction of a magnificent palace destined to promote his own welfare only. These sentiments ought to act as a powerful incentive to those charged with the conduct of our domestic and foreign policy. The nation must strive to hasten the day when its Sovereign will be able to have a suitable residence. What steps will the Government take with this end? The present palace is only temporary, and ought to be replaced by a permanent building as soon as possible. Yet, however splendid a palace may be built, the Imperial mind cannot be at rest unless our home and foreign affairs are in a satisfactory condition. On the other hand, if the plans now adopted be not such as the nation thinks worthy, the National Assembly, which is to be convened at no very distant date, may censure the Government. The people's representatives will remember that the palace is the place where their Sovereign and his family reside, and will desire to see it spacious and handsome. They will ask why it was not constructed on a scale worthy of the country's loyalty, and whether the question of expense was allowed to interfere. They will say that things are not now as they were in old times, when the people had to participate in the construction of palaces by forced labour; that, the expenses being disbursed by the Treasury, there ought to be no lack of funds; that though the Emperor forbade any extravagance or magnificence, his object was simply to save the people expense, and to obey those instincts of virtue and benevolence which distinguish a great Sovereign; and that his sympathy for his subjects ought to make it impossible

for them to be content with such an insignificant palace for their Sovereign. The representatives will feel that the nation will not pardon any faithlessness or want of loyalty to an Emperor who has shown himself so benevolent and virtuous, and while expressing the utmost respect for His Majesty's wishes, they will pray him to let them carry out their purpose in a manner worthy of the feelings that animate them. "It is our duty," they will say, "to place the welfare of the Emperor above that of our wives and children, above even our own lives; questions of a pecuniary nature ought to have no weight whatever, in such a matter"; and they will deem the Cabinet deserving of censure for having consented to construct a palace unworthy to be His Majesty's residence. It is not unlikely that the proceedings of our National Assembly in this affair will offer a strong contrast to the utterances sometimes heard in Western parliaments on the subject of the expense of royalty. We look, at least, for that degree of loyalty and disinterestedness in an assembly of our country's representatives. The Cabinet is, therefore, placed in a difficult position. Its undoubted desire is to build a palace that will satisfy the nation's loyal sentiments, and yet the Emperor's wishes must be respected. On the other hand, so far as the people are concerned, this expression of His Majesty's benevolence will still further strengthen their grateful purpose.

THE RISE OF RICE AND FALL OF SILVER.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpo*.)

The experience of the last two or three years has clearly proved that the price of silver and rice are closely connected; that when silver is appreciated rice goes up in value, and when silver is depreciated rice falls, too, as a matter of course. But the market now presents an altogether different phenomenon. During the past few days, when silver fell to abnormally low quotations, rice showed a decidedly upward tendency; even yet, though silver is still quoted at 110, or in that neighbourhood, rice holds firm. This is too surprising a circumstance to admit of any ready explanation. We have in vain directed our attention to the market-reports of the local districts, but they all tell the same tale,—the farmers are unwilling to sell, and keep the market tight. The term for the payment of the land-tax was to end with last month, and it was very generally expected that the farmers would make large sales, and so this universal reluctance to sell caused us great anxiety. We have, however, found a possible explanation of this strange state of the market. Ever since last year, wheat has gradually gone up in value, owing to the increased demand for export, while barley and beans have fetched considerably higher prices owing to their scarcity. The farmers have taken advantage of this opportunity and paid the last instalments of the land-taxes by selling wheat and other cereals, and, having done so, find no need to cast their rice on the market. They have determined, therefore, to hold out for their quotations, and will shortly rule the market. Very little rice has reached the market, nor will a large business be done until the staple commands a still higher price than it does at present. We do not, however, affirm that this is the true explanation of the present phenomenal condition of the market, but would rather let the public form its own opinion.

THE RICE HARVEST OF 1883.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpo*.)

The subjoined statistics of the rice harvest of 1883 have been compiled by the National Debt Bureau from the reports of each local government office; and, as these offices have made particular inquiries with regard to the yield of every rural district within their jurisdiction, the tables are beyond all doubt correct. These statistics are all the more deserving of notice as the importance of the

annual harvests in connection with the political economy of every nation cannot be too highly estimated. The crops in some of the provinces were, last year, very poor, owing to long-continued drought, while other provinces enjoyed an abundant harvest. Among the former were Yamato, Kawachi, Idzumi, Settsu, Shima, Tamba, Tango, Oki, Kii (in Wakayama Prefecture), and Tsushima; among the latter, Suruga, Sagami, Musashi, (in Kanagawa Prefecture), Shimosa (in Chiba Prefecture), Kodzuke, Iwashiro, Suwo, Awa, Iyo, Tosa, Chikuzen, Chikugo, Buzen, and Bungo. Shima and Tsushima experienced actual famine. Lands bordering on lakes and swamps, as well as marsh land, which are always sure of a good supply of water, yielded an unusually fine harvest; and so the good crops in many of the provinces more than balanced the poor crops in others. On the whole, last year's harvest fell only slightly short of that of the year before.

PROVINCES.	HARVEST OF 1883.	HARVEST AS COMPARED WITH THE AVERAGE YIELD.	HARVEST OF 1883 AS COMPARED WITH 1882.
Yamashiro .....	.64	20.00 decrease	.83
Yamato .....	.54	32.50 decrease	.85
Kawachi .....	.48	40.00 decrease	.77
Idzumi .....	.38	52.50 decrease	1.16
Settsu .....	.55	31.25 decrease	.89
Iga .....	.69	13.75 decrease	.70
Ise .....	.81	1.25 increase	.73
Shima .....	.57	28.75 decrease	.81
Owari .....	.80	Even	.94
Mikawa .....	.84	5.00 increase	.74
Totomi .....	.83	3.75 increase	.81
Suruga	1.03	28.75 increase	1.08
Kai .....	.98	22.50 increase	.78
Idzu .....	.80	Even	.68
Sagami	1.19	48.75 increase	1.08
Musashi .....	.98	22.50 increase	.97
Awa .....	.75	6.25 decrease	.98
Kadzusa .....	.89	11.25 increase	.90
Shimosa .....	.97	21.25 increase	.91
Shitachi .....	.92	15.00 increase	.85
Omi .....	.71	11.25 decrease	.77
Mino .....	.94	17.50 increase	.74
Hida .....	.96	20.00 increase	.70
Shinano .....	.95	18.75 increase	.78
Kodzuke	1.02	27.50 increase	.95
Shimotsuke .....	.87	8.75 increase	.88
Iwaki .....	.92	15.00 increase	.90
Iwashiro	1.00	25.00 increase	.88
Rikuzen .....	.97	21.25 increase	1.06
Rikuchiu .....	.87	8.75 increase	.75
Rikuoku .....	.86	7.50 increase	.93
Uzen .....	.90	12.50 increase	.93
Ugo .....	.94	17.50 increase	.93
Wakasa .....	.77	3.73 decrease	.71
Yechizen .....	.89	11.25 increase	.91
Kaga .....	.95	18.75 increase	.94
Noto .....	.81	1.25 increase	1.00
Yechiu .....	.86	7.50 increase	.99
Yechigo .....	.87	8.75 increase	.91
Sado .....	.89	11.26 increase	.76
Tango .....	.63	21.25 decrease	.81
Tamba .....	.57	28.75 decrease	.76
Tashima .....	.71	11.25 decrease	.70
Inaba .....	.78	2.50 decrease	.81
Hoki .....	.78	2.50 decrease	.74
Idzumo .....	.69	13.75 decrease	.74
Iwami .....	.64	20.00 decrease	1.02
Oki .....	.55	31.25 decrease	.63
Harima .....	.72	10.00 decrease	.84
Mimasaka .....	.61	23.75 decrease	.77
Bizen .....	.67	16.25 decrease	.87
Bichiu .....	.60	25.00 decrease	.80
Bingo .....	.65	18.75 decrease	.86
Aki .....	.72	10.00 decrease	1.08
Suwo	1.10	37.50 increase	1.07
Nagato .....	.93	16.25 increase	.90
Kii .....	.51	36.25 decrease	.73
Iwaji .....	.69	13.75 decrease	.87
Awa	1.00	25.00 increase	.83
Sanuki .....	.79	1.25 decrease	.89
Iyo	1.08	35.00 increase	.85
Tosa	1.04	30.00 increase	.73
Chikuzen	1.05	31.25 increase	.80
Chikugo	1.17	46.25 increase	.88
Buzen .....	.97	21.25 increase	.79
Bungo	1.02	27.50 increase	.80
Hizen .....	.92	15.00 increase	.80
Higo .....	.98	22.50 increase	.83
Hiuga .....	.92	15.00 increase	.72
Osumi .....	.71	11.25 decrease	.82
Satsuma .....	.91	13.75 increase	.95
Iki .....	.63	21.25 decrease	—
Tsushima .....	.49	38.75 decrease	—
Average .....	.86	7.50 increase	.87

NOTE.—In this table 100 represents a yield of 1 koku 5 to each tan of land: an unusually good harvest. The average yield is reckoned eight-tenths of this amount. Therefore, .64 means 64 per cent. of the highest yield.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM SÖUL.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*).

The following intelligence reached us from Söul on the 30th of last month:—Since the latter part of 1882, more than 900 Chinese troops have been stationed in the Great Court of Söul, and relieved from time to time by fresh detachments sent out from China. Some time ago, however, these troops were enrolled as a permanent guard. As not a few of these soldiers were regular ruffians and even committed flagrant robbery, the King, seeing no other way of preventing his subjects from being constantly exposed to their criminal proclivities, compelled Go-kei-cho, the Commander of the Chinese forces, to disband his men. This happened towards the close of last year. The troops in the Court at present consist of Koreans trained either by the Japanese or Chinese. There is still another company of Imperial Guards which has been already a long time in existence; these men are exceedingly bitter against the troops trained under Chinese supervision, all the more so as the arrogance of the latter's behaviour is constantly increasing. So there are at least three different bodies of troops in the capital, each of which hates the other, and many people are apprehensive of a serious outbreak.

The natives trained after Chinese fashion are put down at about 900; some six hundred of these carry bayonet-rifles, while the rest are armed with old-fashioned spears and bill-hooks. This force is known as the "Right Royal Regiment." Out of the 500 men trained in the Japanese military system, about 300 carry rifles, the others having no fire-arms; they are called the "Left Royal Regiment." A few weeks ago, when the King inspected the former regiment, the sole difference noticeable between them and the old-style Korean troops was that they carried bayonets and wore hats. They showed no signs of respect, nor did they salute, on the approach of the King; but, after he had returned to the Palace, the regimental trumpeters broke out into the most curious martial music. A few days after this event, the King inspected the Left Royal Regiment. On this occasion all the men carried knapsacks and were drawn up in strict military order, presenting a fine appearance. Immediately after the arrival of the King, the soldiers saluted him in right military style, to the unbounded satisfaction of His Majesty. He then proceeded to open one of the knapsacks and asked a number of questions as to its use and contents, and treated the officers with marked courtesy. Shortly afterwards, the King ordered the commanding officer, Kan-kei-shok, of the Japanese troops to purchase two hundred additional rifles and knapsacks. At all events, the Left Regiment has gained great prestige, and the perfect indifference the soldiers show to the challenges of the envious Right Regiment has added not a little to their reputation. But ever since the royal review, petty quarrels have been of almost hourly occurrence.

Go-kei-cho, the commander of the Chinese troops, will shortly return to China, but the troops will remain in the capital. He is very popular with the natives, and his influence has had considerable effect in quelling the disorderly spirit of his men. Nevertheless, several wealthy citizens have sent their families to remote districts in anticipation of the serious disturbances that are sure to follow the absence of the commander.

The Chinese shops in the capital are increasing in number, but the traders combine gross malpractices with their legitimate business. Four of these shops were recently closed by order of the Government, and one trader was decapitated and his head exposed to public gaze on the Naima Bridge. Most of the traders are almost without capital, and their stores are but scantily furnished with saleable articles. Their victims are generally women and little girls, for the traders rarely let one of the weaker sex out of their shops without having possessed themselves of all their pocket-money. The Governor of the capital recently requested the Chinese consul to put an end to these flagrant evils. Robbery is rife everywhere after dark, and it is as much as one's life is worth to walk through the streets after nightfall. It is true that an occasional Chinese soldier strolls through the thoroughfares, and a sentinel of the same nationality is posted at every corner,—but the current belief is that these fine fellows are themselves chiefly instrumental in despoiling the citizens of their property.

JAPANESE FINANCE.

The Yokohama papers bring two very important notifications which have just been published by the Japanese Government. They relate to the extension of railway construction in Japan, and to the bringing of the paper currency to par as a preliminary step to the ultimate resumption of specie payments. Two new internal loans are to be issued, one for 20,000,000 yen (say £3,700,000), the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the railway works, while the other, for an indefinite amount, is simply for the redemption of as much paper as the loan itself may ultimately amount to. The railway loan is also obviously designed to be a means of bringing the paper up to par, for though it may be subscribed for in paper it is to be redeemable by annual drawings within thirty years, in silver or "its equivalent." Interest is to be paid at the rate of 7 per cent., and one important provision is that the bonds, unlike those of former internal loans, may be held by foreigners either as subscribers, purchasers, transferees, or as lenders to the owners. It is not considered probable that foreigners will subscribe for Japanese railway bonds, but it is considered probable that they will accept them as securities for advances to natives. The removal of the old conservative restriction may be accepted as an indication of growing financial enlightenment in Japan—at least it indicates the desire of the Government to facilitate the raising of the loan by enabling the Japanese practically to use the capital they may invest in it in ordinary trade, or, in other words, to enable them to substitute foreign capital for the native capital invested in the railways, and thus as far as possible prevent any stringency on this account. The plan devised is in fact an indirect way of utilising foreign capital as far as may be necessary in the construction of railways. As for the currency loan, it is to be subscribed in paper, but both the principal and interest are to be repayable in silver. On this loan 6 per cent. interest is to be paid.

For some considerable time past we have occasionally directed attention to the special efforts which were apparently being made in Japan to bring the paper up to par. The Government is believed to have been inspired by the success of the Italian Government in resuming specie payments. The Mikado's Government since its establishment has been compelled to sustain itself by means of paper money. There has practically been no check to its powers of issue, and hence the exchangeable value of the currency of the country, and general prices have been to a large extent at its mercy, and have fluctuated in accordance with its necessities or the manipulations in which the various Ministers of Finance may have thought it desirable to indulge. Even such a severe critic of Japanese finance as the *Japan Herald* admits, however, that, considering what the Government has had to do and the difficulties it has had to encounter, "it has only abused its powers to a moderate extent," compared with other paper-issuing Governments. The Mikado's Government has had to satisfy the creditors of the Daimios, to buy up and extinguish feudal rights, to pay its own way, and to develop the new civilisation. Specie enough was got together to pay the foreign creditors of the Daimios, but the native claimants had to accept bonds payable over periods more or less remote and bearing different rates of interest, or paper money which speedily fell to a discount. According to the last financial statement the national debt represented by bonds, paper money, and foreign loans, less reserve and other funds in hand, amounted to 262,004,649 yen. Of this total the paper money, including the issues of the national banks, is stated to represent about 138,000,000 yen, the amount of the strictly Government paper (*Kinatsu*) included in this latter sum being 98,000,000 yen, say about £18,000,000 sterling. It is argued that the country really needs about 100,000,000 yen in paper for the purpose of circulation, and, therefore, should the Government succeed in borrowing the balance (or in other words, the amount of the National Bank circulation), the remainder would be naturally maintained at par. As the railway loan is to amount to 20,000,000 yen, it follows that the currency loan is expected to be an equivalent sum. The Government would thus practically call in about 40,000,000 yen, against which interest-bearing bonds would be issued; and the paper circulation being thus

relieved of redundancy, it would, it is believed, acquire and maintain its full value. Resumption would thus be practically achieved, the only additional step required being the provision and maintenance of a moderate metallic reserve to meet any special demands for coin which might occasionally arise. This being done the paper might be declared convertible at will.

The operation seems to reduce itself, therefore, into a conversion of the excess of paper currency extant into bonds. The paper thus obtained will be presumably destroyed, and the bonds will be transferable to foreigners, so that foreign capital may, as far as the requirements of trade go, flow in to fill any void which an absorption of capital in railway construction may cause. The operation will of course really amount to a contraction of the currency, but this has been already partly accomplished by the operations of the Government during the past two years in forcing up the exchange value of the paper. Two years ago the paper was quoted at 170 per \$100 silver. The quotation advised by the mail is 109. The paper therefore already stands, comparatively speaking, almost at par. The method by which the Government has brought about this improvement, which has been the continuous work of the past two years, is not quite clear. It seems probable that a considerable amount of paper must have been locked up on its account through the agency of the banks, and that it has meanwhile accumulated liabilities which will be discharged by the issue of the bonds. If this be so it seems not unlikely that the Government may make a considerable profit by the operation, as it will have obtained the paper at its depreciated price and will discharge some, at least, of its liabilities at the par price. It may be remembered that the Nippon Ginko, which is virtually the Government bank, lately announced that it would allow 4 per cent. for deposits in paper and only 2 per cent. for deposits in silver. The precise object of their remarkable proposal is not quite clear, but it seems probable that it was partly designed to facilitate the locking-up of the paper. Meanwhile trade has been brought almost to a standstill. The process has been too arbitrary and rapid, and widespread ruin and distress have been the consequence. The growing scarcity of the paper currency and its rise in value have caused all native prices which are quoted in terms of paper to decline. Debtors have been rendered unable to meet their obligations; landed property has fallen in price enormously—in Fukushima 27 per cent., in Minami 33 per cent., in Kofu 70 per cent., and in Aichi 100 per cent. The Government in its turn may suffer to some extent, for the railway receipts have fallen off, farmers have petitioned to be allowed to pay the land tax in kind, and the revenue has declined. The paralysing influence of the contraction, however, appears to have been all along increased by want of confidence in its continuance, or, in other words, in the continuance of the improved value of the paper. There has been a feeling that the whole action of the Government was artificial, and that the paper which was being withdrawn might at any moment be thrown into circulation again. Thus not only has everybody hesitated to buy in the face of a constant decline of prices, but they have also hesitated to sell lest the buying or exchange-power of the paper received in payment should itself fall again. Now, however, that the Government has apparently announced its definite intention of fixing the value of the paper about par, and is adopting perfectly intelligible and definite measures to assure that end, a general improvement of trade may be expected. Assuming that the measures proposed are honestly carried out and that no ulterior design exists, one great drawback to Japanese trade—a constant fluctuation of the currency, which has made all trading operations uncertain and has even exposed them to the machinations of the native gamblers in exchange—will be got rid of, and a steady basis of operations will exist. Silver may be expected to get gradually into circulation, and ultimately the two forms of currency may become convertible at any time. If this is to be the case—that is, if all prices are practically to be silver prices—wages, rents, and in fact all native prices and charges will have to fall to the equivalent of the par value of the paper. But this has already taken place to a considerable extent and, in the end will not be a disadvantage, for the buying-power of the paper will of course be proportionately increased. The former paper prices were practically inflated prices resting on an inflated currency. Should the new loans prove successful and the paper withdrawn be destroyed, it seems reasonable to expect that the long-existing dead-lock in Japanese trade will be terminated and that an immediate improvement will set in. The proposed extension of the railway system may also be expected to give an impulse to trade and to contribute to the further development of the country.—*Manchester Guardian*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 5th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

The Secretary of State for War, in reply to a question in the House, said that, if General Gordon was in jeopardy, assistance would have to be sent to him, but in any other case the evacuation of the Soudan would be adhered to.

London, April 6th.

THE UNIVERSITY BOATRACE.

The University Boatrace was won easily by Cambridge.

London, April 7th.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

The French troops have commenced to advance on Hung-hoa, and a determined resistance is expected.

London, April 8th.

EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE.

In the House of Commons, the Bill for the Extension of the Franchise was read a second time. The Parnellites voted with the majority, which was 130.

London, 5th April, 5 p.m.

Cotton, $\frac{1}{2}$ higher; Mid. Upland, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. Yarns, market strong at the advance. Shirtings, market firm. Silk, dull; price unaltered.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 25th March.

THE REFORM BILL.

On the resumption of the debate on the Reform Bill Lord John Manners proposed an amendment that the debate be adjourned till next week, which was carried upon a division.

London, 27th March.

THE ADVANCE OF THE BRITISH FORCE IN THE SOUDAN.

Despatches from the front state that, owing to the intense heat, the British troops have had to halt midway between Suakim and Tamanib. Four hundred of the troops were prostrated. A cavalry reconnaissance has had a skirmish with the enemy.

London, 28th March.

THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN.

Latest advices state that Osman Digna has burned the town of Tamanib, and that both he and his followers have fled to the mountains.

The British troops are returning and will shortly embark for England and Egypt.

London, 29th March.

THE LATE DUKE OF ALBANY.

Intelligence has been received in London that the Duke of Albany fell down suddenly at the Nautical Club, and is believed to have died of apoplexy.

[FROM THE "STRAITS TIMES."]

London, 17th March.

THE FRENCH ADVANCE IN TONQUIN.

The French Press approve of the advance on Lang-son. Two columns have commenced to advance.

London, 18th March.

UTTER ROUT OF THE CHINESE TROOPS IN TONQUIN.

The French have overtaken and utterly routed the Chinese regular troops, and have captured all their arms, ammunition, and standards.

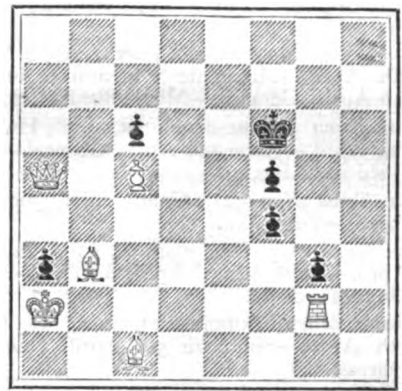
London, 19th March.

The French troops have ceased pursuing the Chinese.

CHESS.

By C. CALLANDER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 5th April, 1884,
By HERR J. KOHTZ, of Brunswick.

White.

Black.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.—Q. to Q. 6. | 1.—R. takes R. |
| 2.—Q. to Q. 4 ch. | 2.—K. to K. B. 4. |
| 3.—Q. to K. B. 4, mate. | if 1.—K. to K. B. 4. |
| 2.—B. to Q. 4. | 2.—B. to K. Kt. 3. |
| 3.—Q. to K. 5, mate. | (2, any other move |
| Q. mates at K. B. 4.) | if 1.—K. takes P. |
| 2.—B. to K. B. 4 ch. | 2.—K. to K. B. 7. |
| 3.—Q. to Q. 4, mate. | |

Correct answer received from "W.H.S."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, April 15th.
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe } per M. B. Co.	Thursday, April 17th.
From America ... per P. M. Co.	Friday, April 18th.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Monday, April 21st.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on March 29th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co.	Thursday, April 10th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co.	Saturday, April 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 13th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... } per M. B. Co.	Wednesday, April 16th.
For America per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 27th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.00; First-class, yen 1.78; Third-class, sen 89.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 5th April,—Kobe 2nd April, General.—Nakamura-sha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 5th April,—Hakodate 2nd and Oginohama 4th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 7th April,—Kobe 5th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Dai-ni Teibo Kan (4), Commander Jogo, 7th April,—Yokosuka.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 7th April,—Yokkaichi 5th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 7th April,—Shimidzu 5th April, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 8th April,—Yokkaichi 7th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 8th April,—Shimidzu 7th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 8th April,—Hongkong 1st April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 9th April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 9th April,—Hongkong 31st March via Nagasaki Kobe and, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 9th April,—Toba 7th April, General.—Yamamoto-sha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 10th April,—Yokkaichi 8th April, General.—Handasha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 10th April,—Yokkaichi 7th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 328, Okuma, 10th April,—Sendai 8th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tsuraga Maru, Japanese steamer, 624, Hussey, 5th April,—Korea via Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Idzumi, 5th April,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 6th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 6th April,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 6th April,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Omura, 7th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 7th April,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 7th April,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 8th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 8th April,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Annapolis, British bark, 915, J. Woodworth, 9th April,—New York via Kobe, General.—Paul, Heinemann & Co.

Frank Pendleton, American ship, 1,362, E. P. Nicholas, 9th April,—Victoria, B.C., General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 9th April,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Stella, Russian schooner, 44, Isaacs, 9th April,—Kurile Islands.—F. Retz.

Sumincye Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Frahm, 9th April,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 9th April,—Kobe, General.—Nakamura-sha.

Claymore, British steamer, 1,667, Gulland, 9th April,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 9th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 9th April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 9th April,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 10th April,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Asahi Maru*, from Kobe:—29 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—7 Japanese in cabin; and 95 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Jones, Townsend, Mulder, Hodnett, Iwamura, Kono, Itakura, Oyasada, Hayakawa, Nakaguchi, Uchida, Watanabe, Hirado, and Fujimi in cabin; and 1 European and Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—83 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—22 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. B. Raymond, Miss Emma Bingham, and Mr. F. E. Woodruff in cabin; and 1 European and 451 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Admiral Yenomoto, Madame Yenomoto and 3 children, Governor Kitagaki, Commander and Mrs. O. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Murata, Mrs. Tonomura, Mrs. Fujioka and child, Miss Fujioka, Messrs. W. W. Carlile, W. H. Minnock, H. M. Fraser, J. M. Forbes, Jun., Thos. Pollard, H. Clyma, A. Stewart, J. H. Coombs, Hasegawa, H. Kobayashi, Kobayashi, Ohtsubo, Sano, and Ikeda in cabin; and 1 European, 5 Chinese, and 212 Japanese in steerage. For Liverpool: Messrs. W. A. Anderson and Wm. Dobie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Major and Mrs. Patterson, Miss Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hoy, Messrs. Weed, Sanked, Walter, Young, Smyth, Poor, Harris, Wintle, Bazing, Low, O. Smith, Statham, H. Lynch, R. Lynch, G. Lynch, W. Lynch, and J. Farron in cabin; and 30 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—29 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—74 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—83 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sukune Maru*, from Sendai:—7 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—95 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, for Oginohama:—Mr. M. Kawashima in cabin; and 10 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Sale in cabin; and 95 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mrs. Fujino, Mrs. Kaneko, Dr. Cutter, Messrs. H. Yamaguchi, and B. Hirata in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Kido, Colonel Ota, Messrs. W. D. Townsend and servant, Pompeo Grillo, G. Garberoglio, G. Sale, A. S. Aldrich, J. Ellerton, C. H. Ritchard, A. T. Pritchard, A. E. Wileman, G. S. Piper, E. M. Sang, Geo. W. F. Playfair, H. S. Van Buren, Y. Inouye, Nakai, Yoshikawa, Hayashi, Kanada, Takenaka, Higuchi, Murata, Ikeda, Nakayama, Iwaya, Keida, Yoshioka, Date, King Yoh Yoh, Mang Hang Ki, and King Sik Rio in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure for San Francisco, \$44,353.00.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	77	—	—	77
Hioho	225	197	1,012	1,434
Yokohama	1,675	385	380	2,440
Total	1,977	582	1,392	3,951

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	282	3	285
Shanghai	—	201	—	201
Yokohama	—	262	—	262
Total	—	715	3	748

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Hakodate on the 2nd April, at 10 a.m. with strong N.W. winds and heavy snow squalls to Oginohama, where arrived on the 3rd, at 19 a.m., and left on the 4th, at 6 a.m. with light S.S.E. winds and pleasant weather as far as No-sima; thence to port fresh northerly wind and heavy rain. Arrived at Yokohama on the 5th April, at noon.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 5th April, at 6.20 p.m. with fresh E.N.E. winds and cloudy weather; between Oo-sima and Cape Sima light variable winds and dense foggy weather; thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 7th April, at 6 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Berry, from Hongkong, reports having cloudy but good weather throughout the passage.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, E. Vannier, 25th March,—Yokosuka Dock 25th March.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 9th April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 9th April,—Hongkong 31st March via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, Captain Allen, 18th March,—Yokosuka Dock 18th March.—Lighthouse Department.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 2nd April,—Hongkong 26th March, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

B. F. Watson, American bark, 993, Geo. E. Hawkins, 28th March,—New York 3rd October and Nagasaki 18th March, Kerosene.—Frazar & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September,—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

Diana, American schooner, 77, Peterson, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Captain.

Glenury, British schooner, 283, Thomson, 3rd April,—Takao 17th March, 5,500 piculs, Sugar.—E. Flint Kilby & Co.

Helena, British schooner, 52, Judd, 26th January,—Wreck of British bark *Sattara*, 23rd January, Officers, Crew, and Effects.—Captain.

Mary C. Bohm, German schooner, 48, Baade, 23rd November,—Kurile Islands 13th November, Furs.—P. Bohm.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 30th March,—Takao 11th March, 6,600 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Nemo, Russian schooner, Ridderbjelke, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Ginsburg.

Orient, German bark, 460, W. G. Roder, 30th March,—Takao 14th March, 11,600 bags Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Otsego, British schooner, 46, Evalt, 12th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Penelope, British schooner, 84, Miner, 29th March,—Bonin Islands 20th March, General.—Langfeldt & Mayers.

Rose, Russian schooner, 53, Wilson, 14th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—R. Clarke.

Saghalien, Russian schooner, 52, Johnson, 17th November,—Hakodate 10th November, Whale oil and General.—R. Clarke.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Scarcely any change has been noticeable in the general state of the Market since the last report.

COTTON YARN.—A further rise with the Manchester Market has caused holders to require higher prices, but so far dealers do not seem inclined to buy freely, and sales have consequently been small. A considerable sale of 16's Bombay's has been reported, but the demand is rather feeble for these spinnings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—A few 9 lbs. Grey Shirtings have been sold at full rates, but holders are not inclined to sell largely at present prices. Fair sales of Turkey Reds have been made and small sales of Velvets.

WOOLLENS.—Mousseline de Laine sales to a fair extent are reported daily, but there is little demand for other goods: Cloths and heavy goods being quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.50 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

We are still without any business to report in our Oil Market. Dealers have now nearly completed the clearance of their previous purchases and a resumption of business must soon ensue. Stocks are about 660,000 cases sold and unsold. Quotations remain nominal.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.75
Comet	1.70
Stella	1.65

SUGAR.

Quotations remain unchanged, and the heavy Stock moves off slowly. Of Brown Formosa 8,000 bags changed hands yesterday at \$3.40, but there remains a large quantity in godown, and several floating cargoes are due. Whites are only in retail request.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.40 to 3.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 3rd instant, and we have again to notice an increased business in the staple. The demand for *Hanks* has revived during the last two days, in addition to the current business in American sorts: consequently the list reaches a total for seven days of quite 400 piculs. Buying for the *City of Peking* was completed at a further advance on last week's prices, and quotations all round must be marked up. *Kinsatsu* have been fairly steady, and sellers have apparently striven to get the last cent that buyers would pay.

Filatures and *Kakedas* have had their share of attention at the advance, and the choice of parcels is now very much restricted. Arrivals of all descriptions have been very light, and a revised estimate of the Stock in Yokohama gives a total of only 1,150 piculs. The enquiry for native use has slackened considerably.

The P. & O. steamer *Khiva*, which left for Hongkong at midnight on the 4th instant, carried 29 bales for France, and the P.M. steamer with the United States mail of this date has on board 262 bales, of which 7 bales only were "direct" shipments on Japanese account. These vessels bring the Export to date up to 28,775 bales, against 25,068 bales last year, and 16,769 bales at 10th April, 1882.

Hanks.—This class so long neglected has at last received marked attention, and about 250 piculs are supposed to have been settled on the basis of \$535 for a large parcel *Foshu* Hanks called *Shimonita* and grading 2 or thereabouts. A parcel Medium *Shinshu* reported sold at \$520 has been returned again, and really prime *Hanks* do not appear to exist now.

Filatures.—These have been readily and steadily taken in all grades from Common to Extra. Holders have screwed prices up another peg, and it is to be feared that the present high range of values may bring down fresh supplies of carelessly reeled thread. The list of transactions includes *Nihonmatsu*, at \$665; *Yonedaawa*, \$645; *Tamba*, \$640; *Yamagata* and *Hida*, \$625; *Shinshu*, \$620; *Mino*, \$617½; *Koshu*, \$620 to \$570, with very common "Mixed *Filatures*" at \$560. The settlement of these mixed skeins shows to what a low point the assortment on offer has come.

Re-reels.—Very little business actually put through. For a few bales "Tortoise" \$640 was asked, but without finding a buyer. The trade has run principally on Common sorts, the daily list showing *Bushu* at \$585, *Foshu* at \$575, with some low rejections and nibby at \$540.

Kakeda.—There has been some enquiry resulting in the purchase of about 40 piculs on basis of \$625 for No. 1½, \$620 for No. 1½, and \$610 for No. 2. Stock is reduced to a very small compass, current qualities being the scarcest.

Oshu and *Coarse Kinds*.—A few of these pass through Yokohama en route for Kioto, but the Stock remains about the same, and quotations are quite nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	\$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	650
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	635 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	625 to 630
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 570
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	625 to 635
Kakedas—No. 2	600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 10th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALERS.	BALERS.	BALERS.
France and Italy	16,914	12,661	8,301
America	9,222	8,437	5,455
England	2,639	3,970	3,013
Total	28,775	25,068	16,769

WASTE SILK.

Transactions have been reduced to a minimum, the sales for a week being 90 piculs only. Would-be operators complain much as to the very limited assortment of poor and low quality now remaining; the promised supplies of better grades do not arrive in any quantity, although we think there should be still a few good parcels left in the interior.

The P. & O. mail of 4th instant had on board 126 bales, bringing the Export up to 22,006 piculs, against 21,680 piculs to same date last year, and 20,822 piculs in 1882. Arrivals have been very light, and the Stock is something under 500 piculs.

Noshi.—A few more *Oshu* have found their way in and been settled at \$1.47½; these will probably go forward to the Continent by outgoing French mail. Beyond these two parcels, nothing else has transpired.

Kibiso.—About two-thirds the purchases have been in this class, ranging from *Sandanshu* at \$80, with Common *Foshu*, at \$25, the balance being rubbish and running down to \$10. Nothing done in *Neri*.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	Nom. 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	Nom. 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	Nom. 130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 55
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 10th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	19,811	18,479	17,359
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,201	3,403
Total	22,006	21,680	20,822

Exchange has been inanimate throughout the week and closes limp at the following quotations:—LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 88½; 60 d/s., 89; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.64; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.67. *Kinsatsu* have not varied more than a half per cent., closing at about 108½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 10th April, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	810		Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	170		Noshi-ito	80
Kakeda	70		Kibiso	250
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100		Mawata	80
Taysam Kinds	—		Sundries	70
Total piculs	1,150		Total piculs	480

TEA.

The season 1883-84 may now be considered as practically closed. There has only been 30 piculs transacted during the interval and receipts during the week aggregate only 35 piculs, the remaining Tea in Stock in Yokohama does not amount to any thing of importance. Prices are all nominal, which of course makes it impossible to give any reliable quotations, they are therefore withdrawn. Garden musters of New Crop Teas are expected in on Monday, the 14th instant.

EXCHANGE.

But few transactions have taken place during the week, and with a further fall in Bar Silver, rates have again slightly declined.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/7½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.56½
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.67
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	87½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	88½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	87½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	88½

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TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS.

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For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
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* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.
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May 1st, 1883.

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their virtue."

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Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing inflammations.

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Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
May 1st, 1883.

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FLEAS,
MOTHS,
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THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins only.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
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A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEET-MEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

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THIS ESTABLISHMENT, recently opened as a FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, is pleasantly situated on the Bund facing the Bay, in the central part of the Settlement, close to the Consulates and Public Offices, and affords the very BEST ACCOMMODATION to Travellers.

The Cuisine is under the direction of an experienced Chef, and the Wines and Liquors are of the BEST QUALITY obtainable.

The Tariff, which is STRICTLY MODERATE, can be obtained on application to the Lessees,

HEARNE AND BEGUEX.

Yokohama, March 15th, 1884.

17.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Gold

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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YOKOHAMA, APRIL 19TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH, 1884.

MARRIAGE.

On April 15th, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Yokohama, before Russell Robertson, Esq., H.M.'s Consul, and afterwards, at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., JOSEPH HENRY LONGFORD, Esq., of H.M.'s Consular Service in Japan, to MARIA LUCY ALICE, second daughter of the late Walter Johnson, Esq., of Trench Hall, Gateshead, Durham.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SIXTEEN brokers have been arrested in Yokohama for gambling in margins.

A NEW school for the study of the French language has been opened in Tokiyo.

CENSUS returns just published give the total population of Japan as 36,684,602.

NINE workmen were killed by an avalanche in the prefecture of Akita on the 2nd instant.

FIFTEEN prisoners escaped from the Ibaraki jail on the 3rd inst. Four were quickly recaptured.

STEPS have been taken to extend the line of telegraph between Yokohama and Yokosuka to Uraga.

THE cutting of two canals for purposes of irrigation has been commenced in the prefecture of Shidzuoka.

THE entries for the Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club have been published. They show that the promise of sport this year is as good as ever.

It is said that the Bank of Japan is about to issue convertible bank-notes of seven different denominations.

THE construction of a new light-house at Kuraga promontory, in the province of Hiuga, has been commenced.

A HAWAIIAN Representative has presented his credentials to the Mikado, and taken up his residence in Tokiyo.

MR. FUJISHIMA, one of the Secretaries of the Finance Department, has been appointed Japanese Consul at Lyons.

PETITIONS against vivisection have been addressed to the Japanese Government by the Victoria and Scandinavian Societies.

HIS EXCELLENCY MORI ARINORI, Japanese Representative at the Court of St. James, returned to Japan on the 14th instant.

A THUNDERBOLT fell in the village of Isobe, Shimotsuke, on the 13th instant, destroying a house and killing four oxen.

TWELVE young ladies, the daughters of noblemen, have become pupils at the School of Silk-worm Breeding, at Naito-Shinjiku, Tokiyo.

AN attempted incendiarism in Yokohama, on the night of the 12th instant, was extinguished by the police before any injury was done.

TWENTY-SIX medals and first-class certificates have been awarded to the Japanese exhibits at the Calcutta International Exhibition.

THE official opening of the Uyeno-Takasaka Railway is announced to take place on the 1st of May. The Emperor will perform the ceremony.

THREE notorious gamblers were sentenced, at the Criminal Court in Yokohama on the 15th instant, to five years' imprisonment with a fine of 250 yen.

THE Second Competitive Exhibition of Paintings has been opened at Uyeno, Tokiyo. The opening ceremony was performed by H.E. General Saigo.

THE formation of a Japanese and Foreign Club in the Rokumei-kwan, Tokiyo, has been decided upon, and the first election of members took place on the 18th instant.

THE construction of a race-course round the Shinobadzu lake at Uyeno has been commenced, and it is said that the course will be ready for the Autumn meeting of the Union Club.

THE Japanese Government has acceded to the request of Holland, and promised to send specimens to the Agricultural Exhibition which will be opened in Amsterdam next August.

THE Projectile Foundry, within the compound of the Iron Works at Akabane, Tokiyo, was destroyed by fire on the afternoon of Good Friday. About twenty of the soldiers and police

who attempted to extinguish the flames were injured, and three subsequently died.

THE spring routine commenced at the various Departments in the capital on the 12th instant, the hours of attendance now being from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THE agrarian riot recently reported from Iwaki prefecture has been quelled without loss of life. The chief object of the rioters seems to have been to destroy the records of their debts.

THE traffic receipts on the Kobe-Otsu Section of the Government Railway continue below the average of previous years, but the receipts on the Tokiyo-Yokohama Section are improving.

THE construction of a road across the Kobotoke range of mountains, in Koshiu, has been commenced, the Central Government contributing one third (sixty thousand yen) of the total estimated cost.

THE inhabitants of a place called Inariyaya, in Nagasaki, have forwarded a petition praying that the telegraph may be extended to their district, and offering to contribute 1,500 yen towards the expense.

SOME agitation has been set on foot in Yokohama with a view to reducing the wages of Japanese *employés* who are paid in *Kinsatsu*, in consequence of the large appreciation of the latter during the past year.

THE weather, which was unreasonably warm during the early days of the week, underwent a change on Friday, and became almost cold. The cherry blossoms at Uyeno are beginning to fall and those at Mukojima are in full bloom.

THE price of rice continues to advance slowly, while that of *Kinsatsu* remains steady at a discount of from 8 to 9 per cent. Government securities have fallen again to the place they occupied before their recent abnormal appreciation.

MR. SUZUKI, formerly attached to the Japanese Legation in Paris, who absconded in consequence of a deficiency in his accounts, has been convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to 7 years' major confinement by the Central Criminal Court in Tokiyo.

CAPTAIN JOHANNES FRAHM, late of the Mitsui Bishi S.S. *Akitsuishima Maru*, appealed on the 16th instant, to the Tokiyo Court of Appeal, against the Judgment of a Marine Court of Enquiry by which he was deprived of his certificate for 12 months. The case was adjourned in order to procure evidence.

THE latest feature of the Buddhist revival which the Priests of Japan have recently been endeavouring to excite, is the erection of a theological college, in the grounds of the Higashi-Honganji, at Kiyoto. The estimated cost of the college is 350,000 yen. It is said to be a rival to similar institutions established under Christian auspices.

NOTES.

We have alluded, on more than one occasion, to the meetings of the *Kangwa-kwai*, or Association of Art Critics, recently formed in Tokiyo. Up to the present, the Association has held three meetings, which were all well attended, and many pictures of great merit were exhibited. Those shown on the first occasion were of the *Kano* School; those on the second were paintings of religious subjects (*Butsu-gwa*), and those on the third were chiefly masterpieces of Sesshiu. The places chosen for these *réunions* were not happy, especially in the case of the last, which was held at a temple in a remote and almost inaccessible quarter of Asakusa. This question of position is, indeed, one of the chief difficulties that beset enterprises of this sort in Tokiyo, where, with the exception of official buildings specially set apart for exhibition purposes, suitable places for hanging pictures or displaying works of art are virtually non-existent. We have felt that this drawback is particularly regrettable in the present instance, because not only is the public offered an unique opportunity to study the *chefs d'œuvres* of Japanese pictorial art, but also instruction of an exceptionally valuable and erudite character is provided in the lectures of Mr. E. F. Fenollosa, whose knowledge of Japanese pictorial art renders him incomparably the highest living authority on this subject. We learn with much pleasure, therefore, that the next meeting of the Association, on the 20th instant, will be at the Meiji Kwaïdo, which not only offers excellent facilities both in point of space and comfortable accommodation, but possesses also the great advantage of being within ten minutes' drive of the Shinbashi terminus. The paintings exhibited will be of the Kiyoto School, from the great artist Okiyo downwards, and their interest will be exceptional, not less on account of their rarity, than because of their great beauty and suitability to Occidental taste. The lecture by Mr. Fenollosa will be on the subject "Can Japanese Art be revived?"—a question which certainly needs elucidation just at present, having regard to the very low quality of the new paintings now on exhibition at Uyeno. The Meiji Kwaïdo will be open to visitors from 10 o'clock a.m. on the 20th instant, and the lecture will be delivered at 3 p.m., both in English and Japanese. It will be remembered that the Association also undertakes to criticise pictures, and to furnish written certificates at a trifling cost. We believe that a large number of these certificates have been already issued. Their value will be understood when we say that their issue is contingent upon absolute unanimity of opinion on the part of the four members of the examining committee, and that they bear the signatures of all the four. They are, in fact, a radical departure from the method hitherto pursued, which made the authenticity of a painting depend wholly on the *ipse dixit* of some ancient connoisseur. It is much to be hoped that the efforts of the *Kangwa-Kwai* will exercise a large influence upon public opinion in Japan with reference to the important question which is now agitating the country, namely, the revival of Japanese art. There is a considerable party among the Japanese who seek to suppress everything like originality in new work, holding that the canons of the old masters were the best, not only for their own age, but for all ages. To this fatal misconception the *Kangwa-Kwai* is resolutely opposed, and its opposition deserves

the support of everybody interested in the art of this country. Those who care to compare what Japan is capable of now with what she achieved between 1750 and 1850, can not do better than pay a visit in the morning to the Competitive Exhibition at Uyeno, and in the afternoon to the exhibition of the Art Association at the Meiji Kwaïdo. Below we give a *résumé* of the three lectures already delivered by Mr. Fenollosa:—

The art of painting is no superficial accomplishment, as some Chinese and Japanese think. It is the outward expression of one of man's noblest capacities, the power to perceive by intuition ideas of perfect beauty. This power, which we sometimes call inspiration, is rare; is not to be taught and learned, like the mechanical skill of an artisan, and therefore distinguishes its possessors as a superior class, who, like priests, have the ability to reveal to ordinary men, facts of the universe, which they would never have been able to see for themselves. Therefore great artists have been most highly honored in Europe, China, and Japan.

This view of art and the artist must be kept in mind as a first principle in criticism. It is not enough to make application of abstract rules, or look for the presence of some external quality. Style is only a medium for expression, not the thing expressed. It is not to be judged by its own abstract correctness, nor to be taken as any standard for judging art as an entity. Its whole excellence lies in its adequacy to express the intended revelation; and thus all criticism must work from the artist's intention or idea. Now Japanese critics usually ignore this necessity. They judge of genuineness and excellence only from the standard of some abstract rule of touch or other external manner. They do not regard each painting as a new idea whose heart has to be penetrated, but as another case of wares stamped with the trade-mark. This explains why they will worship any painting, however bad, which has the certified label of Motonobu attached, while they despise some of the finest paintings by men who are not celebrities. True criticism implies the full appreciation of the peculiar truth revealed in each picture. It must take a new standard for each. The poorness of a critic is measured by the fewness of his tests.

This view might be opposed by one who thinks that the pleasure we take in works of art defines their excellence. But pleasure is not always art-pleasure. Many people are pleased with bad pictures for extra-artistic reasons. It is not pleasure which guarantees excellence, but excellence which guarantees the legitimacy of pleasure. Again, others seem to suppose that a picture which has been skilfully executed is therefore good. But skill is mere mechanical workmanship, unless it embody an idea of beauty; and any one can learn it. The skilful juggler is not an artist: art-skill can itself be defined only by art-excellence. Touch alone is not the soul and body of art, as the modern Japanese critic thinks.

These differences are well expressed by the very ancient Chinese classification of paintings into *no*, *miyo*, and *shin*. At the present day critics hardly know what these words mean. But their originators have well explained *no* to be mere technical skill; *miyo* to be the quality produced by a talent for combination of elements which are still external; but *shin* to be the quality produced by true genius, namely, a complete internal idea from which the external character immediately flows. It is not in the thoughtless and childish formalisms of such modern writers as *Kaisuyen*, that Japanese critics should seek for a guide, but in the profound thoughts of the great *To* (Tang) essayists.

Eastern criticism has never been based upon a profound knowledge of historical laws. Art is a social fact, and so subject to the necessity of growth and decay. Each school and method can aim only at progressing in conformity with a growing environment of popular need, appreciation, and selection. It reaches culmination when it has met these concrete stimuli, with the clearest and strongest expression of the peculiar powers which it embodies. It decays because, thereafter, it is possible, within its own limits, to do no more than imitate the external manner of the perfection. It dies, when its limits are outgrown, and its dead forms are pushed aside by the new forces of a changed social environment. This law applies equally to individual, academic, and national peculiarities. The history of art is a cycle of cycles, in which each phase and each fact finds its single moment of possibility and necessity. But Japanese traditional criticism sees no difficulty in placing any quality anywhere in time. Based upon the collective assertions of past authorities, who worked independently in their respective narrow spheres of experience, who can wonder that it is a medley of contradictions? The science of criticism cannot even be founded in Japan until its votaries are willing to follow reason, and admit that blind opinion, however old, is untrustworthy.

If the accounts contained in our Shanghai exchanges just to hand do not convey any accurate idea of the policy contemplated by the Chinese Government, they show at least that the counsels of the Middle Kingdom are seriously perplexed. We are told, indeed, by the *North China Herald*

that "the news of the fall of Bac-ninh was received by the Ministers of the Yamèn without any outward sign of perturbation," and that "their attitude has since been one of apparently enviable repose." Our contemporary, however, wisely bids his readers "judge for themselves how much of this is comedy," and now, aided by the light of recent telegrams, we can see that Prince Kung's imperturbability was less real than assumed. He doubtless knew enough of his country's methods to foresee that if peaceful counsels, prevailed some scape-goat must be found to bear the bellicose errors committed in the past, and since going into and out of office is a feat tolerably familiar to him, he could contemplate its probable repetition with comparative indifference. The Empress, it is said, wishes for peace with France at all hazards, and if that be so, it is not wonderful that she has sacrificed some of her officials by way of smoothing the path to her desires. Neither is it likely that we have heard the end of these sacrifices. The rumours so industriously circulated by the vernacular press in Hongkong to the effect that Bac-ninh and Sontai have been retaken by the Chinese, indicate pretty clearly that somebody down in that quarter is gravely concerned for the security of his tenure of office, and we shall not be surprised to learn that the deposition of Prince Kung and his colleagues has been followed by the recall of one or two local dignitaries from Yunnan or the two Kwang, to be tried and punished for their sins of omission and commission. As for the Marquis Tsêng, it is difficult to tell what will become of him. To recall him would be an act of the greatest kindness, for loss of office, nay even degradation, could scarcely be so bitter as his present position. It has been truly said that the French army of occupation had only one Chinese opponent, and he was at Paris, but we doubt whether the history of diplomacy includes any item half so humiliating as the experience of the Marquis Tsêng. It is really a moot question whether China would not do better to recall all her Representatives abroad. If, when it comes to the test of action, she means to make bubbles of all their menaces, she can only look forward to being regarded as a species of gigantic buffoon.

We publish in this issue the entries for the Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club, but although these are not quite complete—some Japanese griffins are still to be added—they are in the total equal to those of the meetings last year. This is an agreeable surprise in face of the fact that a general belief existed that, for want of support, the dissolution of the Club was near at hand, and the Committee are to be congratulated upon efforts which have led to so satisfactory a result. In this connection, we publish below two rules of the Club having reference to the admission of honorary members, which cannot be too prominently brought before the public notice. These rules give honorary members all the privileges of the Club except entering ponies, riding on the course, and voting at meetings, and it may be safely said that there are scores of men in Yokohama to whom honorary membership under the new rules will be a boon, as the subscription only amounts to the gate-money for the two meetings. The Nippon Race Club deserves more support than it receives, and when it is remembered that it is entirely due to a small band of

foreign owners that we have any races at all here—for the Club would certainly collapse if the foreign element backed out—we trust that the new rules will induce many honorary members to join. It ought not to be forgotten that the Club gives six days' holiday in the year to many persons who, if that institution ceased to exist, would be chained to a desk or otherwise following their occupations. To many men these six days are worth more than ten dollars, and such are in duty bound to take advantage of the privilege offered by honorary membership under the new rules. In a community mainly composed of Englishmen, it would be little short of a national disgrace, if, with a good racecourse, and ponies—such as they are—not hard to obtain, the Nippon Race Club were allowed to subside, but this is what must be looked forward to if the whole burden of finding the sinews of war is permitted to rest entirely on the shoulders of the few lovers of sport who at present are the means of providing the two principal holidays the Yokohama community enjoy. The following are the rules referred to:—

7.—Honorary members shall be elected in the same manner as ordinary members. When so elected, they shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of members, excepting the right of voting at meetings, of riding on the Course, and of entering ponies at the Races.

9.—The subscription to the Club for membership shall be \$20 (twenty dollars) and for Honorary Members \$10 (ten dollars) annually, payable in advance on the 1st January in each year.

THE article we translate elsewhere from the *Fiji Shimpō* will repay perusal. Among the many wonderful changes which have come over Japan since 1867, none is more remarkable than her recognition of the good that grows out of apparent evil. She is ready to-day to kiss the rod that smote her twenty years ago. The writer in the *Fiji Shimpō* does not, indeed, allude directly to the Spartan discipline his own country had to endure, in the times of her early intercourse with foreigners, but he lets us interpret his mood easily enough when he says that, "China's real benefactors are those who awake her, however roughly, from her slumbers." If the shock of her collision with France moves her, ever so little, out of the groove she has worn for herself by centuries of conservatism, the *Fiji Shimpō* thinks that she will owe her aggressor a heavy debt of gratitude. Opinions of this sort expressed by a journal which has the credit of reflecting public sentiment more accurately than any of its contemporaries, are the best conceivable evidences of Japan's thorough conversion to the creeds of genuine liberalism. We believe that if it were possible to take the nation's verdict to-morrow, there would be found few, if any, to assert that the country did not reap large benefit even from the fight at Kagoshima and the bombardment of Shimonoseki.

THE Japanese Court at the Calcutta International Exhibition seems to have achieved a most remarkable success. No less than fifteen gold and silver medals, and eleven bronze medals and first-class certificates, were awarded to Mr. M. M. Kuhn, to whose enterprise the furnishing of the Court was entirely due. We observe, also, that the Viceroy, Lord Ripon, in his speech at the closing ceremony, on March 10th, said:—"There is another Eastern country which has contributed largely upon this occasion to our interest and our pleasure, and I think that all who have visited this Exhibition will agree that one of the most beautiful and interesting Courts in it has been the Japanese Court. We have seen there ample and striking proof of the artistic

skill and graphic power of that remarkable people." Mr. Kuhn deserves great credit for the energy he has displayed in this business. But for him Japan would have been entirely unrepresented at the Exhibition, and it cannot be doubted that whatever advantage he may have derived himself from his enterprise will be fully shared by Japanese art industry, to which he has opened a new and important market.

At the Royal United Service Institution, recently, Admiral H. Boys Presiding, a paper was read on the present position of the armour question, with a summary of the principal recent plate experiments." The lecturer was Captain C. Orde Browne, late of the Royal Artillery, and at present lecturer at Woolwich in the Department of Artillery Studies on the subject of Armour Plates. The paper was illustrated by diagrams, and the object of it was stated to be the presentation of such features of the armour question as appeared to be peculiar and of great importance. Captain Browne began by explaining that "soft armour" applied to plates which yielded to perforation, and "hard armour" meant that which would not so yield and was destroyed by breaking up. The first experiments noticed were the Krupp Meppen plates trials in 1882. The trials were against soft armour, either directly or obliquely, and he showed, in respect to the direct firing, that a projectile with a striking energy of 2,328 foot-tons, for which it would have been sufficient work to have penetrated 12 inches of iron in two thicknesses, went through two 7-inch plates, and passed 328 yards up the range uninjured. He thought this was to be accounted for by the fact that 10 inches of wood between the plates was sufficiently thick to allow the point of the projectile to get clear of the bent and broken edges of the front plate before meeting the second, and thus the maximum resistance was not got out of the plates. The best thickness of wood was about five inches, and with this, while the plates were prevented from jarring one upon the other, the projectile could not get clear of one plate before it was resisted by the second. In the second experiment, that of the oblique fire, the projectile, with a striking velocity of 1,750 feet, was more than a match for the plate, 7.9 inches, with a backing of 9.84 of wood and 0.98 of skin. The Spezia trials of November 1882 were afterwards examined by the lecturer, who described the hard armour-plates made by Cammell, by Sir John Brown & Company, and by M. Schneider, and the damage which was done to them by the guns, results being shown in diagrams, and dealt with in exhaustive figures. Captain Browne urged the need of a better system of estimating the effects of artillery on hard armour than was now possessed, the need for developing the manufacture of steel projectiles for artillery, and the necessity for making experiments in this country on very hard armour. He said that our steel-faced armour was unrivalled, and in all the most important experiments abroad the English *matériel* took a prominent place; but, nevertheless, we could by no means afford to shut our eyes to the elements in which we might be weak, and in which foreign Powers might be gaining an advantage over us.

A CORRESPONDENT, referring to the Nippon Race Club rules for the admission of honorary members, and our remarks thereupon, published on

Thursday, says:—"I don't see where the 'boon' comes in, in the new rules 7 and 8 of the Race Club. If the new honorary members are allowed to ride their hacks round the course it may be an inducement to join. There are plenty of men in Yokohama who keep a pony of their own, and would be happy to subscribe to the maintenance of the race course if they are allowed to use it. At present, although they may take no interest in racing, they have to pay \$20 for the privilege of using the course, which no doubt many of them agree with me in thinking is too much." Precisely: and we also have no doubt that our correspondent is not singular in his opinion; but unfortunately there is a tinge of selfishness in the complexion of a man's remarks who appears willing to pay a small sum for the privilege of indulging in his own particular hobby—that of obtaining health and exercise in cantering round the Negishi Hill—but gives no thought to anything beyond. As a promenade for ladies, and a healthy romping ground for children, the use of the racecourse may also be considered a privilege, but then, perhaps, our correspondent is not a married man. We trust, however, that there are many who take a broader view of this matter, and that although some may have no direct "interest in racing," they will not consider ten dollars per annum too extravagant a sum to contribute to the support of one of the few events that bring the community together and give them a holiday of their own making.

EARLY Friday morning a man about 30 years of age was found hanging under the eaves of a house in Fujimi-bashi, Takashima-cho, having apparently strung himself up during the night. He had used a cotton handkerchief in place of the customary hemp, and his impromptu scaffold was a saké tub, which he had mounted and kicked from under him.

It is plain that all possibilities of Chinese resistance to French advances in Tonquin are at an end. Those who have followed the course of the campaign will see that General Millot's vigorous operations in the direction of Bac-ninh were intended to clear his flank, preparatory to a steady advance up the Red River. With this view, he ordered a rapid pursuit of the flying Black Flags (or Chinese regulars?), and General Négrier seems to have pushed the outposts of the army of occupation to a point half-way between Bac-ninh and Lang-son, which is one of the frontier towns of China proper. Meanwhile General Brière de l'Isle appears to have advanced, with another flying column, in a more Westerly direction, towards the frontier town of Ko-bang, capturing two citadels and completely crushing all opposition. The result of these manœuvres, which occupied the troops up to the 23rd of March, was to put the French in possession of all the important places between Bac-ninh and the Chinese frontier. Their object having been thus thoroughly accomplished, the columns of Négrier and Brière de l'Isle, after detaching forces to hold the new outposts, returned to Haiduong and Hanoi, to prepare for a general advance up the Red River. Immediately above Son-tai, on that river, lies Hung-hoa, whither the Black Flags were supposed to have retired after the fall of the former place. Hung-hoa is an important position, not only because it is the last village of any size below the first rapids on the Red River, but also because it is the point

where one of the main roads to the Chinese frontier, *via* Thai Nguyen and Ko-bang, débouches. It will therefore be seen that before proceeding to the attack of Hung-hoa, the French did well to push their pursuit from Bac-ninh as far as the citadels on this road. In fact, General Brière de l'Isle's operations put an end to any hopes the garrison at Hung-hoa might have entertained of receiving aid from the Chinese regulars. When, therefore, they became conscious that the French were really moving up the river from Son-tai, they only waited to hear the sound of the bombarding artillery, and by the 12th instant this place, also, had been secured. The distance from Hung-hoa to Laokai—the last stronghold of the Black Flags, near the point where the Red River crosses the frontier of Yunnan—is much the same as the distance from Hung-hoa to the sea, and though there are few, if any, fortified places between the two towns, it must be remembered that the French gunboats will be of little use in the upper reaches of the river, and that the nature of the country will greatly increase the difficulties of an invading column. Meanwhile, the Chinese forces in Yunnan and Kwangsi appear to be utterly disorganized, and a rumour reaches us that two high officials of those provinces have been summoned to Peking to answer for the fall of Bac-ninh and Son-tai. Possibly the policy of the Middle Kingdom is to degrade its diplomats by way of apology to France, and to punish its generals by way of excuse to its subjects. But the French, we presume, will not trouble themselves about these matters. It will not matter much to them, for the moment, what vagaries of statesmanship go on within the Chinese frontier.

SIR WILLIAM HEWETT, says the *Whitehall Review*, is losing the services of one of his oldest and favourite lieutenants, Commander Ernest Rolfe, of his flagship the *Euryalus*, he having been given the command of the *Dragon*, in the East Indies. Commander Rolfe—the mysterious “Ralph” so frequently mentioned in the telegrams of the *Standard* correspondent at Suakim—has been with Admiral Sir William Hewett almost uninterruptedly during the last twenty years, and was with him in the *Basilisk* and *Ocean*, in China, in the *Active*, and in the Egyptian campaign.

MR. IRVING, says a home paper, has created a deep impression upon both the critics and the theatre-going section of the American public. Wherever the great English actor has gone he has utterly spoilt the people for shows of the old-fashioned stamp. At St. Louis he has evidently made more than an impression, for a writer in a local paper says:—“Never again will a ranting star and a lot of sticks pass for a dramatic company. Never again can cheap-john American managers make our people take John M'Cullough or Booth or Barrett or Tom Keene, supported by a gang of knock-kneed supers in tin helmets, and female boarding-house keepers in ten-cent cambrics, as a substitute for a full-grown, evenly-balanced theatrical performance. The strolling gangs of barn-stormers with one boss ranter as the main attraction, must go.” This, it will freely be admitted, is rather tall.

THE late M. Rouher used to tell an amusing story of an ex-Imperial Prefect and his *administrés*, which illustrates the dense ignorance that prevails in the French rural districts. At the time of the

plébiscite, in 1870, the official in question made the round of his prefecture to stimulate the zeal of the different mayors, the functionaries on whom the success of the vote practically depended. The mayor of a remote town in one of the outlying districts showed certain symptoms of hesitation, and the prefect asked for an explanation of his difficulty. Had his feelings changed towards the dynasty which he had hitherto so warmly supported? “No, Monsieur, it is not that at all,” was the mayor's answer, “but I have some doubt if this measure is a wise one. When Napoleon first wished to be elected deputy we elected him; when some time afterwards he wanted to become President we gave him our votes again. Finally, when he wished to be Emperor, we did not hesitate; he had a larger majority than ever. Now he wants to be made Plébiscite—whatever that may be—and I fear he is going too far. However, as he wishes to be Plébiscite, I shall give him my vote again; only, for Heaven's sake, M. le Préfet, warn him of the danger of over-ambition, and tell him to stop now. Another title might prove his ruin.”—*St. James's Gazette*.

THE *Meiji Nippo* gives the following statistics of oxen, sheep, and pigslaughtered in Tokiyoduring the months of January, February, and March:—

	OXEN.	SHEEP.	PIGS.
January	153	11	19
February	307	18	31
March	352	19	29
Total	812	48	79

MR. A. A. SARGENT, the able Representative of the United States at Berlin, whose suspected lack of reverence for “the ambrosial curls” of sovereignty is reported to have excited some German hostility, says many interesting things in the dispatches he sent to Washington at the time of Arabi's rebellion. When Europe was still wondering who would step to the front in the impending crisis, Mr. Sargent concluded that Germany, at all events, would not interfere actively. She had tried to preserve peace by persuading the Sultan of Turkey to take some action which would satisfy England and France, but these good intentions were “thwarted by the hesitation or craft of the Porte, which sought to regain its hold upon Egypt, and, while watching for such advantage, let matters drift into dangerous conditions.” Germany, therefore, suffered things to take their course, confident in her own strength to meet every contingency. Then came “the resolute and rapid action of England in Egypt, which seemed to take Europe by surprise and to make that Power complete master of the situation.” The Continental idea, “the prevailing tone of influential German newspapers,” had been that “England would bluster and not fight.” The German press, however, was the first to acknowledge the logic of facts. “A direct, positive man like the Chancellor” could appreciate “celerity and decision.” Yet even then Mr. Sargent did not fail to comprehend the complications of the situation: complications which Gladstone so thoroughly appreciated that to this day he stoutly refuses to acknowledge any intention of holding Egypt. “It would be difficult,” wrote the United States' Minister, “to limit the questions that may arise were England to prevail in Egypt to the extent contemplated by her military preparations. French interests in the Mediterranean are inconsistent with permanent English control of Egypt. Germany is not likely to view with complacency any

great accession of power by England or by any other Power within striking distance, and will probably obstruct measures looking to the ultimate humiliation of the Porte. Austria is but the second of Germany in the diplomacy of this decade. Further, it is difficult to see how England can treat Egypt as its sick man, and Europe permit it, and yet object if Russia shall apply the same regimen to Turkey generally.” England finished at Tel-el Kebir what she had begun at Alexandria, and Europe, seeing how the Egyptians who had “grovelled to Arabi now grovelled to Tewfik,” ceased to regard the former as “the representative of a party struggling for a higher national life,” and abandoning its sympathy for the rebels, abandoned also its objection to England's control. “Singly,” says Mr. Sargent, “she fought the fight which is now more and more admitted to have been in the interest of Europe; though had defeat, instead of prompt and brilliant victory, attended her efforts, the harmony of opinion in her favour would probably have been less. * * * Disregarding the refusal of her associate to co-operate in putting down anarchy in Egypt, and without waiting for the express concurrence of the Eastern Powers, she gallantly urged the fight with her single resources, while holding the Porte, and perhaps the Eastern Powers, quiet by her able diplomacy. It is not a matter of surprise that a strong Government like Germany should recognize such strong policy, and give its respect to its authors as well as its implied assent thereto.” The fates, indeed, seem to have willed that England's Egyptian policy should furnish a series of surprises for Europe. The last *coup* is the most wonderful of all. Nobody could have imagined that sober, practical Britain could ever persuade herself to send a solitary man against a nation of fanatics in rebellion. The Mahdi of Islamism launched a few unarmed Arabs at Hicks Pasha's rabble, promising them that the prophet would give the foe into their hands. England has outdone this. She has sent a Christian Mahdi absolutely unsupported to deal with a host of Arab tribes as brave and resolute as the Egyptians were cowardly and reluctant. We wonder whether the issue will be another surprise.

If any man deserved to be buried with military honours, it was the veteran General Schramm, who was laid to his rest recently at La Courneuve. The departed warrior must certainly have been the oldest general, if not the oldest soldier, in the armies of the world. The Emperor of Germany and Marshal von Moltke were in their cradles, and the fathers of General Gordon and Lord Wolseley probably not born, when Schramm first came on parade eighty-five years ago. When Austerlitz was fought, Schramm was an old soldier with six campaigns behind him; and when after Waterloo he retired for a time into private life, he had earned his repose by fifteen years of active service, which included the terrible Russian expedition of 1812. He emerged in 1830, and for a quarter of a century afterwards took an active share in all the military affairs of his country, became War Minister under the Second Empire, and as a hale old veteran lived to see the armies of the nation he had helped to crush at Jena take their revenge a second time at Gravelotte and Sedan. The “Chronicle of the Drum,” as told by General Schramm, should have been worth hearing.—*St. James's Budget*.

THE National Exhibition of Paintings (*Kwaigwa Kiyoshinkwai*) was opened at Ueno on Friday the 11th instant, by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, H.E. General Saigo, the Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, H.E. Sugi, the Governor of Tokiyo, H.E. Yoshikawa, and a number of other officials. The building where the pictures are hung is a great improvement upon that of last year, being spacious and well lighted, with a glass roof down the centre. It is not possible yet to pronounce any verdict upon the pictures themselves, as about a third of the exhibitors have not sent in their contributions, but so far as we have been able to judge, the prospect is not brilliant. The promoters of the Exhibition made an unaccountably senseless rule, that every specimen must be what is called *riugaki*, that is to say, must conform strictly to recognised canons. This means simply that no attempt to strike out a new line is permitted; the exhibition, in short, is a collection of copies. The spirit which dictated this rule is fatal to the progress of pictorial art. Highly appreciative as Japanese connoisseurs are, it never seems to have occurred to them that such masters as Kohōgen, Sesshiu, and Okiyo were not copyists; that every generation of men has its own ideals which differ from those of the generation that preceded and are only partially appreciable by the generation that follows. The wretched fallacies that prevail upon these subjects have been ably exposed by Mr. E. F. Fenollosa in a series of lectures recently delivered in Tokiyo, and we do not doubt that his words will ultimately bear fruit. But in the meanwhile, the much talked of exhibition of 1884 will probably show only that the Japanese artists of the day are not competent to copy the works of their ancestors. Of their ability as originators it can tell nothing.

THE are those who say that the women of the East are satisfied with polygamy and do not understand the injustice of it. To believe this one must be ignorant not only of the East, but of the human soul itself. If it were true, that would not happen which does happen—viz., that there is scarcely any Turkish girl who, accepting the hand of a man, does not make it a condition that he shall not marry again during her lifetime; there would not be so many wives returning to their families because their husbands have failed in this promise, and the Turkish proverb would not be in existence which says: A house with four women is like a ship in a tempest. Even if she is adored by her husband, the Eastern woman can but curse polygamy, which obliges her to live with the sword of Damocles above her head. * * * It is impossible that she should not feel the injustice of such a law. She knows that when her husband introduces a rival into her home he is but putting into practice the right given to him by the law of the Prophet. But in the bottom of her soul she feels that there is a more ancient and sacred law which condemns his act as traitorous and an abuse of power; that the tie between them is undone; that her life is ruined; that she has the right of rebellion. The Turkish women seek to know Frankish women in order to learn from them something of the splendors and amusements of their world, but it is not only the varied and feverish life of gaiety that attracts them; more often it is the domestic life, the little world of a European family, the circle of friends, the table surrounded

age; that sanctuary full of memories, of confidence, of tenderness, that can make the union of two persons good even without the passion of love; to which we turn even after a long life of aberration and faults; in which, even after the tempests of youth and the pangs of the present, the heart finds refuge and comfort, as a promise of peace for later years, the beauty of a serene sunset seen from the depths of some dark valley. But there is one great thing to be said for the comfort of those who lament the fate of the Turkish woman; it is that polygamy is declining from day to day. It has always been considered by the Turks themselves rather as a tolerated abuse than as a natural right of man. Mahomet said, That man is to be praised who has but a single wife—although he himself had several; and those who wish to set an example of honest and austere manners never in fact marry but one wife. He who has more than one is not openly blamed, but neither is he approved. The Turks are few who sustain polygamy, and still fewer those who approve it in their hearts.—“*Constantinople*,” by EDMONDO DE AMICIS.

THE lady correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, whose prettily written letters of gossip that journal recently published, has excited curiosity by her allusions to some Irish residents of Kiyoto. She speaks of them as people whose father had been in the Indian Civil Service, and who “came to Japan to live cheaply, and learn such drawing and painting as the natives could teach them.” Under what pretext they are permitted to live in Kiyoto we are not informed, but it may be assumed that they are nominally or really in Japanese employ. The chief charm of Kiyoto in their eyes, we are told, is that it is a deserted old Court city, where are no English officials “to inflame Irish blood.” This sounds somewhat curious as the sentiment of a family whose head is himself an English ex-official. But Irish fancies are often eccentric. The funniest part of the thing is that these good folks left Tokiyo “because the attachés and secretaries there are simply intolerable, and the ladies have introduced snobbism into society.” We could scarcely have imagined any description less applicable to Tokiyo society, where cliques, mischief-making, and the other characteristics of gregarious snobbism are absolutely unknown. There is no accounting, however, for the tastes of Irish people who confess themselves followers of Parnell.

ONE result of the recently promulgated stamp regulations has been largely to diminish the number of civil suits. The regulations came into force on the 1st instant, and between that date and the 7th instant, the cases brought before the Courts in Tokiyo were, one before the Court of First Instance (*Shishin Saibansho*), three before the Court of Appeal (*Kōso Saibansho*) and three before the Supreme Court (*Daishin-in*). Briefly speaking the principle of the reform affected by the new regulations is to make the stamp duty depend, not on the size of a petition, but on the magnitude of the issue involved. Formerly, parties to a suit were charged according to the number of sheets their petitions or rejoinders contained; now, they pay according to the amount of property in dispute. The latter system, though obviously the more logical and convenient, involves a larger initial outlay, especially in trivial cases, and hence the diminution now observable in the

latter class of litigation. The public is to be congratulated upon this result. Of recent years the facilities offered by the Courts of Law and a growing confidence in the justice of their decisions seems to have encouraged an undue propensity to put their machinery in motion, and an idea that no question was too insignificant to justify an appeal to the judiciary. We have had occasion, from time to time, to note that arrears of litigation were beginning to look formidable, and though the ease induced by the working of the new system is probably abnormal just at present, we may reasonably hope that while the Courts will be as accessible as ever for the hearing of serious questions, they will be permanently freed from a class of suitors whose claims upon the public time are of the slenderest description.

THE February number of the *Monatsschrift für den Orient* gives the continuation of Dr. Lorenz von Stein's remarkable essay on Consular Jurisdiction in the East, the first part of which we summarised on its appearance a month ago. Continuing, the law relating to Consuls is, the writer says, the most obscure of the many branches and institutions of public law. Except where it is positively laid down in Consular Treaties, it is the most uncertain department in all international law. States in their intercourse with each other may be divided into two classes or groups; first, when the States in their mutual relations assume juridically an individual position, and are represented to each other by Ministers and Ambassadors, who are in no wise under the jurisdiction of the State in which they reside and perform their duties. Secondly, when States come together, not as collective organisations, but by means of the individuals comprising them, as in trade. The general principle that every act performed in a country, as well as all the property there, is under the territorial law and the national courts, is recognised by several of the best established maxims of law, such as *locus regit actum* and *actor sequitur forum rei*. These rules can only be modified, altered, or suspended in times of peace in one way, viz., by explicit treaties between the two nations concerned to that end. “Every deviation from the consequences of these principles is a deviation from the first principle of the sovereignty of States, and can, therefore, only be expressly altered by the sovereignty itself; every such deviation is a special exception to the common right of States.” It is acknowledged by the writer that a strict adherence to these principles would in some cases, as in Moslem countries, stop all trade. Coming now to Consuls and their relation to this discussion, and to what may be termed Jurisdiction Treaties generally, Dr. von Stein divides the history of the development of the institution of Consuls into three different periods. In the earliest period of all, when consulates originated, trade was carried on either with countries with which there were no treaties at all, or with those in which there was no organised system of government and administration, and where consequently no one thought of enforcing the maxim, *cujus regio ejus jurisdictio*. Hence it became the custom to send with ships an official whose duty it was to administer justice to all on board, *inter se*. In course of time came settlements for trade. The institution is thus an extension of the jurisdiction originally exercised over aliens by one of themselves. But there were two fundamental differences between these early

with children, the honored and beloved old Consuls and the authorities now called by that name. First, there is no trace of a recognition of their jurisdiction by the lords of the soil, nothing resembling the modern *exequatur*; and, secondly, this jurisdiction did not extend to causes in which a native was a party. Such causes belonged exclusively to the Courts of the country. But there was nothing resembling a consular system in Europe in the Middle Ages. Every country or town did what appeared to be necessary for its own wants, without consulting any of its neighbours. Wiquefort and Vattel, in his last edition in 1758, makes no mention of Consuls. The first mention we find of them is in a small tract in the year 1751. The second stage in the development of the Consular system was when "capitulations" were made with the Ottoman Empire in the latter half of the fifteenth century. With the present century, however, and the vast increase of intercourse between different nations, came the third stage of development, viz., Consular treaties, as we know them to-day. The system which we have seen arise in Turkey was transplanted by the European Powers to the Far East. "This was explicable at first" (we translate Dr. Stein here). "But during half a generation many things in Eastern trade have greatly changed; and the question of the day in these regions in this respect is the removal of the Oriental Consular system, and the substitution of that of Europe. We are ourselves convinced that this alteration of the Consular system, at least for Japan, the most advanced of these countries, has become necessary, and therefore unavoidable."—*London and China Express*.

EVERYTHING seems to indicate that Yukao will be the favorite Summer resort this year. Not only does the railway to Kumagaye render the journey much easier than it used to be, but the fact that a palace for the Empress is in course of construction there will prove an immense attraction to the Japanese. The Nikkwo folks are apparently beginning to fear the consequences of such competition, and they have accordingly made arrangements for an unprecedented display of ancient relics which the priests have hitherto guarded religiously from vulgar gaze. These curiosities include the armour of Iyeyasu and Oyama Hangwan; the arms of Tamura, and a number of precious heirlooms given to the temple by Yoritomo. The exhibition commenced on the 5th instant and is to continue till the end of September.

THE changes in the Chinese Cabinet, as reported by telegram, are not, of course, quite intelligible at this distance. Prince Li, who succeeds Prince Kung, as President of the Grand Council, is to all intents a *novus homo*. Nothing has been hitherto heard of him by the public, and we are disposed to think that the influence attaching to the high post he is now called on to fill will be exercised in reality by another. He is not a Prince of the Imperial blood, but only the representative of one of the Eight Houses ennobled, at the time of the overthrow of the Ming Dynasty, for signal military services. According to latest detailed advices from China, the Empress was gravely dissatisfied with the incompetence her Ministers had displayed in their management of the Tonquin affair, and it was anticipated that the weight of her displeasure would fall upon the War Party, which after all its thrasonic

utterances and costly preparations, had failed to accomplish anything respectable against the French. Whether the Imperial mood inclined in the direction of a more pacific or a more resolute policy, there was, however, nothing to show conclusively. For our own part we are disposed to regard this last move as a sacrifice of statesmen to subterfuge. China, probably, has not yet quite made up her mind what path she will tread, but by way of a preliminary indication that she means to take a new departure, and as an intimation that the blows which have almost annihilated her prestige would have been parried but for the incompetence of a group of worthless Ministers, she has deposed half a dozen dignitaries. The world will not object to this blame-shifting device, provided only it is followed, as we believe it will be followed, by a less vacillating and more intelligent policy.

A PIGMY voltaic battery of great power for its size has been devised by M. Shirwanov, and is now employed to furnish the star-lights on the heads of the ballet of *La Farandole*, Paris. It is superior to the accumulator hitherto used in yielding a more lasting current. It gives an ampère for one hour, and has an electro-motive force of 1.45 volt. Two of these cells, contained in ebonite cases buckled to the belt of the performer, keep a star-light going, and the light is readily controlled by the wearer. Each cell consists of a zinc plate bent into the form of a U, and holding in its inside a plate of silver, surrounded by chloride of silver, as in the ordinary De La Rue chloride of silver cell used by electricians for testing purposes. The zinc plate forms one pole of the cell and the silver the other. A solution of caustic potash (75 parts potash to 100 water) is filled in, and, as a porous diaphragm, the chloride of silver is covered with parchment paper. The vessel is of ebonite, with a closed mouth, which, however, is opened when fresh liquid has to be put into the cell. This is necessary after every hour's run, and the chloride of silver has to be replaced after three or four hours' of use. The cell is thus expensive, but this is of minor importance in theatrical work as compared with its small size and weight—100 grammes.

THE *Yomi-uri Shimbun* says that the pay of the lady officials (*Niyokwan*) of the Imperial Household has been largely increased. Hitherto it has been two-thirds of the pay of the male officials, but from the beginning of this month the difference was abolished. If this be true, we congratulate the ladies of Japan on being the first to obtain a public recognition of equal rights with the stern sex.

ACCORDING to the *Official Gazette* (*Kwampo*), the numbers of foreign houses and residents in Yokohama up to the 31st of last December were as follows:—English; 55 houses, 327 males, 112 females, 76 boys and 80 girls; Austro-Hungarian: 1 house, 4 males, 1 female, 1 boy and 2 girls; French; 46 houses, 66 males, 19 females, 14 boys and 10 girls; American; 120 houses, 123 males, 58 females, 42 boys and 30 girls; German; number of houses unknown, 127 males, 14 females, 8 boys and 6 girls; Swiss; houses unknown, 27 males, 1 female, 2 boys and 3 girls; Danes; 4 houses, 17 males and 3 females; Portuguese; 21 houses, 21 males and 3 females, 7 boys and 4 girls; Dutch; 20 houses, 18 males,

5 females, 2 boys and 3 girls; Swedish and Norwegian; 24 males and 1 female; Belgian; 5 houses, 5 males, 1 female, 1 boy; Italian; 9 houses, 11 males, 2 females, 1 boy and 1 girl; Russian; 8 houses, 11 males, 1 female, 1 boy; Spanish; 1 house, 2 males, 1 boy; Chinese; 394 houses, 2,061 males, and 682 females, 347 boys and 273 girls. Total: 684 houses, 2,824 males, 903 females, 503 boys and 412 girls.

A WARM discussion is going on in Vienna newspapers in connection with the case of an officer recently dismissed from the army for refusing to fight a duel. Two young men, named Hintner and Mörl, both lieutenants in the Reserve, and both attending lectures in the University of Grätz, met last October at a railway station. Mörl made use of some offensive expression which Hintner thought was intended for himself. He asked Mörl if it was so, adding that if it was, or if the expression was repeated, he would box his ears. Mörl said it was intended for another person, and the incident ended. Four weeks later Mörl sent his seconds to Hintner, calling on him for a written apology and withdrawal of the words, otherwise challenging him to fight a duel. Hintner refused to withdraw his words; he also "refused absolutely to fight a duel, because it was against his religion, against reason and conscience, and also because duelling was forbidden both by the civil and the military law." Hereupon the matter was brought before a Court of Honour, consisting of superior officers of the 14th Army Corps. The decision of this Court was "approved" and published on January 12, and simply recites that "Josef Hintner, lieutenant in the Reserve of the Tyrolese Jäger Regiment of the Emperor Franz-Josef" is charged with "absolute refusal of a duel, and the sentence is that the accused be deprived of his commission and rank." This sentence, it appears, becomes forthwith operative.

During the recent experiments made with the Murata rifle at Shidzuhara, Shimosa, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, some very interesting results were obtained. The initial distance—1200 yards—was increased by 100 yards at every shot up to 1700 yards. At the longest range, the bullet struck the target within 3 centimètres of the centre. When fired at an angle of 23½ degrees, the bullet struck the earth between 3,100 and 3,300 yards distant from the marksman, penetrating into the mould to a depth of over 35 centimètres. The force of the wind during the experiments was between six and seven mètres.

IN a recent issue of the *Colliery Guardian*, Mr. G. G. André speaks in the following terms of electric light for mines:—"I have another word to say on the matter of electric safety lamps, on which I made some remarks a few weeks ago. All, so far as I have observed, who discuss the question in this country proceed on the assumption that the lamps are to be fed from wire leads, as in the case of lighting at surface. I think practical men are pretty well agreed that the lighting of fiery workings cannot be carried out in this way. Irrespective of the trouble attending the use of wire leads in underground workings, the dangers of rupture and 'short circuits' rob the system of the advantage which the lamp itself gives it. But to combat this system is to fight the wind. No one, so far at least as my observation has extended, is thinking of lighting in this way. Those who

are occupied in this work of lighting fiery places provide means for generating the current within the lamp itself by some form of galvanic cell of either a primary or a secondary nature. And it was to those efforts that my recent remarks were directed. The problem is beset with difficulties, but there is good ground for hoping that a sufficiently practical solution will shortly be arrived at. The chief difficulty has been the want of hearty co-operation on the part of mining men."

THE four-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the death of the celebrated priest and artist Chodensu is to be celebrated at the temple of Tofukuji in Kiyoto during three days, from the 12th of May. At the last centenary, the great painter Maruyama Okiyo was among those who took part in the ceremony, presenting to the temple fifty pictures of sacred subjects from his own brush. It is stated that this example will be followed on the present occasion by the artists Kubota Beizen and Sachino Bairei, who have prepared thirty pictures for presentation. Lovers of Japanese art may look forward to a rare treat, as the pictorial treasures of this well known temple will doubtless be exhibited. We are somewhat puzzled to account for the method of reckoning adopted by the chronologists of Tofukuji. According to generally credited history, Chodensu died on the 20th of the eighth month in 34th year of the era Oyei, that is to say, 458 years ago. It is possible, however, that the priests exclude the first, third and seventh anniversaries (*Isshuki*, *Sankwaiki*, and *Shichikwaiki*) from the account.

A VERY common expression is "Not lost, but gone before," and yet its true source has been almost wholly overlooked. It has figured as an epitaph upon gravestones, and has been utilised by the poets and other writers. No doubt everybody is acquainted with it, and it may therefore be worth while to point out where it in all probability comes from. The writer of an interesting article in a recent number of the *Bazaar* gives various instances of its occurrence, and concludes as follows:—"The thought is indeed a Christian thought, but the words are the words of a pagan. It was the stoic Seneca who said 'Not lost, but gone before;' *Non amittuntur, sed præmittuntur*." No reference to any place in Seneca is given, and it may fairly be questioned whether that author uses the actual words ascribed to him. There is in his 36th Epistle a remarkable sentence in which we read, "Death which we dread and shun interrupts life, does not take it away; the day will come again which shall restore us to the light, and which many would shun unless it brought back those who are forgotten." The meaning of this is not that of the Christian, and nothing else in Seneca, so far as we can discover, can be compared with the phrase under consideration. But Cyprian, the martyr, who wrote in the third century, supplies us with something very definite. In his discourse "On Mortality," Cyprian speaks in this language:—"Our brethren should not be bewailed when by the summons of the Lord they are delivered from this world: for I know that they are not lost but sent before (*non eos amitti, sed præmitti*), that when they retire they precede (or, go before), so that they ought to be longed after as those who go on a journey or a voyage, and not lamented." He adds what might serve as a motto for the Funeral Reform

Association, "that black garments should not be put on here when they have already put on white robes there." It will be seen at a glance that our common saying is almost an exact rendering of the words of Cyprian, and to him we should not hesitate to ascribe the expression.

THE Judgment of Lord Coleridge in the case of the Duke of Vallombrosa v. the proprietors and publisher of *Truth* has naturally excited some comment in England. The *Spectator* takes a very decided, and, we can not help thinking, a somewhat peculiar, line in its criticism. It sums up the judgment thus:—"In the first place, it was held that the fact of the Duke of Vallombrosa being a non-resident foreigner was, if not an absolutely conclusive answer, yet a very strong argument against his right to take criminal proceedings in England. The technical reason for this, that there is no ground in such a case for apprehending a breach of the peace, conceals the more solid and substantial ground that no appreciable injury has been done. But the chief points settled in the case were that to say things against the dead is not libellous, and that, as a rule, the special remedy by information is not open to a private individual, nor indeed to a public person unless he is libelled as such." The Lord Chief Justice, then, has decided that the dead can not be legally defended against abuse, or the living against the effects of obloquy heaped upon their buried relatives. The *Spectator* contends that if abuse of a man's ancestors were recognised as giving him "good cause for breaking the peace or prosecuting the writer for libel, there would be no end to libel actions." What course, then, is a man to pursue under such circumstances? Suppose that he hears his dead mother openly accused of immorality and his father of fraud, is he to fold his hands and let the tongue of slander wag without restraint? Even among the most barbarous peoples of the universe there is nothing held more sacred than a parent's memory, yet we are now assured, on the highest authority, that insults offered to that memory are beyond the reach of redress. The libeller may neither be chastised nor cited before the public tribunals. So long as this principle obtains, it is well that trial by jury should be perpetuated. Juries judge by sentiment, not by law. American juries have decided that when a man's wife is seduced, he is justified in losing his temper to the extent of shooting the seducer. English juries have not yet gone so far as that, but we suspect and hope that it would be very hard to find twelve jurors in the United Kingdom capable of condemning a man to fine or imprisonment for thrashing the traducer of his mother's fair fame, especially since the Chief Justices' Court has ruled that the law can not interfere to punish the traducer.

* * *

Commenting on the libel case which elicited the strange dictum that to abuse the dead in not libellous, the *Spectator* says:—"The sensitiveness of people to things said in the newspapers, even in newspapers which no one reads or regards, * * * tends to become a public nuisance. The papers which live on libel would find their trade a poor one if there were fewer prosecutions for libel." It is pleasant to see how thoroughly this principle is recognised by Japanese officials and private persons alike. There is an English journal in this country which lives by libelling the people of Japan.

their Ministers, and their institutions. Yet not only does the Government treat its utterances with silent contempt, but even the vernacular prints preserve towards it an attitude of complete indifference. In this matter the Japanese show excellent judgment. They may confidently trust their defence to public opinion, which will sooner or later recognise that not Japanese, but English, reputation suffers by these displays of wanton malignity.

THE natives of the Chiloe Islands make use of a curious natural barometer, to which, from its having been first noticed by the captain of an Italian corvette, the name "*Barometro Araucano*" has been given. This novel weather guide was described at a recent meeting of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, as the shell of a crab, one of the *Anomura*, probably of the genus *Lithodes*. It is peculiarly sensitive to atmospheric changes, and is nearly white in dry weather, but exhibits small red spots on the approach of moisture, and becomes completely red in the rainy season.

THE writer of "Notes on News" in a recent *Sportsman* relates the following curious match against time:—A pleasant little match against time was brought off at Heckmondwick a few days ago. This charming town, it should be known, possesses a champion shaver, whose prowess has been often extolled, if not in poetry, at least in prose. Some time since a man offered to back the lightning shaver for money to shave sixty persons within the space of an hour. The challenge was accepted and a time and place appointed. On one hand it was laid down as a condition that the shaving should be clean, and on the other that the barber should have the privilege of selecting the individuals to be operated upon. Another barber was chosen as umpire, and the sixty people to be scraped duly selected. At the appointed hour the contest commenced, the operator having the full knowledge that for every case in which he drew blood he would have to shave another man. Two latherers went in front bedaubing the row of faces with suds; the razors, a dozen or so in number, all ready stopped, lay at hand. As the clock struck the starting hour the razor flew around the head of the first subject like a succession of flashes of lightning, and his face was clean as a baby's arm, number two following in quick succession, the referee passing his hand over the skin where the work had been done to find out whether the stubble had all been removed. In ten minutes the barber had cleared the superfluous hair from fourteen faces. In twenty minutes nine-and-twenty subjects had been operated upon, and still the razor rested not. Stiff, black stubble, and light sandy fluff, rich brown roots just showing above the soil, and grey spikes of mature age, all fell before the relentless razor as it swished up and down, back and front, and round about. In forty-two minutes the specified sixty had been shaved, but the lightning shaver thirsted for more. He must scrape or burst. Young and old, tall and short, thick and thin were hauled in, lathered and shaved until the hour struck, and then, and then only, the demon shaver ceased from his labours and "took a long pull at a foaming pot." He had shaved eight-four persons! This man should come to London. In company with a barber who trims our own broad cheeks at odd intervals he would make a fortune in a few weeks. The

pair would shave their way through the Strand, taking all comers nearly as quickly as the trains on some of our southern lines travel.

THE Osaka correspondent of the *Choya Shim-bun* writes as follows:—"The cold weather has been unusually severe and of long duration, so much so that the water was fast frozen in the tanks up to a few days ago. The tea plants throughout Yamato have suffered greatly, and the planters predict an unusually scanty harvest. As the young leaves cannot be picked, the retail salesmen are clinging to last season's teas in order to cause a rise in the quotations. Political lectures, social gatherings, and fencing, which were all the fashion during the winter months, have gone out of vogue, their place being taken by vocal and instrumental concerts. No one, be he an official or the meanest workman, can hope to enter within the precincts of the society of his class unless he plays the *shakuhachi* (a sort of flute)." This latter clause reminds one of the manner in which "Clarence Linden" is introduced to the "Duke of Haverfield" in Bulwer Lytton's "The Disowned"—"Most delightful young man, Your Grace, and plays the flute."

HERE is a very singular illustration of the optical delusion which a change of position will sometimes effect. Take a row of ordinary capital letters and figures:—

SSSSSSSSXXXXXXXXX888888888.

They are such as are made up of two parts of equal shapes. Look carefully at these, and you will perceive that the upper halves of the characters are a very little smaller than the lower halves—so little that an ordinary eye declares them to be of an equal size. Now turn the paper upside down, and, without any careful looking, you will see that this difference in size is very much exaggerated; that the real top half of the letter is very much smaller than the bottom half. It will be seen from this that there is a tendency in the eye to enlarge the upper part of any object upon which it looks.

SOME very successful experiments in communicating over long distances by telephone have been made by the officials of the electric telegraph department at Port Elizabeth. The first experiment, says the *Colonies and India*, was made between Port Elizabeth and Graham's Town, when the sound was freely transmitted along the line, a lively conversation being carried on. Songs sung were also distinctly heard at the other end. The Fort Beaufort line was then connected, and an extension made *via* Humansdorp, giving a total length of communication of over 400 miles, through which the sound travelled with astonishing clearness. It is probable that an attempt will shortly be made to communicate with Cape Town by the telephone. If this can be done it will prove a great boon.—*Electrician*.

Says the *Bukka Shimpō*:—"The public have by this time evidently become aware of the nutrition in beef and milk, for the consumption of these victuals has greatly increased of late, and pastures and butcheries have sprung up all over the country. Beef, however, differs in point of flavour and nutritive qualities in various districts; and so, too, does milk. Imported cattle generally yield a great quantity of rich milk, but their meat is poor, while the "Kobe" beef (a term applied to the cattle of Tango, Tajima, Harima, and Bizen) is well-flavoured, although the cows

give but a scanty supply of the lacteal fluid. Several live-stock owners have raised a cross-breed between the Oshiu and imported cattle, but these half-breds are invariably inferior to the native oxen. The Kobe cattle are worth 10 *yen* a head on an average, while those from Oshiu rarely bring more than 5 *yen*; it is not improbable that judicious interbreeding between Kobe and imported cattle would be attended with very favourable results. At present, 13,000 head are annually consumed in the capital.

THE *Feiri Shim-bun* states that it is the intention of the Government to dispense with the services of all the foreigners employed throughout the country in connection with mining industries, and to replace them by Japanese. That this would only be consistent with the policy pursued during the five years ending 1881, will be evident from the following tables:—

NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOY.					
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Englishmen	204	180	132	111	81
Americans	43	41	37	39	21
Russians	1	5	4	4	1
Dutchmen	7	8	10	7	5
French	64	40	33	15	10
Portuguese	3	2	2	1	0
Germans	25	23	22	37	32
Swiss	2	1	1	2	2
Belgians	0	0	0	0	1
Italians	5	6	6	7	6
Danes	1	1	0	0	0
Austrians	4	2	3	4	3
Chinese	17	13	8	7	3
West-Indians	1	1	1	0	0
Malays	4	3	3	2	2
Totals	381	326	262	236	167

SUMS YEARLY EXPENDED IN SALARIES AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS.

1877.....	\$975,612	1880.....	693,700
1878.....	863,988	1881.....	\$546,598
1879.....	737,544		

It is interesting to observe that the reductions were greatest in the cases of Frenchmen and Englishmen, and least in the case of Germans.

HOME papers received by the last mail announce that Mr. Buckle, who has for the last two years been sub-editor to Mr. Chenery, has been appointed his successor. Mr. Buckle, was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1880, and was educated at Winchester and Oxford. His father is the Rev. Prebendary Buckle, of Weston-super-Mare. The number of people who have been disappointed over this appointment is said to have been amusingly large.

A MEMBER of the House of Commons experienced a curious and at first very startling surprise, says a home paper, at St. Stephen's one day last week. He had got down to the House very early, about a quarter past three, long before business begins, in order to consult some work in the library. Being on the spot, he thought he might as well go into the Chamber and secure his seat at once. What was his surprise on passing the threshold of the deserted room to see the Speaker actually sitting in the Chair. He paused for a moment in bewilderment and rubbed his eyes. Could he be dreaming, or was it some trick of vision? No. There the Speaker undoubtedly was, sitting with even more than usual solemnity and rigidity, calmly watching over an absolutely empty Chamber. What could be the meaning of this, the puzzled member asked himself. Was there a morning sitting? No, it was not Wednesday, and there had been no special summons of any kind, so it couldn't be that. Cautiously, almost timorously, he approached the table. The Speaker made no movement, but continued to gaze stonily before him. A terrible thought flashed across the

member's mind. Could regret at the loss of the speakership have unhinged Sir Henry Brand's mind, and have thus led him to assume his duties long before the appointed time. Full of fear, the member almost fled out of the House, and hurriedly inquired of one of the officials why Mr. Speaker had chosen to take his seat thus early. "Why, sir," the official replied, "he's having his photograph taken in official robes. The photographer is in one of the upper galleries."

NAVAL officers, scientific men, and others are interested in a terrible gun, invented by a Mr. Miffin, which is intended to throw dynamite. It is twenty-eight feet long, and the diameter of the bore is four inches. There will be an air compressor attached to it, which is now in process of construction with the gun at Norwalk. It would not do to use powder as a propelling power, for its sudden action would explode the dynamite cartridge at the start, and blow the gun to atoms. Compressed air, at a pressure of about 300 pounds to the square inch, will take the place of powder, and the gun is expected to throw a three-pound cartridge a distance of two miles. If the gun is a success, others of a size sufficient to throw 100 pounds of dynamite ten miles will be constructed. The gun, loaded with sand, is to be tested at an early day.—*Washington Post*.

A VERY good house patronized the second concert of the Lynch Family Bellringers on Wednesday evening, and applauded their efforts most heartily. The bellringing was as excellent and enjoyable as ever, while some of the numbers on the programme were still finer than before. The "Varsoviennne" was especially melodious, and equally pretty were "Send me a Letter from Home," "Nancy Lee," and "The Last Rose of Summer." Mr. W. Lynch's potpourri on the Clock Bells was a marvel of dexterity, but the ring of these bells is not nearly so soft and sweet as that of the others. Mr. Farron was in better form than on Monday evening, and again brought the house down by his Irish impersonations; his comic interludes are in the happiest vein of broad humour, and never fail to provoke merriment. The "Sailor's Hornpipe" was very gracefully danced by Mr. W. Lynch, who is one of the best dancers we have yet seen. Unfortunately for the enjoyment of the audience, some inebriated person near the entrance kept up an audible accompaniment to, and running criticism of, the entertainment, much to the disgust of his neighbours. It seems rather a pity that such customers are not excluded *vi et armis*. A matinée concert will be given on Saturday afternoon, for which a special programme has been arranged, and a third "Drawing Room Concert" takes place on Monday evening next.

THE Douglas Steamship Co.'s steamer *Fokien* (says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 9th inst.), which arrived from the Coast Ports yesterday, brings news that the Italian corvette *Cristoforo Colombo* had been ashore. The following is the *Fokien's* report:—"Nearing Amoy on Saturday, 5th, at noon, in thick, foggy weather, fell in with an Italian man-of-war's boat and crew, bearing tidings that an Italian man-of-war had gone ashore somewhere in that vicinity about 6 a.m. Arrived at Amoy, duly reported the same, and at once proceeded to her assistance. The facts showed that the Italian corvette *Cristoforo Colombo*, Captain Accinni, from Hongkong to Amoy, had grounded

on the Quemoy Bank at high water in a fog. As the evening tide made, and she failed to move with her engines going full speed, preparations were started to lighten her, the *Fokien*, at the Italian Commander's wish, going into Amoy for lighters. However, the flood tide in the morning canted the ship a little, and by again applying full pressure of steam to her engines, she glided off into ten fathoms of water without other assistance. The *Cristoforo Colombo* steamed into Amoy and anchored at 7 p.m. (Sunday), having apparently sustained little or no injury. It is worthy of remark that the German corvette *Stosch*, Captain Von Nostitz, left Amoy with the intention of rendering assistance, but owing to the thickness of the fog, she had made but little progress toward the scene when news reached her that the Italian was afloat again and proceeding."

THE *Official Gazette* publishes the following telegram from Peking, dated the 10th inst. :—An Imperial Decree has been issued to the Privy Council, ordering this body to manage the affairs of the Empire, in concert with Prince Shun, during the minority of the reigning Emperor. Another despatch, dated the 11th inst., states that Lün Shū has been temporarily appointed Keeper of the Great Seal of the T'sung-li Yamên.

It is stated that the two vessels of war now in course of construction in England, to the order of the Japanese Government, are to be called the *Naniwa Kan* and the *Takachiho Kan*.

A TEMPERANCE meeting was held at the Seamen's Mission on Tuesday, and was largely attended by the Good Templars of H.M.S. *Sapphire*, by whom songs and recitations were given. Mrs. Austin played the accompaniment and sung. The meeting was addressed in a most eloquent manner by the Rev. Mr. Bennett, and addresses were also delivered by Messrs. Hodnett, Austin, and Elmer, which brought a most agreeable meeting to a close.

WE learn from a vernacular journal that the first parcel of new tea reached Nakajimaya in Yokohama, from Shidzuoka, on the 8th instant, and was immediately sold to No. 20 at the rate of 8 *yen* per catty. The newspaper which tells this story adds that this means 800 *yen* per picul, an "immense price, but then there is no limit to what people will pay for *hatsu-mono* (the first of anything)."

A good story is told of the late Bishop of Winchester. Staying once in a country house, he retired to his room to write letters. When he had finished he rang his bell to see about their transmission to the post. A little serving-maid appeared, who had been specially drilled always to address the right reverend guest as "my lord," and was rather flustered accordingly. To his lordship making particular inquiries who was to be intrusted with his letters, she accordingly, dropping a timid curtsy, made answer, "The lord, my boy!"

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 9th inst., thus refers to the departure from that Colony of H.I.M.'s Minister to Great Britain :—His Excellency Mori Arinori, Japanese Ambassador to London, with Mrs. Mori left here for Japan by the M.M. steamer *Volga* yesterday. His Excellency had been the guest of the Governor, and at about

eleven o'clock he drove down to the Murray Pier with Mrs. Mori in Sir George Bowen's carriage, accompanied by Lieut. Lewis, A.D.C. A guard of honour of 50 men of the Buffs, with the band of the regiment, were drawn up on the Cricket Ground, and saluted as His Excellency passed them, and salutes were fired by the shore battery and by H.M.S. *Audacious*.

As was but natural, Baker Pasha met with an enthusiastic reception from his old regiment, the 10th Hussars, on its arrival at Suakim, his former connection with the Prince of Wales's Own, dating back to the days when he joined it as a captain from the 12th Lancers, not having been forgotten. Valentine Baker must have been deeply affected by this ready recognition of one who was in his time one of the most popular and efficient cavalry colonels in her Majesty's Service. His many friends are again asking, Is a sin once committed never to be condoned? Apropos of the arrival of the British reinforcements at Suakim, what has led the usually accurate special correspondent of the *Daily News* to suppose that the "Royal Irish Fusiliers are already known for their service in South Africa"? The regiment has not been there in the memory of any of its officers, and has not been under fire for close upon twenty-five years.

Colonel Burnaby, who is with our expeditionary forces in Upper Egypt, can claim an old acquaintance with Suakim, as he was there in 1874 with the late Mr. J. F. Russell, and proceeded thence to Khartoum in search of adventure, and with an eye to the shooting of lions, hippos, and such like *fera naturæ*. As some surprise has been expressed at Colonel Burnaby's presence in the field with Baker Pasha, we may mention that he is on leave of absence from his regiment, and is thus enabled to fill four such widely different appointments as Lieut.-Colonel Commanding the Blues, Silver Stick-in-Waiting, special correspondent of the *Morning Post*, and acting commandant of a levy of raw Soudanese and Egyptian troops. Still—how does he do it?—*Whitehall Review*.

A MEETING of the Alpha Lodge I.O.G.T. took place on Wednesday, and was well attended, when one of the ladies present favored the audience with two songs, very nicely rendered. The audience was delighted with readings and recitations of members of the crew of H.M.S. *Sapphire*. After this the Rev. Mr. Smith delivered one of his popular addresses on temperance, the reverend gentleman being followed by Messrs. Hodnett and Bunting with a few well-timed remarks.

It is said that since watches and chains came into vogue the pickpockets of Tokiyo have developed remarkable skill. They succeeded in relieving no less than 173 persons of their timekeepers during the course of last month.

THE Osaka Garrison went through a series of very interesting manœuvres at Umeta on the 10th instant. A railway which had been temporarily constructed for the purpose was destroyed by the troops in fine form, the rails being torn up and the sleepers demolished. The work of destruction occupied two hours, and was intended to demonstrate the manner of wrecking the track of a hostile force.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes the following telegram from Peking, dated the 14th inst. :—Kwan

has been appointed President of the T'sung-li Yamên, and Sū Ji-shien (Superintendent of Education) is gazetted Vice-President.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 8th instant says :—His Excellency Mori Arinori, Japanese Ambassador to England, who with Mrs. Mori arrived here on Sunday in the M.M. steamer *Yangtsé*, on his way home to Japan, was yesterday the guest of the Governor.

THE official opening of the railway from Tokiyo to Takasaki is now definitely fixed for the 1st proximo. The train conveying the distinguished personages by whom the ceremony is to be performed will, we believe, start from Uyeno at 7.30 a.m. and reach Takasaki at 10.30, returning in the afternoon.

THE work of constructing a race course around Lake Shinobadzu, Uyeno, is rapidly progressing. A large number of labourers are employed in filling up the lake, the water of which was nearly entirely drawn off by cutting through the embankment opposite to the Riukan Bashi, whence it was carried through a ditch leading to Shami-sen-bori, Asakusa. The course is expected to be completed in time for the Spring Meeting of the Union Race Club.

A SCHOOL, known as the *Tokiyo Futsu-go Gakko*, has been established at Kanda, under the auspices of several members of the *Société de la Langue Française de Tokiyo*. The institution gives every promise of being very successful.

It is stated that the antiquities in the Yushokwan at the shrine of Yasukuni-jinja, Kudan, which have hitherto been open for public inspection on Sundays only, will in future be shown to visitors on Wednesdays also.

HIS EXCELLENCY MORI, Representative of Japan at the Court of St. James's, reached Tokiyo on the 14th inst., having returned to Japan on leave of absence.

THE telegraph line between Yokohama and Yokosuka is in process of extension to Uruga, and a station will be opened at the latter place very shortly.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Thibet* left Nagasaki yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock for this Port, *via* Hiogo, and that the Company's steamer *Kashgar* left the same port for Hongkong at 10 a.m. on Thursday.

THE British bark *Velotily* is chartered to load sugar at Takao for this port, thence to Newchwang, and there to load for Hongkong.

THE German bark *Wilhelm Homeyer* is chartered to load at Newchwang for Hongkong or Whampao.

THE German brig *Minerva* sailed for Takao on the 12th inst., where she loads sugar for this port.

THE German bark *Orient* is chartered to load at Chefoo for Amoy, and sailed on Tuesday.

THE British bark *Glenury* is fixed to load coals at Nagasaki for Taku.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Tokio* left San Francisco on the 12th inst.

THE END OF A CHAPTER OF JAPANESE HISTORY.

IT has always been the desire of Japanese and foreigners alike to consign to oblivion the assassination which took place at Namamugi, on the Tokaido, nearly twenty-two years ago, and which ultimately involved the loss of many innocent lives at the bombardment of Kagoshima.¹ Now that we are in a position to review calmly and by the light of larger knowledge the story of Japan's early intercourse with Western nations, we can see that not a few of the outrages then attributed to wanton ferocity and lust for blood, had their real origin in a spirit which, however mistaken, was certainly patriotic. The Namamugi affair, too, was attended by this special circumstance, that, at the time of the assault, the sufferers were unwittingly violating a sumptuary law hitherto invariably enforced against Japanese themselves with the utmost rigour. To walk or ride across or beside the procession of a Daimiyo was an unpardonable offence, and had often been punished by immediate death. Of this, however, the party which set out to ride from Kanagawa to Kawasaki on the afternoon of September 14th, 1862, knew nothing. Proceeding in couples, a lady and gentleman in front, and two gentlemen behind, they became entangled among the armed escort of a Daimiyo travelling southward, and when, warned in part by the menacing looks, in part by the gestures of the Japanese soldiers, they would have turned back, swords were suddenly drawn and wounds inflicted of which one proved mortal. To what extent this cruel deed was prompted by a hatred of foreigners, we shall probably never know. One thing is certain; namely, that the chief whose retainers committed the crime was the head and front of the combination against the TOKUGAWA Shogunate, and that among the weapons employed by that combination none was counted more serviceable than an attitude of opposition to foreign barbarians. Japanese, speaking frankly of the events of those days, assert that probably half of the anti-foreign agitation was instigated by a desire to involve the Yedo Government in difficulties which might hasten its overthrow. While, therefore, there is no evidence whatsoever to show that the Namamugi outrage was either ordered or approved by the leaders of the cortège, there is fair reason to assume that the men who actually perpetrated the deed believed they were acting in accordance with the policy of their party. Of their fierce hostility to foreigners, whether from political or patriotic motives, there can be very little doubt. If any proof of this were wanting, it would have been furnished by the terrible wounds they inflicted on the body of the dying man when they found him lying on

¹ In addition to the losses on the English side, 1,500 Japanese were killed or wounded and property of the estimated value of a million sterling was destroyed.

the Tokaido half a mile beyond the place where he was first struck.

This unhappy page of history has long ago ceased to find any apologists in Japan. Whether RICHARDSON met his death because he was a foreigner, or because he inadvertently violated an uncivilized usage barbarously enforced, the disgrace remains equally heavy. One thing only could in part efface it, namely, its hearty condemnation by the country whose annals it disfigures. That condemnation has been unequivocally pronounced, not by any definite expression of public opinion, but by the far more trustworthy evidences of national regeneration with which the records of the past fifteen years abound. To such evidences, too, must now be added an episode of singular significance—an episode which, to our thinking, bears wonderful witness to the change which has come over the spirit of this nation.

In addition to an indemnity² and apology exacted from the SHOGUN'S Government, it was resolved that direct steps should be taken to force the Prince of SATSUMA to arrest RICHARDSON'S murderers, and to pay a sum of \$100,000 by way of compensation to the dead man's relatives as well as to the wounded survivors. Seven British ships of war were despatched upon this service. The results of their operations were that three steamers, five large Riukiu junks, an extensive arsenal, the greater part of the town of Kagoshima, and all the batteries of Satsuma, were destroyed, while about 1,500 Japanese were killed or wounded. These terrible effects were produced in a bombardment lasting only a few hours, and, as a not unnatural consequence, the clansmen of the great Southern Daimiyo concluded, then and there, that their strength was quite inadequate to cope with that of European nations. It is not necessary for our present purpose to enter into the details of this now celebrated Kagoshima expedition, or to note the grave faults unquestionably committed on the English, as well as the Japanese, side. The issue is all we have to deal with, and that, as we have said, was the final abandonment of anti-foreign designs by the Satsuma clan. To the Namamugi outrage are, therefore, attributed by thinking Japanese the first great blow struck at their country's seclusion, and the initial impulse which has since been followed by such remarkable and salutary reforms.

The episode to which we allude is the outcome of this radically altered mood. It is the erection of a monument to RICHARDSON'S memory, not by any party of politicians or progressionists, but by the farmer to whom the land belongs. RICHARDSON, a man of herculean frame, managed to keep his saddle for some time though he had received a wound which nearly cut him in two. Ultimately, falling to the ground, he struggled to a well by the road-side, and there,

² Four hundred thousand dollars.

a few minutes afterwards, received the blows which ended his life. About this well a mound has now been built, and on the top a monument raised, bearing the following inscription:—

In memory of
C. D. RICHARDSON,
An Englishman, who lost his life at this spot,
September 14th, 1862.
This monument is erected by the proprietor of
the land,
Kurokawa Sozo,
At whose request the following epitaph was
composed by
Keiu Nakamura Masanao,
December, 1883:—

君 我 萬 援 耳 強 我 君
其 今 國 々 目 藩 邦 流
含 作 有 生 新 起 變 血
笑 歌 史 死 兮 兮 進 兮
子 勤 君 崎 唱 王 亦 此
九 貞 名 知 民 室 其 海
原 珉 傳 聞 權 振 源 壩

"Shed by this sea-shore, the blood of a stranger
"Flowed in a fountain of national progress.
"Strong clans uprising, the hands of the Emperor
"Swayed once again the sceptre of Sovereignty;
"And towards reform the mind of the nation
"Turning, awoke to the rights of the people.
"Who in the homes of the dead or the living
"Knows not this brave man? His name shall be
written
"Wherever the pages of history are open.
"I, on this stone his story recording,
"Pray that the thoughts of the blessings he
brought us
"May gladden his heart in the land of the shades."

The language of this epitaph speaks for itself. It necessarily loses much in translation, but the thoughts that inspired the writer cannot be robbed of their earnestness and beauty. A brighter obverse could scarcely have been conceived for so dark a page of history, and while we greet this monument under the pine-trees at Namamugi as a silent yet eloquent witness that Japan has completely emerged into the light of a better civilization, we may be permitted to express a hope that her liberal mood will be educated, not discouraged, by the treatment she receives at the hands of her foreign friends.

THE NEW BUREAU.

THE formation of the *Seido-tori-shirabe-kiyoku*, or Bureau of Constitutional Reform, and the appointment of His Excellency ITO to preside over it, have not attracted much attention among foreigners, probably because accurate information with regard to the functions of the new office, or the peculiar relation in which it stands to His Majesty the EMPEROR, is not accessible. Ever since the promulgation of the celebrated edict of October, 1881, and more especially since Mr. ITO'S return from Europe, it has been expected that some definite step would be taken to pave the way for the political changes promised in the twenty-third year of Meiji (1890). At first sight, it seems an exaggeration to say that the interval still remaining before the convention of the National Assembly is not at all too long for the necessary pre-

parations; yet when the nature of those preparations is considered minutely, the possibility of accomplishing them thoroughly in six years begins to look doubtful. We may, however, presume that the scheme to be pursued has been outlined already with tolerable accuracy, and that the work of filling in the details will now proceed with vigour. But beyond presumption the public is not permitted to go. So little is known that, with the exception of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, whose article we translate to-day, the Tokiyo journals have refrained from comment on the new Bureau, as well as on the dual nature of its President's functions. Students of Japanese history will not be surprised at the exceptional steps taken to associate the EMPEROR with every stage of the preparations for a Constitution. So far back as we have any trustworthy information, it has been the custom in Japan to regard as an act of rebellion every political change not accompanied, in fact or appearance, by Imperial sanction; and if the new Constitution is to secure the loyal assent of the nation, there can be no better place to arrange its preliminaries than within the precincts of the Palace. To persons not familiar with the inner workings of Japanese institutions this reason will scarcely seem sufficient for the additional office conferred on His Excellency ITO. As our Tokiyo contemporary points out, the Household Department had hitherto remained untouched by any of the changes introduced since the Reformation. Its Minister had always been a noble of Imperial blood, and whether the policy of combining or separating Departmental and Legislative functions was in vogue, his office continued independent and unassociated. People had thus learned to think that the affairs of the Palace and the business of managing them, were something outside the pale of official interference, and no small astonishment was expressed when, simultaneously with the establishment of the new Bureau, its President was gazetted to the place previously held by His Excellency TOKUDAIJI. The probable explanation is, that in electing to adopt the leading features of the German Constitution, Japanese reformers have recognised the necessity of creating some machinery for the exercise of that autocratic authority which is still a prominent feature of the great European Empire, and which appears naturally adapted to the Governmental traditions of this country. In pursuance of such a project, the first step which suggests itself is to extend the sphere of the Household Department's functions, to make it, in fact, an active part of the Administration, not a mere office of ceremonies. This, we are disposed to think, and not the mere accessibility of the EMPEROR, is at the root of the nomination which has excited so much interest in Japanese circles.

Other reflections will not fail to occur to foreign observers in connection with

this new appointment. It is now just twenty years since the news of the violent closure of the Straits of Shimonoseki by the Prince of NAGATO reached the ears of five Japanese youths who were studying in England. Themselves retainers of this warlike chieftain, they had made their way to Europe with no little trouble and risk,—some (of whom the present Minister for Foreign Affairs is one) actually working before the mast as common sailors,—not in pursuit of peaceful erudition like students of the present day, but, if possible, to acquire such a knowledge of Western military science as might avail to expel from their country visitors whose advent they had been taught to consider fatal to the nation's happiness and independence. A very brief contact with European civilization, as seen in London and other great cities, effectually opened their eyes to the errors of their traditional creed, and when intelligence reached them that their own clan had actually drawn the sword against foreigners, the two most active spirits of the five lost not a moment in returning to Japan, resolved that, so far at least as they were concerned, no effort should be spared to divert their country's policy into wiser and more enlightened grooves. On reaching Yokohama they found a large squadron of English, French, and Dutch ships assembled, and learned that the guns of these vessels would shortly be turned against their own clansmen. Immediately they placed themselves in communication with the British Representative, and offered to proceed to Nagato as his envoys, believing that what they had to tell their chief of European civilization would have more effect than the arguments of twenty fleets. They knew well the nature of the perils that awaited any envoys visiting CHOSHU on such an errand. Even the Foreign Representatives understood the situation sufficiently to warn the British Admiral that he must "allow for obstacles and causes of delay, since it was impossible to doubt that there were collected in CHOSHU'S territories many *Ronin* who might make short work of any messengers of peace." The two youths were carried to their destination in H.M.S. *Barossa*. The Nagato clansmen, persuaded that they were acting in accordance with the EMPEROR'S wishes, refused to abandon their hostile attitude, but asked for three months' delay to communicate with Kiyoto. This was refused, and the bombardment of Shimonoseki took place shortly afterwards, not, however, before one of the young envoys, Mr. INOUE, had been waylaid and almost cut to pieces by those of his clansmen who believed that every advocate of foreign intercourse was a traitor to Japan. The other, Mr. ITO, who remained for many weeks disguised in the house of a foreign official, escaped a similar fate with infinite difficulty. That these two youths, of comparatively insignificant social position, who were not only the first Japanese openly to

risk their lives in the cause of foreign intercourse, but also first to recommend the course afterwards followed with so much success—the opening of treaty relations directly with the MIKADO—that these two youths, we say, have since then risen, little by little, to the highest positions of State, and continued, through evil report and good report, to direct the policy of this country, is, to our thinking, the best possible guarantee of the sincerity and earnestness of Japanese progress. As Minister of the Household Department and President of the Bureau charged with the compilation of the Constitution, His Excellency ITO has virtual control of the internal administration of his country; while, as Minister of Foreign Affairs at a time when the hopes of a great part of the nation are centered upon the recovery of Japan's independent status, His Excellency INOUE occupies a position of no less trust and responsibility. Fortune certainly had wonderful things in store for the two students who sailed from Yokohama in the *Barossa* on the morning of the 21st of July, 1864.

AN ECHO OF A CONSUL-GENERAL'S SPEECH.

ONE of the pleasures we enjoy in Japan is that long after our controversies have ceased to disturb us, their echoes come back from abroad freed from much of the caloric and fervour of the original tumult. It will be remembered that, at the end of last year, the Consul-General for Denmark, Mr. E. DE BAVIER, when proposing the health of the President of the Yokohama Judicial Courts at a dinner given by the latter to the Foreign Consuls, paid some compliments to the new Japanese Codes as well as as to the promise of efficiency given by the judiciary. His speech created quite a sensation among the conservatives of our Settlement, whose apprehensions of impending changes were so keen that even a post-prandial oration tinged with liberal sentiments threw them into a fever of excitement. Taunts, sneers, abuse, and ridicule were heaped upon the unfortunate Consul-General's head, and altogether a perfect hurricane blew, for a few days, in the Yokohama tea-pot. Finally Mr. DE BAVIER appeased the uproar by addressing to the local press a few lines in which he took upon his own shoulders the whole responsibility of what he had said. This, to be sure, was a little superfluous, seeing that nobody suspected the Consuls of endorsing sentiments which pointed, in the near future, to a partial disappearance of their own *raison d'être*; but still in the abstract, if such a very simple step could still the storm, Mr. DE BAVIER would have been wrong not to take it. At all events he took it, and the incident had almost faded out of sight, when, after the interval necessary for the transmission of the news to Europe the

London and China Express sends us back an echo in the following form:—

The attacks recently made in various quarters on the immunities secured to foreigners in Japan by treaty have been so systematic and persistent that undue sensitiveness can easily be pardoned. Not to speak of the energetic and able advocacy of the policy of abolishing extra-territorial rights in a portion of the foreign Press in Japan itself, we see Dr. Von Stein on the Continent and writers in the London Press—of whom "Asiaticus," in the *Daily News*, is the most recent example—supporting a similar course. Foreigners in Japan may well be anxious about cherished privileges, which are to them as the breath of their nostrils, when they perceive them assailed on all hands, as if by a concerted design. These privileges are not, we think, in any serious danger just yet, for the men whose voices must be most potent in any settlement of this nature have not, so far, shown any tendency to deprive Europeans of their present treaty rights. Under these circumstances we are not disposed to attach undue importance to the speech of Mr. Bavier, the senior Consul-General at Yokohama, at a banquet recently given to the Consular Corps by the Judge of the Yokohama Court. Much allowance, too, must be made for the expansiveness natural and becoming in a convivial gathering such as this. Mr. Bavier—to whom we believe we do no injustice when we say that his studies have not lain in the direction of native or foreign jurisprudence—is reported to have contrasted Japanese legislation in the past with the codes recently issued. This was perfectly fair and appropriate; but the words with which special complaint is found are these:—"We find public courts constituted on modern principles applying codes of laws which answer all demands of modern civilization." Mr. Bavier's experience of codes of laws or of their administration is, we understand, of a limited nature. Had these remarks come from the trained Consular judges of Germany, France, England, or the United States, they would bear a different complexion. At the same time Mr. Bavier, in responding for his colleagues, should have been careful to ascertain that the language he was about to utter was not contrary to their sentiments. The Japanese, however, will know how to discount Mr. Bavier's speech; they are intimately acquainted with the difference between professional and trading Consuls, and know that Mr. Bavier, or the country he represents, can have little weight in the decision of the questions in which they are interested. The matter is hardly worth any further attention, and we trust there is no truth in the rumour that representations on the subject will be made to the Government which Mr. Bavier represents.

We do not know how the critics who assailed Mr. DE BAVIER will feel about this defence of their conduct and exposition of their motives. Our London contemporary is quite frank, and apparently quite unconscious of the oddity of his frankness. He tells us exactly in what consisted the gravamen of Mr. DE BAVIER'S crime, nay, even quotes the very words which are supposed to have destroyed the equanimity of half Yokohama:—"We find public courts constituted on modern principles applying codes of laws which answer all demands of modern civilization." There is the whole story. These nineteen words comprise the whole sum and substance of the Consul-General's offending. Yet not one of the nineteen is false, superfluous, or misleading. The Japanese public courts of criminal law are constituted on modern principles, and the codes of law they apply *do* answer all the demands of modern civilization. In what, then, did Mr. DE BAVIER offend? Evidently in speaking about courts or codes at all, since he is only a "trading consul" and since "his studies have not lain in the direction of native or foreign jurisprudence." We do not know much ourselves about Mr. DE BAVIER'S studies, and we venture to assert that the majority of his critics know very little more.

So far as they or we are concerned, he may be a very encyclopædia of jurisprudence. At all events, in proposing the health of a legal dignitary, it is not unusual to speak of courts and codes. To be sure, Mr. DE BAVIER, had his sympathy been sufficiently keen for the sensitiveness of some of his colleagues and the prejudices of many of his fellow-residents, might have avoided the difficulty by frankly confessing it. He might have informed his host, the President of the Courts, that the guests he had invited being, in the main, opposed to any applause of Japanese institutions, it really would not do to pay compliments; and that, in accepting his invitation and drinking his health, the Consuls wished distinctly to disavow any sentiment save that of pure conviviality. Such a proviso would not have been very polite to Mr. Justice HASEGAWA, but it is not always necessary to be polite, especially in Japan. The main object of public speakers should be to exhibit the utmost deference for those "cherished privileges" which, the *London and China Express* says, are to foreigners "as the breath of their nostrils;" and since these privileges are founded on the hypothesis of Japan's incompetence to exercise the functions of independence, nothing should be more carefully avoided than any suggestion of her competence. But Mr. DE BAVIER fell into the error of supposing that the usages of society and the principles of justice are pretty much the same in Japan as elsewhere. Possibly he had not made an original study of the workings of Japanese criminal courts or the provisions of Japanese criminal codes. But, at all events, he had the materials for a pretty conclusive estimate near at hand: he had the essays and reviews of some of the greatest European jurists; and if he consulted them, he might have found expressions like the following:—

"The reform of penal legislation in Japan will place the penal administration in harmony with the spirit and culture of modern days."—(WINES, President of the Penitentiary Congress, Stockholm.)

"The penal system is rationally constructed; the definitions of crimes are given in simple clear outlines; the penalties attached are proportionate and humane; and the experience of the cultured world as well as the progress of European science have been regarded throughout."—(BERNER, Berlin.)

"For those nations who have come into more active intercourse with Japan, there cannot but arise a pleasure in the consciousness of the fact that the prosecution and judgment of punishable offences are regulated according to European models. * * * Although it is true that in consequence of copying too closely the model of the French *Code d'instruction criminelle*, the Criminal procedure of Japan does not always deserve unlimited praise; on the other hand, we cannot withhold from the Penal Code the unreserved admiration which has already been expressed by an authority (Bernier) so generally acknowledged in the field of penal legislation. * * * This Code is well thought out, systematically arranged, and the penal system harmoniously and rationally elaborated."—(MAYER, Vienna.)

"A great change will be accomplished in the Empire of Japan when the new Criminal Law is applied there. No legislation will approach more closely to our own than that which will then enter into operation."—(DESJARDINS, Paris.)

"In sum, and with rare exceptions, when one considers the provisions of this scheme elaborated by a commission of Japanese, one fancies he is reading the text of an European legislation: one has, in a measure, before one's eyes one of those

schemes which the most advanced science presents to the legislators of the Occident. One is pleased with the diffusion of light over the whole surface of the globe, and feels almost ashamed to speak of ameliorations which our own jurists have counselled, but our legislators have not yet taken the time to effect."—(LABBÉ, Paris.)

"A Penal Code free from all reminiscence of a backward, aged, and crude law, inspired with a liberal spirit revealing a scientific sense, composed with a legislative art worthy of praise: a Code of Criminal Procedure which does not deserve, it is true, to figure in the first rank, and does not open any new horizons, but nevertheless sanctions, in general, the grand principles of modern Procedure, the irrevocable conquests of Civilization and Justice: such are the precious gifts that the Japanese Government has just made to its people."—(VAN HAMEL, Amsterdam.)

It may be, we say, that Mr. DE BAVIER consulted these authorities, and based on them his statements that there are in Japan "public courts constituted on modern principles," and that they apply "codes of law which answer all demands of modern civilization." He thought, perhaps, that the utterances of such jurisconsults as BERNER, WINES, MAYER, VAN HAMEL, DESJARDINS, and LABBÉ, were not less trustworthy than the opinions of the "trained Consular Judges of Germany, France, England, and the United States." Such a hypothesis showed a lamentable lack of discrimination, and fully merited the indignant protests it evoked.

BISMARCK AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FURTHER details of the difficulty caused by the Lasker resolution have been received, but nothing in the way of final action is reported, either on the German or the American side. It now seems clear that the initiative measure of the House of Representatives did not necessarily call for Prince BISMARCK'S attention, and that his retransmission of the document was an extreme mark of disapproval. At the same time, he appears to have observed all the forms of official courtesy, and it is certain that he did not commit the error,—attributed to him in the earlier telegrams,—of communicating directly with Congress. The resolution was sent back from the Berlin Foreign Office to the Legation at Washington, and the letter accompanying it was addressed to Mr. EISENDECHER, the German Minister, who has announced that he is not instructed to depart from the usual course of addressing himself solely to the Department of State. Prince BISMARCK'S despatch contained the assurance that he should have asked the Emperor to empower him to present the resolution to the Reichstag, if the opinions expressed therein had not been opposed to his convictions; and he added, with a touch of satire, that he should not venture to oppose his judgment to that of so illustrious a body as the House of Representatives, but for the experience of thirty years, which justifies him in attaching a certain value to his opinion on German affairs. This is very neat in its way, but perhaps a little superfluous; for it now turns

out that the rejected document did not in any proper sense set forth the sentiments of the Chamber from which it emanated. It was drawn up by an eccentric new delegate, Colonel OCHILTREE of Texas, and was pushed through the House at the end of a day's session, without debate or examination, and so hurriedly that it is doubtful if more than a single member voted either for or against it. Colonel OCHILTREE asked for "unanimous consent;" there was no objection; and so the resolution was considered adopted. It was not submitted to the Senate, and consequently has none of the weight that would attach to a joint Congressional transaction. It may fairly be assumed that very few of the Representatives knew anything about Dr. LASKER, or understood the tendency of their tacit acquiescence in the proceeding. The subsequent announcement of Prince BISMARCK'S irritation created general surprise, and it was not until then that the subject was looked into; but no amount of scrutiny has discovered a sufficient answer to the question why an occurrence of such trivial import, regarded from the American point of view, should have produced so remarkable a manifestation on the part of the German Chancellor. That the effect is out of all proportion to the apparent cause, no one undertakes to deny.

If the suggestions of European commentators are entitled to consideration, Prince BISMARCK'S course may be credited to other influences than those which show themselves on the surface. Not a few of the leading journals, including several in Germany, intimate plainly enough that the LASKER incident is merely a pretext, and that the eminent statesman has seized upon a long coveted opportunity to interrupt the friendly relations between his Government and that of the United States. The London *Times* expresses this opinion without reserve, alleging that BISMARCK'S dislike is chiefly caused by the increasing emigration to the new world, which has already reached the annual average of nearly two hundred thousand. These figures, it is explained by another journal, imply the withdrawal of a full *corps d'armée* each year, from the German conscription list. In addition to this ground of complaint, there is the unsettled dispute concerning the exclusion of American pork from Germany; and, underlying all, is the undoubted fact that Mr. SARGENT'S Republican indifference to Monarchical etiquette and ceremony may sometimes have been carried to a point which the Imperial Court considers disrespectful. But no one pretends that the United States Envoy's offence is intentional; or that the authorities at Washington are responsible for the condition, good or bad, of the pork supply; or that any special inducements are held out to German emigrants, over those from other European States. Even the Ministerial organs of Germany admit that the LASKER resolution

might have reached its destination unchallenged, if no other discordant questions had arisen between the two countries. It is, nevertheless, reasonably certain that the hostile feeling which has now culminated in Prince BISMARCK'S act, was wholly unsuspected by the American people. They were entirely unprepared for the outburst of newspaper wrath which has been directed against them, and which concentrates itself into a general demand for the recall of Mr. SARGENT, "if his Government does not wish for further embarrassment." But however averse the United States may be to a quarrel with Germany, it is not likely that their desire to conciliate will go so far as to degrade a diplomatic officer without good cause, or to offer him as a sacrifice to the personal resentment of a powerful Minister. Some other means of pacification must probably be devised, or the misunderstanding suffered to remain as it is. Both the Secretary of State, at Washington, and the PRESIDENT'S private secretary, have publicly declared that "there is no thought of removing Mr. SARGENT."

Neither the House of Representatives nor the Reichstag has suffered the affair to pass unnoticed, but the debates, up to the 8th of March, were not of a kind to lead to practical results. The American legislators permitted the subject to be introduced by the naturalized German members, whose opinions respecting Prince BISMARCK and his performance were listened to with proper consideration, after which it was agreed that no action was desirable in the absence of authentic and official intelligence as to what had passed. When this shall have been received, the discussion will be resumed. In the Reichstag, on March 7th, —the session having opened the day before, —a stormy debate was bought about by the efforts of Independent and Progressist members to recognize the LASKER resolution and to criticize BISMARCK'S interference therewith. They were vehemently opposed by the Conservatives, led by the Secretary of the Interior, who appeared as the Chancellor's direct representative, and who repeatedly affirmed that the deeds of the Prime Minister were not open to hostile comment. Threats and defiances were freely exchanged, the Opposition being significantly reminded of the announcement, earlier in the day, that one of their number had been expelled from his seat for contumacy, and sent to prison for six months. These references to the Chancellor's power over his political opponents brought the controversy to a speedy and barren conclusion. We have yet to see whether the Liberals will risk their personal safety so far as to introduce the topic again. It will certainly be heard of in the House of Representatives, the sensitive temper of which will not accept with much kindness the rebuke of even the most potent of continental statesmen, and the ill feeling of which is likely to be intensified by the unprecedented attacks of German Government organs upon Mr. SARGENT,—who, until his appointment to the diplomatic office he now holds, was a prominent leader in the lower branch of the American legislature.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN LOANS; OR
WHAT IS CAPITAL?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Yes, it must be so. Capital is Capital when it is Capital, otherwise it is not. The proposition is as clear as mud when it is closely examined. The more Capital is considered, the more we become convinced that it is Capital, that is, if the Capital is borrowed Capital and is consumable and productive—for in the strict view of the thing, you see, Capital to be Capital, must be a "thing invested and has to be consumed to be productive." This is clearly demonstrated by the statement above elucidated, so there can be no question as to what this thing Capital is. But the reader must not entangle his reason by considering home Capital as being anything of the nature of foreign, borrowed Capital. We hope we are followed, for we would not have the reader go astray. For instance; it takes Capital to build a railway. You will observe that the road-bed must be graded after the route is surveyed, then sleepers and ties are necessary before the rails can be laid. Rails are sometimes made of iron and sometimes of steel. Then comes engines, and rolling stock to operate the road with—stations are to be built, &c. &c. Now as all of the requisites to build and equip a road are "consumable," of course they are the Capital of the road—clearly so. Now some fellows might suppose that the money it would take to build a railroad might be called Capital, but they only show ignorance, and don't know what Capital, to be real genuine Capital is. The notion that a man is a Capitalist, who only deals in stocks, bonds, and money securities, is a vagary. There is no such thing really as Capital stock in any banking institution—because, don't you see, it is not consumed to render it productive. Further, in building a railroad "Capital becomes fixed, and is no longer available for other uses." Money of course is required to purchase material and labor for such an enterprise, and money is not Capital—(don't be befogged if you can help it, if you feel yourself growing dizzy, take a dose of Mill or Fawcett, and be calm). Or rather, money borrowed at home is not Capital, but if money is borrowed from abroad, at good rates of interest to the lender, it is Capital. "All the Capital required for such an undertaking could be easily obtained from foreign countries, and domestic Capital would then be free for ordinary industry." We quote from "L." in the *Japan Mail* of the 5th inst. Wherefore why not, it being thusly, should it not be urged that the nation is being greatly harmed by not borrowing? Japan needs a protection or, as much as America did fifty years ago. So she should go into the money markets of the world and beg some power to loan her thirty millions of money to secure herself against harm from the pirates who would gobble her up. That is the only way she can get the requisite Capital. And there are so many enterprises that are languishing for the want of good roads, it would never do to build them with the money furnished by the people to be benefited. We have read of Sir George Francis Train, a nobleman of Boston, one of the United States, who was an authority on finance, and especially on Capital. He went crazy at last, but it was thought that, as a lunatic his ideas of Capital were as clear as when he was at his best. His strong holding was diagrams. He would diagram his hearers into the acceptance of his theories. Let us try his method. Draw a ship under sail, designate the material of which she is built, Capital, and you can demonstrate that fixed Capital *i.e.*, the material, is floating Capital as a ship. A ship when stranded is fixed floating Capital in a fix, and fixes some of

the Capital of underwriters. Capital must be consumable to be Capital. When a man has a stock of goods consumed by fire, and is largely insured, it is plain that he is a Capitalist, for the fire makes the thing remunerative, although the underwriter may curse his investment. Now observe, I do not pretend that I write any more instructively or intelligibly than other writers on the subject, but allow me to say, that however much we may skin the real meaning of words and terms, the vulgar acceptance of the ideas the words convey to the ordinary business man seems to be understood by the Japanese, and they show sense in determining to do all they can with their own money and domestic resources.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

M.

Yokohama, April 9th, 1884.

[This letter is more amusing than instructive.—Ed. J.M.]

JAPAN AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—About a year ago there appeared in your columns a leading article which seemed to state so fairly and succinctly an important phase of the question now pending between Japan and the Treaty Powers, that I trust I may be pardoned for quoting from it. After noting the fact, which few, if any, will be inclined to deny, that the true disposition of foreigners towards Japan has nothing in common with the sentiments constantly professed by one of your contemporaries, you proceeded to speak as follows, of the spirit which induces Englishmen to be careful of every privilege they have acquired:—

It is the same spirit that has worked out all the great progressive measures of Western civilization—constitutional governments, liberty of speech, slave emancipation, removal of religious disabilities, and in fact everything that is implied in self-government. Just in proportion to the supremacy of this faculty does the safe enjoyment of liberty become possible, and it is because the instinct has been so largely developed in Englishmen by the institutions under which they live and the traditions of their race, that they are so conspicuously opposed to everything imperilling, however remotely, the stability of their precious rights. It were well that the Japanese should thoroughly recognize this, lest they fall into the error of classing with tyrannous injustice what is in reality the outcome of an instinct not alone respectable in itself, but also essential to the vitality of progress. We are well aware that from this standpoint the case assumes for Japan a somewhat hopeless aspect, since if the propriety of the sentiment which opposes her resumption of sovereign rights be admitted, its permanence also seems guaranteed. But it is an integral part of the instinct in question, that what it claims for itself it does not refuse to accord to others. The value men attach to the privileges of freedom and free institutions is, or ought to be, exactly proportionate to the respect they pay to a similar sentiment in their neighbours. Japan's impatience for the abolition of extraterritoriality and Englishmen's reluctance to surrender that privilege are only different expressions of the same sentiment, and claim at one another's hands an equal reciprocity of respect. It is hard, perhaps, to discern these things clearly across the fog of falsehood and malice in which they are too often enveloped, but that they are as we have represented them here, time will unfailingly demonstrate.

I think that the truth of the general principles set forth here is beyond all question, but I remember thinking also, Mr. Editor, at the time I read the article, that your faith in time must be very large. Yet events seem to indicate that you were not mistaken. Now and then one fancies that one discerns symptoms of that "reciprocity of respect" which all fair-minded men wish to see exhibited by Japanese and foreigners. Now and then, too, one is confronted by statements which render the prospect as hopeless as ever. One of your contemporaries—a journal, I may observe, which has shown, of late, a laudable desire to be moderate—had the following in a recent issue:—"Eager for this assistance" (foreign skilled labour and capital) "on which her life as a commercial, and consequently progressive, nation depends, Japan saddles her invitation for it with the unwise condition that the freemen to whom she appeals should surrender their liberties in order to afford it!" I can not, for my own part, see that there is any surrender of liberties involved. It has never occurred to me in my travels—and they have been tolerably extensive—that I made a series of successive surrenders of my liberty as I passed from place to place, submitting everywhere to the jurisdiction of the country in which I found myself. If I had apprehended such catastrophes, I should

certainly have stayed at home. But were I a Japanese, circumstanced as the Japanese now are, I should certainly think that I had surrendered some of my liberties. I should remember constantly that my country is not considered sufficiently civilized to be her own mistress. I should think that when I asked foreign States to restore to my nation the power of regulating its own tariff and exercising complete jurisdiction within its own territories, I was not seeking to deprive them of their liberties, but only endeavouring to recover my own. Even as a foreigner—one of those whose "liberties" are threatened—I cannot quite persuade myself to believe that we have acquired any perpetual title to the powers of which we temporarily deprived Japan on the plea that she was not yet competent to exercise them. I cannot learn to regard as an inalienable right the privileges Japan lent to us under a terminable treaty, and I think that our relations with this country would be more comfortable and better worthy of our civilization did we endeavour to treat her rights with a little of the respect we so loudly claim for what we call our own.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

T.

Yokohama, April 8th, 1884.

RIGHT, OR MIGHT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To those foreigners who profess a disbelief in Japan's right to resume her powers of domestic jurisdiction and tariff control, and who assert that it is a moral duty, on the part of Great Britain and other European States, to prevent the resumption of those powers, I would address a question or two, which they may answer publicly to the world, or privately to their own consciences.

Suppose that this empire to-day possessed a trained and efficient army of one million, or even five hundred thousand men; and a navy equal in strength to that of, let us say, any second-class maritime nation of the West: would a demand from this Government for immediate revision of the treaties and restoration of all inherent privileges be resisted, even for a single day?

If not, what becomes of the moral duty of foreign countries to hold Japan in check? Or, does the moral duty of restricting an empire's independence exist only when comparatively weak nations are to be dealt with, and cease to exist in the case of strong nations?

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

LIBERTAS.

Yokohama, April 15th, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The answer to the question put by 'Libertas' in your paper this morning is simple enough.

If Japan possessed the army and navy your correspondent suggests, it would at once be a sign, if not an absolute proof, that she had advanced in efficiency as a State to a position in which she might well be trusted with all the so-called "inherent privileges."

Yours truly,

FOREIGNER.

17th April, 1884.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The *Herald* of the 7th inst. publishes a rumour from Tokio "that the missionaries have had a meeting for the purpose of drawing up a memorial on the subject of opening the country to their labours, and that a document to that effect has been presented to one, or more, of the Foreign Ministers." Permit me to say, that no such meeting has been held, or will be held, for any such purpose; that no such document has been prepared or presented to any "one, or more of the Foreign Ministers;" that Missionaries desire no favours not accorded to other Foreigners, and that, if favours or further privileges are accorded to other foreigners, Missionaries will expect the same on the same con-

ditions, without having to hold meetings and frame petitions.

The *Herald's* disinterested remarks following the above quotation are about as near the mark as its text.

I remain, &c.,

A TOKIO MISSIONARY.

Tokio, April 11th, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

FRANCE THE BENEFACTRESS OF CHINA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

China is one of the largest countries in the world, covering an immense area, possessing an enormous population, and abounding with fertile tracts, great forests, rich mines, and natural products. There is but one serious drawback: the people are self-sufficient and prefer isolation to an intelligent intercourse with Occidental nations. Little intellectual or enlightened progress has been made by them for thousands of years; and thus, more than three hundred million people live like so many soul-less automata, dreaming away their existence in careless oblivion of the great world just beyond their borders. Although many years have elapsed since China first entered into relations with foreign nations, her people still cling obstinately to the worn-out customs of the past; men may come and men may go, but China is still the same country of a thousand years ago. In this nineteenth century, when steam and electricity are utilized by every land in the great comity of nations, no country, however rich in natural resources, can hope to maintain its independence without employing these agents of civilization. If China would but adopt the wonderful inventions of our age, she might—despite her infantile ignorance—uphold her independence and properly develop her natural resources. Whatever may be the sweeping dictum of the Middle Kingdom, that all nations other than Chinese are barbarous and despicable, it is very apparent that the tremendous weapons of war in the hands of the despised foreigners have made a deep and indelible impression upon the Chinese. The wonderful destructive power of the arms possessed by aliens has burst upon the people of China like a revelation; and, before very long, she too must be converted to this nineteenth century civilization. These facts the Chinese will be forced to recognise, if they possess the most ordinary intelligence. But, as yet, they have no intention of adopting any of these marvels of to-day, and until they are made forcibly and unpleasantly aware of the irresistible power against which they are trying to stand, their chronic conservatism will be incurable. Then will they be forced to adopt steam and electricity, and for this reason, if for no other, those who awake the Chinese, however roughly, from their slumbers, are their real benefactors.

Some few years ago, France, one of the greatest of the European powers, had occasion to disagree with China in reference to Annam. It was not, however, until May of last year, that this hard feeling grew into a serious dispute, and war seemed imminent. What may be the ultimate fate of Tongking it is not easy to state, for affairs are still in a most unsettled condition. As a matter of course, the Chinese, headed by their Minister in Paris, are hot with anger, and revile the French. But they are, once again, brought face to face with the probability of a great war; and, in order to enter upon a campaign with any chance of success, China must reorganize her Army and Navy, collect large stores of military supplies and munitions, acquaint herself thoroughly with the condition and spirit of her people, besides acquiring a fair knowledge of the French and their Eastern contingent. Being thus compelled to

study the domestic and foreign conditions of their country, the officials of China will make rapid advancement towards the adoption of Western civilization. The absolute necessity of a trained and efficient Army and Navy will become plainly apparent, while the most peaceful-minded will have to turn their attention to the manufacture of war-vessels, firearms, and torpedoes. Soon will the miserable inefficacy of the present internal communications become unbearable, while the advantages of the telegraph and the iron-horse will be patent to one and all; and as the conveyance of troops and the like is as clumsy in the Middle Kingdom as the postal system, the benefits of riverine and marine steam navigation will find universal appreciation. Finally, China will cross the Rubicon of conservatism, and find herself on the threshold of Occidental civilization.

The initial step towards this most beneficial revolution has already been taken. Telegraph lines are being constructed between Shanghai, Tientsin, and Peking, and the work will shortly be extended to Canton. Railways in miniature are already being laid here and there, while the Government is steadily purchasing ironclads, torpedoes, and ordinance both large and small. The services of European and American officers have been engaged, and a considerable number of recruits called to arms. The promptitude and activity which characterize this latest movement contrast most strangely and marvellously with the inactivity and tardy development of former years.

Turning our gaze to Europe, we find the Chinese representative busying himself in England and France with the Annam question, and constantly transmitting lengthy despatches to his Government, containing all manner of reports and information. The knowledge acquired by him in this manner will exercise great influence in China, and go far towards breaking the obstinate conservatism of his countrymen. For were the Chinese never so bent upon keeping their country isolated, and ignoring the existence of "barbarous and inferior" nations, this one little factor will produce a decided advance towards civilization. The employment of foreign weapons is, in itself, the earnest of a better future. What course matters will take in Annam, it is impossible to foretell, China may relinquish her claim to the suzerainty of Tong-king; or both parties make come to an amicable understanding; or China may obviate the present difficulties by paying an indemnity at the intervention of other powers. For the nonce, at all events, war does not appear imminent. Ten months have already passed without action, and a year or eighteen months may still elapse before affairs are finally settled; but, during that interval, China will have ample opportunity to become acquainted with the civilization of the West. Since the outset of her relations with foreign powers, China has several times become embroiled in wars; but while some of these were of too passing a nature to arouse effectually the spirit of the people, others were so sudden and disastrous as to preclude the possibility of extensive warlike preparations. Fortunately for the Middle Kingdom, the Annam affair is of sufficient importance to arouse the whole country, while it gives her ample opportunity to thoroughly acquaint herself with Western civilization. Should the difficulty finally be solved by intervention or arbitration, the Chinese will truly be a most fortunate people. And to whom is the credit due in the first instance? To France, the benefactress of the Middle Kingdom.

THE COMPETITIVE EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.

(Translated from the *Fiyu Shimbun*.)

The opening ceremony of the Second Competitive Exhibition of Paintings took place on the 11th inst., when H.E. General Saigo, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, delivered the following address:—

The Art of Painting as cultivated in this country dates back to a very remote period, and although the influence of Chinese and Korean Art was, during the Middle Ages, great, and of considerable effect upon our artists, yet, as we are by nature richly endowed with a love of the beautiful and picturesque, our works of art have long been held in high esteem. How comes it that our paintings have acquired such great fame? Because, from the very outset, our artists studied the marvels of nature with the utmost care and the most painstaking patience; they followed with anxious eye all the changes of the material world, and pursued the study of true art with the most tireless energy. It is but the just reward of our artists that their works should command such universal admiration. Of late years, however, painting has fallen off in excellence, consequent upon the adoption of a less thorough style and the neglect of the exactness of former days. Roughness came to be considered the patent of genius, and the painstaking imitation of natural objects was abandoned. Those old-time systems of art which made the painters of antiquity so justly famous were well-nigh forgotten. Westerns, on the contrary, have extolled the excellence of our early painters; they have spent years in studying and collecting old pictures, while a few have developed into masterly connoisseurs. This more than sufficiently attests the excellence of Ancient Japanese Art. Should the artistic styles of olden time remain neglected and uncared for, we shall not only fail to recover the methods of our early art, but we shall see the best productions of this country pass into foreign hands. In these days of rapid advance in the Fine Arts, the decline of Japanese painting was a reproach to our civilization. And so, on the 1st of October, 1882, the First Competitive Exhibition was inaugurated. This Exhibition gave a decided impetus to the development and improvement of Japanese Art, and added largely to the skill of our painters by making them familiar with the best productions of ancient days. But as the full excellence of our earlier art may not yet have been realized, the Second Competitive Exhibition has to-day been opened. Thus will our pictorial art profit by experience and competition, and our galleries be well furnished. Whether the works on view at present surpass those of the former Exhibition, or are similar in style and execution to the celebrated painters of the past, I am not yet in a position to state. But I wish to express my earnest desire that those who devote their lives to the study of Art should press forward with redoubled energy, so that the lost greatness of the past may be more than amply compensated for by the bright promise of the future.

THE BUREAU OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM (SEIDO-TORI-SHIRABE-KIYOKU).

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

It has already been announced in these columns that a Bureau of Constitutional Reform was established in the Imperial Palace, on the 17th ultimo, under the presidency of His Excellency Hirobumi Ito, Privy Councillor, and that, on the 21st ultimo, the same official was also appointed Minister of the Imperial Household, His Excellency Tokudaiji, who had previously filled the latter office, having been transferred to the post of Lord High Chamberlain. Among recent events these are most important, and men have been asking each other why the above Bureau was established in the Palace instead of in the Privy Council; why His Excellency Ito, whose ability in matters connected with internal, financial, and legislative administration had been already recognised, should have been appointed Minister of the Imperial Household, retaining his rank of Privy Councillor; and why His Excellency Tokudaiji, who is thoroughly familiar with the ceremonies and customs observed in the

Palace, and who stands high in the Imperial favour, not less on account of his exalted rank than of his virtues, should have relinquished his post in favour of His Excellency Ito. Many persons appear to be much perplexed about these changes in the Cabinet, nor can it be denied that they had reason to be surprised when the news of the appointments first reached them. A little serious reflection will show, however, that there are legitimate causes which render the changes, to a certain extent, inevitable. We proceed to explain the matter briefly.

On October the 12th, 1881, His Majesty the Mikado issued a Rescript to the effect that, in pursuance of the design announced at the time of the Restoration, a National Elective Assembly should be convened in 1890; that, by this announcement, his Ministers would have sufficient time to complete all the preparations necessary for that purpose; and that with regard to the powers of the Assembly and the mode of its organization, he would himself give the matter full consideration, and make his decision known in due time. Since the issue of this Rescript, we have devoted much thought to the questions, where the Bureau for the preparation of the proposed Constitution should be established; to whom the task of preparation should be entrusted—the members of the Cabinet or the Senators who are regarded as the country's legislators—and whether the Bureau should be formed in the Palace, the Cabinet, the Council of State or the Senate. We have, indeed, awaited with much curiosity the advent of the day when the proposed Bureau should be actually established, and we have always hoped that as the Constitution will be the basis of our country's polity for many generations, His Majesty the Emperor would be pleased to entrust its compilation to his most impartial and unprejudiced statesmen. Similar ideas appear to have been entertained even by our political opponents, who have maintained that the Constitution ought to be so framed as not to confer benefits on one party more than another. Public opinion may therefore be said to favour the view that a special Bureau should be formed for the purpose, independent of the various Governmental Departments, with an unbiassed statesman as its president. (The writer then refers to the American Constitution, eulogizes its equity and completeness, and describes how it has remained unaltered amid all the strife of political parties.) Beyond all question, it would be most unwise to entrust the task of framing a Constitution to any one prejudiced party. How, then, ought the Constitution of this country to be compiled? If we look at the matter closely, we shall find that all the existing laws have been established by the Emperor himself. The various statutes are first drafted at the several Governmental Departments, and are then forwarded for sanction to the Cabinet, *via* the Council of State, when, of course, they are duly deliberated. Sometimes, however, the drafts are first laid before the Emperor himself, or submitted to the Senate for approval, and then enforced with His Majesty's sanction. But to whatever officials be entrusted the duty of preparing the drafts, or to whatever Departments that of examining them, officials and Departments alike derive their functions in the first place from the Emperor, and their proceedings must therefore be recognised as virtually the acts of His Majesty in person. This will be still more evident when we observe that no law can be enacted, or proclamation issued, without His Majesty's sanction. In a word, all the laws and regulations promulgated in the Empire emanate from the Emperor himself, as the prime source of authority. The question then arises, is the proposed constitution to be drafted in a similar manner? Shall it be drafted by the Privy Council or by the Council of State? Upon these points we cannot pretend to pronounce a decided opinion, but we do most emphatically think that such a duty should never be entrusted to the Home Department, or to the

Finance Department, for example. The matter is one that demands the deepest consideration.

The Constitution defines the prerogatives of the Sovereign as well as the powers and functions of the Legislature, the Executive, and the Judiciary. It is the foundation upon which the national polity rests, and it embodies principles that ought to remain unchanged for hundreds of generations. The mode of its compilation must, therefore, of necessity, differ from that resorted to in framing ordinary codes. It is too important a work to be entrusted wholly to any one body of officials, and should be subjected at each stage for Imperial consideration and sanction. But to prepare the Constitution under the direct guidance of the Sovereign himself involves a considerable departure from the ordinary modes of procedure, which are confined to submitting for Imperial inspection drafts already prepared by his legislators. According to the course pursued, the relations between the Sovereign and the compilers, as well as the value of the whole work, must vary considerably. In the case of an absolute Monarchy, the entire power rests with the Sovereign alone, and his natural plan would be to select one or more of his officials, and direct them to draw up a Constitution according to his wishes. Such, indeed, may be regarded as the fundamental principle on which a constitution should be formed in a Monarchical country. There would, of course, be no difficulty about inviting ministerial opinions on the drafts thus prepared, or revising them after careful discussion. Even in Republican countries, such as America and France, matters connected with the Constitution are generally treated by processes different from those adopted in ordinary legislation: special representatives are chosen, in whom, as a body, the supreme authority is vested, thus forming a national convention, or congress, to undertake the task. So far, therefore, the procedure in both Monarchical and Republican countries is alike, and we may say that, to establish a constitution in Japan, it is absolutely indispensable that the Emperor should take the trouble of directly superintending its compilation. It follows, therefore, that no place can be more convenient for carrying on the work of compilation than the Palace, and we are of opinion that to these considerations must be attributed the position chosen for the new Bureau. Plainly, too, the officials entrusted with the duty of attending on His Majesty and drawing up the Constitution according to his will, must be well versed in the principles upon which the Constitutions of other countries, both in ancient and modern times, have been based, so that they may be competent, while abstaining from any expression of prejudiced views, to make appropriate replies to the Emperor's enquiries. All these considerations combine to indicate as the official most suitable for the task His Excellency Ito Hirobumi, who, in accordance with His Majesty's special instructions, has conducted direct investigations into the Constitutions of various foreign countries. It is scarcely necessary to say that, in common with our fellow countrymen, we have long expected to see him appointed to such a position.

With regard to the additional office he has been called on to fill, namely, that of Minister of the Imperial Household, there seems to be a simple reason. The Bureau for the preparation of the Constitution being established in the Palace, and the duty of consulting the Emperor devolving upon its President, there will naturally arise frequent occasions on which it will be necessary to ask His Majesty's opinion. Were the President merely on the same footing as the other Privy Councillors or Ministers of State, he would have, like them, to take his chance of obtaining an audience in the way usually pursued when any political question requiring the Imperial consideration crops up. Under these circumstances it would be difficult for him to carry out the Emperor's intentions. It is thus plain that the important position of President of the Bureau of Constitutional Reform in some

respect involves the discharge of additional duties as Minister of the Imperial Household. The public, however, is inclined to suppose that this dual office of His Excellency Ito is the precursor of general administrative changes, an idea which has probably been inspired by a superficial examination of the situation. It is true that, since the Restoration, no precedent can be found for the step now taken, and that, both when the Privy Councillors were relieved from their additional duties as Ministers of Departments, and when they were again called on to perform those duties, the Imperial Household remained under the presidency of an independent official. These circumstances have probably created a belief that a Privy Councillor would never be nominated Minister of the Household, though in former times that dignity was sometimes chosen from among the Privy Councillors, or Ministers of State, or official holding the rank of *Nagon*, so that his liability to discharge additional duties as a member of the Cabinet can scarcely be doubted. Those who are curious about these matters many consult the *Shokugensho*, where the history of official functions is given in detail. In foreign countries, too, instances are to be found of Privy Councillors acting as Ministers of the Household. Russia is a case in point: the Prime Minister there also presides over the Imperial Household. Taking all these things into consideration, we find no cause for surprise that His Excellency Ito has been appointed Minister of the Imperial Household, nor any reason to suppose that an intention of extending that Department's functions exists. If the public has been perplexed by an appointment without precedent in recent times, it is simply because the matter has not received sufficient examination. We have full confidence in His Excellency Ito, and we join with our countrymen in the hope that he will give the Mikado sound advice with regard to the compilation of a Constitution, to the benefit of his country and of his own reputation.

THE RIUKIU ISLANDERS.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Some of the customs of the islanders are rather amusing. The people are fond of wearing their best clothes at all times, even though the cost of wearing fine apparel forces them to do with two meals a day instead of three. The custom of adopting male adults as bridegrooms obtains here just as in the main island of Japan, but, strange to say, no formal marriage ceremony takes place until the expectant bride gives birth to a child. Until the woman becomes a mother she has no claim upon her husband, but after childbirth divorce is impossible, and hen-pecked husbands are the rule. Indeed, the Japanese who have married women in Riukiu often have felt the force of the *Pantoffel-regiment*. Generally speaking, the men lead idle lives, while the women support the household cares and expenses. Sweet potatoes are the great *bonne bouche* of the islanders, and they are wonderful gormandizers. Among the upper classes rice is eaten once a day, but the common people rarely taste the cereal except on high feast-days, or in case of sickness. Rice is supposed to be a specific for every known disease. Foreigners are all called *waran* (a corruption of *Holland* or *Orando*), and the natives positively refuse to take medicines compounded in the foreign-style Hospital; for they assert that *waran* drugs, though efficacious for the time being, are certain, to prove injurious in the long run. This, as the opinion of an uncivilized people, is not a matter for wonder, but it is rather a pity that they should reject good medicines on account of a merely traditional superstition. There are two or three rice-harvests grown every year. The egg-plant and pepper bear fruit all the year round, and are noted for their extraordinary productiveness. Many of these plants bear fruit even after a lapse of ten years.

The sugar-cane flourishes everywhere, Shirishima being especially famous, and sugar mills are to be found in every village. Sago palms are equally abundant, and though not manured, will grow even in desert districts. The dried and powdered pith of the palm can be eaten when properly steamed, and the inhabitants generally keep a large supply on hand in case the crops fail or turn out badly. The fruits, although not so palatable, are treated in a similar manner, but many of the palms bear no fruit at all. At the country residences of the former chieftain, in Shikina and Sakiyama, there are a few cherry trees, but these are not found elsewhere. The interior of the island is notorious for quantities of a black, poisonous snake, called *habu*, which lives under the rocks and in close vegetation. Some of these snakes measure five or six feet in length. Another species, known as the *kanahabu*, is red in colour and of small size.¹ In the warm season, thousands of these serpents lie coiled in the meadows and pasture lands; they twist their tails about the stems of small plants and lie in wait for the passers-by, whom they attack with great ferocity. Many people have died from the poisonous bites of these noxious reptiles. Contrary to what one would expect, the aboriginal cave-dwellers, the troglodytes of Riukiu, are not at all afraid of these serpents, and catch them with their naked hands. The *habu*² in especial grows furious when approached by man, but these fearless cave-dwellers catch it just when about to strike, with the greatest ease. The skin of the serpents, when of sufficiently large size, is made into a cover for the musical instrument called *jamisen*. This instrument has three strings and emits a most melodious sound, on which account it is a great favourite with all the natives.

KOREAN TRADE.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

That a treaty between Great Britain and Korea has been ratified by the Sovereigns of both countries is an undeniable fact, but as to the latter's treaty with Germany, nothing definite has, as yet, transpired. It was in November of last year, that these two European powers, the one represented by Sir Harry Parkes, and the other by the German Consul-General in Japan, Mr. Zappe, simultaneously commenced negotiations with the Korean Government; the claims brought forward by either of the two representatives being—as far as we have heard—of a similar nature. It should certainly be an easy task for Germany to carry out her Korean policy to her own liking, inasmuch as Mr. Von Möllendorff is an important factor in the domestic and foreign administration of the Hermit Kingdom. We have not yet received trustworthy information in reference to the ratification of the German-Korean treaty; but, if it has not been ratified, it surely will be so at no very distant date,—and has been, perhaps, ere now. America has already concluded a treaty with Korea, and has even appointed a Minister in Söul. Still other great commercial nations in Europe will speedily enter into treaty negotiations with Korea. According to recent advices, Russia has already evinced her willingness to open up trade with the Koreans, and a treaty will, no doubt, speedily follow. Soon will the open ports of Korea be visited by vessels from all parts of the world, and settlers will stream in on every side. No longer will the benefits of Korean trade be exclusively enjoyed by Japanese merchants, as has been the case heretofore; and our countrymen will have to enter into competition with their foreign

¹ Probably the harmless *Coluber tigrinus*, quite common in Japan, but deemed poisonous by most of the peasants.

² The *habu* is undoubtedly nothing more than the well-known *Python reticulatus*, or Rock Python, a native of India and Southern China. It is not at all poisonous, but will readily inflict pretty severe wounds. This Python has been occasionally caught in Hongkong, the largest specimen measuring 6 feet 7 inches. The Chinese similarly use its skin in covering the body of the *samisen* or *jamisen*. The skin is supposed to be an excellent febrifuge, and is largely sold by the native druggists.

rivals, if they would retain a profitable footing in the Hermit Kingdom.

Both Europeans and Americans are now welcome to reside in the open ports of Korea. And, so far as the question of profit and loss is concerned, the Japanese merchants do not yield an inch to any foreign power, China alone excepted. While we are truly proud of this, it causes us at once great anxiety. In replying to the question why foreigners cannot compete with us in Korean trade on equal terms, we can call several facts to mind which are directly disadvantageous to aliens; among these are the inadaptability of the Korean commercial system to civilized traders, the low standard of Korean industries, and the world-wide dissimilarity between the language and letters of Koreans and Europeans. The Japanese trade with the Hermit Kingdom has of late averaged about 4,000,000 *yen* every year, but the business transacted was not through the convenient agency of either *urikomiya* or *hikitoriya*. Take the case of the rice export. There are absolutely no regular rice-dealers, and buyers are compelled to wait for the tedious arrivals of a few desultory bags at irregular dates. Fancy what a disagreeable delay it would entail upon a wholesale buyer in this country had he to go the round of the petty retailers, instead of applying at once to the Rice Exchange. The case is exactly the same with gold dust. There are no bullion brokers worthy the name, and the foreign buyer is able to make his purchase only after a most roundabout fashion. And not a little modicum of skill is absolutely indispensable in the successful management of such petty bargains. Under such perplexing circumstances, can or will foreigners enter into competition with Japanese merchants in the matter of rice and gold-dust? It is more than probable that foreigners accustomed to the wholesale employment of enormous capital will not be able to endure the vexations attendant upon such transactions as those we have described. And even should they submit to such troublesome business dealings, they are certainly not able to manage them with greater skill than do our countrymen. Were Korean exports at all like those to which foreigners have become accustomed, they might hope to make ready profits; but the larger portion of Korean exports consists of rice and other cereals,—and we certainly know more about rice than do any foreign peoples. The Koreans stand on as low a social stage compared with us as we do in comparison with foreigners. Foreign residents in the East are too utterly different from the natives of Korea to warrant their standing on the footing of buyers and sellers. The pawnbroker is the best salesman for such a state of trade. What the pawnbroker is to the salesman, the Japanese merchants in Korea are to the natives. Though dissimilar as to their command of ready money, both work, to a great extent, on a similar basis. The Tsushima islanders display wonderful aptitude in acquiring the Korean language, speaking it far better than do any Chinese. In this point we have a decided advantage over foreigners. But even were there no Tsushima, the common characters employed by the Koreans are not so very different from those of our own language, and this fact can be utilized in our favour. Here, again, are Westerners without any such facilities of communication. In short, while giving foreigners full credit for their innate acuteness, they cannot nor will they become dangerous rivals of Japanese merchants in Korea; certainly not for the next five or ten years. While this is a matter for congratulation, it is, nevertheless, one-sided and temporary. Should Chosen still remain the Chosen of to-day, there is no doubt but that the opportunities of Japanese merchants would remain as superior as they have been heretofore. But Korea will not be the semi-barbarous country she is very much longer. She, like all other Eastern nations, is destined to adopt civilized and improved commercial methods, and then will the experience and skill of Japanese

traders in Korea stand them in no great stead. That the influence of Japanese traders should, for the present, be so overwhelmingly great is due to the actual poverty of the Koreans, their ignorance of the tradal methods of civilized lands, and their slow-witted proceedings when matters of moment are at stake.

GAIETY THEATRE.

The Lynch Family Bellringers made their first appearance in Yokohama on Monday night before a good house. Bellringing is a novelty here, and it is but just to say that the Campanologists were received with warm applause. It is somewhat difficult to describe the style of music in so many words; it should be heard to be properly appreciated; but it may be referred to in good truth as exquisite and most melodious. By far the greater portion of the audience were most agreeably disappointed, for few were prepared to hear such really excellent music. One does not know which most to admire, the skill of the performers, or the dulcet notes they produce. A most agreeable effect is rendered by the gradual transitions from *forte* to *pianissimo*, while the rapid passages are executed with great delicacy and skill. One of the most difficult numbers on the programme was the "Chimes, Changes, Joy Bells," and yet it hardly elicited its meed of applause. The performers reproduce in miniature many of the various changes of a chime of eight bells, in such perfect and exact time that one is unconsciously reminded of the echoing chimes from some grand old belfry:—

Hark how it falls! and now it steals along
Like distant bells upon the lake at eve,
When all is still; and now it grows more strong,
As when the choral train their dirges weave,
Hollow and many-voiced . . . where every close
O'er the old minster's roof in echoing waves reflows.

Our favourites on the programme were the march from "Norma," the "Marseillaise" and, in especial, the "Blue Bells of Scotland." The ballad "Come Home, Father," is very pretty, but rather hackneyed, although it shows the Campanologists at their best. The duet, "Home, Sweet Home" was enthusiastically applauded, and we could gladly listen to it again. The Musical Glasses were rather less shrill and decidedly more enjoyable than others we have heard, although we have no over-great *penchant* for the verrophone (e.g. Crispini). Professor Statham is an able musician, far and away better than the usual peripatetic pianists; and it is to be regretted that he had no better piano to testify to his skill. A poor instrument is always a great drawback, no matter how efficient the performer; but a bad one is simply torture in a refined form. Mr. J. S. Farron was much appreciated in his Irish and Dutch impersonations, but as for the other comic songs they might almost have been struck out as not in strict keeping with the rest of the entertainment. As *Denis Mulvany* in the amusing farce, "The Judge's Substitute," Mr. Farron was at his best, and kept the audience agrin with the richness of his brogue. Mr. W. Lynch is a fine dancer, but for true "poetry of motion" commend us to the Irish jigs.

A second performance will be given on next Wednesday evening, the 16th inst., with an entire change of programme.

It has been a common occurrence for the Buddhist pilgrims to the Honganji at Kiyoto to be waylaid and robbed on their way to the temple. Not long ago, the priests of the temple devised a very convenient plan by which pious pilgrims could arrive at their destination without having to carry money on their persons. But even this promising idea proved ineffectual to stop the highway robberies, and so the priests, in despair, applied to one Aidzu-no-Kotetsu, a famous gambler and ex-bandit on half-pay. This interesting gentleman promised to check the rapacity of the knights of the road. We judge from the above that no one is without some fitting employment, and no man without some peculiar genius.—*Choya Shimbun*.

IN THE TOKIYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—WEDNESDAY, 16th April, 1884.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsushima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsushima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

The petition of Johannes Frahm, late master of the steamship *Akitsushima Maru*, shows as follows:—

1.—That a marine court of enquiry into circumstances attending the loss of the said steamship met at Tokio the 12th of November, 1883, and sat for the hearing of the testimony of witnesses on that day and on the 13th and 14th days of November.

2.—That the said court was composed of Messrs. G. E. O. Ramsay, President; with Thomas Henry James and Archibald F. Macnab as Assessors.

3.—The judgment of the said court was given on the 19th day of November, 1883.

4.—By the said judgment the court found as follows:

We find the master guilty of:—

1st. Error in judgment by over-estimating the speed and leeway on the 9th of October.

2nd. Imprudence in shaping his course direct for the land at a speed of 8 knots from midnight of the 9th October: and also for running the ship at the same speed on a N.W. by N. course immediately after sighting the light at 4 a.m. on the 10th October.

3rd. Neglect of duty in leaving the bridge and deck when so uncertain of his position and distance from the land while the ship was steaming full speed towards it.

We therefore advise that his certificate of competency as master be suspended for 12 months.

Also we consider the chief officer, Mr. John C. Werner, to have contributed in a great measure to the disaster in neglecting to call the master when the light disappeared, in not turning her head to seaward or not reversing the engines to full speed astern, consequently we recommend that his certificate of competency as first mate be suspended for 6 months.

In both cases the suspension to be from date of judgment.

(Signed)

G. E. O. RAMSAY, President.

THOS. H. JAMES, } Assessors.

A. F. MACNAB, }

5.—That your petitioner wishes to appeal from the said judgment on the grounds following:—

1.—The charge against your petitioner was for "causing the loss of the vessel by his wrongful act or default." But the evidence produced to the court showed that the actual cause of the loss of the *Akitsushima-maru* was the existence of a false light on the coast in the neighbourhood of Siriya-saki so closely resembling the light from the lighthouse on Siriya-saki that every person of experience on board the steamer was deceived by it. That as the stranding of the vessel followed so quickly after sighting the false light the loss of the said steamer must be attributed directly to the existence of such false light on the morning of the accident and not to the cause upon which your petitioner was charged under section 10 of the government regulations namely "causing the loss of the vessel by his wrongful act or default."

2.—That the said court was in error to the prejudice of your petitioner in failing to obtain evidence as to the existence and true position of the said false light. Therefore the evidence of the seaman Nakashiyo Chogiro to the effect that the light which was sighted was taken by every person on board the steamer to be the Siriya-seki light must be taken to be correct. It is true that the statement of this witness as to the colour of the light was not clear, but he was distinct in stating that the colour and appearance of the two lights were the same.

3.—That the "imprudence" of which your petitioner was convicted by the court was directly induced by the existence of the false light at a point where your petitioner had no previous notice or knowledge of its existence. The final statement made by your petitioner to the court is sufficient to show this; and the evidence which was adduced to the court was sufficient to prove that the mistake of believing this light to be the Siriya-seki light was shared in by every practical mariner on board the ship. Up to 4 o'clock of the morning of the 10th of October the action of your petitioner had been prudent and cautious. After the severe weather which the steamer had experienced on the 8th and 9th of October during which the vessel was not under control either as to speed or steering, it would be dangerous to attempt to enter the Tsugaru Straits without first making the Siriya-seki light. But the position of that light is so well known that after it is once sighted and a bearing obtained, it may be considered perfectly safe to steam ahead in the direction of Cape Blunt, even if the vessel was at the time of taking such bearings distant only six miles to east of the said light.

Now until sighting the light at 4 o'clock in the morning of the 10th October your petitioner was in some doubt as to the exact position of the vessel: he was approaching the land to obtain a sight of the light or of some well known land mark to direct him and to assist him to ascertain his exact position. As he did not sight the light at the time he expected he took the precaution which every careful seaman would take,—namely heading his ship seaward preparatory to sounding and attempting by means other than those of

stellar observation to ascertain his position. It was during this manoeuvre that the light was sighted in a direction and position corresponding with those in which he expected to find the light. Had the light which was then sighted been the Siriya-seki light his position would have been ascertained beyond a doubt and it would have been safe for him to proceed; or, more correctly, and to put the proposition in another way,—Had not the false light been burning on the morning in question your petitioner would not have been deceived: he would have continued to exercise the precautions he had commenced to take. It was evidently his intention not to enter the Tsugaru Straits until he had made the light or ascertained his position by sighting Siriya-seki. He was deceived by the fact of the existence of an unauthorized light and the loss of the vessel must be taken to be the direct consequence of the existence of such false light and not of any wrongful act or default of your petitioner.

4.—The speed of the vessel and the lee-way made were calculated in the only way in which such matters can be calculated during the violence of a hurricane, when the attention of every person is directed toward the immediate safety of the vessel, namely the lee-way by judgment, and the speed by the patent log: and in the absence of unusual set or of undue variation in the set of the current the judgment of men who have sailed in a ship for some time is generally found to be correct; for experience gained by familiarity with the machine a man handles gives him a power of guessing correctly. The estimate formed by your petitioner of the relative speed and lee-way of the vessel coincided with the estimates formed by the engineer as to the speed and by the other officers as to the lee-way. It thus follows that even if a consultation had been held among the officers of the ship as to the position of the vessel, the same decision would have been arrived at as was arrived at by your petitioner.

5.—That the reference made by the court to the trim of the vessel was unjust to your petitioner. He was ordered to proceed to sea. The amount of cargo actually stowed differed considerably from the amount he had been told was to come aboard; he had then to fill the after tank with water ballast to bring the screw propeller into the water. At 16 feet the propeller was only just covered; had the ship been lighter "aft" than she was the engines would have "raced" more than they actually did and the ship would have made less speed and consequently still more lee-way in the gale. Upon the due consideration of all these circumstances your petitioner humbly submits that the loss of the vessel was not caused by any wrongful act or default of his, but was the direct and necessary consequence of the exhibition of the false light. Your petitioner begs a favourable and early consideration of this case that he may not be disgraced by an unreversed decision of a naval court after many years faithful and diligent service in the Mitsui Bishi Company.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays:—

That the decision of the Marine Court of Inquiry may be reversed, and that his certificate of competency may be restored to him.

(Signed) ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONER.

Yokohama, the 23rd day of Nov., 1883.

Reply to Petition in appeal re *Akitsu-shima-maru*. Between Johannes Frahm, late master of the above vessel, by his attorney Peter Frahm, of No. 149 Bluff, Yokohama, the Appellant, and The Kuwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent, by his attorney, G. E. O. Ramsay.

The petitioner wishes to appeal from the said judgment on the grounds following:—

"The charge against your petitioner was for causing the loss of the vessel by his wrongful act or default."

This charge is substantiated, for the master Johannes Frahm neglected the most simple rules of navigation, never at any one time after the light was sighted were any bearings of it taken by compass. The compass the ship was steered by, being on the bridge, no bearings could be taken by it, (as elicited in the cross-examination of the chief officer by the master) from right ahead, to 4½ points on either bow, by master's statement 6 points on each bow; this was called the standard!

Further, the master never attempted to ascertain his position at any time after losing sight of the land on the morning of the 6th October: the ship's position at noon of the 9th was unknown to any one on board, nor was it sought to be ascertained; the vessel was not navigated at all, but left to take her own course; at midnight of the 9th, the master had no certain idea of the ship's position, as shown by his own evidence in reply to queries by Lieutenant James.

At the time of preparing to take a cast of the lead, the master (as by his evidence) thought the ship might be in the Tsugara Strait and in soundings; whereas the vessel found a position for herself at a point called Odonosaw, about 15 miles south of Siriya-saki: consequently the master was in error from 20 to 24 miles as to ship's position.

He wilfully neglected the printed instructions of his owners, and in fact altogether disregarded them, as follows from Book of Regulations:—

"To the Commander.

"General Regulations.

"1. You will please distinctly understand that, notwithstanding the issue of the following Regulations, the entire responsibility still rests with you for the safe and efficient navigation of your command, and you are requested to bear in mind that, although you are expected to make good passages you must under no circumstances run risks as are likely to result in accidents, as your first care must

always be the safety of the lives and property with which you are entrusted.

"Should the weather be threatening, we prefer that you should delay your departure rather than put to sea against your judgment."

Sec. I.—&c. "You must under no circumstances run risks as are likely to result in accidents; as your first care must always be the safety of lives and property with which you are entrusted."

Which he altogether disregarded, by not taking steps to correctly estimate his distance off the light. The light seen, so far as the evidence is concerned, might have been the mast-head light of a steamer proceeding down the coast.

"10. During coasting voyages or when near land it is expected that you will be on deck during the night. In other cases you must enter in the night order-book the course to be steered, and all instructions necessary for the safe navigation of the ship during the night. Should the course have to be changed you will note that you are to be called for the purpose, and afterwards enter fresh instructions."

Sec. 10. "During coasting voyages, or when near land, it is expected that you will be on deck during the night, &c." Disregarded.

"To the Commanders and Officers, Log Slate. Part 2.

"Sec. 33. The log slate to be carefully written up by the officer of each watch at sea, or in port after he is relieved, and the particulars as noted below to be particularly attended to.

"I.—Courses in degrees by standard compass.

"II.—Speed of the ship by log.

"III.—Direction and force of the wind.

"IV.—Barometer to be entered more frequently when the weather is unsettled and stormy.

"V.—Thermometer.

"VI.—Revolutions of engines per minute.

"VII.—Number of inches in well.

"VIII.—Courses and distances made good.

"IX.—Latitude and longitude and variation (and ship's reckoning up to noon each day).

"X.—Bearings and distance at noon.

"XI.—Draft of water fore and aft at starting, and as often afterwards as practicable.

"XII.—Remarks.

"1st. State of weather and force of wind.

"2nd. What sails set and when taken in.

"3rd. The true bearings and distance of any land or lights in sight. To find the true bearings and distance from any light or head-land, &c., note distance by patent log from the time when the object bears four points on the bow, till the time when said object is a-beam, due allowance being made for tides, &c."

Sec. 33. Not attended to.

"Sec. 35. The Log to be hove every two hours, care being taken that the line is correctly marked; the patent log also to be used.

"The ship's position is to be ascertained as often as possible, and entered in the Log Book.

"The first officer is expected to see the position pricked off on the chart, so as to keep himself posted as to the position and course, and commanders are particularly enjoined on all occasions when nearing land, or in places of intricate navigation to take frequent cross-bearings of any well marked object that may be visible and suitable for verifying the position of the ship."

Sec. 35. Altogether ignored by master. This section requires hand log to be hove every 2 hours.

"First officer to see ship's position marked off." Master in his evidence said:—"I should be very sorry to consult my chief officer about the navigation of the ship."

"Sec. 40. The ship's log-book is to commence with a table of deviations on the standard compass taken in each point, or every ten degrees, and is to be kept by the first officer who is required to write it up daily from the log slate."

Sec. 40. Disregarded.

Log Book. Part 2.

"Sec. 43. The log book when written up by the first officer is to be placed before the commander for his inspection, each day at noon, and he is to affix his initials thereto, in proof of his having read the same, and ascertained that there are no inaccuracies or omissions."

Sec. 43. Disregarded.

The printed book of regulations, issued by the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company is complete and exhaustive; and sets forth the orders of the directors to their commanders especially, in a most clear and distinct manner. Still the master of this vessel would not carry out the printed instructions of his owners; consequently by his wilful negligence in not obeying their instructions he throws away absolutely a fine, well and strongly built steamer valued at \$239,000 (cargo inclusive).

The master was not justified in taking the vessel to sea from Yokohama in the peculiar trim she was in, viz.: 6 ft. 8 or 10 inches by the stern, as the ship was not in a seaworthy state and condition, for

which state the master was entirely responsible; as it has been shown by his evidence that the vessel, though having a speed of 5 knots with the wind at S.W. and heading N.N.W. (wind 2 points. abaft the port beam) was making 4 points leeway, having the helm hard down, and still she would take no notice of it; thus proving the unseaworthiness of the vessel, notwithstanding her speed of 5 knots. It was a most fortunate circumstance that the hurricane force of the wind was not experienced from the East, as then the vessel would have been heading N.N.W., and making 4 points leeway, her course would have been W.N.W. when on the starboard tack; while on the port tack, heading S.S.W. and making 4 points leeway, her course would have been W.S.W., result, total destruction of ship and loss of all lives: this is but mentioned to show that the master was not justified in putting to sea with his ship in that trim, and also proves he was not a man of mature judgment, nor one to study the interest of his owners.

Part 4 of petition. The appellant saith as follows:—"That as the stranding of the vessel followed so quickly after sighting the false light, the loss of the said steamer must be attributed directly to the existence of the false light on the morning of the accident, and not to the cause upon which your petitioner was charged under Section 10 of the government regulations, namely, 'causing the loss of the vessel by his wrongful act or default.'" It is under this clause by his own showing, that he was rightfully deprived of his certificate for 12 months, as he was not justified in leaving the deck in charge of the chief officer, in whom by the tenor of his evidence he had no confidence; he ought to have taken two distinct bearings of this light, ere he left the bridge; which would have at once told him that he was in most dangerous proximity to the land or, that the light seen was not Siriya Saki. Neither did he (the master) nor his chief officer adopt any one of the most simple rules of navigation, to ensure the safety of the vessel, or to ascertain her position; all through it was simply guess, guess, from beginning to end: not did the master, prior, or subsequent to his leaving the deck, point out on the chart the supposed position of the ship to the officer to whom he surrendered charge at a most critical moment.

In the 5th paragraph of his petition he states "that the said court was in error, to the prejudice of your petitioner, in failing to obtain evidence as to the existence and true position of the said false light, therefore the evidence of the seaman Nakashiya Chojiro, to the effect that the light which was sighted was taken by every person on board the steamer to be Siriya Saki light; must be taken to be correct."

This cannot be accepted; the seaman said it was a red light, which testimony was corroborated by the statement made to Johannes Frahm (taken from his evidence) by a naval officer "that there was a light 6 miles to the southward of shipwreck. I understood him to say that that light was put there by his orders for the guidance of the fishermen; I understood him to say it was a red light. The one I saw was a clear bright light." Every navigator on the coast knows that Siriya Saki is a bright white light, and the light he saw must have been but a small wood fire, or the mast-head light of a steamer. It was the duty of the petitioner during the time he was at the wreck, to have obtained written attested evidence that a false light had been exhibited; and this he signally failed to do; even as he signally failed in his duties as a navigator and a seaman.

The Master did not even take time sufficient to prove that the light seen was not the mast-head light of a steamer going down the coast, ere he left the deck.

Paragraph 9 cannot be accepted as a true statement, as his action up to the morning of the 10th of October, at 4 a.m. had not been prudent and cautious for the reasons previously assigned; there is no reliable record to be found anywhere, as to the ship's position until she found one for herself, owing to the Master's want of precaution.

Paragraph 10 sets forth at the first,—"that during the severe weather experienced on the 8th and 9th days of October, the vessel was not under control either as to speed or steerage way." This was entirely attributable to the Master, for proceeding to sea in that trim which rendered the vessel unseaworthy. After experiencing such tempestuous weather, no careful, prudent navigator would think of shaping his course finally for a given point, upon the first glimpse observed of a light which he (the Master) mistook for Siriya-saki, but would most assuredly before leaving the deck, determine accurately his position, by taking careful bearings of the light after a fair interval of time had elapsed from the time of taking the first bearing; then, and then only, would he be justified in retiring to his room for a time: this was not done by the Master, and neglect of so doing entailed the loss of a fine and truly magnificent steamer.

Paragraphs 11 and 12 need no comment, as the master only did that which any navigator would do.

Paragraph 13.—“Had the light which was then” (4 a.m.) “sighted been the Shiriya-saki light, his position would have been ascertained beyond a doubt, and it would have been safe for him to proceed.” The ship’s position would not have been ascertained; it would have been shown (by guess) that she was somewhere on a line directly to seaward of the light; the distance therefrom could not be known; an approximation thereof could only be arrived at by guess work, or the “rule of thumb,” as it was not possible to obtain accurate bearing or bearings thereof by the compass, on account of the before-mentioned screens.

1st. It must be here recorded that no prudent man, or navigator, would attempt to navigate his ship by a compass thus placed: placed in such a position as to render a correct bearing being taken a matter of impossibility.

2nd. During tempestuous weather as that experienced by the ship on the 8th and 9th of October last, every master gives more than ordinary attention to the navigation of his vessel, but in this case the master and his officers are found entirely neglecting the navigation of the vessel, and trusting simply to the chapter of accidents that all would be well; this is proved by the fact that the master was about 20 to 24 miles out in his guess-work of navigation; he expected to strike soundings in the straits, instead of which he sights a light (which might have been a steamer’s mast-head light, or the light of a vessel at anchor) and immediately, without any attempt of verification by ocular observations, or by taking accurate bearings of the same by compass, jumps to the unpardonable assumption that it was Shiriya-saki, and after shaping a course which he only guessed to be correct, with indecent haste hands over entire charge of the vessel to a man (the Chief Officer) in whom he has no confidence, and quits his responsible duties without even consulting with the Chief Officer, or showing him his position on the chart; naturally, seeing the Master thus imprudently acting, the Chief Officer follows his example, and does not inform the Master of the fact of the light having disappeared, but stands on, and the ship succeeds in finding a correct position for herself, which, the Master, who took sole responsibility of the navigation on his own shoulders, failed to do, and also, his officers; for the Master never endeavoured at any time to find the exact position of the ship, but, as before stated, it was merely guess-work with him. It is here well to remark that the action taken by the Marine Court of Enquiry was truly lenient, and that if the said Court erred, it was on the side of mercy, and not of severity, for the above Court did not take into its consideration the disregarding by the Master of the Book of Regulations, published by his owners, the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company, which instructions had he but partly followed would have prevented the loss of the vessel, and consequently the suspension of his certificate (and that of his Chief Officer).

Paragraph 14 of Petition.—The loss of the vessel must be entirely attributable to the fact of the Master so insanely accepting the light seen as that of Shiriya-saki, without any attempt at verifying the same; the false light does not excuse the Master for neglecting the most simple and ordinary precautions adopted in navigation; hence the loss of the vessel was caused by his wrongful act or default.

Paragraph 15.—The speed of the vessel especially during this tempestuous weather (and also at all times), should have been ascertained by heaving the hand log (and that too in accordance with his owners’ instructions, Sec. 35) but which was altogether neglected; had this log been but hove in accordance with those instructions, and as is the usual practice of navigators, especially during tempestuous weather, then the accurate speed of the ship would have been ascertained; and after this had been done, had the log line been taken and held immediately over the centre of the after compass card, it would have instantly informed the master of the amount of leeway the vessel was making, and that too with accuracy: here it must be most emphatically stated, that a master who navigates his ship by guess-work only is certainly unfit to be trusted in any position of responsibility on board of a ship; and it is with feelings of regret that attention is called to this peculiarity of the master’s habit of navigating his vessel in a most hazardous and improper manner, *i.e.*, by guess, and which resulted in her total loss.

It is during a hurricane or a severe storm that extra precautions are universally taken (except in this case) to ensure safe navigation of a ship, and thus her safety is secured, and not as is stated by your petitioner “by estimating leeway by judgment,” instead of accurate observation in accordance with the method above mentioned, or by adopting other methods known to navigators in

order to determine this essential element. It is unnecessary to remark upon the concluding part of this paragraph, further than to say that the navigation of a vessel cannot be conducted on the principles of a machine.

Paragraph 17.—The Master in a peculiarly offensive manner, in reply to a query of the Court, (of which no notice was taken by the Court) disdained asking his officers’ opinions as to the ship’s position: therefore his remarks in this paragraph must be dismissed with contempt, as it was evident he looked upon them simply as men unworthy of consultation.

Paragraph 19.—In allusion thereto, it is certainly a peculiar trait of this man, that he desires to shift his neglect of duty on to the shoulders of his subordinate (the Purser) when he says, “that he was ordered to proceed to sea:” it was for him to have pointed out to the Purser, or Agent of the Company, that the vessel was not in trim, instead of which, what does he do? but deliberately puts the vessel more out of trim, by filling the after tank, and thus renders her more unseaworthy; nor did he at any time endeavour to remedy this state of affairs, which must be considered incomprehensible.

Referring to the concluding part of this paragraph, the loss of the vessel must be attributed to the Master’s wilful act or default.

After the stranding of the vessel, the Master did not adopt strenuous measures to haul or float her off; and by not so doing, he further hastened the total destruction of the ship.

Should your honourable Court desire further and more elaborate comments upon the case, so as to arrive at a just decision, the Attorney of the Respondent will be pleased to address the Court, either in person, or in writing, replying in full to all its queries.

GEO. RAMSAY,
Attorney for the Respondent.

Tokyo, March 13th, 1884.

To NISHIGATA TOTSU, Esq.,
Hanji of the Tokiyo Koso Saibansho.

On the opening of the Court, the Judge said that the present Court was held by order of the Daijokwan, and therefore the decision would be final, and there could be no appeal from it. The legal technicalities which at the former sitting of the Court caused a postponement, had been complied with and the sitting would proceed.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu, addressing the Court, said that the three principal points of grievance of the appellant were as follows:—(1) That in all Western Courts of this kind the President was always a person who had a knowledge of the law. The President of the Court of Enquiry, Mr. Ramsay, he was sure, had little knowledge of the laws of Western countries and still less of Japanese. (2) The decision of the first Court had been given in opposition and without regard to the evidence given in that Court. (3) That all the evidence in the Court below tended to show that the appellant was misled by a light of the same description and colour as the Shiriya-saki light, which on being first seen bore from the ship in the exact direction where the Shiriya-saki light was expected to be sighted. That in spite of all this evidence being before the Court and in spite of the appellant’s request that Captain Young of the *Takasago Maru* and his chief officer should be summoned, who had both seen the light and had expressed their opinion that under the circumstances it might well have been mistaken for the Shiriya-saki light, the request was disregarded, thus denying the appellant an opportunity of justifying his actions. He therefore requested that the said gentlemen might be called to give evidence in connection with this point. In continuing, counsel remarked that four reasons had been given by the lower Court as their reasons for giving their decision. They were first “error in judgment by over estimating the speed and leeway on the 9th October.” He would remind the Court that when the disaster occurred the weather was not as calm as at present, a hurricane was blowing, even during the day-time it was so dark that one could not see more than two or three *ken* ahead; therefore the only way to arrive at the leeway was by estimating it. Anyone who has had the experience that the Captain had of this vessel would be competent under ordinary circumstances to estimate the lee-

way of his ship very approximately. Two or three witnesses had given evidence and they all agreed that, although perhaps other vessels under the same circumstances might not have made four points leeway, they considered that the *Akitsu-shima Maru* made this much at the time and based their assertions on the previous behaviour of the ship. In the answer to the petition of appeal paragraph 15, respondent remarks that “had the log-line been taken and held immediately over the centre of the after compass-card, it would have instantly informed the master of the amount of leeway the vessel was making, and that too with accuracy.” This the Counsel contended might sound very well in the school-room or might be of some use in moderate weather, but in this case the Court must remember that the wind was blowing with hurricane force which would naturally carry the line over the compass far to leeward and therefore could not possibly be any guide to the master in estimating the actual leeway he was making. Again in paragraph two, of the judgment of the lower Court the second reason was “imprudence in shaping his course direct for the land at a speed of 8 knots from midnight of the 9th of October and also for running his ship at the same speed on a N.W. by W. course immediately after sighting the light at 4 a.m. on the 10th October.” Regarding this point, the Captain and every one on board thought the light seen was the Shiriya-saki light, it being of the same size and colour, and was picked up in the direction expected, namely, bearing West. For the three previous days they had been unable to take an observation the weather being too thick. But they calculated to come across the light bearing West where it was first seen. The appellant had stated that when he first saw the light, he looked at it steadily for eight or nine minutes, and came to the conclusion that it was the Shiriya-saki light. The chief officer in his evidence corroborated this statement, and estimated its distance from 10 to 15 miles from the ship. The third mate also said he thought the light to be the lighthouse. Nakashiyo Chojiro being asked what light it was replied the Shiriya-saki light. On being questioned as to its colour he said it was red. And again upon being interrogated as to the colour of the Shiriya-saki light he said that was red also, whereas the Shiriya-saki light was white. Some people were colour blind, the Counsel did not say that the witness Chojiro was so, but there was every presumption of it, he having declared that both the lights were red when it was an established fact that that from the lighthouse was white. Four competent officers had stated that the light seen was a white light yet the Court had ignored their evidence in favour of one of the common sailors, and had come to the conclusion that the light seen was red. The appellant and his officers agreed that the light when first seen was between 10 and 15 miles off, but even if it had only been six miles off the course steered, supposing it had been the Shiriya-saki light, would have taken the vessel clear of all dangers. With regard to the third reason given for the judgment namely, “neglect of duty in leaving the bridge and deck when so uncertain of his position, and distance from the land while the ship was steaming full speed towards it,” the Counsel argued that if he could show that the appellant was justified in concluding that the light was Shiriya-saki, and therefore he could go to rest without fear, this reason for the decision would fall through.

Counsel then formally applied to the Court for permission to call Captain Young and his Chief Officer, and that their evidence might be taken, as he considered their testimony would materially assist his client.

Mr. Rossetsu then referred to the respondent’s answer which stated that no bearings had been taken by the compass, but the evidence of the appellant and his officers went to show that bearings must have been taken, for they unanimously agreed that the light bore West. The Counsel wished to state that the evidence of each of these witnesses, in the lower Court, had been taken in the absence of the others and yet all had agreed on this point. The answer of respondent also says that the appellant never attempted to ascertain his position at any time after losing sight of the land on the morning of the 6th October, that the vessel had not been navigated at all, but allowed to go on her own course and that everything had been done by guess. But the Court must remember that for 40 hours previous to the catastrophe

neither sky nor land could be seen, therefore no observation could be taken, consequently the only way the Captain could judge of the ship's position was by estimating the speed of the vessel, the leeway, and the courses steered. Previous to 5.30 p.m. on the 9th October the weather had been so tempestuous that the Captain was unable to get to his cabin where his charts and instruments were kept, but the weather slightly moderating at that time he was enabled to procure the chart, and after considering the foregoing points, judge of the ship's position. The Captain in his evidence stated that he thought he was in the Tsugaru Straits, whereas the vessel was subsequently wrecked near a place called Odonosawa, 15 miles south of Shiriya-saki. This showed that the master was from 20 to 24 miles out of his reckoning. When, however, the dirty state of the weather for the three previous days was taken into consideration and also the strong variable currents that exist on that coast, it was not surprising. This was not the first case of the kind, there had been several others. About the same time that the *Akitsuishima Maru* was lost, the steamship *Khiva* reported having in 12 hours got 40 miles out of her reckoning owing to the variableness of the currents. It was not, therefore, strange that the master of this vessel should, after forty hours bad weather, find himself 24 miles out. The respondent's answer stated that the appellant neglected the printed instructions of his employers. With reference to the writing up of the log and other such standing orders, there were occasions when these regulations could not be carried out. They were trifling matters in comparison to the safety of the lives of the passengers and the ship. Furthermore, it was laid down in the printed directions referred to, that the Master's "first care must always be the safety of lives and property with which he is entrusted." Counsel thought the Court would agree with him that under circumstances similar to those under review, it was the duty of the Master to use his own discretion, even should he have to disregard the minor points in the printed instructions which were only issued as general instructions.

His Honour then granted Mr. Rossetts's request that Captain Young and his chief officer should be called and their evidence taken. He then adjourned the hearing to the 22nd instant, when Mr. Uchiyama Rossetts could continue his pleading.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the 8th, 9th, and 10th of May. Programme and Entries:—

FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, 8TH MAY.

The JAPAN CRITERION, a Sweepstake of \$10 each with \$50 added; for Japan Ponies that have never won a race prior to date of entry; weight as per scale; Griffins at date of entry 7lb. allowance; Subscription Griffins at same date, 10lb. allowance; winners since date of entry 7lb. extra for each race won; last pony to pay second pony's entrance fee. Five Furlongs.

Kamakura II., Yobiko, Moonlight, Moonbeam (late Tweedledum), Vermouth, Shinobadzu, Yanagawa, Blair Athol, Mist, Muddle.

The CRITERION STAKES, value \$100; for China Ponies that have not won a race since 1st July, 1883; weight as per scale; previous winners 7lb. extra. Once Round. Entrance \$5.

Sunlight (late Young Duke), Mandarin, The Bad Boy (late Primrose), Tam O'Shanter, Roebuck.

The HALF-BRED MAIDENS STAKES, a Sweepstake of \$10 each, with \$50 added, for Half-Bred Ponies that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama; five ponies to enter and three ponies to start, or no race; weight as per scale. Five Furlongs.

Shi-un, Nécapu, Koko-un, Tabin, Yudachi, Hatsuge.

The DIPLOMATIC CUP, presented; for China and Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; Maidens 7lb. allowance; Subscription Griffins 10lb. allowance; winners of three races of once round and under since January, 1883, 10lb. extra. Three Quarters of a Mile. Entrance \$10.

Victor, Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Lowland Laddie, Blair Athol, Roebuck.

The RIKUGUNSHO CUP, presented; for Japan Ponies; weight as per scale; winners of three races in 1883, 7lb. extra; winners in 1884, 7lb. extra, penalties accumulative; Maidens 7lb. allowance; Subscription Griffins 10lb. allowance. Half a Mile. Entrance \$5.

Kamakura II., Yobiko, Annandale, Shinobadzu, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Katerfelto, Kajiki, Kachidoki, To-un, Blair Athol, Dawn, Muddle, Mist.

The BANKERS' AND BROKERS' CUP, presented; for China Ponies; weight as per scale, with 10lb. extra; non-winners since 1st July 1883, 7lb. allowance; to be ridden by members of the Club; Jockeys who have had three or more winning mounts at meetings of the N.R.C. 7lb. extra; Jockeys who have never had a winning mount 5lb. allowance. One Mile and Three Quarters. Entrance \$5.

Sunshine, Sunlight, Dartmoor, The Bad Boy, Lowland Laddie, Curiosity, Mongol, Basuto.

The GRIFFINS' SWEEPSTAKES, for Japanese Subscription Griffins; a sweepstake of \$10 each; weight as per scale; winners since date of entry, 5lb. extra for each race won. Half a Mile.

Moonshine, Moonstone, Kumamoto, Star.

The NAVY AND VISITORS' CUP, presented; for Japan and China Ponies; weight as per scale; winners at the Meeting 7lb. extra; non-winners since 1st July, 1883, 7lb. allowance; Maidens 10lb. allowance. One Mile and a Quarter. Entrance \$5.

Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Kajiki, Kachidoki, Lowland Laddie, Curiosity, Mongol.

SECOND DAY—FRIDAY, 9TH MAY.

The CESAREWITCH STAKES, a forced Sweepstake of \$10 each, \$5 forfeit, for all China Ponies entered at the Meeting; the winner to receive \$125, and the second pony \$50; to be handicapped by the Committee; the Handicap to be published within three days after closing of entries; declarations of forfeit to be made within seven days of closing of entries; minimum weight 9st. 7lb.; winners after publication of weights, 5lb. extra for each race won. One Mile and a Quarter.

Victor, Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Dartmoor, Mandarin, The Bad Boy, Lowland Laddie, Tam O'Shanter, Curiosity, Roebuck, Mongol, Basuto.

The NURSERY STAKES, a forced Sweepstake for all Japanese Subscription Griffins of \$15 each, with \$100 added; the winner to receive 75 per cent., and the second pony 25 per cent.; last pony to pay third pony's entrance fee; weight as per scale; Three Quarters of a Mile. If fewer than ten ponies are entered, the added money will be reduced to \$50.

Moonshine, Moonstone, Vermouth, Kumamoto, Star.

The NOSHOMUSHO PRIZE, presented; for Half-bred ponies; weight as per scale; winners of three races in 1883, 14lb. extra; winners in 1884, 7lb. extra, penalties accumulative; Maidens 7lb. allowance. Once Round and a Distance. Entrance \$5.

Kanehori, Shi-un, Nécapu, Koko-un, Ko-un, Tabin, Dublin, Yudachi, Hatsuge.

The LADIES' PURSE, presented; for Japan and China ponies; Japan Ponies weight as per scale, China ponies weight as per old scale, with 10lb. added in each case; Maidens 7lb. allowance; Subscription Griffins (non-winners) 14lb. allowance; to be ridden by members of the Club; jockeys who have had three or more winning mounts at meetings of the N. R. C. 7lb. extra; jockeys who have never had a winning mount 5lb. allowance. Half a Mile. Entrance \$10.

Victor, Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Katerfelto, Blair Athol, Roebuck, Dawn.

The Y. U. C. CUP, presented; for China Ponies; weight as per scale; winners at the meeting, of one race 7lb. extra, of two races, or of any race over "once round," 10lb. extra; non-winners since 2nd July, 1883, 7lb. allowance; Maidens 10lb. allowance. One Mile and a Half. Entrance \$5.

Sunshine, Sunlight, Dartmoor, The Bad Boy, Lowland Laddie, Tam O'Shanter, Curiosity, Mongol.

The GUAIMUSHO CHALLENGE PRIZE, presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs; value yen 500; for Japanese Ponies to be won at two consecutive meetings by the same pony; prize entrance fees to go to the winner until the prize is finally won; weight as per scale. Three Quarters of a Mile. Entrance \$10.

Kamakura II., Yobiko, Annandale, Moonlight, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Kajiki, Kachidoki, To-un.

The WEIGHT CARRIERS' STAKES, a Sweepstake of \$10 each with \$50 added; for Japan and China Ponies; weight as per scale, with 14lb. added; winners at the meeting 5lb. extra; to be ridden by members of the Club; jockeys who have had three or more winning mounts at meetings of the N.R.C. 7lb. extra; jockeys who have never had a winning mount 5lb. allowance. Once Round.

Victor, Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Dartmoor, Curiosity, Basuto.

The FLY-AWAY STAKES, a Sweepstake of \$5 each with \$50 added; for Japan and China Ponies;

weight as per scale; winners and non-starters at the meeting excluded. Seven Furlongs.

Sunrise, Sunlight, Annandale, Shinobadzu, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Mandarin, Kajiki, Kachidoki, To-un, Lowland Laddie, Tam O'Shanter, Roebuck, Dawn, Mongol.

THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, 10TH MAY.

The HURDLE RACE, a Sweepstake of \$5 each, with \$50 added; for Japan and China Ponies; over six (6) flights of hurdles; China Ponies 11 stone, Japan Ponies 10st. 7lb. Once Round and a Distance.

Sunlight, Mandarin, Tam O'Shanter, Curiosity, Roebuck.

The MEMBERS' PLATE, value \$150; for Japan and China ponies; weight as per scale, with 10lb. added; winners at the Meeting 5lb. extra for each race won; to be ridden by members of the Club; jockeys who have had three or more winning mounts at meetings of the N.R.C. 7lb. extra; jockeys who have never had a winning mount 5lb. allowance. Five Furlongs. Entrance \$10.

Victor, Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Dartmoor, Katerfelto, Blair Athol, Dawn, Basuto.

The HALF-BRED HANDICAP, a Sweepstake of \$10 each, with \$50 added; a forced entry for all Half-bred Ponies entered at the Meeting; the Handicap to be framed as soon as possible after the last Race on the Second Day. Once Round.

Kanehori, Shi-un, Nécapu, Koko-un, Ko-un, Tabin, Dublin, Yudachi, Hatsuge.

The GRIFFIN HANDICAP, a handicap for Japanese Subscription Griffins; a forced sweepstake of \$10 each, with \$50 added; half-forfeit; the winner to receive 75 per cent., and the second pony 25 per cent.; the Handicap to be framed as soon as possible after the last race on the Second Day; winners after publication of weights, 5lb. extra. Five Furlongs.

Moonshine, Moonstone, Vermouth, Kumamoto, Star.

The JAPAN CONSOLATION, value \$100; for all beaten Japan Ponies at the Meeting; weight as per scale. Five Furlongs. Entrance \$5.

Kamakura II., Yobiko, Annandale, Moonlight, Moonbeam, Shinobadzu, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Katerfelto, Kachidoki, To-un, Blair Athol, Dawn.

The CHINA CONSOLATION, value \$100; for all beaten China Ponies at the Meeting; weight as per scale. Once Round. Entrance \$5.

Victor, Sunlight, Mandarin, The Bad Boy, Lowland Laddie, Tam O'Shanter, Curiosity, Roebuck, Mongol, Basuto.

The MITSU BISHI CHALLENGE CUP, presented by the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company; for Japan Ponies; to be won at two consecutive meetings by the same Pony; a forced entry for all winners at the Meeting, except winner of Race No. 1, Third Day; winners of one Race, \$10 entrance; of two Races, \$25; of three or more Races, \$40; optional to non-winners at an entrance of \$5; entrance fees to be paid to the winner until the Cup is finally won; weight as per scale. Once Round.

The KUNAISHO PRIZE, presented; for China Ponies; weight as per scale. One Mile and a Quarter. Entrance \$10.

Sunrise, Sunshine, Dartmoor, Lowland Laddie, Curiosity, Mongol.

The SPRING HANDICAP, value \$125; handicap for Japan and China Ponies that have run at the Meeting; the Handicap to be framed as soon as possible after the last Race on the Second Day; winners after publication of weights 5lb. extra. Once Round. Entrance \$5.

Sunrise, Sunshine, Sunlight, Moonlight, Annandale, Shinobadzu, Yanagawa, Sumizome, Kajiki, Kachidoki, To-un, The Bad Boy, Lowland Laddie, Curiosity, Roebuck, Dawn, Mongol, Basuto.

NOTE:—Whenever the terms "Griffins" or "Subscription Griffins" are used in the above programme, they shall be understood to mean ponies that were *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. All China Subscription Griffins of Spring, 1883, will be eligible to run as Maidens.

POST ENTRIES.

The following post-entries have been received for the Subscription Griffin Races at the Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club:—

FIRST DAY.

No. 7.—The GRIFFINS' SWEEPSTAKES.—San-no, Karasu-mori, Tobiume, Foudre, Kanga-rebei.

SECOND DAY.

No. 2.—The NURSERY STAKES.—San-no, Karasumori, Tobiume, Foudre, Kanga-rebei.

THIRD DAY.

No. 3.—The GRIFFIN HANDICAP.—San-no, Karasu-mori, Tobiume, Foudre, Kanga-rebei.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Peking, April 11th.

The *Peking Gazette* announces the removal of Prince Kung, Pau-chwen, Li Hong-t'sau, Ching Lien, and Ung Tung-ho, from the membership of the Grand Council. The same issue gives the appointment of Prince Li, Nga-lo Ho-poo, Yen Ching-ming, Ministers of Treasury; Chang Chi-wan, Minister of Justice; and Sun Yü-wen, Assistant Minister of Works, as their successors in the Council.

Shanghai, April 13th.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN CHINA.

Telegrams received here from Peking state that the Empress has publicly degraded Prince Kung and four members of the Privy Council for their dilatoriness in the Tonquin affair.

London, April 12th.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

The French troops have bombarded Hung-hoa. The Chinese set fire to the town, and then fled without offering any resistance.

London, April 14th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

A rumour at Suakim has been telegraphed from Egypt that Khartoum has fallen and that General Gordon has been taken prisoner.

London, April 16th.

SAFETY OF GENERAL GORDON.

Despatches have been received from General Gordon dated April 8th. He was then safe.

London, April 16th, 4.55 p.m.

Cotton, Mid. Upland, 6½d. Yarns, market ½d. higher. Shirtings, market 1½d. higher. Silk, no change.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, March 31st.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Latest advices state that General Gordon with 3,000 Egyptian troops made a sortie from Khartoum when the Egyptians fled and abandoned their guns. Two hundred were killed.

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

It is announced that the French claim sovereignty over the North West Coast of Madagascar.

London, April 2nd.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Advices from the Soudan state that the Mahdi has rejected the Sultanhip of Kordofan.

London, 3rd April.

SUEZ CANAL DUES.

It is further announced that the Suez Canal pilotage dues will not be abolished until 2nd July.

GREAT FIRE IN LONDON.

A terrible fire has broken out in Paternoster Row destroying a very large amount of property.

London, 6th April.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

The House of Lords has adjourned for the Easter Holidays until April 21st.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

It is stated that Suakim will be garrisoned by a detachment of General Wood's army.

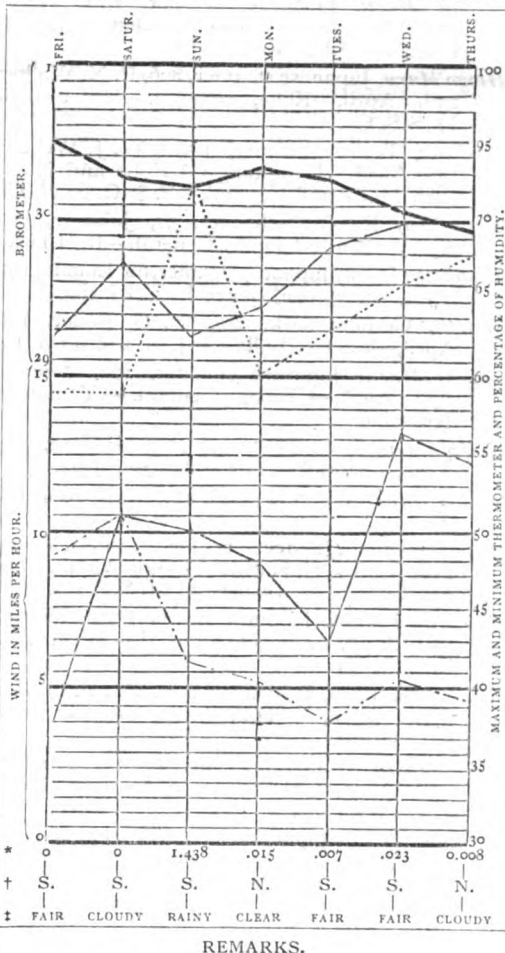
THE DEATH OF PRINCE LEOPOLD.

The Duke of Albany was entombed at Windsor on Saturday with great ceremony, Her Majesty the Queen being present.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per P. M. Co.	To-day.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Monday, April 21st.†
From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co.	Thursday, April 24th.
Nagasaki, & }	
Kobe,	
From Europe, } per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, April 24th.‡
via Hongkong, per O. & O. Co.	
From Europe, } per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, April 29th.
via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	
From America ... per P. M. Co.	Friday, May 2nd.§

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on March 20th. † Thibet left Nagasaki on April 18th. ‡ Oceanic (with English mail) left Hongkong on April 18th. § City of Tokio left San Francisco on April 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per K. U. Co.	Saturday, April 19th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co.	Saturday, April 19th.
For Europe, via } per M. M. Co.	Sunday, April 20th.
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co.	
For Europe, via } per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 27th.
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co.	
For America ... per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 27th.
For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co.	Tuesday, April 22nd.
Kobe, and }	
Nagasaki ... }	

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

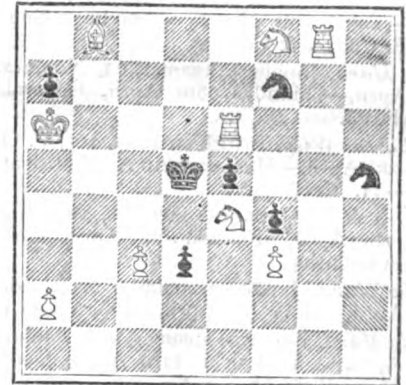
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. A. C. PEARSON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 12th April, 1884, by C. CALLANDER.

White.	Black.
1.—Q. to Q. 2.	1.—K. to K. 4.
2.—Q. to Q. B. 3 ch.	2.—K. to K. 5.
3.—R. to K. 2, mate.	
	if 1.—K. to K. 2.
2.—Q. to Q. 6 ch.	2.—K. to K. sq.
3.—R. to K. 2, mate.	
	if 1.—P. to B. 6.
2.—Q. to Q. 6 ch.	2.—K. to Kt. 2.
3.—Q. to R. 6, mate.	
	if 1.—K. to Kt. 2, 3 or 4.
2.—R. takes P. ch.	2.—Anything.
3.—Q. mates.	

Correct answers received from "W.H.S." and "TESA."

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsunumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.00; First-class, yen 1.78; Third-class, sen 89.

In Ishikawa Prefecture, the education fund contributed by the people has amounted to more than 2,000 yen. In the course of ten years the sum will be so large, that the interest alone will defray all the educational expenses of the entire prefecture.

From January to March last, 124 applications were made to the Hiyogo Kencho by foreigners for permission to visit Kiyoto; and 33 foreign passports were granted to natives: 10 for New York, 10 for Shanghai, 5 for London, 3 for Hongkong, 2 for Singapore, 2 for England, 1 for Ohio, and 1 for Melbourne.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

It has already been reported that the compilation of the Civil Codes is rapidly being completed by the authorities. We now understand that the laws respecting individuals are finished, and those respecting inheritance have been commenced. There being various different methods of inheritance existing in Japan, several difficult questions are said to have presented themselves to the compilers.

A project is on foot to establish a steamship company at Inchhōn, with a capital of 500,000 yen. Several vessels will be purchased from the Ship Building Bureau at Hiogo.

Of 4,971 males and 284 females convicted of various offences at the Courts of Tokiyo, 813 were of the Tendai sect of Buddhism, 971 of Zenshiu, 1,409 of Nichirenshiu, 755 of Shinshiu, 581 of Shingonshiu, 706 of Jodoshiu, 107 were Shintoists, and the rest of unknown creeds.—*Choya Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Lucia, British bark, 640, C. Crowley, 10th April, —Takao 19th March, 15,000 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Nomura, 10th April, —Shimidzu, 8th April, General.—Seiriusha.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 165, F. Owston, 10th April, —Hakodate 8th April, Fish and Oil.—H. MacArthur.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 11th April, —Fukuda 9th April, General.—Fukudasha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 11th April, —Kobe 9th April, General.—Seiriusha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 13th April, —Yokkaichi 11th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 13th April, —Yokkaichi 10th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 13th April, —Kobe 11th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 14th April, —Toba 11th April, General.—Handasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 14th April, —Kobe 12th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 14th April, —Hongkong 8th April, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 15th April, —Kobe 13th April, General.—Nakamurasha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 68, Masuda, 15th April, —Yokkaichi 12th April, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 15th April, —Toba 13th April, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 16th April, —Yokkaichi 14th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 16th April, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 16th April, —Shimidzu 15th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,384, Courtney, 17th April, —London via Hongkong 10th April, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 17th April, —Yokkaichi 14th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 17th April, —Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 17th April, —Hakodate 14th and Oginohama 16th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 802, J. Adair, 18th April, —Kobe 16th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Yetchiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 680, Burgoyne, 18th April, —Niigata 13th and Hakodate 15th April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 19th April, —Kobe 17th April, General.—Mitsu M. Bishi S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Amano, 19th April, —Yokkaichi 17th April, General.—Handasha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 19th April, —Shimidzu 18th April, General.—Seiriusha.

DEPARTURES.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 864, Spiegelthal, 10th April, —Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Helena, British schooner, 58, Golder, 11th April, —Guam, Stores.—Captain.

Nemo, British schooner, Nicholas, 11th April, —Kurile Islands, Stores.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 398, Okuma, 11th April, —Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, E. Vannier, 12th April, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 12th April, —Handa, General.—Handasha.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 12th April, —Takao \$5,000.00 Treasure.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 13th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 13th April, —Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 13th April, —Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Saghalien, Russian schooner, 52, Johnson, 13th April, —Kurile Islands, General.—R. Clarke.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 15th April, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Orient, German bark, 640, W. G. Roder, 15th April, —Chefoo, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 15th April, —Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 15th April, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 15th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriusha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 15th April, —Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Thomas, 15th April, —Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, F. Owston, 15th April, —Hakodate, General.—H. MacArthur.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, Lampert, 15th April, —Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 313, Kusaka, 16th April, —Korea via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 16th April, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 16th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Omura, 17th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 17th April, —Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 17th April, —Kobe, General.—Nakamurasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 17th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Glenury, British barkentine, 283, Thomson, 18th April, —Nagasaki, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 18th April, —Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Velocity, British bark, 490, R. Martin, 18th April, —Takao, Treasure \$20,000.00.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 18th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Shimidzu:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—17 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. John Speak, Geo. Chas. Sim, J. H. Coulsling, G. W. Barger, G. Endercott, and 14 Japanese in cabin; and 170 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Toba:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Kobe:—5 Japanese.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—H. E. Mori Arinori, Mrs. Mori, 2 children, and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Ogane Kichibei, Mr. and Mrs. Zicavo, Messrs. Robert Johnstone, Max. Renard, Meuraour, Kawakami, Shibata, Hashiguchi, and Biyoto Buntaro in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Asahi Maru*, from Kobe:—96 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—58 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Rarpeles, Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer and 4 children, Mrs. Drummond and infant, Mrs. G. Stone and infant, Mrs. Tanaka, Mrs. Yamauchi and child, Miss O. Kashiwaya, Messrs. W. H. Pitken, G. W. F. Playfair, O. Letourneur, Battake, U. Videau, E. H. Gill, W. J. Koning, V. Birck, Yamazaki, Fujita, Yamano-uchi, and Maridera in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 196 Japanese in steerage. For Liverpool: Mr. and Mrs. E. MacKean and 3 children, and Miss Houston in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—78 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Hiratsuka, Saito, and Hashitake in cabin; and 114 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—72 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—14 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Matsugata in cabin; and 4 Japanese and 452 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. Bridge, 6 children and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Cutter, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Scott, Messrs. J. M. Forbes, Jun., and M. S. Vail in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. and Mrs. James Simpson, child and servant, Messrs. C. Mathews, D. S. MacPhee, J. H. Johnson, A. Budd, R. A. Johnson, D. Glass, Wm. Dobie, and W. H. Anderson in cabin. For London: Mr. and Mrs. James Dodds, 2 children and servant in cabin. For Paris: Mr. G. Prat in cabin.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. H. Scheuter and A. P. Adams and servant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Messrs. Boucher, E. G. Oxley, J. M. MacKechnie, D. Low, T. Von Pustau, R. A. Wylie, Wah Sing, and Ah Ying in cabin; and 1 European and 19 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Hakodate:—Consul W. A. Wolley, Mrs. Watanabe, Messrs. N. Nambu, T. Karasaki, T. Yamada, K. Watanabe, K. Kasano, T. Yanagita, and T. Ofuji in cabin; and 75 Japanese in steerage. For Oginohama: Mr. and Mrs. Shiga, Rev. T. P. Poate, G. Tamura, T. Sazawa, H. Yamashima, S. Kitajima, S. Tomioka, T. Kajima, Y. Tabuchi, Y. Isaki, C. Kurata, J. Imai, I. Murai, and T. Yoshida in cabin; and 60 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Durant, Mr. and Mrs. Maba, Mr. and Mrs. Mori, Mr. and Mrs. Date and son, Mr. and Mrs. Amano, Mrs. Nishihara, Mrs. Yokoyama, Mrs. Fairfax, Bishop C. M. Williams, Dr. Hanell, Messrs. M. Ginsburg, M. Marians, H. Clyma, J. Oppenheimer, F. W. Playfair, T. Pollard, Noda, Okiyama, Shimohara, Nakayama, Matsushita, and Hodzumi in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 53 bales.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—6,523 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$11,500.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Kobe on the 11th April, at 6.15 a.m. with light variable winds, rain and cloudy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th March, at 6.15 a.m. Passed Company's bark *Kanagawa Maru* off Vries Island.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard reports leaving Hakodate on the 14th April, at 12.45 p.m. with light westerly breeze and fine weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 15th, at 1.15 p.m., and left on the 16th, at 7.15 a.m., with thick fog and light variable winds to Inuboye, thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 17th April, at 3.45 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been no feature of special interest in the Market since our last report, business has been very quiet, with no serious fluctuations in *Kinsatsu*; clearances have been fairly satisfactory.

COTTON YARN.—Moderate sales of 16's and 20's Bombays have been made at quotations, but there has been little doing in English spinings; in consequence of a still further advance in Manchester, holders are asking higher rates, whilst dealers refuse to pay any advance on previous prices.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Grey Shirtings 9 lbs. have been sold at rather higher rates, but most holders decline to accept present quotations. Turkey Reds have been sold to a moderate extent, and Velvets are again in better demand.

WOOLLENS.—Fair sales of Mousseline de Laine and small lots of Italian Cloth comprize nearly the whole business.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 33.75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches...	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches...	1.85 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.50 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.65 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Our Market remains without change. Business has not yet been resumed; the demand from Tokiyo and the interior is small, and prices there are lower than those asked here. Deliveries have been 13,000 cases during the week, leaving a Stock of about 646,000 cases sold and unsold Oil. Quotations are quite nominal.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.75
Comet	1.70
Stella	1.65

SUGAR.

No change in prices, and the Market remains weak and unsettled. Buyers are still holding off, and Stocks are accumulating.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.40 to 3.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated the 10th instant; since that time there has been a strong demand in some

quarters for *Hanks*, and Settlements for the week are 200 piculs. Business has been confined to few buyers, the general trade not participating to any extent. Doubtless the paucity of the Stock and consequent firm attitude of holders have prevented more extensive dealings. The native manufacturers would seem to have supplied their prospective wants, and the sales for that quarter are now insignificant.

Filatures and *Re-reels* have been almost entirely neglected: in *Kakada* and other sorts there has not been a single transaction. Arrivals from the producing districts have been on a very small scale, and the total Stock in Yokohama is reduced to about 1,000 piculs.

The M.M. steamer *Godavery*, which left for Hongkong direct on the 12th instant, carried 53 bales entered at the Customs as being for France. The P. & O. steamer *Kashgar*, which sailed on the following morning, took nothing at all. The Export figures to date now stand at 28,828 bales (thus overlapping the Total Export of last season by 94 bales), against 25,609 bales last year, and 17,247 bales to the 19th April, 1882.

Hanks.—The activity noted in our last has continued, a few energetic operators apparently trying to monopolize the trade. Purchases made seem destined for both the Western and Eastern Continents, and the business done has been principally in Good Medium kinds. Prime *Hanks* are hard indeed to find; if they exist at all, they are kept in the back-ground with great persistency. The sales recorded are on the basis of *Shinshu*, \$520; *Anaka*, \$520 to \$510; *Foshu*, \$515; *Chichibu*, \$515.

Filatures.—There has been next to nothing passing in this class; the dealers do not offer any tempting lots, thinking that by waiting a little they may see yet higher prices for the next American mail. The figures paid for the few small parcels which have changed hands give no sign of any weakening tendency. Prices made as per list are the following:—*Kaga*, \$630; *Shinshu*, \$610; *Yechiu*, 587½.

Re-reels.—But one small purchase noted in Common *Bushu* at \$550. One or two parcels of good *Maibash* *Zaguri* are held at full rates, but without finding buyers at the moment. Supplies are very restricted, and dealers apparently expect that the scarcity of good Silk will enable them to maintain prices.

Kakada.—Nothing to record beyond the arrival of a few boxes: there have been no purchases, and the Stock is but slightly increased.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—The report of so many past weeks has once more to be repeated:—no sales. Should the rumoured *pebrine* in North China become a serious reality, these descriptions will probably form a conspicuous feature in next season's business.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	\$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	650
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	635 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	625 to 630
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	560 to 570
Kakadas—Extra	—
Kakadas—No. 1	625 to 635
Kakadas—No. 2	600 to 610
Kakadas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 18th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,967	13,114	8,614
America	9,222	8,437	5,455
England	2,639	4,053	3,173
Total	28,828	25,609	17,247

WASTE SILK.

Business in this department has not been very brisk, the purchases during eight days being registered as 140 piculs. There are still enquiries for good quality in several kinds of Waste, but suitable parcels are by no means plentiful.

The French mail steamer *Godavery* of the 12th instant carried 97 bales, the P. & O. steamer *Kashgar* nothing. These vessels bring the Export to date up to 22,338 piculs, against 22,452 piculs to same date last year, and 22,307 piculs in 1882. It will be noticed that the Export for the present

season is now less than last year's; and about equal to that of the previous year. Present Stock is 450 piculs, against 1,250 piculs in 1883, and 1,300 piculs in 1882. Supplies fall off very much, and from statistics the outlook would appear to be fairly good.

Noshi.—A few small transactions have been concluded at about previous quotations. Arrivals of desirable grades are scanty, and anything choice can only be picked up in minute quantities. The prices noted include *Filatures* at \$140 and \$132½, *Foshu* \$89, with Common at \$76, and low *Kawamuki* \$17½.

Kibiso.—Good qualities hold their own well, but sellers have had to lower their pretensions on Medium and lower Grades. Among the transactions are *Filatures* in small lines at \$120, \$117½, \$115, according to quality; *Shinshu*, \$55 and \$40; *Foshu*, \$30 and \$25. In *Neri* a little has been done at from \$11 to \$15 for uncleaned Stock.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	Nom. 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	Nom. 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	Nom. 130
Noshi-ito—Oshiu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 18th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	20,143	19,252	18,823
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,201	3,484
	22,338	22,453	22,307

Exchange is quoted on the rise, Bankers presumably trying to obtain better rates in anticipation of the "New Tea" requirements. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 89½; 60 d/s., 90½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.69; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.72. *Kinsatsu* have been fairly steady for a week or two, but have now declined to 109½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 18th April, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	630	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	210	Noshi-ito	80
Kakada	80	Kibiso	240
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	70
Taysam Kinds	—	Sundries	60
Total piculs	1,020	Total piculs	450

TEA.

Business in old Teas has been virtually suspended during the week, whilst supplies have ceased to come in, and the season 1883-4 is closed. One or two garden samples of new leaf have been distributed among the various Tea business firms, which of course represents nothing, and the usual small forced parcels are expected in a few days. The season generally, however, is a week or ten days earlier than the last, and it seems probable that some 5 or 6 piculs of these garden lots will be down in time for shipment, even by the steamer of the 27th, and ample supplies will be available for the following opportunity. As regards probable prices for new Tea, nothing can be said, the up-country Market for green leaf being still unopened. The steamship *City of Peking*, which sailed on the 10th instant, took 131,120 lbs. of Fired Tea, distributed as follows:—for New York 31,348 lbs., for Chicago 9,764 lbs., for California 72,934 lbs., and for Canadian Markets 17,074 lbs.

EXCHANGE.

Sterling rates have considerably advanced during the week, chiefly owing to the improvement in Bar Silver. The Settlements, however, have been small, and closing quotations are firm as follows:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.61
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	100 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	100 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90

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Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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ONLY GOLD MEDAL—PARIS, 1878,
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a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Exotics

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20 ins.

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FLEAS,
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Yokohama, March 15th, 1884.

17.



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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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YOKOHAMA, APRIL 26TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SERIOUS epidemic of fever is raging in the Hiyogo jail.

Two attempted incendiarisms were detected in Yokohama on the night of the 21st instant.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR gave a garden party at the Yenriyokwan on the 25th instant.

AN infantry corps is to be formed in the Tokiyo University. The students have shown great willingness to promote the project.

BARON R. R. ROSEN, formerly Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Japan, has been appointed Consul-General for Russia in New York.

TELEGRAPH offices have been established at the towns of Savara and Sekimura in the prefectures of Chiba and Gifu respectively.

DAMAGED *Kinsatsu*, to the value of 1,156,508 *yen*, were burned at the Government Printing Bureau on the 20th and 21st inst.

THE condition of H.I.H. Prince Orihito, whose illness recently caused some alarm, has greatly improved within the past few days.

A SERIOUS conflagration occurred in the village of Kota, province of Noto, on the 11th instant. Some hundreds of houses were destroyed.

A THIEF was captured on the 21st instant in Yokohama, when in the act of making his escape from a foreign house with considerable booty.

A CLIFF near the village of Utsute, Shiribeshi, fell, on the 6th instant, crushing two rows of houses, and killing seven men and two women.

THE spring meeting of Union Race Club (*Kiyodo Keiba Kwaisha*) commenced at Toyama on the 25th instant. The races will last three days.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR has begun to attend the deliberations at the new Bureau of Administrative Examination (*Seido Tori-shirabe-Kiyoku*).

TWO OFFICIALS of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, Messrs. Takai and Taka-

shima, have been appointed to represent Japan at the approaching Dendrological Exhibition in Edinburgh.

It is stated that the appropriation for the War Department this year will be 10,620,872 *yen*, being an increase of 525,000 *yen* as compared with last year.

THE traffic receipts of the Government railways have suddenly increased to figures considerably larger than the receipts of corresponding periods in past years.

A LARGE CLUB is about to be opened in Tokiyo in the handsome building known as the Roku-mei-kwan. Foreigners are to be admitted as active members.

H.E. SUGI, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, has been appointed President of the Bureau charged with the business of constructing the New Palace.

ON the 19th instant, a coolie engaged in drawing a cart, lost control of his load going down Noge Hill, Kanagawa, and was dashed against a tree. Death was instantaneous.

A SCHEME is on foot to construct a tramway between Tokiyo and Hachioji. It is said that the concession has been obtained and a preliminary survey made.

THE imports into Japan from foreign countries during January amounted to 1,810,882 *yen*, and the exports to 2,431,739 *yen*; giving an excess of 620,857 in favour of exports.

MR. J. J. ENSLIE has been appointed H.B.M.'s Consul at Nagasaki, Mr. Enslie being at present on leave, Mr. J. C. Hall will occupy the position of Acting-Consul for the present.

AN inspector of police in Saitama prefecture has been sentenced to five months imprisonment and a fine of 10 *yen* for ill-treating two women arrested on suspicion of prostitution.

THE subsidence of an area of nearly three acres, followed by an inundation, is reported from the province of Yetchiu. No lives were lost, but considerable damage was done to property.

AN association of Japanese tea-dealers formed at Kobe last year, contemplates undertaking direct export, and its delegates are holding meetings in Tokiyo for the purpose of discussing the scheme.

H.I.H. PRINCE YAMAHASHI is a passenger by the outgoing American mail on the 27th instant. Before his departure the Prince gave a farewell banquet at the Naval College where he had been a student for some time.

SOME brokers recently arrested in Yokohama were fined fifty *sen* each for obstructing the public thoroughfare. In order to avoid paying a tax these men had been in the habit of assembling in the street and transacting their business there.

THE new Merchant Shipping Company of Osaka has reduced its capital from 1,500,000 to 1,200,000 *yen*, and has decided that during the next five years this amount may be increased by

50,000 *yen* annually at the discretion of the directors.

A GANG of gamblers, headed by one Shinzayemon, have been arrested at a village called Toshida, in the suburbs of Tokiyo. They had constructed two underground chambers in the hope of carrying on their trade unobserved.

A RELIGIOUS ceremony, usual in such cases, has been performed in connection with the final selection of the site for the new Palace in Tokiyo. The Palace is to be in pure Japanese style and will cost from two to three million *yen*.

GREAT and growing distress is reported from Korea. Bad harvests, followed by reckless, though comparatively insignificant, expenditure in connection with the opening of the country, have brought both the people and their rulers to the verge of bankruptcy.

A CHARITY HOSPITAL was officially opened in Tokiyo on the 29th instant by H.I.H. Prince Takehito. The institution had already been in existence for more than a year, but the capital required for its permanent establishment was not collected until within the past six months.

A KOREAN, who had just arrived from Nagasaki, was robbed of his valise at the Kobe railway station on the 13th instant. The valise contained valuable documents and a bar of gold worth 2,000 *yen*. The thief was subsequently arrested with the bar of gold in his possession.

THE Japanese Consular Trade Report of London for 1883 has been issued. It shows that there are five Japanese firms with offices in London engaged in the so-called "direct trade." Their total business in imports was £250,553 and in exports £212,441, during the year under review.

THE fourth meeting of the Association of Art Critics (*Kangwa-kwai*) was held at the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, on the 20th instant, and was largely attended. Many beautiful specimens of painting by the old artists of the Kiyoto school were exhibited. An able lecture was delivered by Mr. E. F. Fenollosa on the possibility of reviving Japanese art.

THE statistics of the Customs Bureau give the total imports for 1883 as \$27,973,531.79, and the exports as \$35,693,522.60, the excess of exports being \$7,719,990.81, and the total bulk of the trade \$62,977,054.59. The corresponding figures for 1882 were, imports \$29,168,050.68 and exports \$37,235,775.51, the excess of exports being \$8,067,734.83 and the total trade \$66,403,816.19. It thus appears that the trade of 1883 as compared with that of 1882 shows a decrease of \$3,426,761.60. The export of specie in 1883 was \$3,156,565, and the import \$5,451,501.

A "BABY FARM," where no less than sixty-five children died within the past few years under suspicious circumstances, is said to have been discovered at Kanazawa, in the province of Kaga. It was kept by a widow, whose plan was to receive illegitimate children in consideration of a small payment, and afterwards contrive their death.

NOTES.

THE opening ceremony of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital (*Tokiyo Seriyō Biyōin*) was performed on Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, by His Imperial Highness Prince Takehito. This institution had its inception in the spring of 1881, when a number of gentlemen, meeting at the Maple Club (*Kōyō-kwan*), conceived the idea of collecting a sum of 100,000 *yen*, and devoting the interest to pay the expenses of a hospital. It may well be supposed that such a scheme could not easily be realised in its entirety; but the founders did not allow themselves to be deterred by difficulties at the outset. Including among their number such men as Dr. Totsuka, Inspector-General of Hospitals; and Dr. Takagi, Surgeon-Major, both of H.I.J.M. Navy, they were able immediately to make arrangements for procuring medical services gratis, and steps were accordingly taken to open a hospital in the building formerly employed as the Tokiyo Infirmary. Thenceforward the new institution struggled on through a somewhat chequered existence, always vigorously supported by the medical staff of the Imperial Navy, among whom Dr. Takagi was conspicuous, as well as by the late His Excellency Iwakura, whose labours in the cause of humanity were not the least remarkable feature of his life. Of the work done by the Hospital, not less than of the work it is called on to do, some idea may be formed when we say that the number of indoor patients treated between August, 1882, and March, 1884, was 691; that the total number of days spent by them in the Hospital was 12,621; that the number of out door patients was 1,981, and the number of days on which they received treatment, 38,824. The accounts show that the institution has grown steadily. In July, 1882, its members were only 104, and its subscribed capital 26,600 *yen*; in March of the present year, its members had increased to 273 and its capital to 63,150 *yen*. The plan pursued is to add all subscriptions to a capital fund, the interest only of which is expended, so that permanence and regularity of working are secured. The institution having been finally placed on a solid basis, and its presidency accepted by H.I.H. Prince Takehito, the opening ceremony was to have been performed in November last, but owing to various causes a postponement until the 19th instant became necessary. By two o'clock a large number of guests had assembled, among whom were several Councillors of State and Ministers, the whole of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, a number of Naval and Military officers, most of the foreign *employés* of the Government, many missionaries, several medical gentlemen, and a few of the leading residents of Yokohama. Having inspected the hospital and its appurtenances, the visitors repaired to booths disposed about a dais which was occupied by H.I.H. Prince Takehito, the Japanese high officials and the corps diplomatique. A number of speeches were then delivered, and the Naval Band having performed a short programme and the visitors partaken of refreshments, the ceremony ended at half past-three o'clock.

WE published, last week, a story of a flustered little lass, who, wishing to tell the late Bishop of Winchester that "Buttons" was usually entrusted with letters for the post, embodied her information in the phrase, "The

lord, my boy." This recalls a similar instance of hysterology which has been preserved for the last twenty-two years in the annals of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. The competitive system, then just sufficiently old to have sprinkled the once blue-blooded cadets with a tolerable mixture of budding, or full-blown, cockneys, had introduced into the Academy a youth of few "h's" and of a tremulous reverence for everything in the shape of a title. This hoiden, having been entrusted with a prismatic compass, was commencing his course of field-surveying by taking angles from corner to corner of the haw-haw that formed the southern boundary of the Academy grounds, when His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief happened to pass through the main-gate. The Duke was in a particularly genial mood. Seeing a busy cadet scientifically employed, he approached him and affably enquired the name of the instrument through which the youth was squinting. The cadet, thus suddenly accosted by a Royal Duke, lost consciousness of everything but the necessity of using a sufficiently exalted title in his reply, and after a moment's blushing and stammering, blurted out:—"Prismatic Highness your Royal Compass."

THE supposed attempt upon the life of the King of Italy has naturally been the subject of much comment. The story of the affair was simply this:—During the night of the 16th of February, the King was to travel by rail from Pisa to Rome. A pilot engine preceded the Royal train by an interval of ten minutes. During that interval, a carbineer, patrolling the line between Corneto and Montalto came upon a group of four men who seemed to be suspiciously employed. As they refused to move off the road in spite of his challenge, he fired upon them, and they returned the fire. After an exchange of ten shots the four men fled into a neighbouring forest, and the carbineer subsequently found traces of blood upon the line and a flask containing 175 grammes of gunpowder, with which was mixed a quantity (70 grammes) of broken glass, so that, even in the event of explosion, the effects would have been harmless. The flask was made of glass covered with a coating of thick twine, and to the neck was attached a long fuze. Nothing else was to be seen anywhere indicative of an attempt to wreck the train. So soon as these details were known, the Italian press began to throw doubts on the reported purpose of the four men. Why, it was asked, should four conspirators, engaged in such a desperate scheme, allow themselves to be intimidated by a single carbineer? And how did it happen that not one of the ten shots said to have been fired was heard either by the people in the train or by those on the pilot engine, one or other of which must have been in the immediate neighbourhood? But above all, what sort of imbeciles must they have been who expected to blow up a train by the aid of less than half a pound of gunpowder in a glass bottle? It was plain, indeed, that if the thing was really to be regarded as an attempt to assassinate the King, it must also be regarded as one of the most farcical attempts ever recorded. Nevertheless, there were found several newspapers which insisted that the four mysterious individuals were not poachers, as was sensibly suggested, but intending regicides, and the journalistic dispute had already become quite aminated when, on the 20th of February, the Minister of Public Works informed the Chamber of Deputies,

in the name of the Cabinet, that the affair was believed to have been, not an attempt to wreck the train, but simply an attack on the carbineer. Probably the public would have arrived at this conclusion immediately had not an unnecessary air of mystery been imparted to the business by the issue of a Governmental order forbidding the transmission of any telegrams referring to the incident. This order itself created a new excitement among the lovers of liberty, who hold that the Government has no more right to interfere with the transmission of telegrams than to intercept letters sent by post, and that messages transmitted along the wires will not cease entirely to be dangerous until it is absolutely certain that the authorities are in no sense responsible for them—a certainty which cannot exist so long as any official meddling with freedom of despatch is permitted.

WE learn that it has been finally decided to build a tramway from Naito Shinjiku, in Tokiyo, to Hachōji. The line will cross from the Kōshū-kaidō to the Ōme-kaidō, and the route was surveyed a few days ago by members of the Tokiyo Tramway Company. This speculation seems a little hazardous, for it can scarcely be expected that the public will rest content for any lengthy period with a tramway as a means of connecting two places between which such a large traffic exists. The proprietors of the Tramway Company have probably been carried away by their recent successes. Since the plum-blossoms began to be attractive, it is said that each tram-car has netted from seventeen to eighteen *yen* per diem, the ordinary takings being only ten *yen*.

IN commenting upon the porcelains of the Old World and New, "Cericus" writes to the *Pottery Gazette* as follows:—"The ancient dwellers in the Flowery Land must ever remain the master-potters of the world. They have supplied imitators with models and honest workers with inspiration. The influx of Oriental ideas, whose well-spring was in China, led to the European Renaissance. Persian art, modified by Saracen and Moor, led to the pottery of Spain, Sicily, Italy, and France. Japanese porcelain is the basis of the Medician, the earliest made in Europe. Chinese porcelain instigated the experiments and researches which led to the invention of the soft or artificial pastes of France and England, to the discovery of Kaolin, and so to the rise of Meissen and Sèvres. As a matter of fact, no product of later times equals the finer porcelains of the Far East." The writer has, however, evidently overlooked the fact that the influence of Persian pottery on the Chinese was of the greatest importance. Some time before the eleventh century of our era, many Chinese master-potters emigrated to Persia in order to study the ceramic art of that country; and the influence of their schooling is still felt in China, while countless smaller forms of jars and vases were the direct outcome of Persian Art. Specimens are still extant which combine the two styles after a most curious and rather bizarre fashion, and many of the arabesques so frequently to be found on older Chinese porcelain are directly of Persian origin.

A rather surprising error is made by another writer in the same journal in speaking of an old Greek tazza or *καλὰξ*, dating from 500 years

before the Chistian era. He says: "It is boldly painted, bearing beneath the bowl two quaint eyes, designed in Egyptian fashion; thus carrying one's thoughts back to an emblem of the most ancient of nations, and also to a superstition of the present day, for a Chinese junk even now needs two huge eyes on its prow to see its way over the ocean." There could probably be no more different "superstitions" than the two mentioned. The eye, according to Chinese lore, really endows the junk with the power of vision; but in Ancient Egypt the eye, pronounced as a hieroglyph *ar*, was a symbol of the creative power, and was in frequent use to represent the verbs "to do, to make, to create." The cabbalistic employment of the Sacred Eye was undoubtedly due to the older Egyptian hieroglyph. The Greeks borrowed many ideas from the Egyptians, and, among others, frequently employed modified forms of hieroglyphs to express similar ideas. The painted eyes on the old Greek tazza are evidently of the same origin.

TAMANIEB, where the second fight between the forces of Graham and Osman Digna occurred, was the head-quarters of the Arab Chief. There he kept his flocks and herds, lodged his women and children, and deposited his spoils, stores, and ammunition. It lies near the foot of the range of hills running north and south to the westward of Suakim, from which place it is about fifteen miles distant. Osman Digna retreated thither after the battle of Teb, and was followed by Graham's force, which arrived within a mile of the rebel camp on the evening of the 12th of March. The Arabs were hidden in trenches and pits. Their strength was about twelve thousand; that of Graham less than four thousand. The English General proposed to attack at daylight, but the Arabs were impatient. They opened fire at 1 o'clock a.m., and in expectation of an onset the British forces were formed in square, but subsequently ordered to lie down as the enemy confined themselves to shooting. It is probable that Osman Digna had meditated a night assault, but the bright moonlight rendered such an operation too hazardous. The bullets of the Arabs were directed chiefly against the white ambulance waggons of the English, and the Surgeons, as well as Graham's staff, had a warm time of it. In the end, however, this preliminary fusillade of five hours killed only one man and wounded three. The sun rose at six o'clock, and immediately a Gardiner Gun and a nine-pounder were trained on the Arabs. They were about 1,300 yards distant, and every shot took effect. At half-past six, Stewart's cavalry came up, and took position on the British left. Shortly afterwards the enemy drew in his advanced troops and concentrated his strength at his main position near the Tamai Wells. The English now commenced their advance. They were divided into two brigades, each of which was formed in square. The Arabs did not wait to be engaged, but rushed to the assault with devoted courage. Their onset was so impetuous that the advance of the leading brigade was checked for a moment, until the sailors, closing up, restored the onward impetus. No sooner was the advance resumed, however, than fresh hordes of the enemy hurled themselves on the squares. The Black Watch, which formed the front face of the second square, pushed forward at this point with such impetuosity that the Arabs penetrated the square, and got possession of the guns. They seem to have

been absolutely indifferent to wounds and death. Dropping on their lands and knees, they crept under the muzzles of the Gatling guns, and then commenced slashing with their scimitars, a method of fighting against which bayonets were not effective. Considerable confusion now ensued. The Sixty-fifth Regiment began to retreat, crowding upon the Marines, with whom it became inextricably mixed. The officers, however, did not lose command of the men, though it was found necessary to retire as much as 800 yards before the different corps could be disentangled and the square reformed. At this period the struggle is said to have been terrible. The Arabs dashed forward, those in the front content if their corpses might serve to embarrass the bayonets of the British and receive their bullets. Nearly all the non-commissioned officers of the Black Watch were speared or shot. The newspaper reporters and other non-combatants joined in the fight, using their revolvers with considerable effect. When the square resumed its onward movement the bodies of six hundred Arabs were lying at one of its angles. The Hussars now trotted forward to get between the Arabs and Sinkat, in hope of saving the families of the massacred garrison. At the same time the troops rushed on to recover their lost guns. This onset carried the British into Osman Digna's camp, and the battle was virtually over. Nevertheless, the Arabs would not fly. They walked slowly and sullenly away, "Sauntering as if in a bazaar, with arms folded or swinging by their sides." Not a few were shot down, but this did not accelerate the pace of the survivors. It was plain that they did not believe in their defeat, or were stupified by a catastrophe against which heaven ought to have protected them. It was impossible to take prisoners. The wounded Arabs would lie motionless on the ground, without uttering a groan or making a sound of any sort, until an opportunity presented itself to stab the advancing troops. Kind treatment did not abate their ferocity. One man attempted to kill Colonel Stewart while the latter's aide-de-camp was bringing him water. The English soldiers marched among the wounded "as among so many vipers." At 11.40 a.m., Graham telegraphed from Osman Digna's sometime stronghold:—"The camp of the enemy has been taken after hard fighting since eight o'clock this morning." The British loss was 202 men and thirteen officers: that of the rebels is uncertain, but it must have been from four to six thousand. Fifteen hundred corpses were found in one trench. Osman Digna's nephew and many Arab chiefs were among the dead. The troops then proceeded to destroy the ammunition of the rebels. In one store they found 2,000 Remington rifles. The camp and the villages in the neighbourhood were set on fire. Osman Digna, before the battle, had gone to a holy place, twenty miles distant, to pray for success. He returned, however, and took part in the combat, only flying after defeat became inevitable. The hero of the day on the English side appears to have been Adam Fraser, the biggest man in the Black Watch. He bayoneted twelve Arabs during the fight. Drummond of the same regiment killed Osman Digna's nephew. During the night after the battle, parties of Arabs wandered over the field uttering heart-rending cries of grief when they found the dead bodies of their friends literally piled in heaps. It was thought that this crushing blow had completely demoralized Osman Digna, but such

was not the case. Five days later, he had succeeded in rallying two thousand of his followers with whom he returned to the neighbourhood of Tamanieb. Admiral Hewett, meanwhile, had offered a reward of £1,000 for Osman's head, but this proclamation was withdrawn almost immediately by order of the British Government. By the 24th of March, several sheiks, formerly allied with Osman, had given in their submission to General Graham, but at the same time it became plain that another blow must be struck at the rebel leader. On the 26th, therefore, the troops again moved towards Tamanieb. A reconnaissance showed Osman encamped, with a force of about 3,000, at the head of the Tamanieb valley, from which position he was dislodged the following morning without difficulty. This terminated the campaign, not a moment too soon, however, for the troops suffered terribly from the heat in their last advance against the rebels.

THE telegrams indicate that at the end of March the position of the Gladstone Cabinet was deemed very precarious. The Colonial Secretary, Earl Derby, and the Lord High Chancellor, Lord Selborne, were said to be opposed to any use of English troops in the Soudan, and to have reminded the Premier of his Mid-Lothian speeches when he declared:—"It is disgraceful that a nation whom we call savages should, in defence of their native land, offer their naked bodies to the arms of European science, and be killed by the hundred thousand for doing with rude, ignorant courage what were, for them, duties of patriotism." Mr. Gladstone used these words of the Afghans, but their applicability to the case of the Soudanese Arabs is inconveniently plain. It is inevitable that people should ask how the Minister who "denounced the massacres of Cabul and Candahar could sanction those of Teb and Tamanieb." Mr. Gladstone himself is reported to have struggled hard against the necessity of such seeming inconsistency, though his scruples look a little excessive to persons who reflect that the fighting done by Graham was intended to prevent more terrible disasters, and that the whole aim of British policy was to restore to the Arabs the independence they seek. A Conservative victory appears to have been all but snatched by surprise on the night of March 15th, when Labouchère, Richard, and Cowen organized a sudden assault upon the ranks of the Government. The "Irish guerillas" threw their forces into the army of the malcontents, and the Government was only saved by a paltry majority of 15. This set people thinking over the strength of the two parties. The election in 1880 gave the following results, after the disfranchisement, or suspension of the writs, of 7 constituencies:—

Liberals	345
Conservatives	233
Home Rulers	62

Thus the Liberals had a majority over the Conservatives of 112, and over the Conservatives and Home Rulers combined of 50. As the numbers now stand, they show a somewhat different state of affairs, viz:—

Liberals.....	332	.....	a decrease of 13
Conservatives ...	243	.....	an increase of 10
Home Rulers ...	65	.....	an increase of 3

The Liberal majority is, therefore, reduced to 89 over the Conservatives and to 24 over the Conservatives and Home Rulers combined—figures too small to inspire much confidence. In addition to the party in the Cabinet which opposed the use of English troops in the Soudan, there was said to be another, and a

stronger, party in favour of a more prolonged occupation of Egypt proper than Mr. Gladstone cared to contemplate. Under these circumstances, the London journals discussed the imminent prospect of a dissolution of Parliament, and Mr. Parnell announced that all his dispositions were made for the new campaign, when he proposed to contest 90 seats and hoped to carry 75. Meanwhile, Mr. Gladstone was confined to bed by laryngeal catarrh, and a visit to the South of France was talked of as absolutely necessary. Indeed the *Lancet* went so far as to recommend the Premier to accept a peerage, but the *Daily News* stoutly denied that Mr. Gladstone had any intention of resigning, and announced that he would speedily return to work. The various rumours were at their height a month ago, and inasmuch as the telegraph has brought us no news of a dissolution, and as Mr. Gladstone resumed his place in the house on March 31st, it may be presumed that all the predictions, except that of the *Daily News*, were incorrect. Little stomach as the Liberal Cabinet may have for fighting, Earl Granville has informed Turkey that England cannot leave the Soudan until the prestige of her arms is fully vindicated.

THE following telegrams, dated at London, March 22nd, throw a good deal of light on General Gordon's position. Later news tells that Gordon was successful in the battle on the 16th March, to which these telegrams allude, but his success was not sufficient to drive back the Arabs, as we find that, four days later (March 20th), Khartoum was surrounded by rebels whose numbers were increasing:—

A despatch to *The Times* from Khartoum, dated March 14, says:—"Six thousand rebels face the palace on the right bank of the Nile. They recently fired upon 300 blacks, who were sent down the river for wood, and killed 100 of them. General Gordon states that the garrison at Kassala is holding out strongly. General Gordon restricts himself to the defence of Khartoum, owing to the assembling of the rebels in this district. Produce continues to enter Khartoum from the south, south-west, and south-east. General Gordon has armed many of the inhabitants, but they can do but little against the mass of rebels fronting Khartoum.

The expedition to relieve Halfaya consisted of 1,200 men in three steamers. The men were concealed in the hold to avoid the fire of the Arabs on the banks of the river. The expedition returned to Khartoum, having rescued the garrison, raised the siege and captured many cattle and arms. The expedition lost only two men. There were great rejoicings over the victory and an enthusiastic demonstration in honor of General Gordon.

General Gordon will attack the Arabs opposite the town on March 16th.

Clifford Lloyd, Under Secretary of the Interior, has ordered the release of 125 untried prisoners confined in the jails at Assiout and Esneh. Some of them have been imprisoned for years.

A caravan has arrived at Suakim from Berber.

The feeling of disquiet in regard to General Gordon has been lessened but not extinguished by the news to March 15. His position is regarded as extremely precarious. It is felt that the curtain has again fallen upon Khartoum at a most critical moment. Until the issue of the battle between General Gordon and the Arab army on the 16th is known the anxiety for his fate will continue unabated. But even if General Gordon was successful in that engagement it is now generally recognized that his mission is a failure.

The rescue of the Egyptian garrisons from the Soudan is now admitted to be impossible without the intervention of English forces. The latest despatches received at Cairo from General Gordon indicate that he supposes an English force is on the way to Khartoum.

The absence of advices from Berber is a source of fear that General Gordon was repulsed in the battle of the 16th. He is hemmed in at Khartoum on all sides, and maintains his position in the expectation that an English army will speedily appear to give him succour."

It is reported that in the Cabinet meeting to-day despatches from Cairo were considered which stated that the immediate danger of the fall of Khartoum was over. But Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Minister at Cairo, urges the despatch of a British contingent to Berber either by way of Korosko or two squadrons from the troops at Suakim.

The Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for

War, has appointed a council at the War Office. It is believed that the Cabinet is in favor of an expedition from Suakim.

In view of the likelihood of a joint naval and military expedition up the Nile, the Admiralty has directed Admiral Hay to survey the upper waters of that stream so as to learn whether it would be feasible to send gunboats thither. Several naval officers have left Alexandria to carry out the survey.

It is believed in Suakim, from the latest intelligence received from the rebels' position, that Osman Digna's forces have almost entirely deserted him.

A TELEGRAM in the San Francisco papers, dated Washington, March 27th, announces Mr. Sargent's transfer from Berlin to St. Petersburg, thus:—

The nomination of Sargent to be Minister to Russia was a total surprise to most persons at the Capitol to-day. It was not delivered to the Senate until Secretary Frelinghuysen had spent an hour or more at the Capitol with the purpose, it is conjectured, of preparing the leading members of that body for its reception. When it was laid before the Senate in executive session a few questions were asked and briefly answered, to the effect that the transfer, though not reported or even suggested by Minister Sargent, will doubtless be agreeable to him, and would also undoubtedly be productive of good results as a matter of national policy, although in what manner was not stated or asked. The Senate, thereupon, accepting these assurances of the members of the Foreign Relations Committee, confirmed the nomination by unanimous consent. There is good reason for believing that this action was based not only upon the belief that Sargent's transfer—which, in European estimation, is a diplomatic promotion—would be agreeable to him and avert, possibly, further unpleasantness from personal hostilities, but also upon the prevalent impression that the position of American Minister at the Court of Berlin will significantly and for an indefinite time be left vacant. Secretary Frelinghuysen sent the following telegram to Minister Sargent this evening:—

SARGENT, Minister to Berlin:—The President approves entirely of your course in the Lasker matter. You have done nothing but obey the instructions of this Government therein. The President, thinking it might be agreeable to you, to-day nominated you Minister to St. Petersburg, and your nomination, without reference to any committee, was immediately and unanimously confirmed by the American Senate. This action is a manifest appreciation of your worth, and does you an honor of which any citizen might be proud.

(Signed)

FRELINGHUYSEN.

In reference to this the *Alta* says, editorially:—"President Arthur has sent in to the Senate the name of A. A. Sargent for confirmation as Minister to Russia, vice Hunt, deceased. Several constructions can be placed upon this act. It may, for example, be a fact that Germany has given our Government an unofficial intimation that Sargent's removal was desirable. In this view, the reported reconciliation of Bismarck and the American Minister would appear to be a diplomatic sham and a politic pretence. There was something about the sudden abandonment of the crusade against Sargent so different from Bismarck's usual tenacious adherence to his dislikes as to raise a presumption that his unexpected access of geniality was due to the knowledge that the cause of his irritation was about to be removed. But, again, it may be that this step was determined on by President Arthur without any hint from Germany other than the attacks made on Sargent by the semi-official newspapers of Berlin. But, in any event, it is certain that the President believed it would improve the state of our relations with Germany to replace Sargent with some man in respect to whom the same causes of friction did not exist. The St. Petersburg mission having fallen vacant, the opportunity to make this change at Berlin in a manner that is not humiliating to the pride of Minister Sargent happily presented itself and has been taken advantage of. The Russian mission is, like that to Germany, one of the first class and therefore the transfer does not involve any descent in rank for Mr. Sargent, though, inasmuch as St. Petersburg is a less pleasant place of residence than Berlin, it is not to be supposed that Sargent would have desired the transfer unless circumstances had arisen to make his further stay at Berlin unpleasant.

THE news from Korea could not well be worse. There is every symptom of the approach of a great famine, which promises to confound all classes alike in a most miserable condition. This is due not alone to the failure of the crops, although several districts last year reaped very scanty harvests, but also to the absolutely poverty-stricken condition of the people, and the total stagnation of trade. Things have been rapidly going from bad to worse during the last six months, and the climax of wretchedness has evidently not yet been reached. The rapacity of the petty traders knows no bounds; paupers overrun the streets and die of starvation in the public thoroughfares; robberies are of constant occurrence everywhere, while the authorities appear positively powerless to stem the current of adversity. A few days ago, we had occasion to speak of Korea's troubles, but the latest intelligence proves that the country's horizon is growing ever darker, and no help seems forthcoming from any side. If the moral and physical condition of Korea appears to be wretched, the political state of the country is not reported as much better. "A spirit of enervation and inaction is noticeable everywhere," says the correspondent of the *Fiyu Shimibun*, "and the whole country is in a lamentable condition." Official bribery is openly practiced, and Korean officialdom appears to be as corrupt as possible. Many of the Ministers and other dignitaries hold no less than six different appointments in order to eke out their scanty salaries, to the great confusion of public business. The different offices held by one man are by no means of a similar nature, so that the office-holder should by rights be an "admirable Crichton" in order to fulfil his multiplex duties. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Min Yong-mok, has, for example, been appointed Superintendent of Coast Defence; while the ubiquitous Von Möllendorff, Adviser to the Cabinet and Vice-President of the Foreign Office, has been made Superintendent of the Mint. He intends striking off much finer and better coins than those issued a short time ago, but, as the *Fiyu Shimibun* quaintly observes, "the new copper coins emit a most horrible smell." In speaking of the state of the politicians at Seoul, the *Fiji Shimpō* waxes wroth on the subject of the dismay caused by the rumoured approach of the Chinese soldiery under Go Kei-cho. The fact that the boasting statements of an inebriated Chinaman at Nam Yang should cause a perfect reign of terror in the capital proves how deep-rooted are the fears of the Korean Government when China frowns,—or is supposed to frown. Prince Kung, probably the only friend of Korea in the Peking Cabinet, is no longer in power. His party has been "shattered" by the machinations of Shun, who is all for the increase of China's territorial possessions and for the enduring fame of the Manchu dynasty. In a word, the Hermit Kingdom has been quickly and not over-tenderly divested of its mysterious shell of isolation, and the curious grub has turned out a remarkably dingy moth.

AMONG the many obituary notices of the late Mr. Chenery, editor of *The Times*, that published by the *Spectator* is, perhaps, the most outspoken. It says, almost in so many words, that the great Oriental Scholar was not suited to succeed Sterling or John Delane; that he was, in short, "an accomplished Professor or wide-minded savant, rather than a journalist." Among the

instances given by the *Spectator* of the mistakes he made in reading the signs of the times, we are told that he was "entirely at sea as to ordinary English opinion on the Ilbert Bill." This strong statement is, we are convinced, not one whit too strong. It seemed to us when the sound of the storm raised in India by Lord Ripon's reform reached Japan, that the measure was a logical and inevitable sequel to the policy which Great Britain has consistently pursued in her Eastern empire during the past fifty years, and that the only reasonable objection which could be urged against it was prematurity. *The Times*, however, from the very first assumed an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the bill, not on the ground of untimeliness, but as radically faulty in principle. That opposition, culminating as it did in an unseemly and un-English attack upon Lord Ripon's religious apostasy, will long be remembered as a most unhappy episode in the career of the great journal.

The American Silk Journal for March contains the following:—"Mr. Amos Marshall and Mr. John Jewett, both of Paterson, who have for a considerable time been connected with Pelgram & Meyer's mill, will soon start for Japan, with the intention of making that country their permanent home. They will engage there in the business of reeling and shipping raw silk. We learn by the *Guardian* that it is their intention to send for some machinery in the Fall to take the place of the imperfect mechanism used in Japan, the same apparatus that has been used there for hundreds of years, and that the improvements they propose to introduce will probably revolutionize the whole business. New York importers to whom they have explained their scheme have already given them orders for more silk than they can ship for some time to come, and there being no trouble about foreigners locating themselves in the country, Western capital and management being always welcome, it is thought that the gentlemen will achieve a great success." The foreign silk merchants of Japan will be somewhat amused at this, not to put too fine a point upon it, rather startling statement. No doubt Messrs. Marshall and Jewett will find plenty of opportunities in the shipping of raw silk, but we beg to differ with regard to the reeling part of the story. American machinery is certainly not celebrated for reeling raw silk, and it appears not to be known to our trans-Pacific friends that the machinery in use in this country is of quite recent construction, made after the best French and Italian models, and most decidedly not "the same apparatus that has been used for hundreds of years." The programme sketched out by the gentlemen above-named sounds well, and is no doubt eminently acceptable to the New York merchants referred to, but as a matter of fact Messrs. Marshall and Jewett would only be able to build and run their filature at one of the treaty ports, thanks to the eminently satisfactory arrangement under which foreigners reside in Japan, namely, extraterritorial jurisdiction; consequently they would find that their ideas "about foreigners locating themselves in the country" are slightly *fades*. They would also soon discover that they could not go into the silk districts themselves and purchase cocoons. But presuming, for the sake of argument, that they were permitted to do so, they would be heavily handicapped as against Japanese in the matter of transport and in many other ways, and would

find that their competitors would soon run the reeling concern "off the rails," even if some of the *Kwaisha* did not ruin the new "shipping" business by direct export. We are much inclined to the belief that Messrs. Marshall and Jewett are pursuing an *ignis fatuus*.

THE Tokiyo Charity Hospital is an institution so worthy of support that we venture to bring it again to our readers' notice by laying before them the rules for its establishment and maintenance, in order that persons desirous of contributing may have no difficulty in carrying out their good intentions:—

1.—The Hospital shall be called the Tokio Charity Hospital and its site shall be at Shiba, Atagocho, Nichome, No 8.

2.—The Hospital shall be maintained by voluntary subscriptions.

3.—The term of subscription is five years: payment to be made in one of the three following ways:—

(a) Those who bind themselves to pay a thousand Yen or upwards are not required to pay down the whole sum at once, but only 10 per cent. of the sum as yearly interest in monthly or half-yearly instalments.

(b) Those who bind themselves to pay from 50 to 900 yen are also not required to pay the whole sum, but only 12 per cent. on it as yearly interest in monthly or half-yearly instalments.

(c) A sum of more than a hundred yen paid down in full will be kept by the Hospital and its interest alone will be made use of, the original sum being paid back at the end of the term if required.

4.—Donations whether in money or kind will be accepted, e.g., chairs, bedding, clothes, cotton-wool, linen, stockings, paper, rice, miso, soy, etc.

5.—Those who pledge themselves to subscribe towards the funds of the Hospital should fill in and send the agreement paper to the Hospital in the following form:—

A or B subscription
To the Tokio Charity Hospital
..... yen.

I agree to pay yen per month or yen per half-year as the interest of the sum mentioned from month of year of Meiji for a term of five years

Date. (signature).

C subscription
To the Tokio Charity Hospital
..... yen.

I pay the sum mentioned above and agree that the interest on the sum paid shall be spent on behalf of the Hospital from the month of the year of Meiji during a term of five years.

Date. (signature).

6.—A special collector having receipts impressed with the Hospital seal will be sent round monthly or half-yearly to the Subscribers.

7.—Tickets of recommendation will be sent to the subscribers who are requested to sign their names and append the names of the patients whom they may recommend when sending any such to the Hospital.

The tickets of recommendation will be issued at the rate of one ticket to every two yen paid down.

8.—Any patient desirous of receiving the Hospital treatment must bring with him a ticket of recommendation, but temporary relief will be afforded to those who meet with any serious accident or are taken seriously ill in the streets, even without a ticket. Six tickets will be required for admission into the wards and one ticket for an out-patient.

THE Kanagawa Police Force may take a measure of comfort in the fact that the heavy shower of hostile criticism to which they are subjected by a portion of the foreign press of Yokohama, is not altogether unknown in other countries when newspapers comment upon municipal protectors. The San Francisco papers have recently had "Robert" on the carpet, and the *Alta*, defending the force as a class, says of the individual:—He is the butt for all kinds of ridicule and abuse. If a comrade falls from grace, the whole force is condemned, and people say, "What else can you expect from a policeman?" If a criminal evades pursuit for a time, people say "the police are in with him." When he is caught, they say, "Guess he had no more money to put up, and so the police did not care to screen him longer." If a riot occurs, they say, "Can't the police stop it?" If the police stop it, the papers are full of police brutality. No matter what they do, or do not do, their

actions are misconstrued. To such an extent is this carried that when a policeman does err the force of criticism is powerless."

IN the Foreign Relations of the United States for 1882, the following despatch is printed, from the United States Minister in Tokiyo to Mr. Frelinghuysen:—

SIR: Herewith I beg leave to inclose for your information an extract from the report of Sir James Bain, ex-lord provost of Glasgow, and recently made by that gentleman to the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, together with the words of approval thereof by the *British Mercantile Gazette*, as published in the *Japan Gazette* of the 24th instant.

Sir James Bain, you will please observe, was appointed the representative of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce to the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and was requested to gather information concerning the commercial relations between Great Britain and the countries of the East. The extract from his report, which is inclosed, treats only of Japan, and points out the disadvantages to commerce arising from the territorial restrictions of existing treaties.

Referring to the desire of the treaty powers to open the empire to foreign trade, Sir James reports that he was informed by the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs that the Japanese Government might grant the liberty of trading everywhere in this empire, but only on condition of foreigners becoming amenable to the native tribunals; but adds that the foreign powers insist upon the privilege of general trade without the condition. The *Mercantile Gazette* remarks:—

We are disposed to agree with Sir James in considering such an arrangement perfectly equitable, more especially as the laws of Japan are now based on those of England and France, and as the system of administering justice, postal, and educational arrangements, bear favorable comparison with those of most other countries.

When the actual condition of Japan comes to be better understood by foreign states—her wonderful progress in the knowledge of good government and judicial administration—it seems to me that just men everywhere will concur with Sir James that the proposition of Japan is perfectly equitable and ought to be accepted by the treaty powers.

It is clear to my mind that the European states do not intend to release Japan, China, or any of the Oriental nations from European rule and European government so long as they can prevent it. It is not uncommon to see in European journals the announcement that the proposition to relieve Japan at any time, however remote, from the existing foreign control of her affairs, is not to be entertained by the great powers.

The world moves, knowledge advances among men and nations, and through its resistless power the people of the East must regain their lost liberties.

I have, &c.,

JNO. A. BINGHAM.

It is interesting to observe that "knowledge" is the great factor upon which Mr. Bingham relies to change the mood of indifference, and too often of injustice, exhibited by Western countries towards Japan. Yet, after all, the persons among whom one would expect to find least ignorance, are apparently most bigoted and most selfishly conservative. It is the old story, none so blind as those that will not see. What we must hope is that the world will "move on," and leave the ignorant omniscients to watch, from a distance, the better fortune they might have shared—leave them in the full enjoyment of their *habeas corpus*, and of a stagnating trade that demands no wearisome peripatations in strange places, or "disputing of vantage grounds" in inland markets.

It has been finally determined to form an infantry corps in Tokiyo University. Uniform, arms, and a small pecuniary allowance will be furnished by the Government. It is said that a number of the students have signified a desire to pay their own expenses. Apparently Japan is resolved to throw away the advantages nature has placed within her reach. To Western eyes her greatest good fortune in these days of military mania is that her situation and circumstances enable her to dispense with large armaments. But it appears that she does not think so herself.

We are informed that the Messageries Maritimes steamship *Godavery*, bringing the next French mail, with dates from Marseilles to the 16th March, left Hongkong on Wednesday at six a.m.

THE NEW CLUB IN TOKIYO.

WE learn that measures are in active progress with a view to the formation of a Tokiyo Club for Japanese and Foreigners in the new building, called the *Rokumei-kwan*. In the speech delivered by His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the occasion of opening the building, and subsequently published in these columns, it will be remembered that the chief object of the institution was explained as a desire to promote social intercourse between Foreigners and Japanese—an object which can scarcely be better pursued than by the step now contemplated. There has, of course, been some difficulty in arranging the preliminaries for an institution which is comparatively new in Japan. Clubs do exist in the Capital, but it cannot be said that their success hitherto has been signal, or that any attempt has been made to organize them on a cosmopolitan basis. The Naval Club, which was formed nine or ten years ago, admitted Foreigners, but only as honorary members, and its promoters do not appear to have aspired at establishing a *cuisine à la Européenne*, or even à la *Japonnaise*. They contented themselves with facilities for billiards and *go*, and a reading room on a limited scale. It is, however, an essential feature in the programme of the *Rokumei-kwan's* founders that no distinction whatever shall be made between Japanese and Foreign members. Both are to be admitted on precisely the same footing, and both are to enjoy the same rights and privileges. Our readers are doubtless aware that the cost of erecting the *Rokumei-kwan* was defrayed out of a fund subscribed by the various Governmental Departments in the Capital, and that a part of the building will in future be used for purposes to which the *Yenriyo-kwan* has hitherto been applied. Under these circumstances, the most natural way to set about preparing a constitution for the new Club was to form a committee of gentlemen representing the different branches of the service, who might then proceed to nominate honorary members, draw up rules and regulations, and elect a nucleus of active members. This has been done. We understand that the rules have been prepared, and will be issued in a few days, while the first election of active members took place on the 18th instant. We are not yet in a position to explain the conditions of eligibility for membership, but we learn that they will be regulated in general by the principles observed in first-class European or American institutions of a similar nature. The spacious and comfortable qualities of the building, as well as its very convenient situation within five minutes' drive of the Shinbashi terminus, are familiar to the public, and as all the interior arrangements are to be made on the lines of a Foreign Club, it is difficult to overestimate

the advantages which the institution will confer on the Foreign residents both of the Capital and of Yokohama. It will be no trivial blessing to be able to count on a good dinner and a comfortable place to spend the evening whenever one visits Tokiyo, and to know that the Capital offers way-farers some hospitality other than the very fifth-rate accommodation for man and beast—principally the latter—furnished by the Seiyoken and its competitors. The establishment of the *Rokumei-kwan* is distinguished, indeed, by some exceptionally fortunate features. A building of such dimensions, we might almost say magnificence, could scarcely have been erected for use as a Club by any association of private gentlemen, during the next half-century, at all events; and yet a building of less pretensions would scarcely have possessed attractions sufficient to give initial impetus to an enterprise so unprecedented in Japan. Apart, however, from these material advantages, we regard the founding of a cosmopolitan Club in Tokiyo as a most happy event. More than a moiety of the reserve and distrust which at present disfigure the social intercourse of Japanese and Foreigners—if, indeed, any real social intercourse can be said to exist—is due to the inferiority of the class of Japanese with whom Foreigners are brought into contact at the open ports. It would be difficult to conceive anything less calculated to promote mutual good-feeling, than the conditions existing at Yokohama, where a coterie of *rusé*, but not over-refined, Japanese have laid seige to the Foreign Settlement, and combined their forces so adroitly that the people within the lines are virtually helpless. Of the latter, it may truly be said that they are considerably above the average of foreigners in point of intellect and respectability: of the former, that they are still farther below the average of Japanese. It is not pleasant to know that whatever industry and shrewdness one may employ to compete with one's fellow-residents, the advantage of that competition is ultimately reaped by an army of confederates, who, fattening on the proceeds of their unique opportunities, see in every fresh access of foreign rivalry an additional chance for Japanese combination. This sort of thing does not conduce to conviviality and good-fellowship. We should like to see Foreigners able to get away altogether from the elements that surround them at the open ports, and to associate freely with a class of Japanese whose thoughts travel sometimes in other grooves than those of yarns, shirtings, silk, and tea, and who have risen from a social basis a little loftier than that of hucksters and stall-keepers. It cannot, perhaps, be expected that the new Club will immediately work any very radical change in these respects, but it is a considerable step in the right direction, and we are persuaded that its results will amply repay the enterprise and liberality of its promoters.

JAPAN'S INHERENT RIGHTS.

THE *Manchester Guardian* has begun to interest itself actively in the question of Japanese treaty revision. We reproduced, in a recent issue, an able article from its columns on the subject of customs duties, and we now find another on the still more important subject of extraterritoriality:—

The chief difficulty in the way of the revision of the Japanese treaties appears to be the question of Ex-territoriality, in other words, the question of jurisdiction over Foreign Residents in Japan. There appears to be no reason to doubt that the Japanese authorities, whether from a consideration of national pride or for other reasons, are extremely anxious to exercise full jurisdiction over all residents within their borders. And there can be no doubt that much may be said in favour of Japan's claim to be placed as a civilised Power on a footing of perfect equality with all Western Powers; indeed it would appear that the Government of the United States is disposed to admit the justice of Japan's claim to have this last token of her former barbarism—the imposition of foreign tribunals—abolished. On the other hand, the foreign commercial community in Japan appear to regard the suggestion with grave anxiety. Whether Japan can fairly be considered civilised or not, foreign residents view with intense repugnance the idea of their being left to the mercy of native courts; and even if it be contended that this feeling is due solely to prejudice or to national pride on their part, there is still every prospect that the abolition of ex-territorial rights would be a serious blow to foreign commercial confidence in Japan, and would go a long way towards weakening the footing which foreign traders have obtained there. This would scarcely be in the interest of Japan itself, whose political importance in the East depends very largely upon her close associations with the Western Powers, and whose development for some time to come must largely depend upon foreign capital and enterprise. The Japanese Government has apparently offered to throw open the interior of the country to foreign residence and trade, but only on condition that foreigners in general are made subject to Japanese laws and courts. With this condition attached, the foreign residents appear to regard even the proposed opening-up of the interior as a worthless concession, and distinctly prefer to bear the ills they have rather than fly to others that they know not of. And if foreigners were made subject to Japanese courts it is difficult to see how such a change could be opposed in China. It is understood that the British and other European Governments have remained firm on this point. The instructions sent out to their representatives in Japan authorise such readjustment of the Customs duties as will be likely to bring into the Japanese exchequer a sum double the revenue at present collected. Although articles consumed by foreigners will be subjected to higher duties, the bulk of the increased duties will fall upon the native consumers. With a view to the future, the Japanese authorities have also asked that the duration of the tariff and treaties may be absolutely limited to ten years. Taking into consideration all the circumstances, it seems probable that the impending treaty revision will resolve itself simply into a modification of the duties.

The *Manchester Guardian* treats this question in a singularly superficial manner. The desire of the Japanese Government to recover its powers of jurisdiction is lightly referred to "a consideration of national pride" or "other reasons." A leading English journal might be expected to show a more appreciative and sympathetic spirit in discussing such a matter. English statesmen, at all events, are sufficiently explicit and unequivocal in their utterances when, by any chance, an attempt is made to claim exemption from the operation of British laws for the subjects of a foreign Power residing within the limits of British jurisdiction. A case in point occurred only three years ago, when the Government of the United States endeavoured to set up a distinction between the liability of natu-

ralized Americans and the liability of British subjects in respect of unlawful acts committed, or about to be committed, in Ireland. Earl GRANVILLE then (June 24th, 1881) addressed to Sir E. THORNTON a despatch, subsequently published in the Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States, containing the following remarkable assertions :—

The right of every State to subject foreigners within its limits, no less than its own subjects, to every law made for the maintenance of law and order, is an undisputed principle of the law of nations, and is a right necessarily inherent in the Sovereignty of every independent community. The principle is universally recognized, and is well stated by the great French jurist Portalis, as quoted by Sir Robert Phillimore in his "Commentaries upon International Law," vol. I. cap XVIII., Section 334, p. 454 :—*Chaque État a le droit de veiller à sa conservation, et c'est dans ce droit que réside la souveraineté. Or, comment un État pourrait-il se conserver et maintenir, s'il existait dans son sein des hommes qui pussent impunément enfreindre sa police et troubler sa tranquillité? Le pouvoir souverain ne pourrait remplir la fin pour laquelle il est établi, si des hommes étrangers ou nationaux étaient indépendants de ce pouvoir. Il ne peut être limité, ni quant aux choses, ni quant aux personnes. Il n'est rien s'il n'est tout. La qualité d'étranger ne saurait être une exception légitime pour celui qui s'en prévaut contre la puissance publique qui régit le pays dans lequel il réside. Habiter le territoire, c'est se soumettre à la souveraineté.*

It ought to be remembered that the particular measure whose exercise as against American citizens elicited this assertion, was an extraordinary piece of legislation, which, however necessary, was plainly opposed to all the principles of personal liberty, inasmuch as it conferred on the authorities power to arrest and detain in prison for an indefinite period, without trial, persons suspected of designs against the public peace. Yet even from the operation of this class of laws Earl GRANVILLE emphatically repudiated the right of any foreign Power to claim exemption for its nationals residing in British territory, and held that to admit such exemption would be to surrender "a right necessarily inherent in the sovereignty of every independent community." Mr. BLAINE, too, in the course of the correspondence to which this contention led, recorded his assent that, "the right of every Government in this respect is absolute and sovereign, and every person who voluntarily brings himself within the jurisdiction of the country, whether permanently or temporarily, is subject to the operation of its laws, whether he be a citizen or mere resident. In stating this familiar principle, no more is conceded to Great Britain than every country may of right demand, and it is one of the sovereign rights which the Government of the United States has always insisted upon and maintained for itself." These assertions leave us in no manner of doubt as to how any Western Power would behave under the circumstances with which Japan has to deal. There is not a citizen or subject of any Occidental State who would rest for a moment content were his country's "inherent rights" treated as Japan's are treated, nor is there a citizen or subject who, resting thus content, would not deserve

to be despised by all free men. Japan's justly growing indignation against the resolute refusal of a combination of foreign Powers to recognise her independence, is a sentiment with which English-speaking peoples, above all others, ought to sympathise. To dismiss it flippantly as "a consideration of national pride" is not more unjust than superficial.

The "other reasons" to which the *Manchester Guardian* doubtfully alludes, have been so long intruding themselves upon public notice that to recapitulate them seems superfluous. Briefly speaking, they amount to this—that the administration of justice by foreign courts in Japan is little better than a farce. One Power, and one only, has fulfilled its treaty obligations by establishing properly equipped tribunals with a trained judiciary. Yet even under the system introduced by that Power, Japanese plaintiffs are virtually deprived of the right of appeal, since to exercise that right they must carry their cases to a foreign country. A clumsy, more incompetent, and less accessible system than the motley miscellany of foreign courts which do duty here as a judicial machine, it would be difficult to conceive. We can be quite sure what course a Western Government would adopt in the presence of such a confused medley. One of the very first steps taken by France when she occupied Tunis was to negotiate for the abolition of the Capitulations, and no sooner did Great Britain accept administrative responsibility on the banks of the Nile, than she discovered that the maintenance of ten or twelve *imperia in imperio* was "absolutely inconsistent with the establishment of any strong and just central Government.* It will scarcely be pretended that Japan is competent to do what neither England nor France found it possible to accomplish. There is, however, one great difference between the situations: when England in Egypt and France in Tunis "claimed the co-operation of other Powers in the removal of obstacles to the establishment of good Government," that co-operation was immediately obtained; whereas, when Japan in Japan asks for similar co-operation, her request is contemptuously referred to "mere sentiment" or to "national vanity."

It is permitted to hope that the *Manchester Guardian's* interpretation of the foreign residents' mood is a little obsolete. There may be four or five hundred foreigners in Japan indifferent to the disgrace of standing in the shoes of the party of seclusion which existed among the Japanese themselves twenty years ago: there may be four or five hundred foreigners who, whether from blind distrust or interested motives, are resolved to oppose every extension of this country's foreign intercourse; resolved to dismiss with a sneer her claim

* Referring to this, the *London Times*, a year ago, wrote :—"So long as a dozen separate jurisdictions exist side by side * * * it must obviously remain impossible for any Government to issue justice and equal rights to all."

to remove what is admitted to be "a token of barbarism;" resolved to deny her "inherent rights of sovereignty;" resolved to condemn themselves and all their fellow-nationals to the ostracism of a few ports environed by an army of monopolists, whose commerce of circumvallation encroaches daily more and more upon the legitimate profits of the besieged, and daily cripples the healthy growth of industry and trade. There may, we say, be four or five hundred conservatives of this selfish and unreasoning disposition, but no one will pretend that their verdict is to determine the policy pursued by all the world towards an independent nation of thirty-five millions. The position foreigners occupy towards Japan to-day is that of tenants under a lease which expired eleven years ago and which is not yet renewed. Eleven years ago the Treaties became subject to revision at the desire of "either of the High Contracting Parties," and revision, if it meant anything at all, meant some alteration of provisions devised with reference to special conditions which either no longer exist or have been materially modified. We hear a great deal of "rights" which entitle a handful of strangers to oppose the extension of Japan's foreign intercourse and to restrain her national growth, but, in point of fact, no such rights exist. The treaties conferred on us certain extraterritorial privileges—not rights—which are in no sense permanent, and which Japan is bound by every instinct of patriotism and every principle of progress to curtail as soon as possible. The contention that "if foreigners were made subject to Japanese courts, it is difficult to see how such a change could be opposed in China," is of a piece with the singular injustice of the whole conservative argument. During the past twenty years, while Japan's adoption of Western civilization has been so remarkable as to make the world marvel, China has stood absolutely immovable. Her systems of polity, law, judiciary, education, and so following, are precisely what they always were, and the bigotry of her conservatism is such that even railways and telegraphs are not yet tolerated. Nevertheless, it is pretended that she has a valid title to demand for her own stagnation every acknowledgment which her neighbour's progress receives at foreign hands! Such logic deserves only ridicule.

We can never consent to believe that educated Englishmen really hold the views attributed to the foreign residents by the *Manchester Guardian*. The prominent trait of English character is not a lack of justice, generosity, and practicality. Most happily, evidences have of late been afforded that our faith in the larger and more liberal disposition of our countrymen in Japan is not ill-founded, and that the beginnings of a wiser policy will be gladly endorsed by this community.

THE NEW CHINESE CABINET.

WHAT may be the exact reason for the wholesale Ministerial changes reported from Peking, we cannot certainly assert, but, judging by the names of those dismissed from office and those preferred to higher appointments, it would appear that the War Party is in the ascendant. The vernacular journals of Tokijo have had much to say on the subject, but their opinions are far from being unanimous. The *Official Gazette*, for instance, in recapitulating the telegrams received from Peking, goes no farther than to conclude that "there will be strict investigation and prosecution of all the civil and military officials concerned in the late Tonquin affairs," and adds, very prudently, "but what policy will be assumed with regard to France still remains to be seen." Other journals, in especial the *Fiji Shimpō*, the *Fiyu Shimbun*, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, declare outright that the sweeping Ministerial changes portend a decided unwillingness to pay the indemnity claimed by France, and the uncontrollable outbreak of a long imminent war. "Although it cannot be denied," says the *Fiyu Shimbun*, "that China may yet alter her Annamese policy, she has at all events plainly indicated her intention to settle her dispute with France by resorting to arms." The *Fiji Shimpō* points out, very clearly, that one and all of the new members of the Cabinet are creatures of Prince SHUN, the bitter enemy of LI HUNG-CHANG and one of the most inveterate opponents of the peace faction; and thence concludes that China, under the new régime, is actively preparing for war. This, according to recent telegrams, seems to be a reasonable conclusion, and yet it is totally at variance with the latest opinions expressed in Shanghai. The *North China Daily News*, while predicting a crisis in the Cabinet at Peking, evidently does not believe in the probability of a war with France, but adds that "there is an important section of the EMPRESS's advisers who are crying out for battle, and that counsels are still greatly divided among even the most prominent and responsible statesmen of the Empire." The same journal says:—"The EMPRESS considers that she has been utterly misled on the subject of China's preparedness for war, and the fall of Bac-ninh seems to have come upon her with disconcerting suddenness." These sentences may be taken as a sort of prelude to what has actually occurred—the dismissal of the Peace Party, and of the chief officials concerned in the Tonquin affair.

With regard to the telegrams themselves, it is evident that great pressure has been brought to bear upon the EMPRESS to obtain her authorization of the changes in the Cabinet. Not only are the leading statesmen of China among those dismissed from service, but the men appointed to the vacant posts are very little known,

and have, so far as the public is aware, no recommendation save that they are the adherents and clients of Prince SHUN. The former rank and the names of the dismissed officials are as follows:—PAO CHUN, Prime Minister,—LI HUNG-CHANG is Right Prime Minister, while PAO CHUN was Left Prime Minister—Prince KUNG, LI HONG-T'SAO, Joint Lord High Chancellor, and President of the Board of Civil Affairs; CHING LIEN, President of the Board of War; and YUNG TUNG-HO, President of the Board of Public Works. The five officials promoted are NGA-LO HO-PU, President of the Board of Revenue; Prince LI, cousin of the EMPEROR; YEN CHING-MENG, an official in the Board of Revenue; CHIANG TSE-WAN, President of the Board of Punishment; and SUN YU-WEN, Secretary of the Board of Public Works. Further despatches state that T'ANG KING, Governor of Yunnan, and T'SU YIN-HU, Governor of Kwang-si, have been dismissed, on the ground of their having been responsible for the fall of Son-tai and the evacuation of Bac-ninh. PUI LA, a little known member of the Imperial Household, has been appointed President of the T'sung-li Yamên, and LUN SHU, another *homo novus*, is made Keeper of the Great Seal of the same office. Moreover, Prince KUNG and his four companions have not merely been dismissed from the Privy Council, but have lost their positions and voice in the T'sung-li Yamên, which is now entirely under the control of Prince SHUN, who has been elected Regent during the minority of the EMPEROR.

To understand the secret springs of these unpromising changes, it is necessary to go back some sixty years, to the days of SUAN TSUNG CH'ENG, who reigned under the title of TAO KWANG. This EMPEROR has nine sons; the first three died young, while the fourth, WEN TSUNG HIEN, succeeded him under the title of HIEN FENG (1851). The last three sons of TAO KWANG were Prince TONG, Prince KUNG, and Prince SHUN. In 1862, the Emperor HIEN FENG died, leaving his throne to his son, then seven years old, who was proclaimed EMPEROR under the title of T'UNG CHE. Soon after his accession to the throne, the great Tai Ping rebellion broke out, but was finally quelled by Prince TONG and LI HUNG-CHANG. In 1874, the young Emperor T'UNG CHE died, and there being no heir apparent, his successor had to be chosen from among the Imperial Princes. According to Chinese Law, none of the three Princes TONG, KUNG, and SHUN could succeed to the Throne; the heir apparent had, therefore, to be chosen from among the cousins of T'UNG CHE. The eldest son of Prince TONG was also ineligible, and so the lot should have fallen to the eldest son of KUNG. But Prince SHUN, the youngest of the nine sons of TAO KWANG and uncle of T'UNG CHE, had married a sister of the EMPRESS REGENT—the consort of HIEN FENG—and his son, backed by the powerful influence of the EMPRESS,

ascended the Throne instead of the lawful heir. The son of Prince KUNG was thus, contrary to the laws of primogeniture, superseded, much to the indignation of KUNG, who, from that time, openly became the chief political opponent of SHUN.

Despite the fact that his son was not proclaimed heir apparent, the position of Prince KUNG was far too powerful to permit his removal from the highest Council of the Empire. With the one exception of LI HUNG-CHANG, KUNG has been the leading statesman of China for nearly three decades. In the year 1860 he played a most important part in concluding a treaty of peace with the allied forces after the capture of Peking, and was chiefly instrumental in raising the indemnity of 12,000 taels. It was KUNG who solved the vexed boundary question with Russia; who kept the Formosan war from becoming a national disaster; who reasserted the supremacy of China over Korea; and who, latterly, warned the Government against the ruinous consequences of the policy pursued in Annam. As a member of the Privy Council and Minister of the T'sung-li Yamên, he showed great prudence and foresight, and did much towards hastening the adoption of Western civilization. The intimate and political associate of LI HUNG-CHANG, he was on terms of friendship with every officer in the T'sung-li Yamên, and had an influential voice in all the councils of the Empire. But KUNG was ever the principal exponent of the Peace Party, and this decidedly weakened his popular prestige, despite the soundness of his views. LI HUNG-CHANG generally shared his ideas on matters of internal policy, and surpassed him in outspoken admiration of European inventions. The Government was thus divided into two political factions, the one headed by KUNG and LI, and the other by SHUN and T'SO CHIANG-TANG,—answering to the Liberals and Conservatives. Both SHUN and T'SO are thoroughly bellicose, and differ widely in opinion from the other party. To their mutual misunderstandings and continual disputes we may attribute much of the vacillating policy of China, so conspicuous for the past twenty years. SHUN never openly dared to oppose the policy of KUNG and LI HUNG-CHANG with regard to the foreign relations of China, although he frequently expressed himself dissatisfied with what he deemed an effeminate course of action. Prince LI, who now replaces KUNG, has never been known as an influential politician, and has hitherto held only one important post, the Magistracy of T'sung Jin Fu. The other men whom SHUN has brought into the Cabinet are the mere rank and file of his faction, and of no note whatever.

There can be little doubt that these Ministerial changes are the consummation of the plans long since laid by Prince SHUN, who, from the time he succeeded in placing his eldest son upon the throne, is supposed to have aimed at holding the

power he now at last possesses. If this view be correct, the changes effected are by no means a simple consequence of the Annam fiasco or of the fall of Bac-ninh, but an outcome of the so-called "curtain intrigues." SHUN has merely taken advantage of the dissatisfaction of the EMPRESS to triumph finally over the policy of Prince KUNG and LI HUNG-CHANG. That SHUN did not long ago reach the place he coveted, was due, on the one hand, to the EMPRESS REGENT, who foresaw that his rise would herald the decline of her own power; and, on the other, to the overwhelming influence of LI HUNG-CHANG, whose position even the latest political tempest has been insufficient to undermine. In a word then, the control of the Empire now seems to rest with the War Party headed by Prince SHUN, and we need scarcely say that nothing could be more fatal to the apparent interests of China.

What LI HUNG-CHANG has to say to the triumph of SHUN remains yet to be seen. Nominally, at all events, he stills holds the office of Prime Minister, but whether even his influence is great enough to arrest the impetuosity of his new colleagues, we may not venture to predict. It is very possible that civil war will again devastate the Empire, bringing in its train a radical cure for Chinese conservatism. The dynasty of TA T'SING has never been solid, and it needed all the talent and fame of K'ANG-HI and K'IENT LUNG to secure the half-hearted allegiance of the people. The Triad Society, that bitterest opponent of the Manchus, is just now in the zenith of its power, and seditions and local rebellions are reported throughout the southern provinces. Hunan and Hupeh, not to speak of Yünnan and Kwang-si, are seething with insurrection, and a very little spark is necessary to set the whole of Central China in mutinous flames. Prince SHUN has chosen this most unpropitious moment for his political success, and will probably find his triumph attended by fatal unpopularity. His attempt to crush the influence of KUNG has succeeded, but he has still to meet with LI HUNG-CHANG,—and with, perhaps, popular sedition.

THE SITUATION IN TONQUIN.

THE news of the capture of Bac-ninh naturally excited a great deal of interest in Europe. The stirring events in Egypt and in their possibly momentous consequences had temporarily diverted public attention from Tonquin, but when the fall of Bac-ninh was announced, China's ultimatum of last autumn began to be again talked of. The Paris press immediately gave prominence to rumours of English mediation—rumours which probably had their origin in the mind of the Parisians themselves. It was announced that the members of the Left in the Chamber of Deputies intended to oppose any continuance of warlike operations in Tonquin, being averse to

further expenditure of men and money. The *Journal des Débats* wrote:—"The army has performed its tasks in Tonquin. The time has now arrived for diplomacy." The Paris correspondent of *The Times*, echoing, of course, the general bent of opinion, telegraphed to that journal:—"The occupation of Bac-ninh ends in nothing. The rainy season begins in a fortnight and will postpone operations for six months. The delta of the Red River is handed over to pillage and anarchy. The French Government will shortly be compelled to ask for a credit of twenty-five million francs and eventually for a hundred millions, which the Chamber will certainly refuse. The expedition will require 63 ships and 40,000 men. The end to be gained is out of all proportion to the outlay." Better informed persons will appreciate the exaggeration of this language. So far as the delta of Red River is concerned, it is now virtually in French possession. Except the remnants of a piracy which used to be much more formidable, the "pillage and anarchy" spoken of by *The Times'* correspondent have no existence. General MILLOTT'S instructions do not appear to have extended accurately beyond the taking of Bac-ninh. After this, he was left, more or less, to his own discretion as to whether he would carry his operations to the Chinese frontier or terminate them at convenient points mid-way. Judging by the map, one might suppose that a French army already in possession of Bac-ninh and Kwan-yen,—the two principal fortress on the main roads leading to China,—would have no difficulty in pushing its outposts to the northernmost limits of Tonquin. But roads in a map of China require a special definition. The two main routes from the Red River to the Kwang provinces are nowhere more than fifteen feet wide. Impassable by wheeled vehicles throughout the year, they are only used at best by Mandarins travelling in chairs or by coolies carrying the post. Needless to say that for the passage of artillery they might almost as well not exist at all. Under these circumstances, the plan pursued by General MILLOT was obviously the wisest. Before the Black Flags and their allies had time to rally after their defeat at Bac-ninh, they found themselves pursued by two flying columns and pushed almost to the limits of China proper. Kobang and Langson, towns just beyond the Chinese frontier, were not, however, occupied; probably because it was desired to avoid forcing the hand of the Peking Government. Then followed the assault and capture of Hung-hoa, the last place of importance on the lower half of the Red River, and Tuen-kwang (or Tuang-kwang) having been already taken by NEGRIER'S flying column, the campaign in Tonquin may be said to have terminated. It is true that the upper reaches of the Red River still remain in the hands of

the Black Flags; but considering the difficult nature of the country, and the fact that the season for military operations is now closed, no efforts will probably be made to carry the Tricolor any farther for the present. The programme seems to be that the Westerly limit of French occupation shall be fixed at a line passing from Hung-hoa, on the Red River, to Tuen-kwang; and the Northerly limit, at a line passing from the latter place to Phulan-huong, *viâ* the towns of Phu-binh and Phu-don-hong. This would still leave a neutral zone between China and the new province, while the Black Flags would be allowed to retain all the district between the Westerly limit of French Tonquin and the frontier of Yünnan, on condition that they cease from obstructing the free navigation of the Red River. There is no reason why the Chinese Government should not accept this arrangement. Their pretensions to suzerainty in Tonquin and Annam, never worthy of much consideration, have become a mere laughing stock in view of the grotesque mixture of threats and timidity which they have offered to the world as China's foreign policy. It is difficult to dispute the results of a successful campaign. The French are invincible in their position as victors. China had unique opportunities to organize a formidable resistance, but it is now quite plain that even within a few days march of her own frontiers she is virtually powerless to oppose the onset of a disciplined force. The only question that still looks menacing is that of an indemnity. The humiliation of having to pay a heavy sum to a foreign enemy over whom she did not gain the shadow of an advantage, and before whom her troops so demeaned themselves that to this day it is uncertain whether they fought at all—this humiliation may prove more than she can endure. On the other hand, that she has incurred the liability of an indemnity, there can be little doubt. The recent decrees issued at Peking dispose of that question. The Government can no longer simulate inaction, since it has publicly degraded the high officials who failed to defend Bac-ninh, and has ordered the decapitation of the unfortunate officers who avoided a direct collision with the French army. The paths of Chinese policy are inscrutable. That a charge of front should be made by the new Cabinet would be natural enough, but that the ill-starred officials who followed the lines laid down by Prince KUNG and his colleagues, should be degraded and decapitated for not having behaved as Prince KUNG'S rivals and successors might have wished, is a most bizarre issue. At all events, the result is that China is powerless. She has forfeited any shadow of title she may once have possessed to a voice in the disposal of Tonquin, and nothing remains for her but to obtain whatever recognition the French may be disposed to extend to her right of

way by the Red River and her right to preserve the integrity of her frontiers. Our own belief is that France will not press her beyond endurance. Indeed, a rumour is already afloat that the Cabinet of Paris is willing to submit to arbitration the question of the amount of indemnity. As for the War Party recently raised to power in Peking, it will probably offer the world another example of the pacific influence exercised by the responsibilities of office.

UNSEAWORTHY SHIPS.

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY, who was a member, and doubtless a very active member, of the Royal Commission on Unseaworthy Ships, has made public, in a peculiarly clear and interesting style, the problem with which he and his colleagues had to deal and the data they collected for dealing with it. Loss of life by shipwreck was alarmingly on the increase. In the five years between 1877 and 1881, it had averaged 1,692; in 1882 it was 3,118, and in the following year 3,500. The questions to be determined were, what causes chiefly contribute to these disasters, and how are they to be prevented. To the first question the general answer suggested by the Commission's enquiries was, carelessness: overloading, undermanning, and bad officering. So much being granted, it might naturally be supposed that the remedy would have been judged to lie in devising some species of official supervision or inspection so as to regulate load-lines with greater strictness, enforce rules with regard to the complement of crews and general finding of vessels, and compel the application of a higher standard of proficiency in the case of the officers. But the Commission here found itself confronted by two difficulties: first, the inexpediency of relieving shipowners of responsibility by excessive official interference; and secondly, the hopelessness of effecting any radical reform until it should become the interest of owners to keep their ships safe as long as possible. It is with the discussion of the latter of these points that Sir THOMAS BRASSEY'S essay in the *Nineteenth Century* principally has to do. The line his enquiries take becomes plain enough when we find him asserting, at the outset, that the Law of Marine Insurance needs revision "if it can be shown that the facility for insuring to the full, and sometimes to an exaggerated value, leads to carelessness and recklessness in the management of shipping, and is therefore a primary cause of the deplorable loss of life at sea."

There are four classes of policies in marine insurance; the valued policy, the open policy, the voyage policy, and the time policy. In a valued policy, the agreed value of the property insured is expressed on the face of the policy. But it need not be the real value. The law holds that only

upon plea and proof of fraud can an underwriter set aside the value entered in the policy. There are reasons for this strange usage: first, to avoid the inconvenience of protracted enquiries as to value,—enquiries which in many cases of total loss would be almost impossible; and secondly, because the price a ship would fetch in the open market is not always a true measure of her value to her owner, who may have fitted her for a special purpose. These reasons are not without validity, but, at the same time, Mr. Justice WILLES declared that "the system of valued policies, whatever its convenience, does encourage fraudulently disposed people to put high values on comparatively worthless vessels, and gives them an interest in the loss of their property."

With an open policy, values are not fixed, either for ship, freight, or goods. In the event of loss, the value of the ship is held to be the sum she is worth to her owner at the port where the voyage commences, including outfit, premium, and cost of insurance. The freight is defined as the gross freight paid by the shipper, and the value of the goods is the invoiced price, together with the charges for loading and insurance. The pecuniary consequences of shipwreck with such a policy depend very much on the time of the accident. If it takes place early in the voyage, the owner is generally fortunate. Of this Sir THOMAS BRASSEY gives an example. A steamer bound for Calcutta and back, through the Suez Canal, with a chartered freight on the outward and homeward voyage of £12,000, is insured in an open policy at the full value. She is lost in the Bay of Biscay, and thus avoids paying for Suez Canal dues both ways, for coals and provisions at Calcutta, as well as wages to crew and port charges at Calcutta and London. The total saving is £4,500, and the owner, recovering £12,000 from the underwriters, realizes £4,500 by the loss of his ship.

In the case of the voyage policy, the insurance is effected for the voyage between two specified places. But nothing is expressly stipulated with regard to the seaworthiness of the vessel *after* she leaves the port where the voyage commences. She may sail from London to Shanghai; receive serious injuries on her way out; leave Shanghai in such a condition that there is every probability of her foundering; yet as the voyage out and the voyage home are one voyage, the assured recovers the whole of his money if the ship is lost after leaving Shanghai.

In the case of the time policy, the limits of risk are designated only by certain fixed periods of time. This species of contract does not require that a ship shall be seaworthy even at the commencement of the risk: it is held that a shipowner may not have had any intelligence from his

ship for a long time, and cannot give any warranty as to her condition. A strange anomaly is thus created. The owner of a ship insured under a time policy recovers his insurance, even though the vessel were unseaworthy. The shipper of goods must insure under a voyage policy, which requires that the vessel shall be seaworthy at the inception of the voyage. "Thus the shipowner, who has the power to regulate the condition of his ship as to repairs and equipments, and who neglects to do his duty, recovers his insurance; while the proprietor of the goods, who is an innocent sufferer, loses all claim on the underwriters." It may be thought, however, that he has a claim against the shipowner, but the practical fact is that the latter, by the peculiar wording of the bill of lading, contracts himself out of all obligation.

Nearly all the principal witnesses examined by the Commission declared that in the present state of the Law of Marine Insurance, inducements to carelessness, if not to something worse, are powerful. "The care of a ship," said Mr. HARPER, divides itself into a hundred particulars; care in the appointment of a master, care in the selection of a crew, care in the officering of the ship, and general watchfulness; and that care is certainly likely to be relaxed in the case of an owner who knows that if his ship goes to the bottom, perhaps from the very circumstance that he has not paid sufficient attention to her, he not only gets the whole of his money invested in the ship, but a large profit in addition." It seemed to be the prevailing opinion that cases of deliberate fraud are rare, but Mr. LAMPORT confessed his belief that "when a ship has accidentally gone ashore, the efforts of her officers to get her off have occasionally been relaxed by their knowledge that the owner's purse will be benefited by her becoming a constructive total loss instead of an average loss. A case which seems to come under this category is that of the *AA¹ British barque *Sattara*, which, little over three months ago, was abandoned at Omaye-saki as a total constructive loss, sold subsequently by auction for a bagatelle, and is now advertised by her new owners as "ready to receive cargo" from Yokohama to London.

The Commission finally gave it as their opinion that the whole Law of Marine Insurance requires complete revision, with a view to confining insurance to a simple contract of indemnity. They did not under-rate the difficulties of changing such an "elaborate edifice, composed of materials drawn from the custom of merchants, the statutes of the realm, and the decisions of able and impartial judges," but they held that no law can be sound under which a shipowner, by the over-valuation of his ship and freight, stands to win and not to lose by the destruction of his property.

TOKIYO CHARITY HOSPITAL.

The following are the speeches delivered at the opening of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital. They were spoken in Japanese, and English translations were afterwards read by Surgeon-Major Takagi, who, before reading the address of H.I.H. Prince Takehito, said:—"By desire of His Imperial Highness, I read the following English version of His Imperial Highness's speech, it being his desire that his words may be properly understood by Their Excellencies and by the other Foreign gentlemen here present:—

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS OF HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO TO THE TOKIYO CHARITY HOSPITAL.

YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In this great City of Tokiyo, the residence of His Most Gracious Majesty and the metropolis of Japan, the houses of the people press as closely on each other as fishes' scales, and the firmament resounds with the hum of human beings. On the one hand, we behold the sumptuous mansions of the nobility; on the other, the emporia of trade. It is a perfect maze of busy traffic, where shoulder grazes shoulder and wheel grazes wheel,—a rich and prosperous maze to which no other city in the Empire can compare. It is, however, an universal law of society that there shall be comparatively many poor and few rich; and accordingly we find the narrow alleys of the metropolis swarming with crowds of poverty-stricken people who have not so much as a single dish of rice. No harvest is so plentiful but what it leaves some poor man's children crying from hunger; no winter so mild as altogether to save his wife from the chill December blasts. Its very population, then, must make Tokiyo conspicuous in all Japan for the number of its poor,—poor who must be all the more destitute when sickness is added to their other woes. Where, indeed, are they to find the means to obtain medical assistance? Now the two chief necessities felt by all men are; the necessity for food and drink when hungry or thirsty, and the necessity for medicine when sick. No misery is to be compared with that experienced by such as are unable to satisfy these wants. It was in August of the year 1882, that a number of gentlemen of this city formed the idea of uniting for the purpose of giving medical aid gratis to the sick poor unable to pay for medical attendance, and they accordingly started the Tokiyo Charity Hospital at premises in Shiba Park which had been temporarily hired for the purpose. This was a true instance of medicine being "the benevolent art." From that time forward the number of helpers in the good work gradually increased, and the number, too, of those sufferers increased who sought help and medicine at their hands. It is but fitting that an enterprise which has thus taken shape and which has before it the prospect of an ever-extending activity should celebrate its inauguration at this charming season of spring, at the time when all nature is in the bloom of youth and beauty. I have sometimes thought that, if a famine-stricken man is but too glad to be given even the coarsest food, what would not be his joy if the most delicate viands were placed before him! If one attacked by illness would not hesitate to refuse the ministrations of the merest quack, how highly favoured must be deem himself when he is attended by the first medical celebrities of the land! To be fed on choice morsels when hungry, to be cared for by eminent physicians when sick,—can any other privileges in this world be compared to such a state? May it be given to this institution continually to extend and enlarge the field of its activity; may it be the means of restoring to health and longevity numbers of the sick poor of this City, even as the life-giving rain restores the faded foliage to its pristine hues, or as the genial influence of spring brings back the scent and the infinitely varied beauty of the herbs and flowers! If these hopes be really fulfilled, then will the beneficent influences of the promoters of this undertaking be wafted like the zephyr across the very poorest hovels and the meanest lanes. Their names will be associated with the labours of an enlightened government, they will add another glorious chapter to the annals of an illustrious age. If they do this, what happiness will not be theirs? For myself,

having at the urgent request of all the members accepted the office of President, I have thought it right to express to you, the promoters of the institution, not only my congratulations, but my hopes for your continued activity in the future. I trust that these hopes will not be disappointed.

Inspector-General TOTSUKA then rose and said:—YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—It is now nearly two years since the first establishment of this Hospital at temporary premises in Shiba Park, in 1882, and at last the institution is complete in all its arrangements and has entered on a wide sphere of activity. Of its success there can be no doubt. Thus it comes that we are met together here to-day to celebrate its inauguration, and to listen to the gracious and inspiring words just uttered by His Imperial Highness,—words to find a suitable reply to which were entirely beyond our power. What more is needed than such princely condescension to cover this institution with glory? It is, alas! but too true, as His Imperial Highness has observed, that this great and prosperous city of Tokiyo, the residence of His Most Gracious Majesty, the abode of innumerable families, the busy mart of commerce, does hold within its lanes and alleys multitudes of poor, whose lives are a sequence of cold, hunger, and distress. How shall these unfortunates obtain help and medicine on the day when fell disease is upon them? Terrible, indeed, is it to think of the state of those who, to add to the external assaults of cold, hunger, and distress, are attacked internally by disease! To relieve such cases is the object of this Hospital. True it is that we, into whose charge it is given over, can make no pretensions to extraordinary skill or talent; we cannot hope to fulfil all the expectations of the public. Yet, though it is not for us to work miracles, we venture to trust that, by dint of labour and perseverance, we may at least be the means of saving some few lives. It is the gracious kindness of His Imperial Highness and the protection of an enlightened Government which alone lead us to conceive such hopes. How much the most beautiful time of all the year is this charming spring-tide, when light and warmth are wafted all around and all nature awakes to new life and vigour, and the herbs sprout and the trees bud, when the flowers blossom and the bird's sing! This is the season in which falls our opening day. If, borrowing some of these sweet influences, we can restore to health and longevity any of the helpless men and women of our streets, great indeed will be the reward of His Imperial Highness's condescension. What greater glory, likewise, could be conceived for ourselves, than to hear this Hospital spoken of as successful in its field of labour. Our desire must be by persevering henceforward ever more and more in diligent and united efforts, to fulfil the hopes which His Imperial Highness and the public so kindly entertain.

Dr. TAKAGI then said:—YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—Allow me, in the first place, to tender my sincerest thanks for the honour you confer on us by your presence here on this our opening day, when it falls to my lot to explain briefly to you the origin and *raison d'être* of this newly founded institution. The ultimate object of a Charity Hospital is of course to help in its own peculiar way towards the safety and prosperity of society. Now the members of society may, and often must, suffer either directly or indirectly, and one of the chief duties of society is to relieve such suffering. For should it not be the greatest of all reasons for grief that numbers should perish from want of means who, if succoured in time, would pass successfully through the trials of cold, hunger, and disease? The rich can call in a physician at the first signs of approaching illness, and by his help often shake it off. They are like suitors who should at once obtain the best legal opinion, and with it peace of mind. The poor man, on the other hand, when struck down by disease, can do little but sit with folded hands awaiting the decision of Heaven. He is like a plaintiff who should have no court before which to bring his suit. Now what would be the state of any society in which there are no courts of justice? We need no philosopher to tell us the misery which such a state of things would entail. It is to give to the poor such a court of justice, before which they may bring their complaints and have them speedily attended to, that Charity Hospitals are established. This consideration is sufficient to show how necessary such institutions are. No less necessary is it that they should be established on a firm basis. To build to-day in order to pull down to-morrow, were to act in a manner destructive of the very possibility of attaining to any substantial result. The first thing, therefore, when setting about the establishment of such a hospital, is to place it on a basis which shall not easily be shaken. What is this basis? It is that dual one whose names are "public duty" and "charity." Charity and public duty,—that is the

basis on which the present institution has been reared. A man's first thought on being struck down by disease is to send for a good physician. Here a question presents itself:—how are such physicians to be trained? We answer: by large practical experience of various complaints in a Charity Hospital, experience guided, of course, by proper theoretical instruction. It will be seen, from this observation, that, in the end, a Charity Hospital benefits others besides the actual patients of the poorer class who are treated within its walls. Such were some of the considerations which, in April of the year 1881, led some twenty or more persons, who met together at the *Kō-yō-kwan* in Shiba Park, to the conclusion that the sole way to ensure the prosperity and duration of a Charity Hospital was to collect together a capital of at least a hundred thousand dollars, and to expend only the interest accruing on that sum. Several subsequent meetings were held at the same place and in the rooms of the Medical Society, and various methods were proposed for raising the sum in question; but most of these plans were impracticable. In the mean time, an application for the use of the premises formerly occupied by the Tokiyo Municipal Hospital was made to the late Governor of Tokiyo, Mr. Matsuda Michiyuki, and favourably entertained by him. But the absence of the necessary funds still stood in the way of the starting of the institution. Indeed, in June of the ensuing year, 1882, the premises had to be handed back to the Municipality for a time, and it was only at a series of meetings held during June and July of the same year that the eleven Articles of the Constitution of the Hospital were voted, and that operations were commenced at the former temple of *Ten-kō-in*, No. 73, Shiba Park, which was temporarily hired for the purpose. From that time forward the Committee met on the 10th of every month, rendered account of the income and expenditure of the Hospital, and attended to the other business matters connected with the institution. In the month of December of the same year, three thousand copies of a pamphlet setting forth the objects of the institution were printed, and were circulated during January and February, 1883, among the nobility and gentry and the higher officials. This appeal for aid was responded to by subscriptions to the amount of 3,860 *yen*, besides which we received the sum of 150 *yen* 50 *sen* in donations, and a few pieces of furniture. At a Committee Meeting held on the 10th of March, 1883, it was resolved that the funds of the Hospital should be lodged in the First National Bank,—a resolution which has since then consistently been acted on. The temple of *Ten-kō-in*, to which reference has already been made, was clearly unsuitable for a hospital. A fresh application was therefore made in April, 1883, for the use of the premises that had been handed back to the Tokiyo Municipality; but this fell through. The next step (taken in May of the same year) was to petition the Governor to be allowed to purchase those premises. In the meantime, the Hospital was brought to the notice of His Most Gracious Majesty, who deigned to make a donation of six thousand *yen*. On the first of August last, permission to purchase these premises was obtained; twelve hundred *yen* were expended on repairs, and a loan arranged for to obtain funds for the construction of an Operating Theatre,—it being stipulated that the money should be repaid gradually as it accumulated from fees paid by persons desirous of witnessing the operations performed. The move into these premises was made on the 26th of September. During all this time the struggling institution owed much to the patronage of His late Excellency Iwakura Tomomi. A General Meeting of the Members was held at the *Kō-yō-kwan* in October last, at which forty-four persons were present. At this Meeting reports were handed in of the activity and financial position of the institution during the preceding year, and estimates for the ensuing year discussed. These were unanimously adopted, and additional articles to the constitution discussed and adopted. The additional articles are as follows:—

I.—There shall be a President, and one of the Imperial Princes shall be requested to deign to accept that office.

II.—There shall be two Guardians, and the Governor of Tokiyo and the Head of the Sanitary Bureau shall be requested to accept that office.

III.—After the words "when sending any such to Hospital" in Article VII. shall be inserted the following:—"Six Tickets of Admission are necessary to entitle a person to treatment as an In-door Patient, and one Ticket for treatment as an Out-door Patient."

On the same occasion the details of the projected Opening Ceremony were discussed. The next occurrence was the acceptance by His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa Takehito of the office of President, and by the Governor of Tokiyo and by the Head of the Sanitary Bureau of that of Guardians. The Opening Ceremony was then fixed for the 10th of November. But the absence

from Tokiyo of both the gentlemen who acted as Guardians rendered a postponement of the date inevitable, and that is how we come to be met together here to-day. I would now give some details respecting the patients, both in-door and out-door, who have been treated. During the three hundred and twenty-four days that elapsed between the 11th of August, 1882, and the 30th of June, 1883, three hundred and twenty-nine in-door patients were admitted. Each remained in hospital, on an average, for a fraction over eighteen days, and the average number in hospital every day was also slightly over eighteen. Of out-door patients there were seven hundred and eighty-three. Each received treatment, on an average, for a fraction over twenty-two days, and the average number treated every day was fifty-one. Thus the average number of patients, both in-door and out-door, treated every day was a fraction under seventy. During the two hundred and seventy-five days that elapsed between the 1st of July, 1883, and the 31st of March of the current year, three hundred and forty in-door patients were admitted. Each remained in hospital, on an average, for a fraction under twenty days, and the average number in hospital every day was a fraction over twenty-four. Of out-door patients there were one thousand one hundred and ninety-eight. Each received treatment on an average, for a fraction under nineteen days, and the average number treated every day was a fraction over eighty-one. Thus the average number of patients both in-door and out-door treated every day was a fraction over a hundred and five. The total number of in-door patients treated during the five hundred and ninety-nine days that elapsed between the 11th of August, 1882, and 31st of March, 1884, was six hundred and ninety-nine; the total number of days spent by them in hospital was twelve thousand six hundred and twenty-one; the number of days on which they received treatment was thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, and the grand total of days on which treatment was given to in-door and out-door patients together was fifty-one thousand four hundred and forty-five. The total number of operations performed between August, 1882, and March, 1884, was one hundred and eleven. I append a schedule of the number of members and of the amount of subscriptions at different periods:—

DATE.	MEMBERS.	SUBSCRIPTIONS.
		YEN.
July, 1882	404	26,600
August, 1882	136	32,300
September, 1882	150	36,750
October, 1882	154	38,050
November, 1882	158	38,750
December, 1882	161	39,050
January, 1883	178	42,800
February, 1883	182	43,750
March, 1883	191	44,850
April, 1883	201	45,950
May, 1883	207	46,750
June, 1883	212	48,150
July, 1883	224	49,550
August, 1883	229	50,750
September, 1883	255	59,200
October, 1883	261	60,650
November, 1883	260	60,950
December, 1883	264	61,750
January, 1884	261	60,550
February, 1884	265	60,950
March, 1884	273	63,150

Such is the history, thus far, of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital. May I make bold to entreat some of those present to give their kind assistance, and thus enable us to realize in their entirety the hopes with which we set out. It is usual, on the occasion of such inaugural ceremonies as the present, to invite the guests to partake of some elegant collation. But, to-day, in this place whose *raison d'être* is the relief of the greatest possible number of the sick poor, it is impossible for us to follow such a precedent. We trust, therefore, that you will kindly excuse us if tea and a few cakes are the only refreshments offered to you.

The GOVERNOR of TOKIYO then delivered the following speech:—YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—Having had the honour to be invited to take part in to-day's proceedings,—an honour of which I feel myself to be but too unworthy,—I cannot refrain from expressing in a few words the gratification which I experience on this auspicious occasion. It will be universally allowed that health is the crowning gift of Heaven, the gift which of all others conduces most to human happiness. Life has no crown nor can happiness ever be complete where there are sickness and the mental anguish which sickness brings in its train,—and this, too, notwithstanding all the efforts which the sufferer may make. Hence the necessity for not delaying a single day in establishing methods for the relief of this anguish, of this pain. Now this great city of Tokiyo covers an area of nearly 10 square miles, and contains a population of nearly a million souls. It is the greatest city in the Empire, perhaps the greatest in the East. Indeed, all the cities in the world that

can be compared to it might, I should suppose, be numbered on the fingers of both hands. And what, let me ask, has this great city to show us? It has its millionaires, of course, vying with each other in the sumptuousness of their residences, in the luxury of their purple and fine linen. But look beneath the surface, and how different is the scene that meets your gaze! How numerous are those who, wandering hopelessly in their wretched hovels, can barely patch together a few rags wherewith to cover their nakedness, and scarcely know (unless it be through the assistance of the rich whose succour they implore) whether any supper will follow their scanty breakfast! The thought of all this misery haunts me day and night. Indeed, is it not one that may well move all charitable hearts to pity? There is a verse, Gentlemen, in a popular song, which says that—

“There are four hundred and four diseases,
But not one of them is so bad as poverty.”

Yes, poverty is terrible enough in itself. But it is when sickness is added to a poverty already helpless that the lowest depths of human misery are reached. An institution called the Tokiyo Municipal Hospital was set on foot a few years ago with a view of doing work in this field. Unavoidable circumstances arose to prevent its being carried on permanently. The circumstances were unavoidable. The Municipality could not act otherwise than it did. But, for my part, I have always experienced regret at what happened, and have felt that the matter could not rest there. Your charity, Gentlemen, has been moved to fill the void; your money has been liberally given, and the Tokiyo Charity Hospital is the result,—this Hospital, which His Most Gracious Majesty himself deigned to honour with his approval, and to assist by the donation of a very large sum of money. If to relieve the poor is a good action, to relieve the sick poor is doubly a good action. Gentlemen, you are doing a great work. Neither is it only that you contribute to the relief of the poor and the sick. You contribute at the same time to the carrying out of those municipal duties, some of which the Municipality can only attend to in a very insufficient manner. Such are the thoughts which I could not refrain from expressing to you. May your efforts never be relaxed, may His Most Gracious Majesty's exalted patronage be duly requited, and your own efforts meet with their full reward! May the day soon dawn upon us when there shall be no more poverty-stricken wanderers in our streets, no listless tenants of wretched hovels; the day when all the millions of our fellow-countrymen shall fulfill the highest destinies for which Heaven has fitted them, and shall enjoy the greatest sum of happiness to which human nature can aspire!

Dr. NAGAYO SENSU, the Head of the Sanitary Bureau, rose and said:—YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—It is with great diffidence that I rise to address the company here assembled. Indeed, I cannot but feel that it is little short of presumption on the part of one who can only be reckoned among the last and least of the supporters of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital to venture to crave a hearing from so brilliant an assemblage of Princes, Councillors, Ministers, both Japanese and Foreign, and of gentlemen so much more worthy than myself. Yet I would fain say a few words on the subject of the rise and progress of Hospital work in Japan, and in particular of the claims of this present Hospital on your charitable support. While doing so, I can but trust to the importance of the subject to excuse the imperfections of the speaker. Hospitals are no new thing in this country. The establishment by the Empress Suiko (A.D. 593 to 628) of bureaux for the distribution of medicine and of food to the poor, as related in the old histories was the first form which they assumed. Later on, and during the whole of the eighth and ninth centuries, we find constant reference to these charitable government offices. In the “*En-gi-shiki*” we read that medical officers of or under the fourth rank were appointed to the charge of the Medical Bureau, and that this was the highest office to which physicians could aspire. We are also told of various sub-divisions of medical rank, and we are justified in assuming that, during the three centuries which had then elapsed since the reign of the Empress Suiko, the institution had attained to a much greater development. How vast were not the results of the Imperial beneficence during that early age when the Emperors themselves held the reins of Government in their hands! Next came the Middle Ages, when the Imperial authority was relaxed, and the Government fell into the hands of the military class. During that time, with but one exception under the rule of the Hōjō (13th century), I am not aware of the existence of any institutions for the relief of the sick or of the poor. Under the Government of the Tokugawa family, so often belauded as a time of peace and prosperity, there were indeed sanitary institutions and there

were also occasions when temporary relief was given to the poor. But there was no such thing as a permanent Charity Hospital. The reorganization of hospital work in Japan dates from the latter part of the Tokugawa régime, when the Dutch physician Pompey was engaged at Nagasaki to give instruction in the medical art. Dr. Matsumoto, Jun., now the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army, was attached to Dr. Pompey, and a hospital was founded at Nagasaki in the year 1861. At that time relations had not yet been established with foreign countries, and this hospital was the only one in which persons afflicted with serious diseases could receive treatment at the hands of an European physician. Accordingly, not from the neighbourhood of Nagasaki alone, but from all Kiushiu and even from far-off central Japan, multitudes flocked to seek relief from their sufferings, while, on the other hand, all students desirous of medical instruction worthy of the name put their pack on their shoulders, and set out for the one place where alone their craving for science could find satisfaction. For the proof of this assertion I appeal to the number of eminent physicians and surgeons at the present day whose knowledge is derived from Dr. Matsumoto and Dr. Pompey. Such men it was who, returning to their own homes, set about the establishment of hospitals. Since the Restoration, all the provinces of the Empire have so vied with each other in working in this field, that at the present day there is hardly an important place in the Empire without its hospital. Indeed, putting public and private institutions together, we have the satisfaction of knowing that their number now amounts to over six hundred. At the same time, as it is either taxation or the local rates that support the great majority of such hospitals, the services of physicians being engaged at no small figures, medical instruction being given to students as well as medical aid to the sick, and the hospital funds being often accumulated from the proceeds of payments made for medicine and of fees for treatment, the only part which can be called “charity” consists in the fact that the services of good physicians are secured for places where before there were none. A further consideration is that, where the hospital is only attached to a medical school, the admission of numbers of poor people to treatment often leads, owing to want of funds, to nothing more than a lecture at the side of the sick-bed, while the charity of the matter is reduced to almost infinitesimal proportions. Indeed, it cannot be compared for a moment with that shown in the bureaux established in the sixth century, as already mentioned. During the last seventeen years, a thorough change has certainly been inaugurated in the manners and occupations of all classes of the population, and we seem to have entered on a new world. Many persons have fallen into straitened circumstances from this cause, having lost their former means of subsistence and failed in their endeavours to strike out a new path. A notion universally entertained by these poor folks is that Tokiyo, being the capital of the empire, is a place where it must always be possible to make a livelihood; and so hither they flock from the North and from the South, from the East and from the West. But how are they to set up in business without any money, and how are they to get food unless they have some business? On the other hand, it is equally impossible for them, without a penny in their pockets, to return to their homes in the other provinces. Hence the numbers who take to being *jinrikisha* coolies or match-vendors as a last resort. Let illness but come upon them some day, and they find themselves inextricably hemmed in by cold, hunger, and disease, and all they can do is to await death with folded hands. It was to relieve this class of sufferers that the Tokiyo Municipal Hospital was established; but circumstances caused that institution to fall thorough. At Ueno likewise we have an asylum where medical aid is given; but it is given only to the patients actually living in the asylum itself. There is also a certain amount of medical aid given gratis by the District Physicians of the City, and we also have the Benevolent Association, which makes it its duty to relieve, to some extent, the sufferings of the sick poor, and which has recently extended the field of its labours. Still, owing to the absence of an actual Hospital for the Poor, the provision for them when sick or suffering has been altogether insufficient. It was the present Director of this Hospital, Dr. Totsuka Bunkai, and the Vice-Director, Dr. Takagi Kenkwan, who, after the latter's return from Europe in the winter of 1880, being moved by these considerations at once set about devising the establishment of the Charity Hospital. Their efforts, their earnest work, resulted in the temporary opening of the Hospital at *Ten-kō-in* in Shiba in August 1881. It was there that Dr. Takagi and those working under his supervision spent their precious time, labouring within its walls at the treatment of the sick poor, and abroad at the work of inciting others

to join in the charitable undertaking. Their indefatigable perseverance has been crowned by brilliant success; high and low join in applauding them; His Majesty himself has deigned to take an interest in the matter and to support it by a gracious donation of several thousand *yen*. The result of all this is to-day's ceremony; and henceforward the institution, complete in all its parts, will worthily carry on in Tokiyo the tradition of those ancient charitable bureaux established more than a thousand years ago. So important an addition to our sanitary means must indeed redound both to the happiness of the multitudinous poor and to the glory of the enlightend Government which presides at its establishment. The relief of the sick poor is by no means the sole advantage which the establishment of Hospitals confers. There are many cases of complicated disease whose treatment can only thoroughly be learnt within their walls. Hospitals are therefore indispensable resorts where the physician may learn to master his art: they are not mere hostleries for the accommodation of patients. Clothing, bedding, everything can here be studied with a view to its object. The surgeon in attendance will sometimes be called on to grapple vigorously with disease; at other times he will learn the advantage of slowness and of allowing nature to take her course. When grappling with disease, it will be incumbent on him to take observations, to make amputations, to use drastic drugs, fomentations, or douches,—all things which can nowhere but in Hospital be used or studied to the best advantages. When, again, I talk of letting nature take her course, I by no means intend to have it understood that the doctor will sit with folded hands by the patient's bedside. On the contrary, day and night he will be vigilantly looking out for symptoms, and some scarcely perceptible turn in the illness will be instantly recognized by him as a signal for the necessity of resort to more drastic methods. The absence from a patient's bedside of a physician able to discern the value of such indications will often cause the loss of the precious instant, and with it perhaps of an opportunity which will never recur. A mere occasional doctor's visit can produce but very slight results. Such are some of the great benefits to be derived from Hospitals. Yet the world delights in saying that they are mere primary schools where the poor man serves as a *corpus vile* on which tyros may practise their inexperience; and the worst part of such assertions is that many persons of education, but without technical medical knowledge, are led to re-echo them. I appeal from these misrepresentations to the statistics of the Charity Hospitals of Europe. These European Charity Hospitals having been, for the most part, established by the help of government grants, distribute medical relief to a vast number of the sick poor. Accordingly, they have been affiliated to the Schools of Medicine, whose professors take their students with them into the wards, and lecture to them on the pathology and treatment of every case. You may, of course, if it pleases you, call this "turning the poor man into the *corpus vile* on which tyros may practise their inexperience." But as a matter of fact, the only injury inflicted on the patient is a small amount of tedium. Not only is his treatment absolutely not interfered with, but rather does he profit by the more than sufficiently minute attention lavished on him by the professor who, in his desire to shed light on the principles of medicine, investigates and reinvestigates everything, so that not a single aspect of the disease is left untouched. Accordingly, statistics show that the percentage of cures in Charity Hospitals is superior to the percentage of cures under private treatment. When this present Hospital shall have seen a sufficient number of years elapse, and complete statistics shall have been taken, I feel positive that, as in Europe, so here too in Tokiyo, the averages will be found to be in favour of the Hospital as against private treatment. Indeed, it is this conviction which has induced me to take my place (though one of the humblest) among the promoters of this institution. The objects of this Hospital being the relief of suffering and the promotion of medical science, we must all wish that it may ever more and more increase and prosper. We must also hope that the day may come when we shall take another step forward by the establishment of asylums for widows and orphans, and of institutions in which, when the father of the family is struck down by sickness, the wife may find employment suitable to her sex, and the children be provided with clothing. Thus will benefits as inestimable be conferred on the people in the future as those which in ancient days flowed from the institutions wisely established by the Empress Suiko. Such are the reflections which the present auspicious occasion suggests to me, and which I bring to a close with prayers for the health of Your Imperial Highness, of Your Excellencies, and of all the Gentlemen here present.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Theological Hall, 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, April 16th, the Vice-President for Tokiyo in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Tokiyo Meeting were read and approved.

The Librarian, as acting Corresponding Secretary, intimated the resignation of that Office by the Rev. C. S. Eby; and announced the election as members of the Society of J. O'Neill, Esq., Cognac, France, the Rev. D. S. Spencer, and the Rev. J. O. Spencer, both of Aoyama. The Librarian also announced the removal of the Society's Library to No. 33, Tsukiji.

The Rev. Mr. EBY then took the Chair, and the Vice-President for Tokiyo read his translation of "Notes, by Motoori, on Japanese and Chinese Art." These remarks on art of the great scholar and writer, Motoori, were more or less of a desultory nature, the Japanese author making no pretension to technical knowledge, and viewing the subject only from the standpoint of educated common sense. On the whole Motoori, is severe on the conventional admirations of his countrymen, and he also criticises Chinese art for its want of vigour and its grotesque exaggerations. For some of the conventions of the schools he has, however, a good word. Thus the plan of showing the interior of a house by removing its roof seemed to him an excellent one, and altogether he is on the side of those who think that art, while it should be true to nature in spirit, may often advantageously deviate from the path of literal accuracy.

The CHAIRMAN, in thanking Mr. Chamberlain for his paper, congratulated the Society in obtaining these notes in a readable form. They were valuable as the thoughts of such a great writer as Motoori, and were of special interest at this time in connection with the revival of art in Japan.

The Vice-President for Tokiyo having retaken the chair, Professor J. M. DIXON read his translation of Dr. Brauns' paper on the identity of the common Japanese *karasu* and the European Raven. From comparative measurements of the skeletons of the European Raven and of a Tokiyo *karasu* which he had taken to Europe with him, the German author argued at some length as to the identity of the two. The distinctions noted by Blakiston and Pryer he regarded as what might easily be due to the somewhat different conditions of life. The gregarious habits of the *hasibutogarasu* would prevent the individuals attaining the age of the solitary Raven of Europe, or the *watari-garasu* of the Kurile Islands. These two so called species he maintained were one and the same, or at most varieties, having the same characteristics physically, morally, and intellectually.

Professor MILNE, after apologising for his want of special ornithological knowledge, remarked that he had listened to Dr. Brauns' paper with great interest, and no one could accuse its author of not having examined the question which he had put before the meeting most minutely. The minuteness, however, only extended in one direction. Dr. Brauns had told us very much about the hard parts of the Japan Crow, but we had heard nothing about its soft parts. The result of the numerous measurements which Dr. Brauns had made of the scanty materials with which he worked, showed a slight difference in the size of the European Raven and the Japanese Crow, but there was no noteworthy difference in the proportions of these parts. To such conclusions Mr. Milne objected, remarking that in this group of birds on account of the great similarity in the structure of their skeletons slight differences ought to be emphasized. Among these differences there was the difference in the shape of the beak and in the ratio of the length to the breadth of the skull. In speaking of the soft parts of the bird, Mr. Milne asked the question whether a Japanese Crow had ever been taught to imitate the human voice, an accomplishment so common with the Raven. The reason that the Raven was able to talk was in consequence of its possessing certain muscles in its throat enabling it to alter the dimension of its wind-pipe. Had the Japanese Crow a similar development? Turning to the external characters of the bird, Mr. Blakiston told us that the Raven of Europe and that of Iterup (which Dr. Brauns called the *first* of the Kuriles) differed from the Japanese Crow in possessing certain peculiar feathers in the breast and having a wedge-shaped tail. Dr. Brauns apparently denied the first peculiarity, and explained the latter by saying that the Kurile Islands specimens were old birds, whilst the crows which had been collected were probably young birds. Mr. Milne considered it very improbable that Mr. Blakiston and those whose business calls them to the Kuriles should always collect old birds in the North, and only young ones in the South. If the wedge-shaped tail existed in the Northern

bird, as he believed it did, whilst the tail of the Southern bird was curved, Mr. Milne, considered that such a difference ought to be sufficient to constitute at least a difference in species, especially when we remember that in fish, it constitutes not simply a difference in species but a difference in orders. Then there were differences in distribution and in habit to be considered. The larger bird called a Raven existed in the North, whilst the bird called a Crow was found in the South. The former was a solitary bird building on cliffs, whilst the latter was gregarious, building as often in trees as elsewhere. Even the cry of the two birds were different. Finally, after pointing out other differences between the birds under discussion, the probabilities of Mr. Blakiston's determination being right were to be considered. Mr. Blakiston had made the ornithology of Japan a speciality for over 20 years, and all his birds had been compared by European authorities. On the other hand, Dr. Brauns, although a distinguished geologist, had not made birds a speciality and had only been to Japan for a short time, and although during that period he had accomplished very much that was valuable, he had in this instance as in others attained results which could not escape criticism. The Japanese considered the Northern and Southern birds to be distinct,—foreigners who see the Northern raven every year, who have shot the bird, taken its nest, and brought home the young ones, consider that the question of the distinction is beyond argument,—Messrs. Blakiston and Pryer, together with distinguished naturalists in Europe hold similar opinions,—whilst Dr. Brauns, who works with scanty materials, comes to opposite conclusions. Had Dr. Brauns or Mr. Blakiston been present it would not have been necessary to discuss the probabilities of the question, but in the absence of a special ornithologist there was no alternative. He would leave the Members of the Society to judge as to who was probably correct.

The CHAIRMAN conveyed the thanks of the Society to Dr. Brauns for his paper, and to Professor Dixon for his work of translation.

The meeting then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

AN ENGLISH SIDE SHOW IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Persons who have attended the gatherings of scientific convocations, or the graduation ceremonies of universities; or who have been present at any of the occasions which call multitudes together for serious deliberation, have found them invariably accompanied by minor exhibitions of a more or less diverting character, the providers of which have taken advantage of the important proceedings to obtain for themselves such attention and profit as their ingenuity might secure. These subsidiary displays, well known to the public in the form of circuses, conjurers' booths, collections of natural monstrosities, disguised gambling dens, and so forth, are grouped under the general designation of "side shows." The recollection of them is not infrequently provoked by occurrences in these latitudes, and one of the incidental outgrowths of the recent debates upon Treaty Revision brings to mind such forcible suggestions of the sports in which the wayfaring Merry Andrew, assisted by his comical associates, Mistress Judy, the Doctor, Master Toby, and others, holds forth for the edification of the populace, that I trust I shall not be deemed unduly irreverent if I designate it as "Mr. Frazer's Side Show." That gentleman's own sense of the fitness of things will, I am sure, recognize the accuracy of the comparison. Many circumstances combine in contributing to the resemblance. The arena he has chosen for his display is sufficient of itself to prepare the spectator for any amount of farcical gambolling. The complimentary reference, with which he sets out, to the proprietor of the "concern" he has selected as the scene of his performance, recalls the genial flattery bestowed by Mr. Punch upon the owners of the little theatre where *he* reveals himself. The graceful allusions to a much respected ally are redolent of the ardor with which the shrill-voiced comedian proclaims his faith in the wisdom and respectability of his cherished consort Judy. And in the echo of approval which reverberates near at hand (in an editorial column) we seem to hear the familiar bark of that knowing dog who, though he is so often prominent in the entertainment, is always wishing that somebody would buy him out, and send him away. Looking at all these things

with the aid of fond memory's light, it is impossible to deny a similitude which is established by so many corroborative details.

One of the most attractive features of the particular "show" I have ventured to recall, is a species of address, or lecture, by the popular puppet, which goes by the name of "topical," and which, in prose or doggerel verse, deals with current subjects in a style which is amusing not only to those who appreciate Mr. Punch's intentional effects, but equally so to those who discover in it a quality of humor which the author never contemplated. Sometimes as a matter of policy, sometimes through inability to present his idea with logical continuity or harmonious sequence, he delivers himself of totally opposite opinions on one and the same theme. He will say, for instance, that in a Liberal Government lies England's sole hope, and presently declare that nothing but a Conservative Ministry can save the State from ruin; or insist at one point that Mr. Bradlaugh is the most injured of modern martyrs, while afterward denouncing him as the typical fraud of the century. Into similar divergent paths it suits Mr. Frazer's fancy to wander. He occupies several paragraphs in demonstrating that Japan's desire to regain her rights is a delusion; that there are "no signs of it on the smooth surface of our daily life"; and estimates that "it is a mere creation of the brain of those who assert its existence"; and, at the end of his remarks acknowledges that she is "straining" for these very rights. He admits that the Foreign Powers "are disposed to agree to the abolition" of extraterritorial jurisdiction and, after a little, explains why the Foreign Powers cannot agree to such a transaction, in the absence of proof that the laws would be properly administered here. In one moment he asserts that a particular bargain is an "ignoble" piece of work, altogether beneath the consideration of high-minded aliens; and in the next moment proceeds to give it the very closest consideration, and to show that it must not be thought of, because it is not to the advantage of foreigners. He finds it convenient to declare an entire want of co-operation between the Government and the press, since the latter is writhing under a "grinding and despotic" law, forgetting a previous assurance that the journalists of Japan comply, for the most part, with every requirement of the authorities. In the same way Mr. Punch protests that one of his victims has never asked for any dinner, and then says he has been clamoring for it all day long; avows his readiness to supply the aforesaid dinner, and immediately exclaims that it cannot possibly be granted for fear that the food will be injudiciously devoured, and, by producing indigestion, endanger the comfort of everybody concerned; professes that he is of far too lofty a spirit to dispute a claim preferred against him, and proceeds to beat the claimant about the head, because the terms are not satisfactory; and after remarking upon the comfort and harmony of his neighbor's domestic relations, immediately accuses the wife of treating the children with abominable cruelty.

Similarly in the little wooden philosopher's inconsequential vein, is Mr. Frazer's disposal of the well worn question of selfish or interested motives. He is indignant with certain writers, because they are "never tired of asserting" that the "foreign mercantile communities" are actuated by "selfish considerations," and in the same breath asks to be informed why they should not be thus actuated;—admitting, in fact, that they are selfish and interested, and implying that they ought not to be anything else. It is not likely that their privilege, in this respect, will be disputed; but if the fact is not denied, it seems unreasonable to complain of the allegation. But this is not the only drollery displayed in the same connection. Mr. Frazer says, in effect,—“Suppose we are selfish and interested; are not those who accuse us equally so? ‘Have they no interests of their own?’” Could anything be more exactly in Mr. Punch's style? Does not the air seem to ring with his triumphant squeak of “You're another?” He is always confident, when arraigned upon any charge whatever, that he can free himself from blame by showing that the advocate opposed to him is no less guilty. “You were drunk last night,” says the Policeman. “So were you,” says Punch, and expects to get away scot free. “The course of certain enemies of Japan is dictated by selfish motives,” say sundry writers. “So are yours,” retorts Mr. Frazer, and seems to think that the force of subtle and conclusive argument can no farther go.

Mr. Frazer is convinced that no general desire for national independence exists in Japan, because that sentiment is confined to a “fraction of the population.” A question necessarily arises, here, as to the significance of the word “fraction.” In the language of the counting-house, its meaning ought not, at least, to be obscure. In the vocabulary of the “side show,” it may be more difficult

to define. The fraction referred to is not, at any rate, so small as to be incapable of subdivision. Its first component part is “the official element,” according to Mr. Frazer. After the official class comes the educated class; then follow the journalists, and, finally, people inside “the precincts of the capital and the great cities.” These, be it understood, constitute a “fraction,” to whose views and feelings we should attach no weight. An inquisitive person might ask, with reasonable pertinence, where we are to look, then, for an intelligent expression of Japanese opinion. From what element shall we ascertain the ideas of the country upon a subject requiring to be largely dealt with by officials, if not from the “official element?” Through what channel are the foreign envoys to learn the nation's demands? Shall they be visited by deputations from the rural interior, or button-holed in the streets by representatives of the classes which Mr. Frazer does not name,—that is to say, representatives of the other “fraction?” Again, what part of a population is entitled to respectful attention in the examination of this topic, if not the educated part? Is Mr. Frazer acquainted with any civilized country in which the judgment of the mob ranks higher? As to the Press, Mr. Frazer rejects its unanimous utterances, because the journalists are “under the thumb of the Government, and obey its directions;” but he is aware,—or certainly should be aware,—that, whatever influence may have been brought to bear upon the Press with regard to internal discussion, no idea of inciting hostility to Western nations has ever, for a moment, been entertained. The only interference of authority has been to repress, not to encourage, the anti-foreign temper and tone of the native newspapers; and this is a fact so universally known that I am at a loss to understand how Mr. Frazer can have overlooked it. I may, however, be told that it is not the business of “Side Shows” to rely too implicitly upon definite facts; and I must admit that an extremely visionary and indefinite field of speculation is opened when we are permitted to compute, *à discretion*, the inhabitants of the “great cities of the empire.” Here are “fractions,” indeed! How many great cities are there in Japan? What constitutes a great city? Three can be named which, unitedly, contain nearly one tenth of the total number of souls in the empire. Add a few more (and there are plenty to be counted in), and the fraction will assume proportions which no experienced Yokohama merchant can pretend to despise.

But whether the Japanese people are indifferent to their national rights, as Mr. Frazer says, or are “straining” for them, as he also says; whether they are insensible to foreign pressure, as he asserts in one place, or consider it an “incubus,” as he avers in another; whether the conviction that they are wronged is entertained by a fraction or by a multitude; we must bear in mind that the said conviction is nothing but “sentiment,” attributable to “a sense of injured pride,” or to “childish vanity.” This Mr. Frazer assures us to be the case. If, however, his estimate be generally accepted as correct, it will be necessary to revise and alter the text of most of the volumes which now pass for standard histories. The American Revolution, for example, will have to be set down as an outburst of childish vanity, or possibly worse, since it was not an attempt to regain rights once possessed, but to assert new rights, never before enjoyed; among them, the right of the colonists to regulate duties, and to make their own laws operative, under all circumstances, on their own soil. Great Britain's refusal to accede to their proposals led to that remarkable exhibition of “injured pride” which had such singular, and, probably, undesirable consequences. The wars of the Swiss against the power of Austria and Burgundy must no longer be chronicled as the heroic struggles of a brave race, but as the puerile perversity of a parcel of misguided men who allowed themselves to be led away by false sentiment. Scotland's long and successful resistance to English domination must be dropped out of the category of manly and noble deeds, and take its proper classification among examples of immature conceit and petulant prejudice. This will be a dreadful blow to the traditions of the glorious past, but there will be no help for it, if Mr. Frazer's theories are to prevail. It is not unalterably certain, however, that he means to have them prevail, for, with the Protean facility which he seems to have caught from the prime favorite of the provincial side show, he presently opens a door through which doubt and disputation may enter. He admits that the people of Japan might, under certain conditions, rejoice to possess “a measure of freedom and some of the rights of freemen.” Mr. Frazer's “measure” is as indeterminate as his “fraction,” and if I were to yield to the impulse awakened by some of his curiously trivial expressions, I should perhaps ask whether he reckons freedom by the peck or by the puncheon.

But it may be set down as reasonably certain that any nation wanting a “measure” of freedom would take care that the dimensions of the measure should be large enough to include immunity from foreign interference with its laws and its taxes. Nations will endure many things from their own rulers which they will not, if they can help it, submit to from external authority, and a people at all inclined to make demands in the direction of liberty, would first cry out for relief from alien intrusion of every description. Here, however, we are brought sharply around, once more, by Mr. Frazer's additional suggestion that the Japanese probably have not the necessary spirit of independence to ask for anything,—and so, under his piloting, we are all at sea again.

In the midst of this new ocean of perplexity, we catch sight of what appears to be a foothold of solid ground, though it presently proves as unstable as the back of Sinbad's whale. “It is a sad reflection,” says Mr. Frazer, “that the only way to get rid of this alarming friction, is to abolish ex-territoriality.” But why sad? And what is the use of trying to present the most self-evident and commonplace of propositions as if it were a brilliant and brand new discovery? Of course it is the only way. The way to get rid of the friction caused by an intolerable burden is to abolish the burden. There is nothing very wonderful about that. The only way to get rid of the friction caused by slavery in America was to abolish slavery. Mr. Frazer seems to imagine that he can make the Japanese, or their friends, look ridiculous by attributing to them the statement that the sole method of lightening the pressure imposed by ex-territoriality is to take away ex-territoriality. That is what his bit of sarcasm means,—I call it sarcasm to please Mr. Frazer,—if it means anything. But it is rather straining things to call a simple truth a sarcasm, to please anybody. Undoubtedly there may be another meaning lying behind it, or underneath it, or somewhere around it, for, I observe, he reverts to his notion that the burden itself is a myth. He states that it is “the fashion” to talk of the present state of affairs as “intolerable to educated Japanese.” So it is. It is “the fashion,” also, for men's blood to run in their veins, and rather hotly, sometimes, when they live with a perpetual insult flaunting them in the face. Would Mr. Frazer kindly tell us how it would be “the fashion” for “educated” Americans or Englishmen to talk and feel, if a single foot of their native land were subject to alien jurisdiction? Are educated Japanese so differently constituted from educated Anglo-Saxons that what would be shame and degradation for the latter is matter of indifference to the former? Yet Mr. Frazer satisfies himself by saying he has discovered no evidence of discontent. Has he tried? Has he looked for it? Or has he confined his observations to the sole locality where it could not be detected? My inquiry is warranted by his avowal of disinclination, in his character of “hard-worked merchant,” to go beyond the limits of his Settlement,—to “perambulate the country,” and meet the people “face to face.” Why he should shrink from such an experience it is not easy to conjecture. He cannot suppose there is any personal risk involved. It is true that his allusion to “the spirit of feudalism” might give rise to that suspicion. He assures us that feudalism is not yet extinct, and that we find, “as of old, the strongly marked characteristics of the system, the haughty dominant spirit of the rulers,” etc. If what we find, now-a-days, in Japan, is feudalism, we shall have to alter other things in our histories besides the records of wars for independence. Imagine the idea of a feudal system in a country where not a single nobleman has power over an inch of territory, or can impose his will upon the humblest inhabitant; and the practical government of which is administered by men who, with hardly an exception, have risen from social stations as humble as those of the commoners who brought about the anti-feudal revolution in England two centuries and a half ago, or the citizens who created the American Republic. Mr. Frazer's reflections, moral and practical, on the subject of bargaining, revive so many droll parallels in figurative fiction that it is hard to decide which fits them the most neatly. The fine old fable of the fox and the grapes is pleasantly suggested by his attitude of dubious contemplation and his subsequent renunciation of a valueless object. There is also a faint reminder of the injured husband, who, on being requested to forego a *crim. con.* suit in consideration of £5,000 paid down, concluded after due cogitation that the honor of his name forbade him to compromise for less than £10,000. The possible commercial advantages to be gleaned by foreigners from the opening of this country are weighed with the most scrupulous precision; and, the balance being struck, and found, on the whole, unfavorable to foreign pretensions, we are informed that “we

ought strongly to condemn the ignoble spectacle of the Treaty Powers endeavouring to drive a bargain." It is not pronounced an ignoble spectacle until after a careful examination has been made, and the decision has been recorded that the *pro quo* demanded from Europe and America is worth much more than the *quid* offered by Japan. Then, and not till then, we are warned against "bartering away" our valuable privileges for a problematical concession. But the opportunity is not without temptations, and Mr. Frazer evidently thinks it will do no harm to go over the calculation again. The question of introducing foreign capital has to be considered. That, also, when minutely investigated, looks very much like an ignoble spectacle. There is no *quid* for the Western merchant. Or,—wait a little, is Mr. Frazer's mind quite made up? This is by no means easy to ascertain, from his subsequent remarks. He interrogates himself severely, as to the possible uses to which the incoming capital might be put, but as he arrives at no definite conclusion, he ingeniously contrives to leave the subject in a maze of confusion. He is determined, at any rate, that nobody shall know what *he* thinks about it, and so he winds up this branch of his performance thus:—"It would seem that foreign capital can best be utilized in the creation of what would enable this country at any time to enter the money markets of the world as a borrower, and not otherwise is Japan likely to obtain the aid required." I can well conceive the satisfaction with which the author of this sally laid down his pen, exclaiming, no doubt, triumphantly—"There, if anybody alive can get a meaning out of that, he can do more than the man who wrote it." He is right. Nobody can. It is the exact counterpart of one of those mixed, labyrinthine utterances with which Mr. Punch regales his hearers at intervals, intending to produce the utmost possible bewilderment in a single sentence.

It is not often, however, that Mr. Frazer has recourse to this clever device of extracting every shade and semblance of meaning from his phrases. On the contrary, as I have remarked, his method is rather to impregnate each proposition he delivers with as many different meanings as can be crowded into them,—so that, indeed, he not infrequently swings around from the positive pole of assertion to its opposing negative. Looking into the possible motives of his haughty disdain for "bargaining," I find the clue to a course of reasoning which might be brought to an extremely dexterous development. Suppose that the assumption of contempt for traffic is intended to arouse a kindred scorn on the part of the Japanese,—to stimulate them to a similar disavowal of ignoble considerations. If they can be brought to this point of magnanimity, they will perhaps be quite ready to entertain Mr. Frazer's proposal that they shall throw open the country without any recompense. Why should not they? He sees no insuperable obstacles. He gives us his word for it, that "they need not make it contingent upon the abolition of extraterritoriality." No, indeed. They can draw the bolts, throw open the doors, tear up the treaties,—that is, as much of them as is favorable to Japanese pretensions and disadvantageous to the European merchant—and immediately "confer the privileges of trade and residence in the interior,"—without compensation, or equivalent, or *quid* of any kind. Then, look you, the foreigners would be able "to determine whether or not these privileges would have any real value." Mr. Frazer may well declare that he holds bargaining in scorn. So, it appears to me, would a man who should invite a tailor to make him a coat, send it to his house, and allow him to wear it a few months, "as a tentative measure which might be instrumental in helping him to determine whether the article has any real value for him." The tailor would probably decline. And then this high-souled customer would say—"Go to; you would drive a bargain, would you? You are an 'ignoble spectacle.' You would use the fact of my wearing your coat as a 'lever' with which to get money out of my pocket. If I choose to pay you, 'after a time,' I may do it 'from a sense of what is due' to you as a well-behaving member of society, but I will never consent to 'reduce the question to the level of an ignoble bargain.'" Mr. Punch often distinguishes himself by expositions of satire which are the more bitter and scathing from their entire lack of aim; but I doubt if any of his random shots ever hit the bull's eye more neatly than this chance discharge from Mr. Frazer's armory. He leaves almost nothing for his adversaries to say. He naively and candidly admits the worst that has been alleged against his party. What they wish is to get everything and give nothing in return. "Admit us to all parts of your empire, without any conditions," they say; "that is the course for you to take. Give us our own way from beginning to end, and stop this absurd clamor about

your independence. Your business is to open your territory to foreign trade and residence; *we* will look after the tariff, and jurisdiction, and such trifles. In short, we demand not only all the *pro quo* there is lying around, but likewise all the available *quid*. As for bargaining, it is disgusting to talk about it." This is the creed of the hostile class, and Mr. Frazer is their prophet.

In taking leave of him and his lucubration, I would not have it supposed that I have exhausted the examples of relationship to the diverting "side show" which he has so vividly summoned before the mental vision. I leave a prolific field almost untouched. As I glance, again, at his effusion, my eye is caught by his curt disposition of the expedient of "mixed tribunals." He has wrought dismal havoc, in several successive paragraphs, with the pretence that Japanese judges are to be trusted; and, rightly discerning that the plan of the "mixed tribunals" cannot be overlooked altogether, he sends it skipping skyward with the single remark that it "would probably fail to remedy the evil." That is all. "Only this and nothing more." Thus, when confronted by a harder nut to crack than usual, or interrupted by an inconvenient interpellation from the crowd, the orator of the booth cries out, "That be blown!"—and, like his spectrum in Yokohama, "turns to the consideration of another matter." Then there is the pleasant device of crediting other persons with divers ideas and expressions, and straightway proceeding to demolish them. Mr. Frazer tells us just what the Treaty Powers think; what the Japanese people think; and what the foreign friends of Japan think. He puts their thoughts into words of his own choosing, after which the task of knocking them to pieces is easy. "What's that you say?" exclaims Punch,—nobody having said anything. "Oh, that's your game," continues the nimble-witted logician, rolling out a string of off-hand inventions, which he takes great delight in turning upside down. Perhaps the most apposite illustration of "side show" humour afforded by Mr. Frazer is given in the final burst of generosity with which he speaks of "conferring rights"—a collocation of words so satisfactory to him that he luxuriates in its repetition. The "rights" he mentions, and which he might be willing to see "conferred" if this country should show herself worthy of so much beneficence, are the inherent attributes of every independent State, but were temporarily surrendered, under pressure, at a time when Japan was incapable of defending them—or herself. Mr. Punch and his confederates get a passing stranger at a disadvantage, frighten him out of his wits, and pick his pockets of all that takes their fancy. When he comes to his senses, and gathers a sympathetic crowd, whose cries of "Shame" begin to change the aspect of affairs, the wily plunderer produces the booty saying, "There, I will make you a present of it;" and looks about him for the applause of mankind.

Has the time arrived when foreign observers of Japan's progress can allow their conscience and their sense of justice to be diverted by the shallow devices of a rhetorical "side show?" In common with you, Mr. Editor, and the majority of disinterested spectators, my answer is,—“not yet.”

I am, yours very truly,

ONE OF THE AUDIENCE.

Tokio, March 31st, 1884.

[We have to apologise for not publishing this letter sooner. Our space is limited, and it is seldom possible to extend our correspondence column to the length of such a communication as the above.—Ed. J.M.]

A FLAGRANT ERROR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The editor of the *Echo du Japon* has, in his number of the 7th April, an article commenting upon the subject of Treaty Revision, and has advanced the argument that, even should the Japanese Government permit foreigners to establish themselves freely among the Japanese, everywhere, it is certain that no foreign agriculturists possessed of only small means, would come to settle in our land, but that only those with large capital and who were unacquainted with the actual internal condition of the country, would bring their funds for employment here. Moreover, he says that in their agricultural ventures, they would meet with great difficulties.

The editor quotes, in support of his statement, the 15th Article of the Japanese Law of Land Tax, in these words:—"The tax upon lands that have just been cleared, will be collected from the following year, in proportion to the value newly established." He then proceeds to explain that, as the business of improving waste lands is both very long, expensive and troublesome, the legislators of all civilised countries have decreed exemption from tax for lands newly laid under cultivation, for

periods of from 5 to 10 years for moors, and of from 10 to 15 for wooded lands, according to the quality of the soil. He concludes by saying that, the Land Tax law being thus severe, there is no object for foreign agriculturists to repair to Japan.

The subject is not without interest, and I have carefully followed the whole argument and find that the editor has become possessed of a mistaken notion, due to his inaccurate translation of the article in question. The purport of the article is essentially different from the meaning his translation conveys. I will therefore give a close translation of the actual wording of the article, and trust to convince, thereby, the editor of the *Echo du Japon* that he has unfortunately been led into error.

The 15th Article of the Land Tax law reads as follows:—"Tax upon lands newly laid under cultivation and upon waste lands, will not be imposed until the year next after the expiration of the period of exemption specially determined for lands of the two descriptions herein set forth."

I am, &c.

A JAPANESE.

Tokio, April 18th, 1884.

[The *Echo du Japon* has fallen into a flagrant error. The truth is that the Land Tax Regulations, so far from imposing prohibitive conditions such as our contemporary describes, provide that a period of fifteen years—called a "hoeing period"—shall intervene between the first steps taken to bring waste land under cultivation and the imposition of a tax upon it as cultivated land. This is another example of the gross blunders circulated by ignorant people who undertake to write about Japanese affairs.—Ed. J.M.]

RIGHT, OR MIGHT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am delighted to see the frank response of your correspondent, "Foreigner," to my inquiry respecting the attention which would probably be given to Japan's remonstrances against the deprivation of her rights, if she possessed a strong army and navy. I have no doubt that he fairly represents the honest opinion of many aliens who are hostile to this country's pretensions.

He asserts that "if Japan possessed the army and navy" in question, "it would at once be a sign, if not an absolute proof, that she had advanced in efficiency as a State to a position in which she might well be trusted with all the so-called 'inherent privileges.'"

The extent, then, to which nations may be trusted to enjoy their independence, must be measured by the degree of military and naval force they wield. A country with a large land and sea armament has a right to independence. A country not thus endowed has no such right.

I desire to be strictly accurate and just. "Foreigner's" meaning is, of course, that the possession of great material strength implies a condition of progress so high that the moral right of exercising all the privileges which belong to a perfectly free State could not be disputed. But in the absence of such strength, this right may be disputed.

Following out this doctrine, I would now ask "Foreigner" how many of the Western nations are entitled, on the same calculation, to be trusted with their inherent privileges.

To begin with, the United States of America certainly are not. The army of that Republic numbers less than fifty thousand, and the navy is virtually made up of phantom ships. All the Republics of Central and South America are similarly situated, as well as the European Republic of Switzerland.

The Kingdoms of Holland and Belgium, usually reckoned in the front rank of civilization, have not the army and navy required to guarantee their trustworthiness as independent States. Neither have Denmark, Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Spain, or Greece. Turkey, I presume, is worthy of confidence, her army numbering 600,000 when on a war footing, and her navy consisting of 170 ships. As regards England, there is room for doubt, her navy giving her an unquestionable claim to be trusted, while her army is too small to confer reliability.

The only nations in the world, concerning whose claim to independence there can be no dispute, are Germany, Russia, France, Italy, Austro-Hungary, and Turkey.

I do not see how "Foreigner" can resist these conclusions, unless he desires to have it understood that the rule he sets up for Japan is not applicable to other countries. But, on the other hand, it cannot be denied that Japan possesses an army and navy superior to several of the States which are permitted to be independent, and which are unmolested in the enjoyment of their sovereign rights. If this empire should be so unfortunate as ever to be drawn into a mortal quarrel with a country like Greece, or Portugal, or certain of the American Republics, would anybody question her ability to hold her own?

"Foreigner" will, I trust, perceive that he has not yet thrown as much light on the subject as it requires; and I, for one, shall be glad if he will clear away some of the confusion which results from recognizing the possession of a powerful army and navy as "a sign, if not an absolute proof" of moral right to exercise inherent privileges.

At the same time, it would be interesting to be told why, in speaking of inherent privileges, he prefixes the qualifying expression "so-called." They are "so-called" for the sufficient reason that that is what they are. If he can produce any authority for stating that the rights of internal jurisdiction and of tariff regulation are *not* inherent privileges in every State, I will bow to it, and apologize for giving him the trouble.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

LIBERTAS.

Yokohama, April 19th, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I trust the meaning of the few lines I addressed to you last week in reply to "Libertas" was more apparent to your readers than it seems to have been to your correspondent, who, in his second letter, now construes my argument to have been that "in the absence of strength the rights of Japan may be disputed." "Libertas" himself is determined to stick to his original idea of battalions and fleets being necessary to treaty revision in Japan, but I object to any inference that I share his opinion.

Following your correspondent's metaphor, I said that an efficient army and navy may be a sign of an efficient State, and that an efficient State may claim all privileges over aliens like myself in its dominions. If "Libertas" had summarised my meaning as, "in the absence of such efficiency, then rights may be disputed," he would have been correct; but in replying to it, he should, in that case, have devoted your space to prove Japan's efficiency, instead of reasserting his own proposition and repeating statements which are an insult to our common sense and a libel upon foreign nations.

"Libertas" asks the meaning of my prefix "so-called" to Japan's inherent privileges. I will endeavour to explain it; but I cannot do so unless he will remember my signature, and realize, that as a foreigner, I think of my own country first and, fond as I may be of Japan, still love my own land best. The inherent rights of man are those of liberty, property, and protection. These rights have descended to us foreigners through generations and have been the gradual result of civilization. With us they may justly be called inherent. In Japan, this inheritance is now being acquired, a future generation will probably claim them as inherent, but for the present I submit that the title is premature.

"Libertas" is wrong if he thinks me inimical to Japan. I admire the country, I appreciate the rapid progress it has made, and I would meet the views of its statesmen with every consideration; but whilst giving full justice to Japan, I do not wish to forget the inherent rights and privileges of myself as a

FOREIGNER.

Yokohama, 23rd April, 1884.

THE EDITORSHIP OF "THE TIMES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—No little surprise has been manifested at the delay in filling the post of editor of *The Times*. Several names have been mentioned in connection with the office, but the appointment is yet unconfirmed.

I beg to offer a solution which, it seems to me, ought naturally to have occurred, before now, to this intelligent community. It is well known that the Walter family are always on the watch for competent servants, and that their range of investigation, in an emergency like the present, has no limits. Remembering this fact, and remembering also, that the particular issue of a prominent Yokohama journal which contained the intimation of its editor's desire to be bought out and sent home, must have reached London just about the date when the *The Times'* chief chair became vacant,—then we have not far to search for an explanation of the unwillingness to make a hasty selection. The mails between England and Japan may now be burdened with correspondence upon which this highly interesting question depends. For generations, the luck of the Walters has been proverbial, and if destiny should bestow upon them so rare a boon as the possession of this inestimable editorial prize, they may well rejoice in a crowning evidence of fortune's most bounteous favour.

Yours truly,

STRAWS.

Yokohama, April 20th, 1884.

THE CASE OF THE "SATTARA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your leader on "unseaworthy ships," in to-day's issue, you refer to the British barque *Sattara* which is advertised over my signature as being "now ready to receive cargo" for a voyage homewards, as being "almost under the category" of vessels that have gone ashore and whose officers relaxed their efforts to get her off because her owners would benefit by the vessel's becoming a constructive total loss. The fact of this vessel being now ready to load cargo is by no means a proof of anything else than that her purchasers used every appliance that local knowledge combined with mechanical skill could bring to bear; and all these might have failed but for exceeding good fortune: when first taken in hand, and indeed, even when the vessel was successfully floated, the venture was by no means a rosy one, and may have been considered up to the moment of the safe mooring of the vessel in Yokohama Bay as pretty much of a "toss up."

The present owners of the *Sattara* are certainly to be congratulated on the result of their venture, but her late officers are not necessarily to be blamed in an equal ratio for not undertaking a venture that might very easily have had a far different ending.

Yours truly,

H. MacARTHUR.

Yokohama, 23rd April, 1884.

YOKOHAMA PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I see by an advertisement that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders is called for Wednesday next the 29th instant. It is no secret that building operations have been long since discontinued for lack of funds, in fact the Association cart seems to have stuck fast; and I hope every shareholder will make a point of being at the meeting, prepared to put his shoulder to the wheel, if necessary, so that we may get our new Theatre finished without more delay.

I am a member of the Amateur Dramatic Association, and, as such, am anxious to see the new house ready for next season at the latest. The A. D. A. is one of the promoters, and I believe the largest shareholder in the Public Hall Association. Now I not only speak for myself, but for a large number of my *confrères*, when I say that we are desirous of giving performances and are only waiting for a respectable place to play in. I do not wish to throw mud at the present noble structure on Main Street, but will only say that the accommodation on the stage, and behind the scenes generally, at the Gaiety, is so bad that we can no longer ask ladies to submit to the inconvenience of appearing there. (I say nothing of the defective and comfortless auditorium: that has been descanted upon often enough.) I understand further that the Choral Society—another promoter and large shareholder—has positively refused to give any more representations in the present *bijou* theatre; and that the members are only waiting the completion of the New Public Hall to blaze out into a galaxy of brilliant performances, including "Iolanthe" and "Princess Ida," to say nothing of more ambitious works. I am not much of a musician myself, but have a lively recollection of "Trial by Jury" "Pinafore," and "Patience," and for one should dearly love to see these pieces again, with the whole force of the Choral Society as chorus, in a comfortable house and upon a stage worthy of our performers.

I need not enlarge upon the claims and merits of other societies, such as the Amateur Dramatic Corps and Amateur Orchestra, from whom we may reasonably expect great things when a proper home is ready for them. I believe that the Public Hall would also be in great demand for meetings, balls, dinners, and other things,—there might even be a Bluff Library, Reading Room, Chess Club, and all sorts of et ceteras established there to the profit and welfare of us all.

I suppose the crucial point at the meeting on Wednesday will be the question of money: and I hope that the new Board then to be elected will receive such help from the shareholders that there will be no difficulty in at once resuming work. Now, I presume that the present Directors have been over-sanguine as to their powers of borrowing money on mortgage: but I am not surprised at the issue, as I think no one could be induced to advance upon a half-completed building. Get the roof on, floors laid and windows in; there should then be no difficulty in borrowing 50 per cent. of the total cost on mortgage of a completed Hall. I may be wrong, but I gathered from the reports of the Extraordinary General Meeting held in November that

the cost of building on the plans as drawn, with reasonable furnishing, would be \$30,000. I am under the impression that about half that sum has been subscribed (there is a rumour about that some defaulters have not yet taken up their shares, these should be made to pay up without further delay); and no doubt other members of the community will come forward with subscriptions when they see the project moving once more. Of course money would have to be found meantime, for current expenses, payments to workmen, builders, etc., but I should imagine that the local Banks would advance the required funds temporarily, until the building is ready to pass over to the Mortgagee. In addition to this plan, there are Debentures, Preferred Stock, with various other methods worthy of consideration; and I hold that it will be a lasting disgrace to us as a community, if the New Public Hall and its affairs be left any longer in their present unsatisfactory condition.

I am writing this as an individual who is anxious to see the New Palace of Art and Song upon Camp Hill, completed without delay; and if my humble effusion can stir up any enthusiasm in that direction, I shall feel amply rewarded. I presume our worthy President, General Van Buren, will attend the Shareholders' Meeting to set forth the views and watch over the interests of the Amateur Dramatic Association. What I personally want is to see the "Grand Opening Night" not later than the 1st of October next; followed by a constant succession of gaieties throughout the ensuing winter. I always make a point of attending all the representations given by my own Association, and by those who work in friendly rivalry with us. I am sure that many others are equally anxious to pay their dollars and take tickets for any performances which may be given when the new *locale* is ready.

Yours truly,

DRAMATICUS.

Yokohama, April 24th, 1884.

THE VIVISECTION QUESTION.

We have been requested to publish the Memorials as under, which were addressed, last year, to the Japanese Government. What response they elicited, we are not in a position to state:—

MEMORIAL OF THE SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY.

It is a well known fact in our part of the world that the Japanese Government, with unrelenting perseverance, strives to make its country one of the happiest on earth by adding to the peculiar talents and qualifications wherewith the Japanese people are endowed by nature or which they have acquired by self culture, the profit of discoveries made in other countries. And it is further known that the Government, for this purpose, has sent young Japanese gentlemen to universities in Europe, there to follow a course of studies and take cognizance of the development of science in Europe. No one can doubt that the progress of science will profit the whole human race; but still it is an indubitable fact, that, during its evolution, science may possibly diverge into dangerous by-paths, and as it is usual, particularly in our part of the world, to praise every new scientific discovery so that it is soon generally accepted as an undoubted benefit, there is no doubt that abuses can arise, which, not counting the immediate evils they produce, extend their pernicious effects even to a distant future. For if even such an abuse after the lapse of some time be abolished, still it has usually previously given rise to other evils which remain and propagate their effects, even after the original cause has been removed.

One of those abuses which are connected with science, and which during the past half century has gained a great extension over all Europe, is what is called vivisection, or the method of making experiments on living animals, by mutilating, carving asunder, poisoning or burning, or in other ways cruelly torturing them, for the purpose of gaining knowledge of the laws for the human organisation, and so benefiting medical science. These experiments, since they have been more generally known, have called forth the strongest disapprobation, not only because they stand in direct opposition to all laws of justice and mercy, which are held obligatory by all nations, but not less because they must be considered as a foolish

attempt to try to inquire into the natural laws of the functions of the natural organs by reducing the animals to a state which is in direct opposition to the natural, and which, besides, through the influence of cruel pain, must be still more remote from the sound state of animal life. Finally, these experiments must be considered as foolish because there exists such a considerable difference between the physical condition of man and animal, in consequence whereof both poisons and medicines act very differently on the former than on the latter, and whenever any one will apply to men the experiences gained by experiments on animals, he can hardly avoid committing serious, and sometimes disastrous mistakes.

Physicians and scientific men of high standing have, besides, proved that the expectations entertained by many of obtaining useful discoveries by means of vivisection, have been wholly balked and that the medical art through experiments on living animals has been rather misled and checked than assisted in its natural evolution. Already the time seems to be near at hand when we may hope that the above-named abuse shall have altogether ceased, because in nearly every European country persons of culture, education, and high social standing have united their efforts, not only to procure a restriction of vivisection, but even to call for its total abolition, and the number of those who labour in this direction increases with every day that passes.

It is therefore with feelings of sorrow we, through the daily press, have received the information that among the young students from Japan, who have profited by scientific teaching at the European universities, several have applied themselves to the study of physiology under the direction of professors in this science who have made themselves noted for their heartless cruelty to the animals in their laboratories. And as we have been informed that one of those Japanese students has acquired such a taste for vivisection that he has published a book treating on the results of such experiments, and as from those facts it will seem probable that this man, and eventually several amongst his fellow students, will try to introduce vivisection as a method of research in Japan and make it known and accepted in that country, we have considered it as a sacred duty to inform the Japanese Government of the great and steadily increasing disapprobation which in Europe brands this method of investigation, and we have dared to entertain the hope that the Japanese Government will not suffer an abuse which well may be considered as stigmatising the civilisation of Europe, to gain introduction in a country, which in regard of kindness to animals already stands far in advance of any country in our part of the globe.

With greatest regards, we have the honour to sign as your most obedient servants, etc.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

SANJO SANETOMI,

DAIJO DAIJIN JU ICHI II, PRIME MINISTER TO HIS
MAJESTY THE MIKADO OF JAPAN,
THE RESPECTFUL MEMORIAL

OF THE

VICTORIA STREET SOCIETY

FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS FROM VIVISECTION

UNITED WITH THE

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

FOR THE TOTAL SUPPRESSION OF VIVISECTION.

Having learned that our honoured allies, the members of the Scandinavian League against Vivisection, have prepared an Address to the Government of Japan in deprecation of the introduction of experiments on living animals into your Country, we desire earnestly to unite our English voices in the same appeal. We respectfully entreat the Japanese Government to vouchsafe attention to the Memorial of the Scandinavian League, and we emphatically endorse the arguments and statements of the said memorial respecting the inutility of Vivisection, its fictitious pretensions as a scientific method, and its brutalising effects.

The well known amiable and gentle character of the Japanese nation and the refinement of its art and manners have won for it the warm sympathy and admiration of Europe. To preserve amid such great changes as are now passing over it that gentle and merciful and generous temperament is undoubtedly a matter of infinitely greater importance to its welfare and happiness, than to make one step, or even many steps, of scientific progress. Humanity to animals is a sure measure and indication of true civilisation, and the training of the young in habits of kindness towards them, is, at this moment recognized by all English educationists as a high and important branch of moral culture. The practice, on the other hand, of inflicting torture on animals, whether for scientific or other purposes, cannot fail to harden the hearts of young men, and to render them barbarous alike to the brutes and to human beings.

We therefore most earnestly pray the noble and enlightened Government of Japan to prohibit the practice of Vivisection within the bounds of the Empire.

Signed on behalf of the United Societies.

(Copy) SHAFTESBURY,
Knight of the Garter,
President.

1, Victoria, Street, Westminster,
London, the 25th day of June, 1883.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE "JIRIN KOHO" AND THE ORIENTAL PROSPERITY SCHEME.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

The *Jirin Koho* (*Hu-pao*), is a Chinese daily newspaper printed in Shanghai. The Chinese who reside in that port, the great emporium of the Middle Kingdom, are more thoroughly acquainted with the condition of foreign countries than are their countrymen in any other part of the Empire. As a rule, the *Jirin Koho* indulges in extremely silly and supercilious language, little caring that in so doing the ridicule of others is aroused. And yet, among those articles which comment upon the internal and foreign affairs of the country, some are worthy our attention. Notwithstanding the fact that even these articles may not unfrequently be condemned as the outcome of injudiciousness and tardy development,—characteristic qualities of the Chinese,—the deductions which we draw therefrom may be taken as a fair sample of the opinions entertained by the prominent residents of Shanghai. The issue of the *Jirin Koho* of the 20th of February, 1884, contained the first instalment of an article entitled "A Scheme to promote the welfare of Asia," the second and final parts of which were printed on the 21st and 22nd of the same month. As this article comments upon the general condition of the Orient, as well as our own relations with China—especially with regard to the Riuikiu question—we will reproduce its gist, and, by subjecting it to critical revision, endeavour to familiarize the editor of the *Koho* with our own views on the subject:—

A SCHEME TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF ASIA.

"The annals of ancient days are shrouded in obscurity, and we are unable to trace clearly the epochs of which they speak. Authentic history commences with the Emperor Gio.¹ Those who wish to speak of the foundation of the Middle Kingdom must, therefore, refer to the epochs of T'ò (*T'ang*) and Gu (*Yü*). It was the Emperor U² who took steps to cause the great flood to subside and to make the land habitable, although his success was limited to the area of the Nine Provinces. Europe was, at that time, a barbaric country, where men and animals herded together. To the west of Asia was a small territory in which certain tribes thronged together and founded a nation called Babylon. This was the first Kingdom in the Occident, and was founded in the sixth year of the Emperor Shian.³ But by this time the Middle Kingdom was famous for the excellence of its literature and political institutions. The first traces of civilization are thus to be found in Asia. But more than half of this continent is occupied by China, and for this reason she claims the honour of having been the first to attain power. And those who forced their way into this country, on the strength of their military prowess and personal ability, took advantage of a season of political mismanagement, brought about by a few statesmen who were so careless as to leave their doors open and their bed-chambers unguarded. Such a state of affairs may not unreasonably be considered the result of fatality; yet the Middle Kingdom must be held responsible for the betterment of its present condition, while it is the duty of those countries who owe their civilization to China to render her every assistance in their power. If China alone be unable to further the advancement of Asia, where shall she look for an ally to help her in the work? No better ally than Japan could be found; and China must place all her hopes in her neighbour. A retrospective glance at ancient history shows that the establishment of the Japanese Empire dates back to a very remote period, and that the earlier days of its existence touch what is known now as the heroic (divine) era. All the annals of this era are of a mythical nature. The coronation of the first emperor appears to have taken place in the 17th year of the reign of the Emperor Kei-ò.⁴ The first intercourse with China seems to have started during the Kan (*Han*) Dynasty. Although ceremonious and periodical visits were not interchanged, yet no spirit of hostility was ever shown by the one country towards the other. The ambitious and daring monarch Gen⁵ attempted to bring Japan under his jurisdiction, but as she resisted him, he fitted out a warlike expedition, numbering one hundred thousand troops, by way of terrifying the

disobedient nations. But this numerous expedition was so thoroughly defeated that the emperor did not venture to renew his attempt. From that day the Japanese despised him and his people, and still evince their contemptuous regard up to the present time. While Japan was still in a state of total seclusion from the rest of the world, four men-of-war arrived from the United States at the port of Uruga, in the sixth year of Ka-yei (1853), and demanded the conclusion of a commercial treaty between the United States and Japan. Their example was speedily followed by the English and Russians, who declared that they would have recourse to arms if Japan refused to entertain their requests. Despite all this, Japan still maintained the feudal system; political power was vested in the Shogun, who, holding the office of *Sei-i* ("Subjugator of Barbarians"), was served by thirty earls, and he, in his turn, served the Mikado. His great influence was a constant source of anxiety to various clans, as well as to the Mikado himself. The country was, however, so tranquil that for a long series of years no measures had been taken to protect the coast. The Shogunate was thus unable to refuse the claims of foreigners, and entered into negotiations with them against the will of the Emperor. Thus it lost its popularity among the people, while two clans—Môri and Shimadzu—fired on the foreign men-of-war, and placed themselves at the disposition of the Imperial Court. This state of affairs boded ill for the Shogunate, and political power soon reverted to the Emperor alone. The Restoration was thus effected, and all manner of decrees and proclamations were issued by the Imperial Government, which, having learned from the failure of the Shogunate how to direct its course, devoted its energies to defend the country from the aggression of foreigners. It has pursued this policy for ten years, almost entirely exhausting its revenue in so doing. Its army and navy have greatly increased in strength, so much so that those persons who refer to the most influential countries in Asia mention China first and next Japan. The task of promoting the prosperity of the Orient must, therefore, be undertaken by the Middle Kingdom, but Japan is called upon to take her part in this great task. Although this is the actual truth, it seems that most of the people of Japan are not intelligent enough to grasp this simple fact; and although those who have made themselves familiar with the state of affairs in Asia do not deny the necessity of adopting measures for the promotion of this great continent's welfare, still, from pure self-conceit, they refuse to consider the Middle Kingdom worthy to carry out this plan in conjunction with them.

Such an idea can have arisen only from the most reckless disregard to facts. However wealthy and powerful Japan may become in the future, her territory is limited to a mere dot on the seas of the Orient, not being greater than the size of one or two districts in China; while her population is not more than that of two or three Chinese provinces. Again, the revenues of Japan hardly amount to the eleventh part of those of the Middle Kingdom. If she were to properly estimate her power and best interests, she would refrain from putting any faith in distant countries, and only strive to strengthen her friendship with China, placing herself on the footing of a secondary ally. In case a foreign power should insult Japan or China, or the dependencies of either, these two nations should mutually oppose such oppression or indignity, as two brothers would each try to ward off danger from the other. But in carrying out this scheme, the sovereign power must be vested in the Middle Kingdom, and Japan must serve under her commands. Should the latter nation agree to this plan, then would foreign powers be unable to treat either of the two countries with contempt, even though they had recourse to their exterritorial rights. As we have already stated, China excels Japan in the extent of her territory, as well as in population and finance. The manufacture of arms, and the purchase of war-vessels will enable us to succeed in our enterprise. Then would foreigners no longer be able to despise us as they have done.

If the question as to which of the two countries should exercise the sovereign power were submitted to any foreign judge, even a child of only three feet in height would answer in favour of China. But if we take the popular opinion of the Japanese into consideration, we are convinced that most of them are disposed to carry out the scheme unaided, while others desire to exercise sovereign control over China. According to the literature of the Japanese, it would seem that they entertain very one-sided views on the subject, as so few of them suggest the necessity of strengthening the friendship of their country with this nation, in order to attain their ultimate desire of coöperating with us. Why do they not properly estimate their own strength? They stay within their own walls, and offer no opposition to the contempt of foreigners; indeed, they are actually in arms against us who

¹ 唐帝 堯 T'ang Ti YAO, known as T'ao T'ang She, 2356-2258 B.C.; was succeeded by the Emperor Shun, B.C. 2255.

² 大禹 The Great Yü, 2205-2197 B.C.

³ 夏禹 B.C. 2249.

⁴ More properly the 7th year of 惠王 Hwei, 676-651 B.C.; the 17th Monarch of the Chow Dynasty.

⁵ A.D. 1281, or in 1941 according to the era of Jimmu Tenno.

live with them on the same great continent. There is thus the greatest difficulty at present in carrying out the scheme of the furtherance of the well-being of the Orient."

The article we have reproduced above simply contends that Japan is the only country in Asia which can assist China in promoting the prosperity of the Orient. And yet, as per usual, it is distinguished by the use of supercilious and bombastic language. The editor has evidently not yet freed himself from the old custom of believing China to be more important than any other country. But it is clear from what the writer says, that he indirectly has great faith in Japan, thinking that this country will be an efficient factor in the scheme for Eastern well-being. The assertion that China ought to exercise a control over Japan as her councillor and director is based simply upon the difference of population and of area. With regard to this latter point, it is well to remember that England comprises an area of only 20,578 square *ri*, while Germany has an area of less than 36,161 square *ri*; while with reference to population, the one has but thirty-one millions, and the other forty-one millions, of inhabitants. When we compare these figures with China which has an area of 905,500 square *ri* and three hundred million inhabitants, it is easy to see that size of territory and population has really nothing to do with the political superiority of a country. For do not England and Germany exercise authority all over the globe and threaten to extend their sway to the East itself? Yet both of these countries are far inferior to China in point of extent of territory and population, and this is the case with most of the influential states in Europe. Japan is to China as are Germany and England; that is, she has an area of 24,794 square *ri*, and 36,350,000 inhabitants, —more than England and less than Germany. And there is no reason why this country should not rise still further in the world. If the editor of the *Koho* would take the trouble to question why the nations of Europe are to be feared, he would doubtless ascertain that the strength of a country depends neither on its area nor its population. We do not intend to bewilder him by any elaborate explanation of all this, but we cannot help accusing him of self-conceit. And yet, in spite of this fact, his article is worthy of praise in that he proposes to promote the welfare of the Orient in conjunction with Japan. The three leading points of the article may be epitomized as follows:—(1) Japan alone can be relied upon to further the Oriental prosperity scheme; (2) the Japanese have treated the Chinese with contemptuous disregard, to the unfeigned regret of that country; (3) under these circumstances, the difficulty of success is great. The third section of the article especially alludes to the great advantages consequent upon an intimate alliance between China and Japan, and winds up with the assertion that mutual friendship ought to be maintained, though Japan has annexed the whole Riukiu group. The text of this section runs as follows:—

"Thinking men assert that Japan is willing to promote the welfare of Asia in conjunction with the Middle Kingdom. The Japanese suppose that the insulting manner in which Western Powers treat Oriental nations is due to the fact that the relations between China and Japan are known to be strained. And yet, the people seem to be persuaded that, unless allied with China, they cannot undertake to promote the well-being of Asia single-handed. Japan still assumes that the Middle Kingdom has the habit of regarding all other nations as barbarous, and is puffed up with unreasonable pride. However desirous the Chinese may be to promote the prosperity of the Orient, they can hold no direct interchange of ideas with Japan on account of the latter's cold, unfriendly disposition. That country has quite recently adopted European civilization, and is possessed of guns and war-vessels, but there is no competent person to manage them. The country's resources have been exhausted in useless purchases, but the gilding is only superficial. The internal administration is effected by Imperial Decrees, but these are not properly enforced; Ministries are issued to the cities and prefectures, but they are not observed. Procrastination is a characteristic of the Japanese Government, although the country is forever adding to its external decorations. On the other hand, it is manifest that the Japanese have never given the prosperity of the Asiatic Continent any serious thought; and this is the reason why Japan does not ally herself with China, however eager this country may be to see her plans succeed. The Middle Kingdom has already done away with many of its ancient superstitions, and has determined to devote every energy to the improvement of its internal administration, as well as to the suppression of existing abuses. It has abandoned those principles which are inconsistent with the true advance of civilization and adopted every measure which could tend to benefit

its people. It has despatched ambassadors to many foreign lands, and entered into friendly relations with them. It has erected telegraphs in order to facilitate the transmission of messages; in short, done everything possible to further the advance of civilization. The late Ili affair^a greatly agitated the country, but it was soon settled by revising the treaties under the direction of a special envoy. Similarly, the Korean disturbance of recent years was promptly quelled by the Emperor. With regard to the Annam embroglio, it must be remembered that our envoys in France had had frequent audiences with the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, in reference to commercial relations, and had prevailed upon him to refrain from resorting to arms. Yet have the French endeavoured to carry out their plans by taking advantage of the barbarous condition of Annam. Our Emperor has felt extreme indignation at their proceedings, and has issued special decrees relating to the sending of reinforcements to Annam. It will thus be seen that our Government has taken every precaution to protect our dependencies and the sea-board. Is it, then, unreasonable to affirm that China has done all in her power to ameliorate the condition of the Orient? China has kept good faith in her intercourse with Japan, and, when the late Formosan difficulty threatened to create hard feeling between the two countries, the Chinese Government showed the greatest moderation and even paid an indemnity to Japan, in accordance with the advice of the British Minister. These matters have led the Japanese to suppose that the Middle Kingdom might be insulted with impunity, and this belief caused them to resolve to annex the Riukiu Islands. The Japanese very generally affirm that the Chinese are untrustworthy, and that they frustrate all useful schemes by treachery, but this reproach should rather fall upon themselves, for they have often and plainly proved faithless. The Middle Kingdom is truly desirous to restore the prosperity of Asia, and this in conjunction with Japan. The late Riukiu affair has interfered in the mutual understanding of the two countries, and although envoys were despatched in order to settle the question amicably, no satisfactory results were obtained. Under these circumstances, the Japanese cannot hope to carry out the scheme for the well-being of Asia. It must be remembered that a country is seldom enriched or strengthened by an increase of domain. Kiushiu for instance, one of the islands of Japan, is well cultivated, yet many of its inhabitants have fallen into idle ways and neglect their occupations. A judicious management of the territory in Japan's possession will rapidly increase her wealth, and she has no need to try to annex Riukiu on the west or Korea on the East. The reason why China claims the suzerainty of Riukiu and Korea, is simply because her policy requires the possession of these two lands. Should Japan consolidate her interests with those of China for the purpose of furthering the welfare of the Orient, there would be no question whether Korea belonged to China or whether Riukiu should be handed over to Japan. But the Japanese should not take every opportunity to possess themselves of these countries in a deceitful way. Russia is even now disposed to bring north-eastern Asia under her sway, while France has gained great power in the south-west. And so, it may be reasonably expected that not only these two, but other, Western powers will attempt to effect an entrance into Asia whenever the opportunity is offered them, or some vital mismanagement occurs in Asiatic policy. Japan alone, outside of China, may be expected to interest herself in the defence of the Orient. There is an old instance where the league of six powerful provinces failed to ward off the attacks of the people of Shin. It is not certain, therefore, that even an alliance between China and Japan would suffice to prevent the attacks of foreign nations. But if Japan does not league herself with the Middle Kingdom she may well be called imprudent, and deserves censure for neglecting to provide against future emergencies. The scheme for the promotion of the prosperity of the Orient may depend upon the solution of the Riukiu question. If China and Japan truly understood the precarious situation of Asia, they would stop all petty disagreements, and take steps to arm their countries against foreign powers. *The best plan for the attainment of this great object will be to divide the archipelago into two parts; the one a dependency of China, and the other belonging to Japan, so that the two nations may put an end to their lengthy dispute. If this is impracticable, it is better for the Middle Kingdom to show true magnanimity by ceding the whole of Riukiu to Japan and so consolidate her friendship with that country. By doing so, the former distrust will be forever done away with, and the two nations may*

^a Reference is made to the troubles with Russia regarding the boundaries of the two countries.

mutually strive to strengthen the Asiatic Continent. Should neither of these two plans be adopted, then will suspicion and distrust increase on both sides every day, and it is not improbable that the rupture of the two countries will benefit foreign nations,—who look on the quarrels of China and Japan like fishermen who watch the struggles of cormorants, by which they may profit without any effort of their own."

The article which we have translated does not, on the whole, exhibit any over-great superciliousness, but it gives a clear insight into the true opinions of the Chinese. It states that the Japanese have many guns and war-vessels, but that they are without persons to manage them; it asserts, too, that the country's revenues are expended in vain enterprises and superficial decorations, and that the characteristic habits of procrastination and conservatism are still predominant. Whether or no this be true of Japan, it certainly may be regarded as a true statement of the actual condition of China. At all events, it fairly represents the opinions of our countrymen with regard to the Middle Kingdom. The allusions the writer in the *Koho* makes to the improvements effected in his own country are, to a certain extent, correct and we have only to condemn what he says on the score of exaggeration. He assumes that the discord between China and Japan originated in the Riukiu affair, and that the reason of China's claims to the possession of the archipelago is solely based on convenience of administration. He then suggests the necessity of dividing the islands into two parts, one of which shall belong to China, and the other to Japan. If such a scheme should be found impracticable, he proposes that China should relinquish her claims upon Riukiu, in order to get rid of this political stumbling-block and consolidate her friendship with Japan. This proposition is exactly in accordance with the exigencies of the case. So far as the actual state of affairs is concerned, we do not believe that China pursues a policy of aggression, and it is evident that she only desires to maintain her national prestige by protecting Korea on the east and defending Annam on the west. The reason why the editor of the *Koho* has ventured to make such a proposition, is because he has found that it embodies the real opinions of his countrymen. If he is in truth anxious to promote the welfare of Asia, we are at liberty to express our views in reference to our intercourse with China. Although his proposition must be regarded as the real outcome of public opinion, yet there are still several points discussed in his article to which we would call the attention of our authorities.

Since steam and electricity have everywhere increased the facility of communication, the distance from one country to another has ceased to interfere with international intercourse. Nations which lie far beyond the tempestuous ocean, and which were in olden time separated from us as if by an impassable barrier, are now looked upon as our immediate neighbours. The intimacy of two countries does not at all depend upon their relative distance from each other, but rather upon the spirit of their intercourse. Are the friendly relations we have with other foreign nations equally maintained with China? In some respects we stand on a much more intimate footing with the latter than with other countries. As regards the literature and customs of our country, everyone knows that they were introduced from China. In former days we were much more intimate with her than with any other power. But the times have changed. Most of the arts and sciences studied now-a-days by the people of Japan have been directly introduced from Europe, while the higher classes have adopted Western customs with regard to etiquette, dress, and mode of living. Yet these circumstances do not warrant our maintaining a different degree of intimacy with different nations. A glance at our present condition will convince us that our interests forbid as to be on bad terms with China. We are bound to her by ties of race and language. China and Japan should live in brotherly accord, inasmuch as the loss of national prestige would tend to cast disgrace upon their common race. We do not take Chinese to be our enemies or despised neighbours; nor have we ever dreamed of seeking an opportunity to contend with China, thereby enabling other nations to take advantage of our foolish quarrels. As far as this is concerned, we heartily echo the opinion of the editor of the *Koho*. In order to be able to enter into political competition with five or six influential Western nations, we must endeavour, hand in hand with China, to strengthen the situation of our respective countries. Then should we be inferior to no country on the globe in point of area and population, though we are not yet included in the category of competitive nations. It seems that our separation from foreign lands has shut us out from all manner of alliances. This may be due to the great distance between the Orient and the Occident. The civilization of Italy, for instance,

is of quite modern date, for hardly thirty years have elapsed since her unification. Yet has this country advanced with irresistible force, and is now prepared to play an important part in the policy of Europe. If the ancient nations of China and Japan are unable to pursue an aggressive policy, it redounds but little to their credit. They both must devote their utmost energies to nourishing their national strength for future enterprises. Their mutual quarrels will not fail to make them an easy prey to more powerful countries.

We make no discrimination between our intercourse with Western powers and China; and, at the same time, we have no desire to let other nations profit by our mutual contentions. International intercourse does not include an aggressive policy as a prime factor, though the necessity of resorting to arms may now and then arise. This is true of both China and Japan. A conflict between two nations is a matter of the greatest moment, for it immediately affects the honour and prestige of the belligerents. Although the Government may occasionally be disposed to yield a step in favour of an amicable settlement, it may even then be powerless to quiet the angry excitement of the people, and thus be reluctantly forced to declare war. Intercourse with foreign nations not infrequently involves a people in serious difficulties, in which they are forced to defend their rights, even though the trouble may have originated in a very petty matter. In such times, those who are responsible for the management of the national diplomacy are called upon to exercise their powers with all due discretion. Should we declare that our suzerainty over Riukiu must be preserved intact for the sake of our national honour—just as the editor of the *Koho* asserts on behalf of his own country—the amicable solution of the question would be utterly impossible, and the two nations would be forced into declaring war.

A proverb says:—"Those who unwittingly lead others to mistrust them, stand themselves in danger." Our country simply desires to rest on a *status quo* footing with the most powerful nations of the Occident, but we sometimes fear that it is impossible to develop our strength to the requisite pitch. We have no time to enter into any dispute with China; and if our schemes for the attainment of this country's benefit are forever to irritate our neighbour, we must give them up. We hope, therefore, that our diplomatists will refrain from adopting any measures which may tend to increase the suspicions of China. Mistrust is the source of all disputes, and the true sentiments of a man cannot be learned in a day. Let us, then, exercise the greatest discretion before adopting any course, so that our motives may be clear to the world. Let China know that we truly desire to strengthen our friendship with her, and let this underlying spirit be apparent in the most trifling matters. Then, and then only, can we expect China to cast aside her old doubts and mistrust. Some people are inclined to think that peace does not tend to promote the true well-being of a country, and that unlooked-for and trying events only serve to keep the people on the alert. Yet this opinion can be held only by those who are ignorant of the true policy. Should the emergency be of but passing importance, it might indeed stimulate the people and prove beneficial, but should it be of a momentous nature and come upon us while we are yet unprepared, the result would prove contrary to our expectations: the country would be enfeebled, and other nations would profit by our weakness.

The editor of the *Koho* has, in his usual flippant style, written most amazing statements with regard to the military and naval, as well as the internal, administration of his country. He thinks it well to allow Japan to participate in the schemes contemplated by China. But what we wish our neighbour to undertake is not simply the extension of her army and navy, nor the improvement of her domestic government. The lethargy of China is due to the habits and customs of her people. If the Chinese were no longer insincere and crafty, but frank and cordial, they might justly expect to further the prosperity of Asia. Their country is large and its population great, and there may be many among the people who are of an honest and upright nature; but, taken collectively, their customs are not to be compared with those of European nations, by reason of their shallowness and deceit. The rise or fall of a people depends entirely on their own characteristics. If their habits are corrupt, even the finest instruments of war will be of no more use to them than an armour of mail to a decrepit octogenarian. Nothing is more detrimental to a nation than corrupt manners and immoral habits. Externally the evil may not be visible, but it works sad havoc within. The abuses which flourish so rankly in China are not confined to her army or navy, but are part and parcel of her people.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM KOREA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*).

The following correspondence from Korea has been received dated the 7th inst.:—"The streets of Sōul are deserted, trade is stagnant, and prices correspondingly high. The officials of petty rank are suffering from extreme pecuniary embarrassment. The salaries of all officials in this country are very small: in fact the annual income of a petty officer scarcely covers the expenses of one month, as things stand at present. Unfortunately for them, their official emoluments were fixed a long time since, when money was not so tight and trade brisk; but now all that has changed, and yet their salaries—little enough in the first instance—remain as they were. The immediate consequence of the hard times was that bribery became prevalent among the official classes, although very secretly carried on at the outset; but now that actual poverty reigns everywhere, bribery is openly practiced, and very generally accepted as the sole means of continued tenure of office. As the Korean proverb has it, 'Only men can carry money, but horses and oxen must carry 'bundles and parcels,'"—'bundles and parcels' being the slang term for a bribe.

A good many of the Chinese shops opened last year in Sōul have shut up, owing to the fearful depression in trade. The practice of forcing bargains is very common. Should any one rashly ask the price of an article exposed for sale, the Chinese shop-keeper will follow the tentative purchaser to his own house, in the endeavor to force the article upon him, and quarrel outright if flatly refused. The Koreans, who are always being victimized by the Celestial tradesmen, feel very bitter towards this class, while they highly appreciate the attentive courtesy of the Japanese merchants. The Engineering Bureau at Sanshinto, Sōul, has been completed. This Bureau is divided into three offices, the Machinery office, the Wood office, and the Iron office. The first is a brick-building—the first of its kind ever built on Korean soil—and in it all sorts of small machines are manufactured. The second, or Wood Office, turns out wooden wares of various kinds, while the Iron Office is devoted to metal casting. A project is on foot to start a laboratory for assaying. All the machinery in this Bureau has been imported from China.

On the 31st of last month, a report reached the Government that Go Cho-kei, who had left for China on the 11th, had arrived at Nam Yang Fu en route for Korea in company with the Tai Wong-Kun and ten thousand soldiers. The authorities hereupon immediately despatched two Chamberlains, Pak Sho-yang and Yung Tai-shun, to receive the Chinese General. This sudden and unexpected return of Go and Tai caused not a little consternation in official circles, and decidedly frightened the people. All the higher dignitaries went at once to the Palace, and remained there all night. Early next morning, however, the two messengers returned—without their unwelcome guests. The rumour was a false one, and had arisen from a rather ludicrous cause. It seems that one of the passengers of a Chinese merchant vessel, which had stopped at Nam-yang, presented himself while under the influence of wine at the Magistracy, and stated with tipsy solemnity that, on the eve of his departure from Chefoo, Generalissimo Go had ordered him to report that he (Go) would leave Chefoo for Korea the following day, in company with the Tai Wong-Kun. Unfortunately, the magistrate of Nam Yang happened to be absent at the time, having left for the Capital on official business, and his subordinates, being of a credulous turn of mind, took the statements of the inebriated Chinaman at par value and immediately forward the *canard* to the Capital, where it caused great confusion.

At Pu-phyōng Fu two thousand men from the adjacent maritime districts are to be enrolled for military service. They will be trained in Japanese style, and serve as coast-guards. A special office for the coast defence has been established; but, although conscription is going steadily on, no new forts are in course of construction, neither are the old ones undergoing repairs. The magistrate of Kaisōng Fu will mobilise 1,000 men, to be drilled in Japanese fashion. Since his appointment as Commander of the troops at northern Ham-gyōng-do, Yun Ung-nyōl has trained over 1,000 men in Japanese style, and sent scores of picked soldiers to the Court at Sōul. Hong Yōng-sik (son of the Prime Minister, Hong Sun-mok), who has just been appointed commander of the troops in the southern part of the same district, has also adopted Japanese military discipline. The Chinese Consul at Sōul was refused the sale of a house which he wanted to buy in an adjacent village. He thereupon requested the Japanese Minister to buy the house for him, but in vain. The fact is that the neighbours in the adjoining houses unanimously refused to

live within hailing distance of a Chinese household.

The Koreans show a thorough appreciation of the cleanliness of the Japanese mode of living, despite their own dirty habits. Those who live near the Japanese Legation have agreed to keep their dwellings as free from impurities as possible. Mr. Okada, of our Legation, is very popular with the Koreans. When the fire broke out last year in the gunpowder storehouse belonging to the Palace, causing the destruction of so much property and so many lives, Mr. Okada gave five or six *riyo* to every sufferer: the whole gift amounting to 200 *riyo*. A large number of cherry-trees have been imported from China, and are being planted at Kang-wōn-do. Several Koreans intend starting a printing office at Sōul. The Government has ordered the house of Mei-sho to discontinue trade. The students of the Government School, attached to the T'sung-li Yamēn, left that establishment on the 1st instant, in a body, there having been hard feeling between them and the President for some time past. Mr. Shimamura, *Chargé d'Affaires*, is as popular as ever, and his advice is eagerly sought in all manner of matters.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*).

This year's crop is a complete failure, and, among other districts, Kyōng-sang-do is especially badly off. The people live for the most part on beans, as the rice is entirely exhausted. The troubles of the people are daily on the increase, and robberies are reported everywhere without the least hope of staying them. Since the commencement of the month, the magistrates have been distributing rations of rice among the poorer classes. Pak Yōng-hyo (Senior Minister to Japan) is much grieved at his loss of influence since the Japan party have become less powerful at Court, and seriously thinks of coming over to live in Japan so soon as Min Yong-ik shall have returned. Mr. Von Möllendorff, Adviser to the King, lately forwarded three Memorials to the Government, the first of which is said to treat of the introduction of Chinese currency, and the establishment of Chinese bank-agencies. The Telegraph Office was formally opened on the 10th instant in the presence of several Japanese and Korean dignitaries. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Pusan has decided to despatch Messrs. Takasu and Yenomoto to Shanghai in order to report upon the state of commerce at that port. This step has been taken in order to open direct communication with Shanghai, for it is feared that foreigners will otherwise absorb the whole import of Shirtings and Mousseline de Laine, which two articles constitute the principal imports from Japan at present. If communication with Shanghai is fairly started, the Japanese merchants will be considerably in advance of their foreign rivals.

Trade at Pusan is still in a deplorable condition. A considerable quantity of rice is being sent from Japan to Korea owing to the almost universal famine, but the native buyers haggle so long over the price that the actual profits of the Japanese importers are very small. As for the beggars in Pusan, their name is legion. The Government is unable to give these paupers sufficient rice to keep them alive, and two died recently of starvation in the public streets. Female paupers often come to the Settlement, and many of them, sad to say, sell their virtue for a small bowl of rice. A similar state of affairs reigned in 1876, when famine was all over Korea, and in 1877 hundreds of paupers died of hunger within the very precincts of the Settlement. The influx of beggars this year is abnormally large.

IN THE TOKIYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SHIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—TUESDAY, 22nd April, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsushima Maru*. Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsushima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

On the opening of the Court, Mr. Rossetsu said that before continuing his argument he would request the Court to ask the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company to request the attendance of Captain Young and his chief officer,

the next time they were in port, as he did not know the exact date upon which the ship would arrive. It would be impossible to fix the date at the present time, but as it would not occupy the Court long, he hoped that a special hearing might be arranged if necessary. Proceeding, the attorney for the appellant, said that the respondent's answer to the petition contained numerous references to the regulations issued by the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company to the masters of their ships. No mention of these regulations, however, had been made at the first hearing of the case, and, therefore, the appellant did not have an opportunity of fully explaining why he had not carried them out in their entirety; but he, the counsel, did not see what these rules had to do with the decision of the Court, as they were not embodied in the laws of the country, but were only the regulations of a private company, by which the Court of Enquiry should not have been influenced. Referring to the trim in which the vessel was despatched, the answer of the respondent states that the appellant still further put her out of trim by filling the after-tank with water, and thereby put her down 6 ft. 8 in. or 10 in. by the stern. This might have appeared to be so with an ordinary vessel, but in this case certain cargo had been engaged which did not come forward up to the advertised time of sailing, and the vessel being a mail steamer and having to leave punctually, the Captain was obliged to fill the after-tank with water to immerse the screw. Again, in respondent's answer it was stated that the Captain ought to have taken two distinct bearings of the light before he left the bridge, which would have at once told him that he was in most dangerous proximity to the land and that the light seen was not the Shiriya-saki light. Regarding this point, any child could see that taking these bearings, although they might enable the Captain to judge his distance from the light, and the speed of the ship, would give him no information as to what light it was. In continuing, counsel referred to paragraph 13 of respondent's answer relative to giving over charge to the chief officer before he was sure of his position, and mentioned that he had stated before that the Captain was confident that it was the Shiriya-saki light. Again, looking at the evidence, it had been stated that supposing it had been the Shiriya-saki light and the vessel had been only three or four miles off it, the course that the Captain laid down would have been a safe one, whereas when he gave up charge she was 15 miles off. The evidence also showed that the Captain before leaving the deck told the chief officer to call him if any change should occur. Twenty minutes after this the light disappeared, but the chief officer did not call him. If the light had been the Shiriya-saki light it would not have disappeared, therefore the chief officer was to blame and not the Captain. That being so, the question had to be considered as to who engaged the chief officer. It was not the appellant, but the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Company. If the Captain had appointed him he would have been responsible for him. Counsel therefore contended that the loss of the vessel was owing to the negligence of the chief officer and not the appellant. In paragraph seventeen of the answer it stated that the master disdained asking the opinions of his officers as to the position of the ship. The reason for that might be easily understood by reading the evidence given by the mate, which showed that he was not a reliable man. He had stated that his sextant had been lost three years previously, and had not been replaced, in fact, he had no instruments on board the vessel. He had not written up the log, as he did not understand how to write it up properly. It was customary all over the world that the chief officer of a vessel should have instruments and take observations every day, in fact a chief officer ought to be in the position to take charge should any unforeseen occurrence disable the Captain. This officer having been appointed by the owners of the vessel it would naturally be supposed that he should be a competent man. But although the Captain, as stated in his evidence, did not consider the chief officer a thoroughly competent man, still he said that he would trust him to navigate the vessel up to within three or four miles from the land. Considering, therefore, that the ship, instead of being 3 or 4 miles, was from 12 to 15 miles from the light, and that the Captain was confident that the light seen was the Shiriya-saki light, he was perfectly justified in handing over the vessel to the charge of the chief officer. In conclusion, Counsel stated that the sum and substance of his argument was that there were two causes to which the loss of the ship should be attributed, viz.:—That the appellant was misled by a false light of which he had no previous knowledge, but which closely resembled the Shiriya-saki light, and which light was sighted where he expected to pick up the Shiriya-saki light, and also, that although the captain had given orders to the chief officer to call

him should any change take place, he failed so to do, although he lost sight of the light within 20 minutes from the time that the Captain went below. If the chief officer had obeyed his instructions there was little doubt but that the vessel would not have been lost, and that the loss of the ship must be attributed to the chief officer and not to the master.

Mr. Ramsay requested the Court to furnish him with a copy of Mr. Rossettsu's argument, so that when he made his reply he would not be liable to error. But if he could take the reports as published in the *Gazette* and the *Mail* as correct, he was prepared to proceed at once with his argument.

The Court said that it could not guarantee newspaper reports.

Mr. Rossettsu said that he had carefully read the reports, and they were correct, in fact Mr. Ramsay need have no fear, for every point of his argument was embodied in them.

The Court thought it advisable, in order to avoid any future misunderstanding, that a copy of the record of the Court should be handed to Mr. Ramsay for translation before he replied.

Mr. Ramsay then asked the legal adviser for the appellant whether he wished to make any alterations or additions to the statement he had made at the previous hearing.

The record of the Court was then read to Mr. Rossettsu, who affixed his stamp, remarking that although he did not wish to alter anything he had said, he had not closed his case, and reserved the right to argue further on the matter after the evidence of the witnesses had been heard.

Mr. Ramsay said the only reason why he had asked the question was, that neither the respondent nor his attorney wished to take the slightest advantage of the appellant, his attorney, or legal adviser.

Mr. Rossettsu remarked that what Mr. Ramsay wished to say was that he did not wish to trip him up (*age ashi wo toritaku nai*), but he felt prepared for him at every point.

The Court then adjourned to 1.30 p.m., when the argument delivered by Mr. Rossettsu in the morning was read over to him and confirmed.

The Court adjourned to the 28th instant.

FRIDAY, 25th April.

On the opening of the Court, Mr. Uchiyama Rossettsu said that he was willing to interpret Captain Young's evidence. The Court interpreter and the interpreter for the respondent could check him, and he thought that by this means the proceedings would be facilitated.

Christopher Young stated that he was a seaman and master mariner. He had been a Captain in the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company nearly 10 years, and was well acquainted with certain portions of the coast of Japan. He knew that portion between Yokohama and Hakodate very well. Remembered going to the assistance of the *Akitsu-shima Maru* when she was stranded. The *Akitsu-shima Maru* was wrecked at a place named Odonosawa, about 15 miles south of the Shiriya-saki light. Two or three days after he arrived at the scene of the disaster, when he was standing off from the land about 12.30 a.m., he saw a light and called Captain Frahm and showed it to him saying that that must be the light he had mistaken for the Shiriya-saki light. Captain Hog and the second officer were present on that occasion. It was the 15th of October, 1883, when he saw the light. The light was about 5 miles from Odonosawa in a southerly direction, and from where he was it bore W.S.W. about 5 or 6 miles distant. The wreck bore due West about 3½ miles from him. The light could not be seen from the wreck. He considered it to be a light or old fashioned beacon light on the shore. It was a fixed light. The colour was bright white, and under the circumstances, owing to the fog and haze, it strongly resembled the Shiriya-saki light. During the past winter he had frequently seen the Shiriya-saki light owing to haze and snow have a similar appearance. He would not say that Captain Frahm was justified in taking the said light for the Shiriya-saki light, but at the time he saw it, he told Captain Frahm that under those circumstances he might easily have mistaken the light for the Shiriya-saki light. If the light had been the Shiriya-saki and the *Akitsu-shima Maru* headed E. by N. (error 11 degrees easterly), and the light bore magnetic W., the vessel being 12 to 15 miles off, the course being N.W. by W. (error 9 degrees westerly), she would have passed clear of all danger. Even if she had only been 6 miles off, she would have been safe. He did not hear Captain Hog make any remark or express any opinion when they saw the light first, as he (witness) was on the bridge and Captain Hog and the second officer were on deck. It was impossible for a master upon seeing a light to tell what light it was by taking bearings. In a typhoon or bad weather it would be impossible to get the exact leeway the ship was making by holding the log-line over the compass, but it would give

it approximately. He had sent a report regarding this light to the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Co. on or about the 13th November last.

Counsel remarked that this was previous to the judgment being delivered.

Witness, continuing, said that, considering the weather the *Akitsu-shima Maru* had experienced for 48 hours and more, and considering the currents, etc., he thought the Captain was certainly not to be blamed for finding himself 20 or 24 miles out in his reckoning; he might have been 60 miles out.

To Mr. Ramsay—When the false light disappeared it was about the same distance from his vessel as when he first sighted it, that was about 6 miles, the vessel being stationary. He only saw the light one night. The colour of the light was bright white. It could not have been a bright red light; it was white. The light might have resembled a fire or the breaming of a vessel. At the time he saw the light the weather was not clear.

Mr. Ramsay—Would you kindly mention to the Court what your proceedings would have been supposing your vessel had been placed in the same position as the *Akitsu-shima Maru*.

Mr. Rossettsu objected to the question, on the grounds that unless the witness was really placed in the same circumstances he could not possibly now say what he would have done; furthermore, knowing all that has happened and being an employee of the Mitsu Bishi M.S.S. Co., he must, though unintentionally, be somewhat prejudiced.

Objection overruled.

Witness replied that in the first place the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, her engines having been stopped, was not going through the water, and when the log-line was ready, and he sighted the light bearing East he would have hove the lead, which might have probably guided him as to his approximate position. If he had not got soundings he would have put her on a N.W. course and then have watched the alteration of the light. He would ascertain the correct distance that he was off the light by the bearings and the speed of the vessel.

Mr. Ramsay—Would you yourself have left the deck after a lapse of 8 or 10 minutes after sighting the light.

Mr. Rossettsu objected on the same grounds as before.

Objection overruled.

Witness—No.

Continuing, witness said that at the time of taking the second bearing he would have hauled the ship out at once, owing to the rapidity in the change of the second bearing. As he had previously stated, the currents, etc., after extremely tempestuous weather would sometimes carry a ship 60 miles out of her reckoning. In his opinion Captain Frahm was justified in accepting that light as the Shiriya-saki light, the currents being conflicting, etc., and all the precautions he had before mentioned having been taken, viz.:—taking the bearings and carefully watching them. During tempestuous weather it was usual to take more than ordinary care in the navigation of a ship. He would estimate the leeway principally by the speed of the vessel, force of the wind, and the bearing of the wake of the vessel by the compass. He would mostly have to guess at it at night, as then he could not correctly nor nearly correctly take the bearing of the wake. Up there at that time of the year it was mostly night. During the day he would not have guessed it. He considered that some vessels might be seaworthy, even during the typhoon season, drawing 6 ft. 8 or 10 in. by the stern, but whether the *Akitsu-shima Maru* was or not he was not prepared to say.

Mr. Ramsay—Does it not prove the unseaworthiness of the vessel that though having a speed of 5 knots she would not answer her helm, although she had a wind 2 points abaft the beam.

Witness—I consider that under the circumstances a speed of 5 knots was not sufficient to bring her on her course and make her steer properly.

Mr. Ramsay—You say that the speed was not sufficient to bring her up with the helm hard down and the wind 2 points abaft the beam. Does that not prove her unseaworthy?

Witness—No, not unseaworthy.

Mr. Ramsay. The hurricane force of the wind was experienced from S.W. to W. in the case of the *Akitsu-shima Maru*. The vessel was 10 points off the wind. Hove to with the wind at W. the vessel would be heading N.N.E., making 4 points leeway she would be making E.N.E. Now supposing the hurricane force of the wind to have been experienced from the E., she would then be heading N.N.W., 4 points leeway would give her a W.N.W. course on the starboard tack, and being in close proximity to the land, would she not have been in an unsafe position?

Mr. Rossettsu objected on the grounds already stated in his first objection to such questions.

Objection overruled.

Witness—Yes, she would. The danger would have been drifting ashore.

Witness went on to say that the vessel would have been in danger supposing she were put on the port tack with the wind easterly and she heading S.S.W. with 4 points leeway. The danger would have been caused by the vessel being so high out of the water forward, but that did not prove her to be unseaworthy on account of her trim. If he had charge of the vessel and knew her to be in such trim he would not put her in that position. He would either have kept his vessel off the land when he found bad weather coming on, or if possible, have run for a port. If a vessel in good trim had been placed in such a position she might have gone ashore and no one could say she was unseaworthy. He would not take a vessel under his command to sea trimmed 6 ft. 8 or 10 in. by the stern.

To the Court—He would not do so because in a typhoon or severe weather she would be practically unmanageable.

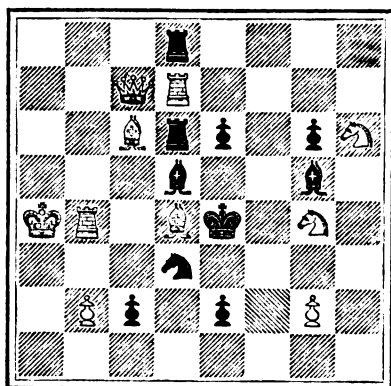
To Mr. Rossetts—He watched the light from 12.30 a.m. to about 1.30 or 1.45 a.m. His vessel was stationary as much as it was possible to keep her. He could not say whether the light was put out or obscured by the fog, the weather being hazy at the time. At night he would have to guess the leeway, by day he would see the wake of the vessel which would be a guide, but it was more or less guess work.

This closed the examination of the witness, and the Court adjourned till the 28th instant at 10 a.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. A. E. STUDD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 19th April, 1884,
by Mr. A. C. PEARSON.

White.

Black.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.—R. to K. 8. | 1.—Kt. to Q. 3. |
| 2.—R. takes P. ch. | 2.—K. takes R. |
| 3.—R. to Kt. 5, mates. | |
| | if 2.—K. to B. 3 or 5. |
| 3.—R. to Q. B. 5, mates. | |
| | if 1.—Kt. to B. 3. |
| 2.—Kt. takes Kt. ch. | 2.—K. moves. |
| 3.—R. to Q. B. 8, mates. | |
| | if 1.—K. to B. 3 or 5. |
| 2.—R. to Q. B. 8 ch. | 2.—K. to Q. 4. |
| 3.—R. to Q. B. 5, mates. | |

Correct answers received from "TESA" and "W.H.S."—See answer in this issue.

THE OPENING OF THE UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

Time table of Imperial Trains on the occasion of the State opening of the Uyeno-Takasaki Railway, 1st May, 2544:—

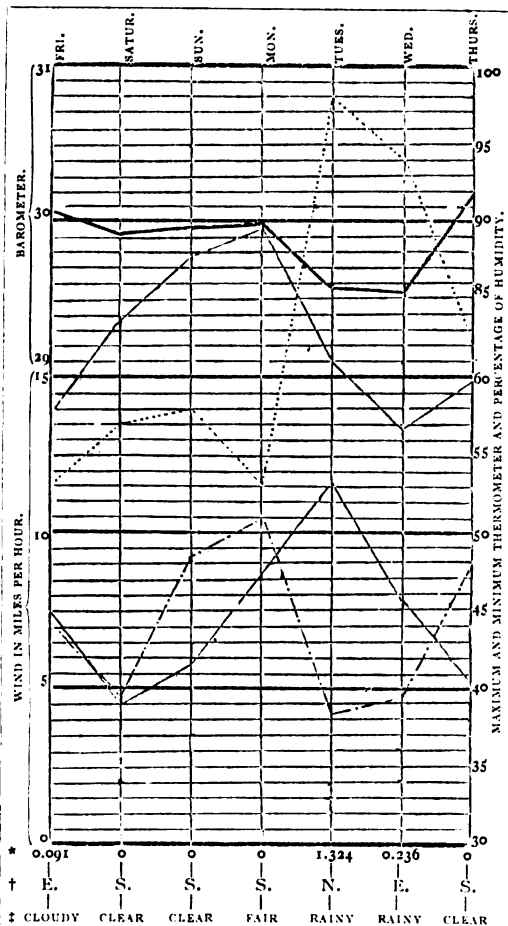
DOWN.		UP.	
	A.M.		P.M.
Uyeno*	Dep. 8.00	Takasaki*	Dep. 2.00
Oji	" 8.14	Shinmachi	" 2.22
Urawa	" 8.46	Honsho	" 2.42
Ageo	" 9.16	Fukaya	" 3.04
Konosu	" 9.42	Kumagaya*	Arr. 3.28
Kumagaya*	Arr. 10.12	Kumagaya*	Dep. 3.38
Kumagaya*	Dep. 10.32	Konosu	" 4.08
Fukaya	" 10.56	Ageo	" 4.34
Honsho	" 11.18	Urawa	" 5.04
Shinmachi	" 11.38	Oji	" 5.36
Takasaki*	Arr. 12.01	Uyeno*	Arr. 5.50

* Denotes that the Train stops at the Station.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

—represents velocity of wind.

—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 29.8 miles per hour on Monday, at 2 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.206 inches on Thursday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.396 inches on Wednesday, at 10 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 69.4 on Monday, and the lowest was 39.0 on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 78.8 and 48.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 1.651 inches, against .033 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe,	via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, April 29th.*
From America ...	per P. M. Co.	Friday, May 2nd.†
From Shanghai,	Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co.	Thursday, May 1st.
Kobe	.....
From Hongkong,	per P. & O. Co.	Monday, May 5th.

* Godavery (with French mail) left Hongkong on April 23rd.
† City of Tokio left San Francisco on April 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe	..... per M. B. Co.	Saturday, April 26th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	... per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 27th.
For America	..... per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 27th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	... per M. B. Co.	Wednesday, April 30th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	... per M. M. Co.	Sunday, May 4th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 19th, 4.40 p.m.

Cotton, Mid. Uplands, 6½d. Yarns unchanged, but firm. Shirtings unchanged but steady. Silk, market active at previous prices.

London, 21st April.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

General Gordon has telegraphed to the British Government that henceforth he must act on his own discretion.

London, April 22nd.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Sir Evelyn Baring and General Graham have started for London. The British Government has proposed a Conference to consider the financial arrangements to be made with Egypt.

London, April 23rd.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

The Egyptian Government has recommended that the British Government send an expeditionary force of British troops to the relief of the Egyptian troops at Berber.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

London, 9th April.

THE QUEEN'S HEALTH.

Her Majesty the Queen has been ordered to Darmstadt on account of ill health.

London, 10th April.

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

In consequence of a rupture in the relations between the Government and Madagascar, M. Ferry has announced its intention to extend French occupation over the North West portion of the Island.

THE CRISIS IN EGYPT.

It is announced that the President of the Council of Ministers will retain office, the difference having been arranged.

London, 16th April.

THE WAR IN TONQUIN.

The occupation of Hung-hoa by the French troops is announced.

The Governor of Yunnan is summoned to Peking. It is reported that he will be punished for the reverses in Tonquin, and that the officers responsible for the loss of Bac-ninh have been sentenced to death.

It is further reported that a general levy has been ordered by the Chinese Government.

[FROM THE "RANGOON GAZETTE."]

London, 25th March.

THE RUSSIAN OCCUPATION OF MERV.

According to intelligence received from Central Asia, General Komaroff intended to occupy Merv on the 7th February, and to establish Russian administration there.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.00; First-class, yen 1.78; Third-class, sen 89.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 19th April,—Hakodate 17th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 20th April,—Yokkaichi 21st April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 21st April,—Nagasaki 17th April, Coals.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 21st April,—San Francisco 29th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Kilgour, 22nd April,—Kobe 20th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 22nd April,—Hongkong 13th April via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 834, Mikiyama, 23rd April,—Kobe 21st April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 23rd April,—Hakodate 20th and Oginohama 22nd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 24th April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Marie, German bark, 465, M. Ipland, 24th April,—Takao 9th April, Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 24th April,—Hongkong 18th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 24th April,—Kobe 22nd April, General.—Seiriussha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 24th April,—Yokkaichi 22nd April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 25th April,—Kobe 23rd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 25th April,—Shimidzu 22nd April, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Omega, British bark, 480, A. V. Brown, 25th April,—Takao 13th April, 11,878 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 442, Arai, 25th April,—Yokkaichi 23rd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 26th April,—Fukuda 24th April, General.—Fukudasha.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 1,096, Jones, 26th April,—London via Hongkong 18th April, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Davison, 26th April,—Korea via Kobe 24th April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 639, Thomas, 26th April,—Hakodate 22nd and Niigata 22nd April, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 19th April,—Hachinohe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 19th April,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 19th April,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wilhelm Homeyer, German bark, 512, W. Holtz, 19th April,—Newchwang, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 20th April,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Diana, American schooner, 77, Peterson, 21st April,—Guam, Stores.—Captain.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 21st April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 21st April,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, Captain Allen, 21st April,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Ossego, British schooner, 46, Evalt, 21st April,—Kurile Islands, Stores.—Captain.

Tsusai Maru, Japanese steamer, 402, Toyama, 21st April,—Yokosuka Dock.—Unsosha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 434, Arai, 22nd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sumingye Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Frahm, 22nd April,—Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 22nd April,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 23rd April,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 23rd April,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 23rd April,—Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Narai, 24th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 834, Mikiyama, 24th April,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 24th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 25th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Yetchiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 638, Burgoyne, 25th April,—Fushiki, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 25th April,—Kobe, General.—Nakamura.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 25th April,—Nagasaki, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 25th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 25th April,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,930, Steadman, 25th April,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 25th April,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Hayakawa and child, Mrs. Ishikawa, Miss Hayakawa, Messrs. George Sale, Charles V. Sale, Yamada, Kondo, Yoshitomi, Yagami, Hiroto, and Shiwomi in cabin; and 80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Hakodate:—8 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Dr. T. C. Thornicraft, Messrs. F. Hyller, A. Blumenthal, C. B. Bernard, J. Gillingham, K. Yamao, and G. Nagata in cabin. For Hiogo: Miss Rebecca F. Falls in cabin. For Nagasaki: Rev. and Mrs. H. Harris, Miss G. Howe and 2 children, Miss M. E. Barlow, and Miss C. B. Richards in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss Jessie A. Purple, Messrs. L. Glenat, Thos. Craven, J. Samson, Thos. Gittins, and C. Coleman in cabin. For Hongkong: Captain E. Thebaud, Messrs. Geo. MacKenzie, W. Laidlaw, and Chan Hi Hun in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, from Kobe:—H.E. Inouye and suite, Messrs. Todd, Struthers, and Fujita in cabin; and 18 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Surgeon-General and Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Lai and child, Major Greenfield, Rev. A. Newman, Messrs. F. Medwin, D. M. Enriques, J. Loureiro, A. Savage, Rowland, H. A. Whyllie, G. H. Prichard, A. Clarke, An Yun, Sik He, Pen Wo, Huo Kum, Lai Bung Woon, Yen Sue Ping, Min Cung, Yeu Tung, and Wing Hin Hing in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mrs. Holmes, 3 children, and amah, and 9 Japanese in cabin; and 76 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Conrad and child, Captain and Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Foss, Mr. and Mrs. Boesal, Mr. and Mrs. Matsumura, Mrs. Anderson, Misses Boesal (2),

Miss Bergner, Miss Ludwig, Miss Hoffmann, Miss Fischer, Bishop Williams, Dr. Harrell, Messrs. De Bovis, J. D. Carroll, T. C. Spooner, Yamada, Tanabe, Nonaka, Tsumagi, Nakayama, Sawara, Sonoda, Nakajima, Wakai, Numaguchi, Kobayashi, and Shindo in cabin; and 11 Europeans, 3 Chinese, and 168 Japanese in steerage. For America and England: Rev. and Mrs. L. N. Wheeler and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Buchanan and 2 children, Messrs. Ellwood, Wm. Bean, G. V. Fittock, and F. J. Cartuyvels in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Captain G. H. Chippendale, Messrs. J. A. Jefferey, Shaw, and Cheong Din in cabin; and 1 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. Young, Rev. S. B. Partridge, 2 children and servant, and Rev. A. Reidhaer in cabin; and 760 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Kobe:—36 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—43 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. H. G. Walsh, S. Caldercott, T. Sinclair, Yamada, Ohara, Inki, Hayashi, and Okamura in cabin; and 1 European and 83 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—22 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—43 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—23 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamaura Maru*, from Korea via Kobe:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hakodate via Niigata:—12 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. Yagami in cabin; and 75 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. Nicholson, Dr. Iwasa, Messrs. O. Akimoto, I. Higama, F. Yano, Kanai, E. Kato, Miyamoto, Iwasa, Kashimura, Nakajima, and Fujisawa Sada in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Governor and Mrs. Tokito, Miss Tokito, Messrs. J. Sato, and H. Watanabe in cabin; and 125 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Endo, Miss Howe and 2 children, Admiral Akamatsu, Rev. H. Loomis, Messrs. E. de Bavier, J. Samson, C. A. Taylor, J. F. Broadbent, A. Stewart, T. Craven, T. Gittins, L. Glenat, U. Do Wintle, U. Videau, Battake, Ikeda, and Watanabe in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Captain E. Thebaud, Messrs. Geo. MacKenzie, W. Laidlaw, and Chan Hi Hun in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, for Niigata:—65 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Messrs. N. Nagai and R. Otani in cabin; and 50 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, 82 bales for France.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—1,838 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$53,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$70,000.00; for America: 22,145.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 17th April, at 6 p.m. with moderate head winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 19th April, at 6 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robert R. Searle, reports leaving San Francisco on the 29th March, at 5.20 a.m. with moderate weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 21st April, at 5.20 p.m. Passage, 22 days.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard reports leaving Kobe on the 23rd April, at 6 p.m. with fresh N.N.W. winds to Oo-sima; thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 25th April, at 6 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Market generally remains without much change, clearances have been good. There have been no serious complaints of the country trade from dealers, and currency has been pretty steady.

COTTON YARN.—A small business continues almost daily, buyers are not disposed to operate largely, and holders are satisfied to sell sparingly so long as prices are much below present home cost. 28/32's and 38/42's have had most attention and are rather higher.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—There has been more demand at improved rates for 9 lbs. and 8½ lbs. Shirtings as well as 7 lbs. T.-Cloths. Fair sales of Turkey Reds have been reported and there has been an enquiry for Velvets at higher prices.

WOOLLENS.—Mousseline de Laine have been sold to a fair extent, but only small sales are reported of Italian Cloths and other piece goods. A large sale of Blankets at an extremely low figure has been reported.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	23.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches...	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches...	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

We still remain without any business to report in Oil, sales (if any have been made) having been kept secret. Deliveries have been 6,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 640,000 cases sold and unsold Oil. We make quotations lower, but they remain quite nominal.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.73
Comet	1.67
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

The trade continues dull, and prices for Browns have declined, a speculative parcel of 20,000 bags Formosa having changed hands at the price given below. Quotations for all grades of White are, in the total absence of demand, purely nominal.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.20 to 3.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was on the 18th instant, since which date there has not been so much doing, Settlements for the week being no more than 100 piculs. Business has again been confined to few buyers who towards the end have paid a further advance on a few bales of *Filatures* of \$20 per picul. The demand for *Hanks* is apparently filled for the moment, although telegrams from London report a better feeling there: and mail advices tell us that deliveries from Dock Warehouses for January and February were good, and tending towards reduction of Stock. It is not easy to account for the renewed rush after *Filatures* and *Re-reels* here at such advanced prices. In *Kakedas* there has been next to nothing done, last advices from Shanghai report *Re-reels* *Tsatlees* more plentiful there, and the outgoing American steamer will carry a fair quantity at moderate rates.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which left this port for Hongkong on the morning of the 20th instant had on board 82 bales (of which 25 were "Direct" shipments) all destined for Continental Europe. This vessel's cargo brings the Export to date up to 28,910 bales, against 26,083 bales last year, and 18,000 bales in 1882.

Advices from the interior report the weather as favorable for the New Crop, and hatching was expected to commence to-day in Yamanashi Ken.

Hanks.—About one-half the small business transacted has been in this class; and it is expected that these purchases, together with others made since last mail, will find their way eastwards per *Oceanic*. Prices actually paid show but little change, although dealers are naturally conservative and would like to realize an advance. Business noted has been in *Chichibu* at \$510, and *Annaka* \$515.

Filatures.—These exhibit a marked rise, a strong advance having been paid by one buyer the last two days. The total purchases do not amount to any quantity, but include *Tokosha* \$670, and *Kosho Yajima* \$650. Earlier in the week *Yamagata* was done at \$600, and *Takasaki* \$580.

Re-reels.—Holders by keeping firm have gained their point, a small parcel *Katsuyama* has been settled at \$645, while the parcel of *Tortoise*, mentioned a fortnight ago as being held for \$640, has been finally weighed up at that figure.

Kakedas.—One or two small purchases reported in sorts costing \$570 to \$550. Stock is but small; it includes one fair-sized parcel of *Chocho*, for which \$650 is asked.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—These still remain quite neglected, and position is unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	\$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	590 to 600
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 25th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,049	13,245	8,942
America	9,222	8,774	5,743
England	2,639	4,064	3,315
Total	28,910	26,083	18,000

WASTE SILK.

Business has continued much as last advised, and Settlements for the week are about 150 picul

divided between *Noshi*, *Kibiso*, and *Neri*. A few dribbles of good quality have come in, and been taken up at full rates. There are still enquiries for qualities which do not exist.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which sailed hence on the 20th instant, carried 122 bales, of which 40 bales were entered for England, and the remainder for France. This vessel brings the figures of Export up to 22,767 piculs, against 22,706 piculs at same date last year, and 22,926 piculs in 1882. Arrivals have not kept pace with the sales made, and the Stock in Yokohama is yet further reduced.

Noshi.—There has not been much done, the sales reported being about 40 piculs. A little has been done in *Filatures* on the basis of \$135 for *Hagiwara*. A fair parcel of *Oshu* is held for \$150. Something has passed in Common *Joshu* at \$70 to \$75, and there are enquiries for "Good Assorted;" but reliable quality is not to be had at present. A little fine *Bushu* of Medium grade has found a buyer at \$105.

Kibiso.—About 100 piculs settled in this class, ranging from *Filatures* at \$120, to *Low Curlies* at \$25. The sales reported comprise *Oshu* at \$55, *Joshu* \$40, *Low Curlies* \$25. One parcel of *Neri* at \$11 to \$14 uncleaned.

Mawata and Sundries.—Nothing whatever to chronicle in these either in or out.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	Nom. 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	Nom. 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 25th April, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	20,572	19,505	18,980
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,201	3,946
	22,767	22,706	22,926

Exchange is again firmer in sympathy with rates in China, and quotations must be advanced as under:—LONDON, 4m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90; 60 d/s., 90½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.74; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77. *Kinsatsu* have not varied much from last week's figure, and close at about 109½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 25th April, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	580	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	200	Noshi-ito	80
Kakeda	70	Kibiso	280
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	10
Taysam Kinds	—	Sundries	40
Total piculs	950	Total piculs	410

TEA.

A few piculs of forced garden musters representing the New Teas have arrived from the country, and appear to be very pure and of good quality, but we are not yet in a position to give any reliable report on the quality of the crop, as there are some irregularities in the musters now shown, besides which the produce of the best districts has not yet arrived, and samples are scarce as yet. The small daily arrivals of New Teas have been sold to various Tea firms at about equivalent of 10 dollars less than last year's prices, and they will go forward by the steamer of the 27th instant. The weather has been very changeable during the week for the growing crop. However, the producers say the crop is progressing favorably.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have again advanced during the week and show signs of still further improvement, the business transacted has however been small. Closing quotations are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.62½
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½ 6/10 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ 6/10 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

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Works:—Wilden, near Stourport; Swindon, near Dudley; Horsley Field, Wolverhampton, London Office:—4, Corbet Court, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.

South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.

Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*

Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.

Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

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May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their virtue."

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 3RD, 1884.

DEATH.

On the 16th March, 1884, at No. 25, Russell Square, London, JAMES ELLERTON, aged 65 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HIGHWAY robberies with violence have taken place in the neighbourhood of Kiyoto.

A PROJECT is on foot to rebuild all the bridges in the Capital (Tokyo) of stone or iron.

IT is proposed to form a Company for the purpose of exporting gold-fish to Europe.

SOME Japanese gentlemen in Kiyoto have combined to form a social club in European style.

SIX Nordenfeldt guns have been added to the armaments of the *Fuso Kan*, *Hiyei Kan*, and *Kongo Kan*.

THE opening of the new Social Club at the Rokumei-kwan, Tokyo, has been postponed till the 18th instant.

THE sum to be expended on the construction of fortifications during the approaching fiscal year is stated to be 240,000 yen.

ON the 16th ultimo about 100 acres of the

Government forest in Kawabe district, province of Settsu, were destroyed by fire.

MR. W. H. SMITH, one of the oldest and best known residents of Yokohama, died at Winnipeg, Canada, on the 21st of January.

THE auction-room of Messrs Bourne & Co. was broken into on the night of the 30th ultimo, and various goods were stolen.

A CONFLAGRATION in the village of Ogushi, Yamaguchi Prefecture, on the 17th instant, destroyed 177 houses. One woman was killed.

THE appropriation for the foreign missions of military officials is to be increased by a sum of 25,000 yen from the next fiscal year, beginning in June.

IT is stated that the Arsenal at Koishikawa (Tokyo) and Osaka have refunded 954,420 yen, being a portion of the advances made to them by the Government.

HIS Excellency Sir Harry Parkes, accompanied by Mr. W. G. Aston, is at Söul, whither he has gone to complete the treaty arrangements between Korea and Great Britain.

MR. J. CONDER, M.R.I.A., has received the Fourth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. Mr. Conder's name is associated with the best architectural works in Tokyo.

IT is reported that the demand for hon.-spun cottons is considerably on the increase in the southern provinces, and that the cotton factories in Osaka are doing a thriving business.

A PROJECT for the construction of a railway between Osaka and Sakai, a port in the neighbouring province of Idzumi, has been officially sanctioned, and the work will shortly be undertaken.

ON the night of the 26th ultimo, a burglar effected an entry into the godown of a broker living in Muromachi, Tokyo, and made away with a sum of 8,800 yen in gold and silver.

A NEW building for the Tokyo University has been completed in Kaga-yashiki, and the University will remove there next July. The former building will be used as a preparatory school only.

A NEW highway has been opened between Kisarazu and Kanuki, in Shimosa, and another is about to be constructed from Sakai, in Idzumi, to Kokubu, in the neighbouring province of Kawachi.

THE detachment of Japanese soldiers stationed in Korea is suffering from an epidemic of typhoid fever, and it has been determined to replace them by troops from the Tokyo Garrison.

ON the morning of the 29th ultimo, a Japanese residing in Matsukagecho, Yokohama, attacked his wife and her paramour, injuring them both seriously, and afterwards disembowelled himself.

EXTENSIVE floods are reported to have occurred at the end of February in the island of Kume,

Okinawa Prefecture (Riukiu). Forty-four head of cattle were drowned, and two bridges carried away.

THE propagandists of the Monto sect of Buddhism, who went some time ago to China and Korea, have returned to Kiyoto, convinced, it is said, that their labours were a complete failure.

A FIGHT took place at Osaka, on the night of the 24th ultimo, between the police and some thieves whom they had surprised. Two of the constables were severely injured, and of the three thieves one escaped.

THE Island of Utsuro, the ownership of which was formerly considered uncertain, has been definitively declared Korean property. It is thickly wooded, and Japanese had been in the habit of going there to fell timber.

THE people in Tokushima Prefecture are said to be suffering considerable distress owing to the failure of the rice crops in that district last year. A sum of money has been granted for their aid out of the Agricultural Relief Fund.

AN association called the Union Commercial Company (*Kiyodo Shokwai*) is about to be formed with a capital of 200,000 yen, for the purpose of exporting manure from the Hokkaido to the principal rice-producing districts in the north.

ON the 29th ultimo, a broker named Tanaka made away with a sum of about 50,000 yen which he had obtained under false pretences from some Japanese merchants in Yokohama. He was arrested the following day in a tea-house at Noge-yama.

THE Spring Meeting of the Union Race Club came off at Toyama, Tokyo, on the 26th, 27th, and 28th ultimo. The racing was excellent. Several very valuable prizes were given. There were 21 events, three of which were carried off by foreign-owned ponies.

THE hearing of the appeal case, in which Captain J. Frahm, late of the M.B. S.S. *Akitsu-shima Maru*, and H.E. General Saigo, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, are respectively appellant and respondent, is still going on before the Tokyo Court of Appeal.

DURING the religious festival held at the celebrated monasteries of Koya (about 40 miles from Osaka), during March and April, to commemorate the 1050 anniversary of the death of Kobo Daishi, no less than 326,000 pilgrims visited the temples.

AT a Naval Court held at Her Majesty's Consulate, Yokohama, on the 30th ultimo, Alexander Singleton, a seaman of the British steamer *Oxfordshire*, was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour for assaulting his superior officers.

THE shares of the Nippon Railway Company are now quoted at a premium of from 8 to 16 per cent. These shares are paying from 10 to 12

per cent. interest already, and they will probably pay from 15 to 20 per cent. When the resources of the Tokiyo-Takasaki line are properly developed.

THE Priests of the Higashi-Hongwanji Temple, at Kiyoto, have decided to raise ten million *yen* for the purpose of rebuilding the temple, which was destroyed by fire some years ago. They have applied to the Government for a loan of three million *yen* to be repaid in ten annual instalments.

SEVERAL Japanese gentlemen have combined for the purpose of establishing a Christian College in Kiyoto. Chief among the promoters are Messrs. Nijima and Yamato, the former of whom, when recently on a visit to the United States, received promises of considerable donations towards the work. A merchant, Mr. Tokura, has subscribed 3,000 *yen*.

THE opening ceremony of the Tokiyo-Takasaki Railway, which was to have taken place on the 1st instant, but owing to the indisposition of His Majesty the Emperor was postponed till the 5th, is now, we learn from the *Kwampo* of to-day, indefinitely postponed on account of the continued indisposition of the Mikado.

RECENT researches show that the two oldest temples in Japan, and probably the two oldest buildings in the empire, are the temple of Rengein, in Kiyoto, and that of Hôjôji, in Yamashiro. The former—commonly called *Sanjusangendô*, on account of its great length (198 feet)—was built 753 years ago, and the latter, 730 years. For wooden buildings, these are very respectable antiquities.

IN consequence of representations made by the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench, when acting as H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, it has been decided to send to the Health Exhibition, London, complete models of Japanese houses, house-fittings, and so forth. The collection will be made with great care, and will probably be found exceedingly interesting, not only from an ethnological point of view, but also as a specimen of the unrivalled skill of Japanese carpenters.

STATISTICS of the fires that occurred in Tokiyo during 1883 have been published. The figures are as follows:—86, incendiarism; 38, burning of straw; 38, kitchen furnaces; 26, playing with fire; 17, braziers; 14, lamps; 12, smoking; 8, jars containing cinders of burnt charcoal; 9, bath-rooms; 8, refuse ashes; 8, ignition of kerosene; 4, candles; 4, cinders; 3, steam furnaces; 3, Japanese lamps; all other fires originated from unknown causes. The buildings destroyed covered an area of 8,959 *tsubo* (7.5 acres).

THE Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Public Hall Association was held at the Club Hotel on the afternoon of the 30th instant. The accounts showed that all the shares subscribed for, with the exception of 25½ (\$1,275), had been paid up, and that the debts of the Association amounted to \$322. The sum spent upon the building amounted to \$12,948.69, and a further outlay of \$15,000 was anticipated. The efforts of the Directors to raise this sum had, however, failed. A new Board of Directors was elected, consisting of Messrs. Fitz-Henry, Gay, Morriss, Reimers, Thomas, Kirkwood, and Langfeldt; after which the meeting was adjourned for a month.

NOTES.

It would seem that the strictures of the *Hongkong Telegraph* are not altogether undeserved in reference to an acting appointment recently made in the Hongkong Post Office, and that the Governor of the Crown Colony is responsible for the inconvenience and delay to which residents in this country have been put on account of the tardy delivery of the last English mail. Yokohama papers have frequently found fault with Mr. Lister, but generally without cause, for having put the mail on board a steamer which would in all probability have reached this port first, but which—through having fallen in with a streak of foul weather or met with hard gales—has not arrived here before another vessel sailing from Hongkong a day later. The latest case, however, does not come within that category, and we venture to say that it can in no way be satisfactorily explained, but is simply a piece of blundering. The *Nepaul*, from Singapore, arrived in Hongkong on the evening of the 10th inst., and two vessels left the latter port for Japan—the *Takachiho Maru* on the 11th for Kobe, and the *Thibet* on the 13th for Yokohama, via ports, —either of which would have landed the mail here several days earlier than the *Oceanic*, which was advertised to leave Hongkong on the afternoon of the 18th. Both the Mitsu Bishi and the P. & O. steamer have schedule time and are known to keep their dates well, consequently there can be no excuse on the score of irregularity with regard to either of these vessels. What, then could have induced the official at present in charge of the Hongkong Post Office to keep the mail in that establishment for a whole week? Echo answers—What? In the absence of Mr. Lister, the Postmaster-General, and of Mr. Travers, the Deputy, a Mr. Du Flon Hutchison, the fifth master of the Central School, has been, the *Telegraph* says, “pitchforked into a position for which he is totally unfitted.” This may possibly account for the fact that the mail was nearly a week late in being delivered in this country; but the last has not been heard of the affair, as it has already been made the subject of official correspondence with the Home authorities.

THE Tientsin correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, writing on the 3rd instant, says:—Yesterday H.E. Li received the Japanese Consul. It appears that H.E. does not now use the Chinese foreign interpreter at interviews, as was customary formerly. In the afternoon, H.E. Li reviewed Li Titoo's Liu Tai troops, who carried off 6 prizes only, against General Liu's 22 prizes. To-morrow H.E. Li will review General Tang Pei Tang troops. 600 Mauser rifles and Tls. 8,000 have been sent to General Tsau' Kwo Chung to pay his recruits with and march them down. Ma Kien-tzung, generally known as Ma Taotai, has been appointed manager of the C.M.S.N. Co.; it is believed here that he published the telegram to please Li, and to laugh perhaps again at the French Consul-General.

THE *Journal des Débats* attributes the financial crisis through which the United States of America are now passing to excessive railway speculation. When specie payments were resumed, January 1st, 1880, people, believing that an era of boundless prosperity had set in, plunged wildly into all sorts of speculations. Railways were the principal favorites. Innumerable companies were formed; stocks were run up to fictitious values, and the public generally offered

themselves to be duped. In four years 35,100 miles of railway were constructed, at an average cost of \$30,000 per mile, the total outlay thus amounting to 1,050 millions of dollars. Besides this, 200 millions were spent on lines already existing, so that altogether 1,250 millions were devoted to this class of enterprise. The development of commerce and industry did not keep pace with this enormous extension of roads, and competition reduced their earnings. Finally, in 1883, their stock began to depreciate, so that in twelve months the difference of quotations, applied to the whole mass of stocks, showed a loss of nearly a thousand million of dollars. It is not likely that America will be seriously inconvenienced by the disasters these rash speculations have entailed. The elasticity of her resources is so enormous that she will probably soon recover from the momentary depression. But in the meanwhile, she offers a signal example of the financial sufferings a country may bring upon itself by excessive railway speculation.

ALTHOUGH our trade with Korea is of no great significance, says the *Bukka Shimpô*, still our marine communication with that country leaves much to be desired. A steamer leaves for the Korean ports only once or twice a month, and bankers and merchants have, as a rule, to settle their business in a few hours time after the announcement of the steamer's departure. When the *Chitose Maru* left for Korea on the 21st instant, a large quantity of goods destined for that country had to be held over for the next mail. Shippers at Nagasaki and Fusan have been not infrequently put to the same inconvenience.

THE Macao Correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph* writes under date of April 19th:—“I have just heard from very reliable military sources that the French intend landing an expeditionary force in Macao, for the purpose of marching on and operating against Canton. It is not definitely known from whence the troops are to come, but there can be little doubt that a portion of the forces in Tonquin will form the nucleus of the intended expedition.” It is further stated that this measure has been arranged by virtue of an agreement between the Governments of France and Portugal, and that Governor Roza has been duly instructed from Lisbon to afford every facility to the free ingress and egress of the French forces.” This statement, if true, proves that the French are about taking a long premeditated step. Debarred as they are from blockading the coast ports, the city of Canton is at once one of the most important and vulnerable points of attack. Access to the city by way of the river is almost or quite impossible, as the channel is now only 90 feet wide, and the whole river filled with torpedoes, sunken junks, and guarded by forts at short distances along the banks. The relations between Portugal and China have been strained for a long time past, and nothing is more probable than that the Portuguese Government should make common cause with France against the Chinese. Unless the French really intend landing an expeditionary force at Macao it will go hard with the Holy City, for the mere rumour of a concerted advance of the French and Portuguese troops will make the position of the Macaenses a very critical one.

To judge by the following paragraph from the *Fiji Shimpô*, centenarians are of common occurrence in this country:—“Among the mem-

bers newly admitted to the Old Men's Association in Osaka are a farmer 128 years of age, his eldest son aged 93, a second son, a mere youth of 85, a daughter aged 84, and their families, all of whom are of ripe old age. Four other members over a century old have recently been admitted." We have, since reading the above, destroyed our life-insurance policy, and have forwarded a written application for membership to Osaka.

MR. CHARLES WIRGMAN has published a Sketch Book of Japan containing forty delineations of country life. The drawing is bold, and in many instances full of talent, though at times it displays a carelessness that does not improve the effect. Some of the scenes are evidently laid in the Japan of a dozen years ago, when two swords were a gentleman's constant companions and the *yaro no atama* was not discovered to emit the sound of *yasui suikwa*. To more recent residents the book will, therefore, seem a little strange, but to those who want to know what Japan was before foreign fashions came largely into vogue, Mr. Wirgman's sketches will be very valuable. What we regret is that he has not added short descriptions of the illustrations. True the subjects often describe themselves, but this is not always the case, and besides, Mr. Wirgman's descriptions would be so many additional pictures. We believe that he would find an appreciative public for more elaborate efforts in the nature of this sketch book.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* of the 15th inst. says:—The Siamese brig *Doretta*, which arrived here from Nagasaki on Saturday last, is the first vessel which ever exhibited the "White Elephant" flag in Japan waters. There being no treaty of commerce between Japan and Siam, it was very difficult to obtain permission for the vessel to enter the Customs. The *Doretta*, after laying idle for sixteen days, received finally the special grant by the Governor of Nagasaki to discharge her cargo and to load. We understand that in about a month's time, a Siamese war-vessel may be expected in China, whence she will proceed to Japan in order to sign a treaty of commerce between Siam and Japan.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Kiyoto, says that there is great interest in Christianity manifested throughout the whole region, and that the Japanese predict a large increase in the number of Christian converts during the course of this year. It is further stated that, contemporaneous with these encouraging signs, there is also discernible a marked growth in Christian character among those who have already been converted. There can be no doubt that the progress of Christianity during the past few years has been signal. There are now 138 Protestant Missionaries actually working in Japan, and whereas the number of converts in 1859 was *nil*, the number to-day is 6,598. In estimating this result, it must be remembered that the greatest care is exercised before consenting to baptise a convert to Protestantism. Certain probationary tests are strictly applied, and, further, those only who live lives consistent with the faith they have embraced remain upon the roll of the Church. When, therefore, we speak of six or seven thousand converts with these qualifications, much more is meant than similar statistics under less rigorous conditions would convey. Time was of course necessary for the Missionaries to acquire such a knowledge of the Japanese

language as would enable them to mix with the people freely and speak and preach to them in the vernacular. And certainly they have made very wonderful use of their time. One need only hear their lectures and sermons to appreciate the unremitting diligence and enthusiasm they must have brought to bear upon their work. We speak here of Protestant Missionaries, not from any desire to depreciate the work of the Greek and Roman Catholic, but simply because the attainments of the latter are less familiar to us, though of their noble devotion and zeal we have seen very many examples. The story of the results they have achieved in Japan may be read in the following statistics, which we extract from the Proceedings of the Osaka Conference of 1883:—

STATISTICS OF THE GREEK MISSION IN JAPAN.

	Up to July, 1882.	Up to July, 1883.	In- crease.	De- crease.
Priests	13 ¹	14 ²	1	—
Foreign Teachers	2	2	—	—
Unordained Evangelists	93 ³	106 ⁴	13	—
Believers	7,611	8,863	1,252	—
Baptized during the year	1,255	1,391	136	—
Scholars	422	395	—	27
Christian Marriages during the year	25	26	1	—
Christians deceased during the year	177	139	—	38
Organized Churches	131	148	17	—
Church Edifices	90	110	20	—
Preaching Places	277	281	4	—
Fixed Contributions (in Yen)	142.19	148.69	6.50	—
School Contributions	130.96	98.12	—	32.84
Church Contributions	7,809.77	4,373.39	—	3,436.38

STATISTICS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION IN JAPAN.*

	1881.		1882.	
	South- ern Pl. cariat.	North- ern Pl. cariat.	South- ern Pl. cariat.	North- ern Pl. cariat.
Japanese Catholic Popu- lation	22,086	3,547	25,633	4,094
Baptisms during the year.	2,036	659	2,695	971
Pagan adults	842	383	1,225	649
Children of Pagans.	353	195	548	251
Children of Chris- tians	841	81	922	71
Converted Protestants and Greeks	—	2	2	8
Bishops	2	1	3	1
European Missionaries	21	22	43	23
Churches or Chapels	59	21	80	22
Seminaries	2	1	3	1
Students in these	60	11	71	12
Catechists	162	40	202	36
Schools and Orphanages.	44	30	74	29
Scholars in these	1,717	1,203	2,920	1,079

It thus appears, that the total number of Christian converts in Japan is upwards of forty-one thousand, and that they are increasing at the rate of nearly six thousand per annum—a rate which we confidently believe will soon be doubled or trebled.

In the columns of "Religious Intelligence," in the *New York Herald*, and under the special heading of "Japanese Converts," the following remarkable paragraph appears:—

One of the most prominent men in Japan is Mr. Ito Hirobumi. He has just recently returned from a long stay in Germany, where he saw much of Bismarck and Emperor William. Mr. Ito was much impressed with the character of these men, both of whom, he says, advised him to accept Christianity for his own welfare and happiness, as well as for the good of his country. Since his return, he has formally addressed the Mikado on the subject; and such has been the influence of his report, that the chief officers of the Cabinet are becoming interested in the study of Christianity.

The same journal contains the statement that several of the highest officials and nobles of Korea, including near relatives of the King, have formally adopted the Christian religion, their conversion having taken place during a visit to Shanghai. It is furthermore recorded that the aborigines of Formosa have manifested an extraordinary susceptibility to missionary teaching. "Whole villages, it is reported, have cast away their idols, and hundreds of the natives have embraced Christianity." For announcements of this description, which are by no means uncommon in American newspapers, it would be difficult to find confirmation in this part of the world. If not without foundation in Japan's case, their grain of fact seems to be strained, in

* 4 foreign and 9 native.
1 foreign and 11 native.
2 of the first, 48 of the second, 19 of the third grade.
3 of the first, 57 of the second, 26 of the third grade.
* Kindly furnished by the Abbé Paulin Vigroux, *Pro-Vicar Apost.*

other instances, beyond all credibility, recalling the memorable report, some years ago, that the Mikado had thrown aside the religion of his ancestors, and proclaimed himself a follower of Jesus.

On the 30th ultimo, an enterprising exchange broker, yclept Tanaka, brought \$188,000 in silver from various other brokers. This sum he deposited at once in the Naruto Ginko, and obtained upon it an advance of 200,000 *yen*. However, instead of paying the brokers from whom he had obtained the silver in full, he gave each man a certain sum on account, promising to bring the balance later in the day. In this way he paid out about 150,000 *yen*, and decamped with the remainder, said to be 50,920 *yen*. The genial fellow is supposed to be hiding in China-town, although several houses have already been searched without effect. All the steamers leaving the port are closely watched, while detectives have been sent to Tokiyo, and constables are stationed on all the roads leading out of Yokohama. The wife of the enterprising Tanaka, as well as another person suspected of being an accomplice, have been arrested, and are in strict confinement.

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Since the above was written, we learn that Tanaka was arrested yesterday afternoon, at half-past three. It appears that a special permit had been obtained from the Chinese Consul to search all the houses in Chinatown, but the embezzler was finally captured in a tea-house at Noge-yama.

ADMIRAL LESSOFFSKY, the news of whose death was received by the last American mail, had been at different periods of his career identified with events in the Far East. He was captain of the Russian frigate *Diana*, which was wrecked in the latest of Japan's overwhelming and devastating earthquakes, at Simoda, in 1855. At the time of China's quarrel with her northern neighbour, four years ago, he commanded the Russian fleet in these waters. He was an officer of large experience, and his reputation was high, although his opportunities for personal distinction had not been numerous. He was, however, at one time entrusted with a duty which might have made him a leading figure in a mighty conflict. It was to him that the orders of his Government were given, in 1863, to report to President Lincoln, in the event of an attempt to break the Southern blockade by British or French ships of war, and to place at the disposal of the United States the entire naval force—then unusually numerous and formidable—stationed at New York and other American ports. Circumstances did not call for this action on his part, and the secret mission of Admiral Lessoffsky, though perfectly authenticated, has yet to take its place in written history.

It will be remembered, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, that in September last a number of Chinese were sentenced to long terms at the Mixed Court, for being implicated in the cutting and robbing of the river cables belonging to the Great Northern, and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Companies. About two miles of wire were then recovered, and about three miles more were missing. The robbers who were sentenced at that time were all boatmen, and employed by a Chinaman who paid them by the day for their labour. Although the police were on the alert, they were unable to capture the principal crimi-

nal, and it was rumoured that he made his escape to Hankow. This report proved correct, for he returned a couple of days ago from that port. The police were informed of it, and Inspector Mack succeeded in arresting him in Hongkew yesterday. He confessed his guilt, gave information where about 200 more piculs of cable were stored, and mentioned also two other Chinese connected with the robbery, both of whom have been captured since. The three men concerned in the crime were brought up at the Mixed Court when the case was remanded for a week. Foreign employés of the two telegraph companies, Inspector Mack, and the principal offender, who is said to have extensive property in Hongkew, proceeded down the river in a steam launch to recover the cable, which is said to be stored at no great distance from Woosung.

THE *Mitsu Bishi Kwaisha* has able men, but poor ships; the *Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha* has splendid vessels, but incompetent commanders. This has become a popular bye-word, but whether the saying is justified or not, we are not in a position to state. We have been fearing all along that, while the two Companies failed to act in harmony, foreigners would play the rôle of the legendary fisherman who profited so highly by the quarrels of the clam and the cormorant; and that between these two stools the coasting-trade of Japan would fall to the ground, the facility of transport be impeded, and the national finances suffer serious injury. Of late, however, we have heard on good authority, that far from being at swords' points—the two Companies stand on a footing of friendly intimacy, and are pursuing their avocation with redoubled energy, in order to promote the commerce of the sea-board and thereby benefit the whole nation.—*Bukka Shimpō*.

On the 30th of last March, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, one Sekiya, a *shizoku* of Kanagawa Prefecture, delivered a political address at Kanazawa. In the course of his lecture, he made use of the following remarks:—"There are in our community men like cats, *namadzu* (a kind of cat-fish), dogs, and badgers. The *namadzu* has a moustache on his upper lip, and moves in every direction as it pleases him. What he vows to-day, he forgets to-morrow, and there is no trustworthy quality in his nature. The so-called badger is still more disgusting than are either cats or *namadzu*. I dislike especially the badger-in-chief. The badger of the days before the Restoration was deceitful in the extreme; but the present badger persistently declines to do what he once solemnly promised and agreed to in writing. What he said in 1872-73, he now entirely ignores." The next day the lecturer was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a fine of ten *yen* by the Kanagawa Saibansho, on the ground that his remarks referred to the Land-Tax Regulations published in 1873, and that he had thereby publicly defamed H.E. Sanjo.

THE last new speculation in New York is in tea. With military operations going on in Tong-king and the possibility of a blockade of the Treaty Ports, tea which is not yet formed in the leaf on the trees has been sold already in millions of pounds for delivery six or eight months hence. A report quoted in their circular by Messrs. J. C. Sillar and Co. thus describes the gamble:—"The interval has witnessed some of the most extraordinary changes in the market that we have yet had to chronicle. With the ordinary number

of 'prophets after the event,' we believe that no one is bold enough seriously to lay claim to have anticipated in any approximate measure the rapid advances, the heavy blocks of tea changing hands, and the excitement steadily sustained and only shifting from one kind to another. A good business at full and somewhat advancing prices was generally and reasonably looked for. Statistics were in favour of it, the conservative policy of receivers also favoured it, and the country had not, it was judged, stocked up sufficiently heavily during the latter part of 1883 to prevent a repetition of the brisk demand during January and February to which late years had accustomed us. But we commenced the year with one factor the power of which was little realized. About the middle of January a movement was initiated on the exchange whereby Japans were rapidly pushed up, and all that was offered was eagerly taken for future delivery at constantly advancing prices. Towards the close black teas have attracted attention, and if the advance has not been quite as great as yet, it has been even more rapid."—*St. James's Gazette*.

Our Reuter's telegram, received Thursday, gives the result of the Two Thousand Guineas, but there is no such horse as "Scot," which is given as the winner, in the entries. The name intended is probably "De Soto," a chesnut colt of Mr. P. Lorillard's, by Wanderer out of Katie Pearce. There was very little betting on the race in the papers received by the last English mail, the attention of racing men being mostly engaged on the Grand National and the Lincoln Handicap. Harvester, a brown colt by Sterling out of Wheat Ear, belonging to Lord Falmouth, was quoted in the Manchester betting at 7 to 1 just before the mail left, and 6 to 1 was being offered against Superba. The second horse, St. Medard, is a brown colt by Rosicrucian out of Bonny Kate, and belongs to Mr. Gerard. It is possible, of course, that the winner may be an unnamed colt, but in the absence of certainty it is no good to attempt to give any account of his pedigree and performances.

ACCEPTING Mr. Burleigh's figures as approximately correct, the battle of Tanager is the bloodiest fight in which we have been engaged for ten years and more, with the exception of Ulundi. The following are the number of killed and wounded in recent British victories:—

BATTLE.	DATE.	KILLED.	WOUNDED.
1. Amoaful	Jan. 31, 1874	7	200
2. Peiwar Kotal	Dec. 2, 1878	22	73
3. Rorke's Drift	Jan. 22, 1879	17	10
4. Ekowe	April 12, 1879	41	...
5. Ulundi	July 4, 1879	104	...
6. Charasiab	Oct. 6, 1879	24	57
7. Sherpur	Dec., 1879	5	33
8. Ahmed Khel	April, 1880	17	124
9. Mazra	Sept. 1, 1880	29	161
10. Tel-el-Kebir	Sept. 13, 1882	54	342
11. Teb	Feb. 29, 1884	30	140
12. Tanager	March 13, 1884	100	not known

A MATCH of a kind novel in California has been made between Prince, the bicycle rider, and Anderson, the well known California mustang rider, for a stake of \$500 a side. Prince agrees with the assistance of a partner to ride more miles on a bicycle in six days of twelve hours each day than Anderson can cover with fifteen horses, changing as often as he pleases. Prince is confident of winning, as he found a similar match with Leroy in Boston rather an easy thing, but he does not reckon on the fact that California horses are better travellers and better stayers than Eastern stock, and that Anderson can outride any man east of Auckland on a long

trip. One hundred dollars a side forfeit is up already and the balance is to be put up shortly. Anderson has gone to San José for his horses, and Prince is training at Oakland. His partner in the race will be Eck, unless a better man can be got to ride. Prince is confident he can go over 1,050 miles with the aid of his partner, and Anderson says if his horses do not give out he can make that distance with ease.—*Alla*.

THE numerous friends of Baron R. R. Rosen will learn with pleasure that he has been appointed Russian Consul-General at New York. The post offers exceptional attractions and the emoluments attached to it are excellent, but it is to be hoped that these advantages will not prove finally satisfactory to Baron Rosen. A diplomat of such talent cannot be spared by his country for service in a position demanding so little exercise of his rare qualities.

THE vernacular papers have several times of late spoken of the birth of monstrosities in various parts of the Empire. A few days ago the birth of hairy twins with canine mouths was reported, and now the *Fiyu Shimbun* tells of another remarkable *lusus naturæ* in Shidzuoka Prefecture. "The head of the poor child," says the *Fiyu*, "is just like that of a serpent, its face being very long and pointed, and without ears. The arms are well formed, but scales cover the back, giving it a most hideous appearance. One hundred *yen* have been offered for the phenomenon, as an enterprising speculator intends exhibiting it in public." Barnum's agent has probably been to Shidzuoka.

MR. W. H. HUNT, United States Minister to St. Petersburg, says an American paper, died in that city on the morning of the 27th ult., from dropsy, superinduced by chronic inflammation of the liver. Mr. Hunt was born in South Carolina, but spent most of his life in New Orleans. He was educated at Yale College, studied and practised law in New Orleans, gaining a position at the Louisiana bar. He was a Whig before the war, and a moderate Democrat for several subsequent years, but ultimately joined the Republican party, and was elected Attorney-General of the State in 1876 on the Packard ticket. In 1877 he settled in Washington as a lawyer. In 1878 he was urged for the post of Collector of New Orleans, but was instead made a Judge of the Court of Claims. On President Garfield's accession to power he was made Secretary of the Navy. On April 6th, 1882, he was nominated Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Russia.

THE C.M.S.N. Co.'s steamer *Fu-yew*, which had been ashore off the Pescadores, arrived at Shanghai on the 12th ultimo. It appears that an extraordinarily high tide enabled the vessel to float off the rocks. The diver who went down could discover no hole in the hull, but she was leaking considerably. The carpenters sent from the Old Dock, Shanghai, having battened down the lower deck hatchway of the main hold to keep the water from rising above this deck, and shores having been placed to prevent it bursting up, the *Fu-yew* made for Shanghai in company with the *Hae-shin* and the tug *Fuh-lee*, which had been sent to her assistance. On arrival at Shanghai she went into the Old Dock, and it is said the damage extends over six plates of her bottom.

THERE has just been published at Anvers, by one of the most distinguished officers of the Dutch army, a pamphlet entitled *L'armée française en 1884 et le général de Galliffet*. Emanating from such an authority, the work has attracted much attention. The author commences by analysing the European situation subsequent to the war of 1870. He asserts that the various monarchies are now grouping themselves about Germany and turning away from Republican France, and that the French army will be well advised to avoid taking any part whatsoever in political struggles. That army, he declares, in an admirable body without a head. It lacks the governing impulse as well as the unity of direction which are so perfect in the German army. Among French officers of the highest grades the one who seems to combine all the qualities necessary in the commander of a great army is, according to the writer, General Galliffet, a man who, though of aristocratic origin, is distrusted by the conservative aristocrats; who believes that a soldier is a soldier, not a politician, and who thinks it his duty as a soldier to obey any legally constituted Government that may be in power. A great deal is added of the military qualities which the general has displayed, and the brochure concludes by reminding Frenchmen that when they drag their army into politics and bring discredit on it by accusing it of lukewarmness to the Republic, they are working against France and in favour of Germany, who watches all their manoeuvres with delight, and would be charmed to see the day when political distrust should have set up a solid barrier between the country and its defenders.

THE French appear to be making the pacification of Tonquin as difficult as possible for themselves. According to *The Times'* correspondent, their treatment of the people is needlessly cruel. The Black Flags are in some respects not far removed from savages. But they indulge in their barbarous propensities at the expense of the dead, not of the living. Moreover, the Black Flags are not really Tonquinese. However stubbornly they fight, it is difficult to see why their resistance to a foreign invader should be made a pretext for inflicting upon the people of the country such barbarities as we constantly read of. That France has been obliged to employ in this campaign her most undisciplined and uncivilized forces, is a misfortune which necessarily entails some inconveniences; but seeing that the future Government of the country will devolve upon herself, one is surprised that more resolute efforts are not made to hold her troops in check. If half of what we hear be true, Western civilization has presented itself under a very repulsive aspect to the Tonquinese. The men are beaten and kicked indiscriminately out of mere wantonness; the women and children have to suffer even worse things. Not much stress ought to be laid on the conduct of soldiers during the heat of battle, yet this excuse hardly covers the murder of wounded men, or such merciless deeds as those related by *The Times'* correspondent, who says that "for days after the taking of Son-tai, Chinamen were brought in from the outlying villages by treacherous Annamese, were set up on the high bank of the river, shot, and kicked into the water." These things, if true, might worthily be ranked with the Bulgarian episodes which threw all Europe into a ferment a few years ago. According to the same authority, it

was the intention of the French to massacre the whole garrison of Bac-ninh, if steps projected with a view to intercepting all the avenues of retreat had proved effective. We cannot believe this. True, it would not have been inconsistent with much that had been already permitted, or, at least, unrestrained, but between the deliberate acts of French Generals and the irresponsible license of Turcos and Zouaves, an immense interval exists. Probably, after all these stories have been discounted, there will not remain much that might not have been anticipated. French troops have never distinguished themselves by their respect for the amenities of warfare, and the French troops engaged in the subjugation of Tonquin are not the sort of men who might be expected to improve their country's record in this respect.

IT might be discourteous to insinuate that the United States Government has no definite idea of what it intends to do with regard to jurisdiction in this region, but Lord Dundreary, who was no respecter of institutions, would certainly have classed it with the tumbler pigeons, as "a bird that don't know its own mind." It has of late given unmistakable indications of willingness to allow Japan to resume all the inherent rights of which she was deprived by the early treaties; but, as if wholly unconscious of that disposition, the Senate has just passed what is known as the "Pendleton Bill," for the establishment of a system of courts in this empire and China, similar to the system which has been for several years in operation under the authority of Great Britain. The arguments in favour of the proposed arrangement, with its corps of qualified judges and its comprehensive code, are based upon the alleged inefficiency of consular tribunals; but since the United States are understood to be prepared to deliver up to Japan, at any moment, the power of jurisdiction over Americans, the establishment of what would be an institution of merely temporary, and probably very brief, duration, in this country, seems too unnecessary and superfluous ever to be realized. For China it may be fitting and desirable; not for Japan.

AN attempted double murder and suicide took place on Tuesday about 10 a.m., at Matsukage-cho, Nichome, Yokohama. Takahashi Shidzu, a young woman of some twenty years of age, and Tachibana Toyokichi, a householder living in a cross-street of Matsukage-cho, were the chief actors in the tragedy. They stabbed each other in the neck, the woman dying shortly afterwards, but the man, although severely wounded will probably recover. It seems to have been a case of *joshi*, or "love-death."

AMONG the pictures exhibited at Uyeno are two by an Englishman, Mr. Josiah Conder, A.R.I.A., who exhibits under the name of Kiyoyei. The paintings are, of course, in pure Japanese style, the one being an Indian ink drawing representing a heron in a shower of rain, and the other, a scene from Chinese history in water colours. Both are executed with remarkable skill. The former attracted the notice of the Imperial party on the occasion of their recent visit to the Exhibition, and by His Majesty's desire was set apart for the Palace.

KITE-FLYING is at all times a popular amusement with the Japanese, but some of these monster kites are almost as costly as they are large. An

enormous specimen, worth 80 *yen*, was sent heavenwards the other day at Numadzu, Shidzuoka, while others worth from 10 to 25 *yen* are of common occurrence.

THE German bark *Oscar Mooyer*, which arrived on Monday from Formosa, made a remarkably fast passage, in fact the fastest on record, the vessel only taking 10 days from Takao to this port.

THE Services to-morrow (Sunday) at Union Church will have special reference to the anniversary of the Sunday School. In the morning the Rev. E. S. Booth will preach on the "Oneness of God in Nature and in Revelation." A collection will be made on behalf of the expenses of the school. In the afternoon at half-past three o'clock, there will be a Children's Service, with singing and addresses. Children, as well as parents and friends, are invited to be present.

SMALL-POX is raging in Amakusa, Kumamoto Prefecture, as well as in some of the southern districts. Many fatal cases are recorded, especially among children. Cases of diphtheria are reported from Uta and Ushita, Yamato Prefecture. The Government is using every means to prevent the spread of the epidemics, and it seems tolerably certain that they will not reach the Capital.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that during the thunder-storm on the night of the 23rd instant, a flash of lightning struck a house in Reiganjima, Tokiyo, and set fire to some wadded quilts stored in a godown. The flames were fortunately prevented from spreading.

DURING the week ending on the 25th instant the number of visitors to the Competitive Exhibition of Pictures at Uyeno was 16,405. The largest attendance was on Sunday, 20th instant, when the visitors amounted to 3,877. On Sundays the price of admittance is doubled, being ten, instead of 5, *sen*.

THE British bark *Guiding Star*, which arrived here last evening from Takao, made the passage under ten days, and the round trip in one month, including ten days' detention at Takao. This passage beats the *Oscar Mooyer's* best on record. When the *Guiding Star* left Takao the British bark *Channel Queen* was loading for Yokohama.

THE Italian corvette *Cristoforo Colombo*, Captain Accinni, and the German ship *Stosch*, Captain von Nostitz, bearing the Flag of Commodore Paschen, left Amoy for Shanghai on the 9th inst. *en route* to Chefoo and Japan.

A LETTER from Madrid published in the *Manila Comercio* states that Don Manuel del Palacio has been appointed Spanish Minister Resident in Japan, and that Señor Castillo y Triquero, the present Minister in Japan, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Peking.

THE British steamer *Newminster* arrived at Yokosuka on Thursday from Rangoon with a cargo of teak consigned to Messrs. Takata & Co.

THE American bark *B. T. Watson* is chartered to load a cargo of sugar at a port in the Philippines for New York direct.

THE Exchange Market tug-boat *Exchange* was sold on Monday to the Kiodo Unyu Kwaisha for the sum of \$4,000.

JAPANESE RAILWAY BONDS.

THE *Manchester Guardian* of March 4th, contains the following observations on Japanese railway bonds:—

The question as to which is the best market in which to issue bonds for railway construction—the native market or the London market—is an interesting one in Japan as well as in India. It is just now being discussed in the former country in connection with the proposals of the Finance Minister to which we lately drew attention. It is contended that native capital cannot be profitably sunk in railways, considering the rates of interest ruling in Japan. At the present time Government bonds command in Japan an unusually high price. The contraction of the currency (due to the efforts of the Government to bring the paper currency to par), and the consequent stagnation of trade and industry, have induced a diversion of capital from trade for investment in public securities. But even under these circumstances the bonds show more than 9 per cent. at the current prices, and when trade was active they could be bought to show 11 and 12 per cent. With a revival of trade, which railway construction itself may reasonably be expected to stimulate, native capital will return to the ordinary trade channels. This the Government appear to anticipate. As we have already explained it is obviously for this reason that the Government proposes to make the new bonds transferable to foreign holders. But in this case why not issue them in the foreign market at once? One reason probably is a doubt as to whether they would be marketable at all there. It is readily conceivable that foreign capitalists might be willing to accept the bonds as securities for advances made to native traders and not as investments, because in the former case there would be the additional security of the trader himself and the specific profits of the transactions with him. Still, as the bonds are to bear 7 per cent. at par, and it is anticipated that they will have to be issued at a price which will show at least 10 per cent., it is possible that foreign capitalists might be tempted after all and give a better price than native investors. The *Japan Mail*, a paper which is understood to have close relations with the Japanese Government, suggests two reasons why the Finance Minister prefers the home market. In the first place, Japan is extremely reluctant to incur foreign obligations, and an external loan would be very unpopular. The prejudice against foreign engagements is said to be increased by "the opposition to the just aspirations of the Japanese" in regard to the Treaty Revision question. Possibly this may be so; but this very prejudice, which looks like a survival of Eastern exclusiveness, is in itself of a nature to increase the distrust of foreigners as to the consequences of conceding to Japan all that she now demands. A more sound reason given for borrowing at home is that the Government can issue the loan in small quantities as the railway works progress. Thus interest on a great portion of the loan may be saved, and as each section of the new line is completed, its earnings may go far towards paying the proportion already incurred. It might prove really less costly to pay 10 per cent. on a loan issued by small instalments as the money was wanted than to pay only 8 per cent. on a loan issued in one lump at the outset. Then, of course, heavy commissions might be incurred in financing the loan abroad. This latter explanation is certainly more creditable to the civilisation and intelligence of Japan than an explanation which savours too much of the fallacies about the "balance of trade" and the "encouragement of native shipping" which Japan has apparently not yet outgrown.

The comments of such an authority on Japanese finance are worthy of attention. We do not believe, however, that in taking no steps to place the bonds on the European market, the Japanese Government was influenced by any doubt of their negotiability in the sense indicated by the *Manchester Guardian*. Japanese securities are quoted at a premium in London now, and with such an excellent record as Japan can show, it is pretty certain that bonds guaranteed by the State and bearing at least seven per cent. interest would be readily taken up by English capitalists. But there is an important point which appears to have escaped the attention of

our contemporary; namely, that the face value of the bonds is in fiat paper, and that the interest is payable in the same medium. Japanese fiat paper has appreciated with remarkable rapidity during the past two years—so rapidly indeed that the permanence of the improvement is still questioned by the public. Foreigners buying these bonds at present, must procure *Kinsatsu* at a discount of only 9 per cent. to effect the purchase, and would receive the interest also in *Kinsatsu*. This would be very well so long as Japanese paper money retains its present value, and still better if it continued to appreciate. But if it happened to depreciate, the speculation would look much less rosy. A bond whose face value is 100 *yen* and which originally cost \$84, might—if *Kinsatsu* fell to a discount of 17 or 18—come to be worth only \$76 or \$77; and instead of paying an interest of 7.6 per cent. on the first cost, it might only pay seven per cent. or even less. We do not believe that there is reason to anticipate anything of the sort. Japanese paper money may still show slight fluctuations, but that it will again suffer any serious depreciation is most unlikely, so long as the Government adheres to its present programme. When specie payments are resumed, and *Kinsatsu* circulate at par with silver, bonds now obtainable for \$84 will be worth \$92 in the market,—even on the improbable hypothesis that their selling price does not improve in the interim,—will have a face value of \$100, and will pay more than 8 per cent. interest. The total appreciation, from this cause alone, of twenty millions worth of bonds would be upwards of 1½ millions of dollars. To the Government, therefore, the question of putting the bonds on the foreign market may present aspects which seem to have hitherto escaped the public. In the first place, some doubts may be entertained as to the advisability of making such an early appeal to foreign confidence in the stability of the fiat currency. Of late years Japanese finance has been subjected by the local English press to unreasonably hostile criticism. Every policy adopted, however simple and intelligible, is pronounced vicious and disastrous should it happen to differ in any respect from the nostrums proposed by writers whose ability to take charge of a nation's exchequer remains to be established. Nobody over-estimates the area of influence exercised by such criticism. In fact we have recently seen evidence that its effects have not extended even to those home journals which chiefly interest themselves in Japanese affairs, as for example, the *Manchester Guardian*. There is nevertheless some possibility—remote, we imagine, but still appreciable—that the Japanese may be unwilling to invite a public verdict upon the results of their scheme of resumption until they can reasonably hope that their appeal will be received in a less hostile and more sincere spirit. This, of course, is matter

of conjecture. But when we remember how little Japan is practiced to look below the surface of foreign opinion, it becomes easy to suspect her of a certain timidity in these matters. In the second place—and this seems a more tangible motive—there may be an unwillingness to carry abroad any questions connected with the fiat currency until the programme of resumption, now so far advanced, is brought within certain sight of completion. The Japanese have learned, not alone the inconvenience, but also the discredit, of inconvertible paper. By a great effort—perhaps too violent an effort—they have succeeded in reducing the bulk of their fiduciary notes to easily manageable limits, and nothing now remains but to persevere a little longer in accumulating a specie reserve. If a few millions more were added to the sum already lying in the Treasury vaults, it would be possible to proceed to resumption at once with perfect confidence. Being thus on the verge of success, the Government may think it wiser to avoid any recourse to foreign money markets until success is actually achieved; until Japan can come before the world entirely freed from the incubus which has so heavily handicapped her of late years. There is yet another important consideration which has probably received due weight. It is that, if currency redemption is to become an accomplished fact in the near future, the value of these railway bonds will be greatly appreciated. Even supposing that their selling price in paper remains as at present (91 to 92), the difference between their specie value now and their value three or four years hence would be nine or ten per cent., and they would then pay interest at the rate of more than eight per cent. on prime cost. The people of Japan have the first right to such valuable securities. On them has fallen the tax of the fiat currency, and it is but fair that to them also should be offered whatever chances of profit present themselves in connection with resumption. Whether the people of Japan can afford to thus divert large sums of floating capital from the ordinary channels of trade, is altogether another question. The Government possibly thinks that any inconvenience of this nature may be avoided, since the holders of such securities will always be in a position to command pecuniary facilities at the open ports or in the foreign money markets. This is doubtless true, but to render these facilities easily accessible, the foreign public must be to some extent familiarized with the bonds as well as with the conditions upon which they are offered, and to this end the simplest plan would be to issue a certain quantity on the European markets at once. If larger commercial privileges could be granted to foreigners, Japan's railways might easily be built without any preliminary strain on her resources. But so long as Western Governments continue to oppose perfect freedom of intercourse, Japanese officials must make up their minds to accept responsibilities which do not properly devolve upon an enlightened administration.

YOKOHAMA CRITICISM.

AS an example of the just and logical treatment which any public advocate of a liberal policy towards Japan may expect to receive from the local press of this Settlement, a contemporary's criticisms upon the *Manchester Guardian's* correspondent are characteristic. We say nothing of courtesy. To look for that were a little extravagant. Moreover, the propositions put forward by the critic are so singular that the terms in which they are couched become matters of secondary consideration. It is not so startling to hear an article in a leading English journal dubbed a compound of "unequivocal falsehoods" and "extreme exaggeration," as to be assured that the intrinsic merits of a cause are destroyed by the supposed imprudence of its advocates; that "Japan's case must be regarded as thoroughly hopeless" because an injudicious friend is supposed to have exaggerated it! One might as well announce that the product of five by five can never hereafter be called twenty-five, because an arithmetical blunderer may somewhere have written it down twenty-seven. Any statement, no matter how insulting to reason, no matter how wholly lacking a grain of substance, seems to be thought suitable to this community's sagacities, provided only there be sufficient froth and bubble about it. Added to this derisive recklessness, there is a knack of linking together a host of interdependent misrepresentations and conflicting accusations, which finally assume the aspect of such a headless and tailless labyrinth of confusion that weary disgust is the result of any attempt to unravel its mazes, or to expose the utter falseness of the general impression conveyed. One asks oneself whether the columns of a newspaper ought to be devoted to publishing, and the time of its readers to perusing, a mere war of words, not more useful or edifying than an interchange of recriminations by two school-girls. Yet, as we have said, the general impression remains, and, unless it be contradicted, carries some weight with a public whose leisure is not sufficient for accurate analysis. In the case under review, the general drift of the criticism is to show that the writer in the *Manchester Guardian* denies that extraterritoriality was necessary at any time in Japan. But from first to last his article does not contain one word justifying such an inference. On the contrary, he explicitly admits an original necessity. For he tells us that without extraterritoriality "trade could not have been carried on" in China, and inferentially in Japan, to which "the same conditions were extended in 1858." Nor does he leave us in any doubt as to the reasons why "trade could not have been carried on unless Europeans were detached from the operations of the legal systems" of the country. It was because these systems "sanctioned torture and had no settled principles governing the rights

and liberties of those who lived under them." He is careful to premise all this, but he excuses himself from further allusion to it by explaining that his "present purpose" is, not to trace the origin of extraterritoriality, but to "exhibit its actual state and practical working in Japan." Now observe the methods of the Yokohama critic. So eager is he to contradict, that he begins by contradicting himself. For having explicitly declared that he will "refrain from any attempt to trace the rise of extraterritoriality in Japan," he at once proceeds to trace it, by referring the system to the "criminal laws of extraordinary severity and cruelty" exercised here in the early times of foreign intercourse. Upon the working of these laws—"crucifixions common in capital offences," "torture abolished of late years only" and so following—he dwells with wholly uncalled for minuteness, and then, having sufficiently aroused his readers' ire against a state of affairs which has long ceased to exist in Japan, he proceeds, first to blame the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* for having touched so dangerous a subject, and then to charge him with having made a "hypocritical excuse for shirking it." The dishonesty of criticism could scarcely be carried farther. The writer in the home journal plainly states that extraterritoriality was inaugurated in China, and extended to Japan, because the legal systems there "sanctioned torture" and were otherwise defective. His critic says precisely the same thing, though in clumsier and coarser terms, and then accuses him of "unequivocal falsehoods" and "extreme exaggerations" for not saying it!

This is enough, and more than enough to determine the case as between the writer in Manchester and his critic in Yokohama. But one is still puzzled to account for the reckless irrelevance of the latter's language. One asks oneself what connection can possibly exist between "the actual state and practical working" of extraterritoriality in Japan, and crucifixions that took place thirteen or fourteen years ago "within three miles of Yokohama," "photographs showing wretched beings suspended from the cross nude," "blood-stains clearly visible," and other ghastly details of an obsolete criminal procedure. Is it with the deliberate intention of falsely exciting his readers' passions and antipathies that a writer rakes up and publicly parades in this exaggerated and revolting fashion these relics of bygone systems? We say exaggerated, because it is just as incorrect to speak of a crucified criminal being "tortured to death with spears" in Japan, as it would be to say that a murderer is tortured to death by hanging in England. There was much less torture in the former case than there is in the latter, so far as we can judge. Crucifixion meant that the criminal was tied, not nailed, to a cross, and that two sharp spears were thrust into his heart. Death was instantaneous. There were no struggles

or convulsive jerkings for ten or fifteen minutes, nor any jumpings of executioners on the shoulders of half-strangled wretches, as there are sometimes, even now, in death by the gallows. Crucifixion was a brutal and demoralizing spectacle, but scarcely less disgusting and not at all more merciful than were public executions in England a few years ago. We are unwilling to think that matters of this sort are introduced with the intent of substituting passion for judgment, yet the thought is almost forced upon us when, reading on, we find the following statement:—"Only of late years has torture been abolished, yet even now officials are punished for continuing to apply it." A more cruelly unjust assertion never was penned. It is true that two policemen are said to have been recently punished for cruelty to prostitutes whom they had arrested. But what then? Nearly every mail brings us news of policemen punished in the United States and elsewhere for clubbing or shooting their prisoners, yet no one dreams of regarding these things as an evidence that torture is still "applied" in those countries. Only in Japan does every obligation to be just or accurate disappear. Here, if a policeman maltreats a prisoner and is severely punished for doing so, we are deliberately asked to infer that judicial torture is still "applied." Anywhere else the formulatur of such a charge would be laughed to scorn.

We have neither space nor inclination to follow this critic through the mazes of his inaccuracy and unfairness. Our readers can easily judge for themselves the bias of a writer who would have his readers infer, that, because only five of the seventeen consuls are merchants, the courts of the remaining twelve are competent and efficient tribunals; that there is no difficulty in extending Japanese quarantine regulations to foreign residents, although in the last epidemic of cholera the local authorities could not obtain Consular permission to adopt sanitary precautions in the case of an English subject; that "the ground rent payable by foreigners includes all taxation," although it is little more than half the amount paid by their Japanese neighbours; that, excluding the Chinese residents and assuming the total ground-rents of Yokohama at \$70,000, each member of the foreign community pays \$40, while, in reality, this arbitrarily excluded Chinese adult population is nearly three times that of all other nationalities, and the total ground-rents are \$60,000, not \$70,000; that foreigners' houses in Yokohama are not asylums for Japanese criminals because their owners do not deliberately house such characters, though they do refuse to permit a police measure which has been found effective and convenient in other foreign settlements, and without which the local authorities declare themselves unable to arrest criminals; that "the mining resources of Japan, including coal, iron, gold, silver, copper, and other products, have been shown by scientific reports

to exist only in imagination," when considerable quantities of all these minerals are actually obtained every year; that "the Japanese authorities will not consent to make the trifling concessions" necessary to inaugurate an efficient system of local government in Yokohama, when those concessions go to the very root of the international question Japan is striving so earnestly to solve; and finally, that "the prospective advantages of opening the country to foreign residence are believed by foreigners of long residence and great experience to be fallacious," when a memorial said to have been "signed by the entire foreign community without exception," has declared that the results of that opening would be "a great stimulus to industry, increased national wealth, and promotion of the welfare of the Japanese, in the first instance, and improvement of the commerce carried on by foreigners in the next." Our readers, we say, can judge for themselves whether criticism of this nature is of much value. We do not desire to suggest that the critic, so far as his lights go, did not desire to be fair and just. His motives, doubtless, were excellent. But his competence to weigh evidence, or to form a logical conception of an opponent's views, seems to be about on a par with his ability to avoid contradicting himself. As an obscurer of the truth he is eminently successful, though such a rôle is probably the last he would be willing to fill.

THE "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN"
ON CONSULAR JURISDICTION
IN JAPAN.

THERE may be some persons whose interest lies in the direction of perpetuating the unsatisfactory condition of our present relations with this country. To such a motive has occasionally been ascribed the curiously persistent malevolence which characterizes a section of the local English press and its correspondence. But with exceptions it is unnecessary to deal. These graceless cynics are undoubtedly exceptions. The general rule is a desire to contrive some mutually pleasant *modus vivendi*, and a willingness to concede whatever may be just and expedient. But unfortunately even those who must be accredited with a wish to be fair and courteous, seem incapable, occasionally, of doing themselves justice. They cannot, or they will not, look at the problem from a Japanese standpoint. And without so looking at it, anything like sound criticism is impossible. Writers in the home journals, perhaps because they are farther removed from irritating influences, perhaps because their minds are more judicial, seem better capable of appreciating both aspects of the questions that perplex us. Yet their very capacity is misunderstood and misinterpreted. The "Travelling Correspondent" of the *Daily News*, "Asiaticus," and a recent writer in

the *Manchester Guardian*, have all been criticised in terms seldom employed except in defence of a consciously weak and vicious cause. There is no reason to suppose, on the contrary there is every reason to deny, that these gentlemen were actuated by any other motive than a desire to promote British interests and to vindicate British reputation. Probably it would never occur to them to suspect their opponents of intentions inconsistent with a similar wish. Yet their statements are described, at this side of the water, as little short of deliberate fabrications, simply because, writing for readers in England and therefore necessarily employing general terms, they avoid particulars which would be both superfluous and perplexing. "Asiaticus," speaking of a tariff which included three rates,—five, twenty, and thirty-five, per cent.,—expressed it in terms of its mean rate, twenty per cent. This very natural expression called down upon his head abuse such as is generally bestowed on acts of deliberate immorality. The writer in the *Manchester Guardian* says that more than one half of the Consuls in Yokohama are themselves merchants without legal training," and bids his readers infer from this "the sort of justice that prevails in these small Eastern communities." His assertion, in its turn, is described as either a wanton or a careless misstatement, and he himself, as a man unworthy of trust. But why? Because five only out of the seventeen Consulates are in charge of merchants, the remaining twelve being presided over by "officials specially appointed and wholly interdicted from trading." Arithmetically this is true enough. There is more than arithmetic, however. "These consuls," adds the critic, speaking of the specially appointed officials, "with one or two exceptions, preside over courts of competent jurisdiction empowered to administer the laws of their respective countries: among the exceptions is Great Britain, which has established, distinct from the consulate, a court with two professional judges and the necessary officers, wherein the whole law of England is exerciseable." Now it seems to us that nothing penned by the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* is calculated to mislead so much as this statement. The impression it unequivocally, though no doubt unintentionally, conveys is that there are twelve properly equipped consular courts in Yokohama presided over by legally trained officials. This is wholly incorrect. Of the twelve courts in question, four only are presided over by gentlemen who lay claim to anything like efficient legal training. We are not aware that legal training is yet an absolutely essential qualification even in the Consuls of Great Britain and the United States. As for many others of the "specially appointed officials," it were idle to pretend that they would be held competent to occupy a place on any judicial bench in Europe. We say nothing of their abilities or integrity. These may

be of the highest order. But we do distinctly say that they are without that degree of legal training which in Great Britain, at all events, is thought a necessary prelude to the exercise of such functions. The writer in the *Manchester Guardian* speaks of the whole heterogeneous and clumsy system as it would be spoken of by any Englishman accustomed to see justice administered by English judges.

We do not desire to dwell upon this subject, because the inconveniences and anomalies of the conditions existing at present in Japan are thoroughly recognised by intelligent men, and by no one more distinctly than by the *Manchester Guardian's* critic himself. The Yokohama community fortunately needs very little law. But for the accidents of a sea-port town, we might go on from year's end to year's end giving ourselves small concern about the penal powers of Consular Courts. But there are times when we become painfully aware of the "chaos" described by the *Manchester journal*. We have, for example, no recognised Municipal laws. We never can have any, so long as we deny that the governing authority has the right to make and enforce laws. Nothing could be conceived more ludicrously irrational than the state of affairs in this respect. We have distorted the treaties into effective obstacles to our own comfort and well-being. According to the interpretation some of us put upon them, they confer on us the privilege of ignoring all Japanese local laws, but do not confer on us the power of enacting any local laws for ourselves. The Japanese are required to govern Yokohama municipally without any municipal regulations. The Consuls, whom alone we credit with authority to punish foreign infractions of law, have confessedly no authority to enforce observance of municipal law. The whole thing is a burlesque.

Whether or no the Japanese have much faith in the accessibility of justice as administered by Consular Courts is a question to which different answers will be given. The facts, however, are plain enough. One of the least disputable is, that the decisions of these most elementary Courts are virtually final, so far as a Japanese is concerned. Appeal lies to a tribunal in a foreign country. For the rest, several cases have come under our notice, several others have been described to us, where a Japanese, suffering from what he believed, and what certainly seemed, to be a grave wrong, was deterred from seeking redress by the (to him) inscrutable complications of foreign laws, their technicalities, their quibbles, and above all, by the cruel costliness of their processes. On the other hand, it would be idle to pretend that civil law as hitherto administered in Japanese Courts has satisfied Occidental ideas of justice. There has been some improvement of late, it is true, but there is room for much more.

It may, however, be confidently asserted that foreign failures of duty have been more than a set-off to Japanese incompetence. With one exception, the Treaty Powers have neglected to provide tribunals worthy to be called Courts of justice. From time to time it may happily chance that there are among the Consuls men of exceptional training and legal acumen. But the plain fact is that the only properly equipped foreign Court in Japan is that of HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY, and even there we have seen the bench occupied by officials who, whatever their moral endowments, were neither nominally nor practically qualified for the post. Consular jurisdiction, in short, is wholly unsuited to a civilized country, and the system of which it is a part has become in Japan an impediment to material progress as well as a source of mutual distrust and umbrage. It has been both useful and necessary in its time: necessary, because Japanese criminal processes could not formerly have been extended to foreigners with any show of propriety; and useful, because it has acted as a spur to reforms which, though under any circumstances inevitable, would probably under other circumstances have been accomplished much more deliberately. This is a point which Japanese will doubtless recognise. In other respects they have fully appreciated the results of their Spartan discipline, and they cannot fail to see that the patriotic energy inspired by the desire of shaking off a national humiliation has been a factor of immense national benefit. But the time has come when unvarying administration of the same drastic medicine will work, not good, but evil.

ENGLISH OPINIONS OF ENGLISH COMMUNITIES IN THE EAST.

SIX months ago the home newspapers brought us two rather startling verdicts. They were startling not less on account of the high authorities by whom they had been uttered, than on account of the opinions they embodied. Mr. GLADSTONE and General GORDON are very remarkable men. By some the former is thought too refined a moralist to deal successfully with the immoralities of international relations. By others the latter is pronounced a fanatic with a troublesome bee in his bonnet. But it is just as true now as it always has been, that the clouds and fogs of detraction and jealousy gather quickest about the loftier eminences of intellect and virtue. Among her soldiers and her statesmen England has none in whom she takes, or has ever taken, greater pride than GORDON and GLADSTONE. Jingoists and sceptics may entertain a different opinion, but fortunately the world has not yet resolved to discredit a politician because he seeks to make reason stronger than armies, or to despise a soldier because he reads his Bible. We return, therefore, to our original proposi-

tion, that a consentient verdict emanating from two such men as GLADSTONE and GORDON is not to be lightly esteemed. In the particular case to which we allude, the verdict, too, was not only consentient but contemporaneous. GLADSTONE, speaking in the House of Commons, and GORDON, writing from the West of Asia, gave utterance to precisely the same sentiment; the latter in the blunt unvarnished language of a soldier, the former in the well-weighed and polished speech of a practiced politician. What GORDON wrote was this:—

My idea is that no colonial or foreign community in a foreign land can properly and for the general benefit of the world consider the questions of that foreign state. The leading idea is how they will benefit themselves. * * * I have a very mean opinion of any colonial or foreign community's views, though I own that they are powerful for evil. Who would dare to oppose the European colony in Egypt or China and remain in those countries?

What GLADSTONE said was:—

The right hon. gentleman (Sir Stafford Northcote) says * * * great attention ought to be paid to the sentiments of the Anglo-Indian community. Well, Sir, I have had much to do for a long period with a series of questions, and I am not aware at this moment of any series of great reforms which have been brought about by the courage, and the wisdom, and the foresight of the British legislature in respect of any portion of this empire, which reforms have had the favour and support of the resident English community. I do not remember that the abolition of slavery had the support of those residents in the West Indian colonies, whose opinions, from experience and knowledge, were undoubtedly of considerable weight. I do not remember that the establishment of a responsible Government in Canada and of that new system of relations with colonial institutions which has completely established harmony where before there was perpetual discord, I do not remember that that establishment of responsible Government and that introduction of political reform were treated in the colonies by those who, up to that time, laid claim to what was called the British party and represented themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty—I do not remember that they ever received these reforms except with opposition. In 1862, the Government of Lord Palmerston re-united the people of the Ionian Islands with those of their own race, of their own religion, of their own feeling and condition; but there was a British party there, and that British party from point to point resisted everything that was proposed for the benefit of the people. Sir, it is the same thing all over the world; and it is not because these English resident communities are made up of people who are worse than ourselves. Do not let it be supposed I have any accusation to make against them; but their position is less favorable than ours for forming a comprehensive judgment. They are doomed almost to narrow modes of examining these questions, and we are compelled to look over the course of history and over the surface of the world. They each of them look at themselves in relation to persons whom they feel to be in energy and certain practical effects inferior to themselves, and there is a tendency to indulge in a spirit of ascendancy which it is the business of this House and of this Legislature, and the business of a patriotic Governor-General with wisdom and with care, but with decision, to modify and check.

It is a little remarkable that ideas so similar should have been expressed by eminent Englishmen almost at the same time and under such different circumstances. It is remarkable, too, that, of late, the question of treaty revision in Japan has elicited in England quite a chorus of opinion emphatically opposed to what the journals of this settlement used to proclaim as the only patriotic and sensible view. The *Daily News*, the *Saturday Review*, the *Manchester Guardian*, and other publications, have simultaneously become exponents of a liberal policy; a policy not opposed to every recognition of rights which are not foreign. Finally, it is remarkable that these evidences of liberality on the part of the home Press have evoked, at this side of the water, criticisms which go far to justify the verdicts of Mr. GLADSTONE

and General GORDON. Every writer who has ventured to say a word on behalf of Japan's claims to receive henceforth treatment somewhat different from the treatment she received twenty years ago, is met with a storm of hostile and sneering comment. Every writer who ventures to suggest that Englishmen ought to respect in others the instincts of national independence which they so proudly obey themselves, is accused of venal and perfidious motives, is charged, in so many words, with betraying his country and with selfishly sacrificing the interests of his countrymen. This is what General GORDON meant when he asked, "who would dare to oppose the European colony in Egypt or China and remain in those countries?" and this is what Mr. GLADSTONE meant when he spoke of persons who "lay claim to what is called the British party and represent themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty." We have always ourselves believed, and declared with what emphasis we might, that such utterances do not echo the real sentiments of the foreign community in Japan. Not that we lay any claim to that omniscience which enables some writers to assume the character of spokesmen for the whole Settlement. We neither profess to follow public opinion in these matters, nor pretend to possess any special method of gauging it. But we have a strong faith in the depth and permanence of that generosity and justice which constitute the substratum of English character, and nothing can persuade us that a policy entirely opposed to these traits is in unison with the genuine sentiments of an educated English community. It is impossible to suppose that English gentlemen can regard with any sentiment but contempt and disgust that ungainly coarseness of mood which, while openly contending that nothing should be conceded to Japan because the interests of a few foreigners are apparently opposed to concession, at the same time accuses of venality and incivism every advocate of concession. So soon as arguments of this nature become the staple of any party, it is safe to denounce that party as a disgrace to English sentiment and a subverter of English traditions. It would be pleasant to believe that the verdicts of Mr. GLADSTONE and General GORDON are mistaken. But the one spoke from a wide personal experience; the other supported his assertion by a number of unanswerable historical proofs; and, unfortunately, the records of the past few years in Yokohama contain little that can be regarded as valid evidence of a different state of affairs. The gentlemen who, whether in speeches at public meetings or in letters to our contemporaries, recently undertook to expound the sentiments of their fellow residents, displayed, with one exception, a contemptuous indifference to Japan's claims and rights. A great deal has been said about the inaccuracies of writers in the home

Press whose exactness did not extend to arithmetical fractions. But we venture to say that they have been far outdone by the self-constituted exponents of foreign opinion in Japan, who not only take no pains to consult easily accessible sources of information, but do not even concern themselves to hide their disdainful indifference to an obligation which all just men acknowledge—the obligation of learning the truth. It is, therefore, to the future that we must look for some contradiction of the above two verdicts in Yokohama's case. For our own part we await the result with entire confidence, believing fully that what Mr. GLADSTONE subsequently said of the Anglo-Indian community applies accurately to the case of this settlement:—"This Anglo-Indian community is made up of honorable and upright men. They may have their prejudices, and I think they have; but as they come nearer to the facts and look them more closely in the face, they will begin by degrees to recognise that they give to unreal dangers and to shadowy dangers an importance they do not deserve. Every step made in this direction is not only a step towards attaching to yourselves the minds of the population, but is also a step towards establishing between Europeans and natives a degree of harmony which in former times did not exist."

INDIAN CURRENCY.

ENGLAND and India being virtually one country, the fact that their monetary standards are different is an evil of great magnitude. By the action of the Latin Union silver, having been deposed from its place as an instrument of exchange, has necessarily shared the fate which overtakes all commodities in the presence of a diminished demand. During the past ten years, the gold value of the rupee has fallen 20 per cent., and India finds herself seriously embarrassed having to turn rupees received at 24d. into rupees of 20d. in order to pay the fourteen millions of sovereigns which represent her annual indebtedness to England. The Indian trader making purchases in England is similarly inconvenienced.

To correct these troubles a new monetary system has been proposed for India. Its author is Mr. CLARMONT DANIELL, and his proposal has been endorsed in terms of the warmest eulogy by Professor BONAMY PRICE. Mr. DANIELL'S scheme consists of five proposals which are thus stated:—

1. The Government of India shall coin a gold coin, in all respects identical with the £1 sterling of the currency of the realm, out of the stock of gold now to be found in India, to any amount in which the metal may be brought by its owners to the mints for that purpose.

2. These gold coins shall be declared legal tender for the payment of any sum of money due to the Government of India, at the option of the party making the payment; and in other cases they shall be legal tender for the discharge of any obligation amounting to rupees 5,000 and upwards, at the option of the party making the payment.

3. The Government of India shall from time to time declare (but not more frequently than may be necessary or convenient) the rate at which the gold coin of its currency shall be accepted as legal payment of sums contracted to be paid in silver coin; and this State conversion shall be strictly regulated by the market value of the silver rupees of the British Indian currency in these gold sovereigns.

4. The silver rupees shall continue to be legal tender for all kinds of payments, and in any amount, at the option of the party making the payment.

5. No person—the Government excepted—shall be obliged to take payment in gold of a debt due in silver which may be less in amount than rupees 5,000, unless he shall previously have agreed with his debtor to do so.

Professor BONAMY PRICE is, by profession, a resolute opponent of bimetallism. He considers that silver ought to be excluded from use as a medium of exchange because of "its inveterate tendency to perpetual change of value." Why silver should possess this "harrassing quality," or, indeed, that it does possess it, Professor PRICE takes no trouble to show. Neither do we propose to discuss that point. It is enough for our immediate purpose to note that he is a determined monometallist, and that the basis of his objection to bimetallism is as we have stated. Now this plan of Mr. DANIELL'S, which elicits such unqualified praise from Professor PRICE, is bimetallism pure and simple. The Professor himself admits that it has "a certain air of bimetallism about it," but whatever distinction he may be disposed to draw between an "air" and a fact, the public will generally agree that bimetallism, and bimetallism only, is the term applicable to a monetary system under which gold is a legal tender for all sums of 5,000 rupees and upwards, and silver, legal tender for any sum whatsoever. If that is not bimetallism, we should like to know what is. The Professor, however, thinks that "pure bimetallism, without corrections, is indefensible." His definition of "pure bimetallism" is, to be sure, a little arbitrary. He describes it as a system under which "silver would be legal tender to any amount in a fixed ratio to gold of 15½ to 1," whereas, in fact, the ratio between the values of the two metals is regarded as a mere question of detail by bimetallists themselves. Their principle is that gold alone is not competent to perform the exchange business of the world, and that by depriving it of its auxiliary, silver, a general fall of prices and serious tradal depression have resulted. But in restoring silver to its old place, they do not by any means hold that to establish a ratio of 31 to 2 between the two metals is a *sine quâ non*. Neither can we reasonably suppose that the question of ratio alone is at the root of Professor PRICE'S monometallism. He tells us himself that "for serving as a tool of exchange, silver labours under the worst of all disqualifications—unsteadiness of value;" and since he holds that "the great principle which is the essence of all sound money is, that a seller shall receive in exchange, by an act of true barter, a commodity of equal value with the commodity which he is giving

away;" and since he further holds that "the value of a medium of exchange depends primarily on its cost of production," it follows plainly that, whatever ratio might be legally established between silver and gold, his scruples to the use of the former must remain effective. What then are the "corrections" which enable this professed opponent of silver to give Mr. DANIELL'S scheme his warm support as "a bimetallism perfectly sound in principle." They are comprised in the provision that "the two coins are to stand towards each other in the currency in a ratio which is strictly to correspond with their worth as metals in the metal market." And how is this to be accomplished? By governmental enactments fixing the ratio between the two media. These enactments are not to be "more frequent than may be necessary or convenient." In other words, they are to be as few as possible. Yet if, as Professor PRICE asserts, "the value of silver never keeps quiet, but is ever on the move," the governmental enactments would surely have to be very nimble to follow the changes of such a mercurial variable, and instead of an automatically stable medium, the result of Mr. DANIELL'S system would be a currency depending for its value on constant official supervision and regulation. Evidently Professor PRICE would not endorse such an artificial and capricious system as that: there must be some other feature which enables him to hope that this perpetual governmental interference would not be necessary. Such a feature there is indeed, and, to our thinking, it constitutes the most interesting point in the whole scheme. It is that "*a tendency of the fluctuations in the rate of exchange to diminish rather than to increase would be the natural consequence of the two metals being used indifferently for each other.*" Mr. CLARMONT DANIELL says, and Professor PRICE unreservedly supports the assertion:—"It is only when they are divorced from one another by artificial currency regulations that gold and silver work in opposition. Allow them to work together in the order of their values, and these divergencies of value must necessarily diminish, and the approximation to the attainment of a staple ratio of value will be great. The altering metal will be corrected in its changes by being more largely used or else reduced in quantity by exportation, and the action of each of these forces will be to keep its value nearer to what it had been before the change. The currency will be less exposed to that kind of fluctuation which a sudden demand excites on the particular money which cannot be easily or quickly increased." This is the contention of bimetallists in so many words. They hold that the abnormal work thrown upon gold by depriving it of the assistance of silver has caused it to appreciate inconveniently, and that gold and silver, when used together, exercise a mutual restraint upon each other's tendency to

fluctuate. It would be difficult to put the case for bi-metallism in plainer or stronger terms than it has now been put by one of its leading opponents. "What greater praise," asks Professor PRICE, "can be given of any money than to have the very best metal for its determiner of value, and yet to give unlimited use of the two metals, gold and silver, without injury to the receiver. If Mr. CLARMONT DANIELL'S reform is successfully established, will there be any better money in the whole world than the Indian?" Perhaps not, but certainly if Mr. CLARMONT DANIELL'S reform is successfully established, India will have precisely such a bimetallic system as men like CERNUSCHI and LAVELAYE advocate for the whole world, and men like PRICE and LEROY-BEAULIEU have hitherto condemned.

GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES.

IT is obvious that the relations between Germany and the United States have assumed a new and unexpected aspect, by reason of the transfer of Minister SARGENT from Berlin to St. Petersburg. Precisely what the change portends, no one can know, who is not in the confidence of the American Cabinet; and it may be some time before the secret is revealed. There is little reason to apprehend anything worse than a partial suspension of intercourse through the usual diplomatic channels. The United States Government has no cause to be dissatisfied with its present position, even if it be shown that the removal of Mr. SARGENT was demanded by the German authorities. The right of every Government to signify its disapproval of envoys from other States is indisputable. It is, however, seldom exercised, and we do not believe that any direct expression of discontent has been declared in the present instance. At the same time, Mr. SARGENT'S position has been rendered extremely uncomfortable by the violent personal attacks of Government journals in Berlin, and he has been subjected to other discourtesies almost unparalleled in international records. It may well be that the PRESIDENT avails himself of the vacancy at the Russian capital to release a trusted servant from a situation of extreme discomfort, and, by conferring a virtual promotion, to give the most effective assurance that the latter has in no way forfeited the confidence and esteem of his superiors. There is nothing humiliating in this, so far as the United States are concerned. That the result will be altogether agreeable to Germany, is a matter of doubt;—especially if the American Government shall find it desirable to leave the post of Envoy to Berlin unfilled for an indefinite period.

The LASKER incident, which for a time seemed likely to interrupt cordial intercourse between the two countries, has been

deprived of all importance by the simple and sensible course of the American Secretary of State. When last referring to this subject, we mentioned that Mr. EISENDECHER, the German Envoy at Washington, had been instructed to inform Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN that the resolution passed by the lower branch of Congress could not be transmitted to the Reichstag, and that it had consequently been sent back to the United States. In fulfilling this commission, Mr. EISENDECHER stated that he was prepared to hand over the rejected document, which, he added, "his Government could not on its own responsibility feel at liberty to retain." Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN'S reply was evidently unlooked for, and was probably somewhat disconcerting. He briefly remarked that "the PRESIDENT could not be supposed to have any wish" as to how the German Government might dispose of the document,—thereby plainly intimating that he certainly would have nothing more to do with it. Prince BISMARCK'S representative had therefore no resource but to keep it himself. "Your answer, Mr. Secretary," he said, "expresses no wish, and consequently relieves my Government from the obligation it has felt to return the resolution." It is difficult for an impartial spectator to see in what way Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN'S answer afforded the alleged relief, or how anything he might say could have the slightest effect upon any obligation under which the German Government might suppose itself to rest. In plain fact, Prince BISMARCK desired to show his feeling in the matter by forcing the document back to its original place of departure. Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN very naturally declined to assist him in doing so. For a moment, the envoy's position must have been awkward, but there is no doubt that he took the best course open to him by responding as he did. It was wiser to commit a trifling absurdity than to risk further complications. And so the document remained, and probably still remains, in possession of the German agent at Washington, to do with it what he, or Prince BISMARCK, wills. Nothing is less likely than that the latter foresaw any such anomalous termination to the transaction: although, looking at it in the light of the actual events, we may wonder at his failure to perceive,—in the language of a homely illustration,—that what was sauce for the goose might likewise be sauce for the gander. Since the German Prime Minister found it practicable to refuse compliance with the wish of the House of Representatives, it might have occurred to him that the American Minister could similarly refuse compliance with *his* wish. At any rate, the Chancellor was foiled, and by the very device of his own contriving. On the 10th of March, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN closed his connection with the affair by sending a despatch to Mr. SARGENT, relating all that had passed, and once more blandly asserting the indifference of the U.S. Govern-

ment to Prince BISMARCK'S private feelings. "His Excellency," writes Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, "is pleased to explain the embarrassment under which he conceives he would labor by forwarding it (the resolution) to its destination. His position and the personal convictions to which he alludes are matters affecting His Excellency alone, and upon them it is not becoming that I make any remark." As regards the refusal to convey the document to the Reichstag, in the first instance, the Secretary of State, premising that the intention of the senders was obviously courteous and friendly, remarks that the "non-transmission . . . while a matter of regret, is not one of concern, to either branch of the Government of the United States." All things considered, and as the matter now stands, it is not easy to imagine a neater or more delicately executed bit of diplomatic strategy than that employed by Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. It may, indeed, be objected that the process was too simple to call for admiration; but that has been a common criticism, from the time when COLUMBUS made the egg stand upright to the present day.

Some surprise has been manifested, in various quarters, at the equanimity with which the Chancellor accepted the new turn of events. It appeared as if he were actually inclined to take steps toward a reconciliation. After the communication of Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN'S latest dispatch to the Foreign Office at Berlin, Mr. SARGENT received an invitation to dine with Prince BISMARCK on the Emperor's birthday, and to attend a less formal soirée at the palace, on the same anniversary. But it was also noticed that the assaults in the Government organs continued without stint, and that, while the angry references to the LASKER resolution were suspended, the endeavours to present the Republican envoy in an obnoxious light were redoubled. It was by no means unreasonable to suppose that BISMARCK concluded the LASKER game to be not worth the candle, and decided that while his prestige could not be seriously impaired by withdrawing from that particular contest, his convenience—to say the least—might be compromised by pushing it to a further and unwarranted extremity. This was a natural interpretation of the speech delivered by him in the Reichstag on the 13th of March. Ostensibly a defence of his action, it was in fact more nearly apologetic than anything that has fallen from his lips for many a year. He chose to assume that a scheme had been concocted, by his political opponents, to take advantage of LASKER'S death, and, through the unconscious coöperation of the House of Representatives, to render him, BISMARCK, the medium of glorification for his antagonists—or, as he chose to put it, to make him "his enemy's postman." The speech was distinguished throughout by the Chancellor's characteristic vehemence, not to say violence, but this was directed

solely against his adversaries at home. Toward the United States, he proclaimed the kindest sentiments; and,—which is the most remarkable feature of the entire proceeding,—he suggested that Dr. HAENEL, a Liberal leader who had been prominent in the debate, “could, if he so pleased, introduce a motion conveying the thanks of the Reichstag to the House of Representatives for its expression of sympathy.” From such a man as BISMARCK, it would appear that no retraction could be more complete. But no one will be astonished to hear that a general doubt as to its sincerity was expressed. Even if,—as to us seems probable,—he were disposed to allow that single cause of misunderstanding to be cleared away, there were others which, it was commonly declared, he would cling to with his accustomed tenacity. From this point, however, all comment becomes conjectural. We have the fact that Mr. SARGENT has been advanced from Germany to Russia, with unusually earnest assurances of the approval of his Government. Prince BISMARCK’S supporters may, if they choose, assert that the President and Cabinet of the great Republic shrank from resisting the well understood resolve of the most powerful of continental statesmen. But the verdict of the majority, if we read the omens correctly, will be that the American authorities deemed it necessary for their country’s dignity, and for their own reputation, to show that although they were not responsible for the unseemly scandal, they were ready to put an end to it by the only means at their command, and to preserve, in the eyes of the world, the decorous amenities by which the comity of nations should be regulated. There are occasions in diplomacy, as in other trials of skill on a large scale, when judicious concession is the most dexterous policy.

REVIEW.

Tungking. By WILLIAM MESNY, Major-General in the Imperial Chinese Army. Hongkong, 1884.

AN interesting pamphlet tracing the early history of the Annanese nation, and giving us one view of the present French imbroglio in Eastern affairs from its inception until a few weeks ago, has come into our hands. The writer’s circumstances enable him to see the position clearly from the Chinese standpoint, and he evidently is not prejudiced in favour of the French. He asserts and maintains the righteousness of China’s suzerain claims over Annan, making them much more tangible than we have been in the habit of acknowledging. We do not intend here either to combat or endorse his opinion, but simply to give, in a short resumé, the substance of the pamphlet, and let it speak for itself. Whatever may be thought of its conclusions, the historical and descriptive facts presented are peculiarly welcome at the present juncture of the Tongquin (or Tungking) question. The sources from which our author draws are, for ancient history, Chinese, for modern matters, both Chinese and foreign. The pamphlet was intended to be part of a larger work on the Chinese Empire, but “the ignorance of the public about Tungking made it advisable to publish these notes at an early date and in a convenient form.”

Tungking is the name of the delta of the Sonkoi or Red river, bounded on the north by the Chinese provinces of Yunnan and Kwang-Si, on the East by Kwang-Si and Kwang-Tung. The name Tungking, really our familiar Tokiyo, or Eastern capital, was first given to Hanoi, or ‘Ho-nei, when that place was the seat of royalty, but gradually extended to the whole province. In the Era of fable extending to 2,500 B.C., it was called Chiao-chih, which name it still bears in common parlance. It was afterwards called Yüeh-nan-kuo, which is the present official name of all Annan. Eleven other names were successively given to the land, until finally, in 1175 A.D., a Chinese Emperor changed the name to An-nan or Annam as it is incorrectly written, following French usage. The entire official nomenclature for various posts and officers is identically the same as that in use throughout the Chinese Empire.

Lo-yüeh-ti was probably the name of the ruler of the country 2500 B.C., or King Lo, who claimed to be the direct descendant of Lo Hsiung Shih the Divine Farmer of China, who dates back to 2750 B.C. It is recorded that Lo’s Kingdom was firmly established and well-governed, with ministers, nobles, warriors &c. Eighteen generations thus passed, when war broke out, old laws were abolished, the ancient form of Government was changed, and everything overturned by the usurper Shu Wang. Shu Wang proved a vigorous, and powerful ruler, and founder of a warlike dynasty. There seem to have existed the most friendly relations at this time between China and Annan. The Emperor T’ang Ti-yao, (2356 B.C.) sent an Imperial Envoy to reside at the Court of Nan-chiao, the country which is now divided into Annan and the two Kwang provinces. About 2255 B.C., an Imperial Minister of State was banished, on account of his misdeeds, to Ch’ung Shan, or the modern Annanese province of Jen Shêng. Subsequently troublous times seem to have broken the friendly bond, and for over one thousand years we have not a single syllable of authentic or traditional record. The two countries seemed utterly oblivious of each other’s existence, hence an immense gap in the historic continuity of the narrative.

Intercourse was revived under the Chou dynasty, for Chou Chêng Wong (1115 B.C.), King of Annan, despatched an envoy to the Imperial Court of the Chow Emperors. The ambassador presented himself as representative of the King of Chiao-chih, a lineal descendant of the old Yüeh-shang-shih dynasty and offered tribute in his master’s name with the usual ceremonies. The tribute consisted of cockatoos, peacocks, and a large quantity of ivory. Chou Kung, the famous sage, advised the Imperial Court to refuse the tribute and the resultant suzerainty over the distant state. The Court at first assented, and Duke Chou replied to the envoy, “I, as an upright statesman, dare not accept your proffered tribute, You, as an honest official owe me none.

I have done naught to deserve it
You, nothing to owe it.”

But the subtle flattery of the envoy was too much for the sage. He enumerated all the accumulated blessings poured on Annan, attributed them to the benign influences of the puissant ruler who controlled the destinies of the Chinese people, and declared that the people of Annan desired to offer this slight mark of respectful homage. The envoy’s presents were accepted. He returned laden with gifts, having secured the famous Chou Wên Wang as Sovereign of his King and Country.

In 218 B.C., in the reign of Shih Huang Ti, the First Chinese Emperor, builder of the Great Wall, and burner of the books, a Chinese expedition took possession of Tungking and established a purely Chinese military and civil organization there. Tungking was then called Lu-liang, from the hardy people living in the wooded and mountainous country. In the summer they were clad in human skins, and in the winter an extra garment of wild beast’s skin, was added. The women were not ashamed of the smallness of their breasts, the

largeness of their waists, or the natural appearance and the size of their feet. The beauties of the human form developed in perfect freedom. Everything was as it ought to be. The men were proud of their women, and the women were obedient and faithful to their husbands: in eating temperate; water their choicest liquor.

At the time of the disorders consequent on the weakness of the Great Chin’s successors, and the rise of the Han dynasty, a warrior by the name of Chao T’o seized the two Kwang provinces, fixed his residence in Canton, and proceeded to make easy conquest of Tungking. But he met with the French success of the early part of 1883: he was beaten back to Bac-ninh of to-day (then Wu-nang). Chao T’o did not give up, but having obtained for himself the patronage of the Emperor Han Wu Ti, he concentrated his wits and his strength upon the conquest of Tung-king. The story of the stratagem by which he won the now careless state would grace any Oriental romance. His conquest was complete, and the crown and Kingdom of Yüeh-nan passed from the royal house of An-yang to Chao-T’o. In 116 B.C., it was made an integral portion of China. In 30 A.D., after a long period of confusion in the Empire, an envoy from Chiao-chih was sent back accompanied by an Imperial Officer to instruct the officialdom of Chiao-chih in the Chinese system of Education, Rites, Ceremonies and general Administration. This official made himself so obnoxious that the people rebelled, and under an Annanese Joan of Arc, the Lady Chu, they drove the Chinese from a great part of the land. Chu then proclaimed herself Sovereign of Chiao-chih, and with the assistance of her sister ruled ably and wisely for years. But the Empire could brook no such insult, and in 42 A.D., the veteran Ma Yüan, then seventy years old, conqueror of Thibetan forces, &c., &c., led an expedition against the doughty ladies and their brave people. Nobly they resisted, but the better armed and more numerous Chinese gained the day and the two sisters were taken prisoners. Our author does not tell whether these ladies at that time were still accustomed to the full dress described above, or whether they tried the Cleopatra trick, or whether their attire was tampered with when they were taken prisoners. He does tell, however, that Ma Yüan did not allow himself to be fascinated by the beauty, martial prowess or voluptuous charms of his captives, but that feeling scandalized at their nakedness, he cut off the very capacious sleeves of his state dress and handed one to each of the fair sisters, with instructions to pass them over their heads down to their waists, and there fasten them. Thus Ma Yüan instituted that fashion of female dress which has lasted through long centuries, prevailing as it does to the present day. That one act of kindly charity won the gratitude of the entire nation it was his business to subdue. Thus attired the royal ladies were at once marched from his presence to the executioner; their patriotism cost them their lives, but the nuptial Tungkingese lavished honours upon their conqueror and forgot everything due to these brave women.

From this time on until modern days the essential sovereignty of China was acknowledged. At times the land became a mere province of the Middle Kingdom, at others, for a very brief space, perfect independence was claimed. The record is a very varied one, of short spaces of peace, of dark plots, mutual recriminations and quarrels among the people themselves so soon as the grip of China grew looser, from having her attention drawn to other quarters. Tungking seemed as incapable of governing herself as Ireland is to-day. Occasionally anarchy gave place to order, but this was soon succeeded by the natural state of confusion. The Annanese were never content to submit quietly to the indirect or direct rule of the stronger power; but so soon as a measure of independence was secured or permitted, civil strife and perpetual internal ferment effectually prevented the maintenance of national in-

dependence. In the nineteenth century, they are apparently no nearer a peaceful solution of this difficulty than they were at the beginning of our era. By becoming willing feudatories of China, after many years of independence, they do not appear to have improved their condition. They had put their head into a halter, and all their struggles to recover lost independence only resulted in a heavier yoke and a firmer vassalage. About A.D. 964, a brave Annamese leader secured from China autonomy for his country, but his weakly successor was deposed by one of his Ministers of State, who usurped the throne and assumed kingship. In 981, the Chinese Emperor sent a military expedition to aid the dethroned King. By a ruse, the whole of this auxiliary force was annihilated. Then the usurper, in 984, sent an ambassador to Peking with tribute and received imperial recognition and favour. He died in 1004 A.D.; was succeeded by his son Lung-yüeh, who was ousted promptly by his brother, and he, by an officer of the army, who was eventually recognized by China under the sarcastic title of "King of the peaceful south." And so it went on. Annam was a semi-independent state, but no ruler felt secure until his tribute was received and he himself recognized by the Emperor of China. In the year 1175 A.D., however, a Charter of Independence was obtained from the Emperor of China. The autonomy of 964 had suffered a total eclipse; but now the Imperial Charter was to restore it completely. Yet in 1262, we find the Annamese "Emperor" once more knocking at China's doors for recognition and confirmation. His request was granted. This was the last case of interference by the Sung dynasty. After the succession of the Mongol Tartars, the Tartar Emperors claimed suzerainty over Annam, one of whose rulers gave mortal offence to the great Khan by daring to assume the purple without his permission. Hence a series of expeditions, which met with reverses at the hands of the hardy Tungkingese, who in turn invaded China and met with reverses there. Again they appealed for recognition but were entirely ignored.

The Mongols were succeeded by the Ming dynasty, who demanded and received the submission of the King of Annam, and placed a Resident as deputy at his Capital. In 1374, an uncle of the King usurped the throne of Annam, and applied in vain for the recognition of the Ming Emperor. He abdicated in favour of his brother and craved recognition for him, but bloody usurpers found no favour at Peking. In 1378, another brother tried again and likewise failed. 1388, Li Chi-li, a minister of state, murdered the King, placed his nephew on the throne and made himself Regent. China declared that she would hold no intercourse with rebels and usurpers. By and by the Regent slew his puppet King and raised one after another to power, to serve them all alike, till finally he assumed the royal prerogative himself. In the meantime, a new Emperor had ascended the Chinese throne who consented to receive an Annamese Embassy, and to recognize the new King. But China afterwards declaring in favour of a scion of the ancient line, sent an expedition to reinstate him, and the result was that Annam a Chinese colony in 1405. Rebellions arose but were suppressed, until 1426, when the Chinese army was annihilated after a seeming success. Autonomy was again granted and all Chinese officials were withdrawn. But tribute was sent to China and the Emperor defined the authority of the King of Annam. In 1459, usurpation and regicide. Then half a century of peace, followed by repeated usurpation, suicide, regicide, rebellion, and continual civil war, ending in an appeal to China and the despatch of a Chinese expedition, in 1538, to restore order. Order was restored for a moment by feigned obedience; but the old story of civil war, deception, regicide, usurpation, went on, each successful leader invariably appealing to China for recognition, or for help, until near the close of the last century, when the refugee remnant of the royal house found a welcome in China, where an ex-

pedition was again prepared to reinstate them. The invasion, as usual, was at first successful, in restoring the King, but was subsequently defeated, and the Chinese army unmercifully slaughtered. The conquering King, however, did homage to the Emperor and received Imperial favour. On his death a usurper, assisted probably by French and Spanish pirates, ousted the rightful heir.

Thus the first contact with the French was as "barbarian pirates;" and some French officers gave assistance in fortifying towns, &c. In 1802, at the desire of Annam, China re-asserted her sovereignty. The next exercise of French influence was in the garb of Christianity. French Jesuits opposing Chinese influence, got into trouble, and France "protected" them by warring against Annam "in the interests of the Christian religion." A new King, twenty or thirty years later, again swore fealty to China, but did not continue to favour French officers and French missionaries, the former being dismissed and the latter persecuted. Another King succeeded in 1848, and again sought Chinese investiture, as well as a Chinese Protector. In 1867, the Annamese asked for Chinese aid against rebels; and these latter submitted in part, but continued to levy black mail on all traders to and from Kwang-Si and Yün-nan. In 1870 and 1871, there was trouble with the Black Flags, and China's help was obtained. In 1872-3, Chinese were again called in to aid against outside danger, but the strategic points were not occupied by troops, and the French had opportunity to begin their troubles. The Black Flags by an ambush slew Garnier and compelled the French to evacuate Hanoi. "The magnificent achievements of a handful of French adventurers were annihilated in a few hours, and Tungking, of which the French had possessed the fairest provinces, passed again under the (by the French) abhorred yoke of Hue." March 5, 1874, a treaty with France was signed; a hasty agreement, being forced on by an internal rebellion stirred up by French Jesuits for the furtherance of French aggrandizement. This treaty recognized the protectorate of France, but was obtained in a time of embarrassment and from ambassadors who did not know its real import. The sovereignty of China over Annam had been claimed by China and admitted by Annam for thousands of years, and therefore China should have been consulted in all affairs affecting the politics of Tungking. France not only did not thus consult China, but kept the treaty of Saigon a secret from the Chinese Government for over a year.

The Black Flags are not rebels, but the remnant of a band of Chinese outlaws, such as once existed in Merrie England. They settled in the mountainous border land, and the Chinese Government has come to an agreement with them, so that they are now recognized as a border clan with certain rights, and a political standing, and act as defenders of the neighbouring provinces of China. Their officers are recognized in the Chinese army; they are supplied with munitions of war by China, and have a regular subsidy from the Imperial Treasury. They are recognized subjects of China, about whom the French have egregiously blundered. France, if for a time successful, will stir up powerful and quietly inveterate enemies, who will spare no exertion till they have placed themselves in a position to retaliate. So surely as France will not forget, but will fight again for, Alsace-Lorraine, so surely will China fight for every inch already won, or that may be hereafter won, by France in Annam.

The mineral wealth of Tungking is very considerable, and needs only to be worked to become immensely profitable. But all is in Chinese hands. So also with the whole trade. French success will only alienate trade from them to other Channels, to the benefit of England and China, making Hongkong the pivot for all the trade of Tungking. If the French give trade facilities, other nations will reap the larger benefit. If France puts on a protective tariff, she will only divert the course of

trade, and a bankrupt province will be left in complete dependence on her. But much yet stands in the way of her ultimate success. The French are at present fighting in Tungking, nominally against the Annamese (who detest them for their false promises at the time of the Li insurrection, and believe in nothing but French callousness, greed, and rapacity), but in reality against Annam aided by China. Very different will the story be when China openly takes the field, as she ultimately will. She has inexhaustible resources in men and money. France cannot maintain her hold of Tungking beyond the range of bullet or the roar of artillery. Obtained and kept by unrighteous force, the revenues of the colony will be spent in military occupation, and the commercial prosperity of Tungking will perish under the necessity of maintaining an immense military force. The French were checked by the Black Flags; large re-inforcements have been sent to revenge the death of Rivière, but the taking of Son-tay was a dearly bought victory, whilst the enemy's loss was slight, the greatest number of native slain being non-combatants. Every inch of advance will be contested: the mountain tribes have still to be subdued. A force of less than 60,000 French cannot take and keep the country. Even when Bac-ninh is taken, the land is scarcely touched. "But whatever, the course of events may be," writes General Mesny, "I wish to impress on all who read this little book that Annam has been for more than 30 centuries, and still is, the Vassal and Tributary of China; that France has ruthlessly and without legitimate excuse tried to violently oust China and seize Tungking; that the Black Flags are recognized Chinese and Annamese troops, and not rebels; that the Annamese people hate the French with a bitter unquenchable hatred; that France has already met no mean foe and will inevitably stir up the bitter, patient, unrelenting hostility of China if she continues her present course of action; that French success will only put off the day of retribution, whereas a French reverse will be the death blow to their dream of a Colonial Empire in the East, and probably cause their present Republican Government to collapse; and finally, that the only benefit resulting from success will be reaped commercially by Britain and politically by China." An appendix sets forth the amount of Chinese assistance given since 1882 (when it became evident that France was determined to have Tungking), showing that very little of Chinese strength has yet been engaged, but that a large force is now at command. The author winds up his very interesting brochure thus:—"One single reverse at this moment might be sufficient to attract a hundred thousand men of the Black Flag type to Tungking, which would so disorganize the French Government Officials as to prevent their future attempts of colonization in that quarter, and so ruin the country as to make it useless and unprofitable for years to come." The only comment we have to make on General Mesny's brochure is that it seems a worthy sequel to the gallant utterances of the Marquis Tsêng. The logic of facts is stubborn. China is strong. Nobody doubts that. But until she becomes capable of exercising her strength effectually, her antiquated pretensions of suzerainty are not likely to command serious consideration.

YOKOHAMA PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the above Association was held at the Club Hotel Wednesday afternoon, at which the following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. J. T. Griffin (Chairman), G. E. Rice (Secretary), Vivanti, Reynaud, James, Van Buren, A. Barnard, M. Kirkwood, Pinn, Townley, Prichard, Steel, Walter, Langfeldt, Reid, Gay, Thomas, MacArthur, Lindsley, Strome, Fitz-Henry, Masfen, Gribble, Wauchope, Brewer,

Hooper, Noyes, Ruyter, Litchfield, C. D. Moss, Hamilton, and Geoghegan.

The CHAIRMAN opened the meeting by saying that it had been called under article 6 of the rules, to receive the report of the directors and to pass the accounts. He thought that it would save time if the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read as they had been published.

Mr. THOMAS proposed that they should be read, and this being seconded, Mr. Rice read the report as published, with the exception of the correspondence, which was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the first business before the meeting was to receive the report of the directors and the accounts, which were then read as follows:—

YOKOHAMA PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.
REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting the statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet to date, your Directors regret that the building is still incomplete.

At the date of the last General Meeting on 23rd November, at which a resolution was passed empowering the Board to borrow money to complete the Public Hall, we were assured of financial assistance from one or two sources. Unfortunately the negotiations then pending fell through, work was stopped on the 5th December from the combined causes of lack of funds and early frosts, and since that date nothing has been done.

Your Directors have tried various methods of raising the required amount, but hitherto without success and the future course of proceedings must rest with the Shareholders themselves.

The retiring Board would say for the information of the incoming Directors that from all the investigations made there seems no prospect of raising the money required on simple mortgage of the Association property without personal security in addition. They would recommend that the matter of Debentures or Preference shares be seriously considered by the Shareholders, and think that as an alternative scheme the funds might be obtained on Personal security from the Bankers of the Association.

Placing our resignation in your hands as per Article IX.,

We are, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
(For the Board),
J. T. GRIFFIN, Chairman.

April 30th, 1884.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET.
DISBURSEMENTS.

Cost of lot and ground rent	\$2,318.21	
Foundations, trenches, and well	1,002.93	
Iron work	\$ 58.38	
Carpenter's work	250.86	
Lumber	826.24	
Stonework	1,039.19	
Brickwork	\$1,596.55	7,741.22
Printing, advertising, etc.	200.65	
Working expenses	338.67	
Cement purchase	32.50	
Mr. Cappelletti	400.00	
Arbitrators' fees	100.00	
Balance in Bank	184.51	
	\$12,948.69	

DEBIT DEPENDENCIES.

Due to Brick work Contractor	673.79
Due to Mr. Sarda	468.54
	\$1,142.33

RECEIPTS.

Shareholders, 249½ shares	\$12,475.00
Donations	375.00
Interest on Bank deposit	92.69
Transfer fees	6.00
	\$12,948.69

CREDIT DEPENDENCIES.

40 Window and door frames	\$24.01
10 Hinoki logs	58.26
16,562 feet Lumber	496.80
13 Barrels Cement	32.53
2 Sample chairs	28.48
	\$ 820.08

E. & O. E.

GEO. E. RICE, Hon. Treasurer.

We certify that we have examined the above statement, with the books and vouchers of the Association, and found the same to be correct.

A. MILNE, } Auditors.
R. S. SCHWABE, }

Yokohama, 30th April, 1884.

The SECRETARY said that 249½ shares had been paid for, 25½ were still unpaid, making a total of of 275. The original list was 287, but 12 subscribers had withdrawn, most of whom had left Japan.

Mr. THOMAS said that a vote of confidence in the Directors had been passed on the 23rd November last and according to their report the work was stopped in December. He thought that they had not given a sufficient reason for not calling a meeting before, when they found they could not get along they ought to have called a meeting and explained matters to the shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN replied that they had left no stone unturned to raise money to finish the building. They had tried everybody. The reason a meeting had not been called before was that they had various schemes in train and it was only a few

days ago that they came to the conclusion that they could do no more. When they last met the Directors had promises of assistance from two quarters, and they thought they only had to get the permission of the shareholders to borrow the money, but both promises had fallen through.

Mr. WALTER wished to know what sum of money the Directors had tried to raise, and also how much more would be required to finish the building.

The CHAIRMAN said they had tried to raise \$15,000, which they thought would complete the building. That was with two stories in front and the concert room, but without furniture and decorations. They had also received an estimate from Mr. Sarda by which for \$10,000 it could be finished with a single storey in front and the main hall to be not so lofty as originally intended.

Mr. WALTER remarked that that was much more than the \$22,000 mentioned at the last meeting.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the estimate of \$22,000 was for the shell of the building alone, not calculating the price of the land, furniture, etc.

Mr. JAMES asked whether steps had been taken to collect the subscriptions from the delinquent shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Durant had kindly been round and interviewed the gentlemen personally.

General VAN BUREN asked that the names should be read.

The names were then read.

Mr. KIRKWOOD wished to know whether they admitted having taken the shares.

Mr. RICE said he was under the impression that all of the delinquents had signed the subscription list.

General VAN BUREN wished to get on to the election of a new Board and therefore proposed that the report be passed. The accounts would show the new Directors how things really stood.

Mr. LANGFELDT asked whether the present Directors, if re-elected, would serve for another year.

The CHAIRMAN said that four of them declined to serve again, but Mr. Durant had expressed his willingness to do so.

Mr. WALTER, referring to the debit dependency account, said that when he was on the board of Directors, he had taken Mr. Kirkwood's opinion on the matter and it was that the Directors were liable for all debts contracted. He thought that before spending more money than they had in hand the Board ought to have called a meeting of the shareholders and have laid the accounts before them. As to the cost of finishing the building, Mr. Diack, a professional gentleman, had given it as his opinion that altogether it would cost \$40,000 to make the place complete. He considered that the Directors were wrong in going into the building business, buying bricks and mortar, etc., themselves, instead of making a contract for the whole thing. By doing it themselves they could not estimate the cost till the building was nearly finished, and the whole thing had failed by their becoming builders instead of employing a competent contractor.

General VAN BUREN said that as facts stood he did not wish to say anything about the actions of the Directors. The matter now was—was the report correct, and if so, the only way was to accept it and file it. It was not necessary for the meeting to adopt it, they need take no responsibility.

Mr. PINN seconded the motion that the report be accepted and filed.

Mr. C. D. MOSS asked whether the amount due to the brick contractor was for work already done, and also whether Mr. Sarda's account was for services already rendered.

The CHAIRMAN said it was for bricks already laid, and Mr. Sarda's account was calculated at 5 per cent. on money already expended.

Mr. MOSS wished to know whether there were any more contracts running.

The CHAIRMAN said that the contractor was

willing to supply any amount of bricks at *yen* 16.80 per 1,000, laid. The stone work was on the ground.

Mr. LINDSLEY thought Mr. Walter was wrong in his statements. If the Directors had issued tenders for the whole of the building no one would have contracted without seeing his way to make a large profit. Chinamen, if the contract did not pay them, usually chucked it up. The reason of the heavy expenditure was that so many bricks had to be put in the foundations and the retaining wall at the back. The work had been done as cheaply as possible, and the contracts could not at the present time be repeated.

Mr. WALTER explained that he did not complain of the contracts. What he wanted was that they should make more, so as to finish the building. The Directors had never been able to tell the shareholders how much the building would cost, and even at this day they could not tell them how much it would take to finish it.

Mr. LINDSLEY remarked that contracts were usually based upon the estimate of the architect. They had wanted to save the contractors' profit, and he thought they had succeeded.

The CHAIRMAN did not remember Mr. Walter giving Mr. Kirkwood's opinion that the Directors were liable for over-expenditure. Referring to the minute book, he found that several contracts had been made before Mr. Walter resigned from the Board, and the reason he then gave was, that he differed with his colleagues on Mr. Cappelletti's business. If the gentlemen had nothing further to say, he would put General Van Buren's motion.

Motion put and carried.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the next business was to elect a new Board of Directors, which he thought had better be done by ballot as previously. He proposed that the full number, seven, be elected. They had been working with five for some time.

Mr. WALTER thought that before the election the meeting should express an opinion as to what was to be done about the building.

The CHAIRMAN said they were bound by the constitution to elect a new Board. He proposed that this be done at once, and the shareholders could then give them any instructions they might deem fit.

General VAN BUREN was in favour of adjourning the meeting so that the shareholders might be posted up in the affairs of the Association. He proposed that the new Board be elected and the meeting adjourned for a month.

The CHAIRMAN quite agreed, and said the new Board would have every facility for examining the accounts, etc. What the retiring Directors most wished to see was the completion of the building.

General VAN BUREN proposed to elect the new Board by resolution.

The CHAIRMAN thought that if it were done by ballot it might save any unpleasantness.

General VAN BUREN read the following list of names which he had drawn up, and which he hoped would meet the approval of the shareholders:—Messrs. Gay, Fitz-Henry, Langfeldt, Thomas, Reimers, Kirkwood, and Morris.

Mr. THOMAS said that the position of Director at present would be a very unpleasant one, and he did not think any one could be induced to take it. He would propose that a Committee be appointed to enquire in to the contracts, estimate what it would cost to finish the building, and see how best to raise funds, etc.

General VAN BUREN said that the Directorate would be such a committee. They would look over the plans and report at a future meeting. If things went right all would work smoothly, but if the report was not satisfactory they could resign. He proposed that the gentlemen whose names he had read be elected as Directors for the ensuing year.

Mr. LITCHFIELD seconded the motion.

Mr. THOMAS thought it best to appoint a Committee to enquire into the prospects of the Association and report to a meeting to be held next week.

General VAN BUREN said that a week would not be sufficient. By his motion the Directors would have a month in which to work and if at the end of that time their report was unfavourable they could resign if they pleased.

Mr. GRIBBLE proposed that the Directors be elected by ballot.

Mr. WALTER seconded the proposition, as it was the universal custom in Yokohama, and had been adopted at the previous meetings.

General VAN BUREN then withdrew his motion.

Mr. KIRKWOOD would remind them that the votes were calculated by the number of shares.

The CHAIRMAN then put Mr. Gribble's motion, which was carried.

The ballot resulted in the election of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Fitz-Henry, Gay, Morriss, Reimers, Thomas, Kirkwood, and Langfeldt.

General VAN BUREN moved that the new Board be respectfully requested to call a meeting as soon as possible after making a thorough investigation, and lay before it a report and any suggestions they might have as to future proceedings.

This was seconded by Mr. BREWER and carried.

Mr. MASFEN said that it was very easy to criticise after the event. Although things had not gone as might have been wished the Directors had worked hard and he proposed the following resolution:—"That while regretting the unsuccessful result of the labours of the Directors in providing us with a Public Hall, this meeting is mindful of the untiring zeal and the gratuitous services they have rendered during their term of office, and tenders them a vote of thanks on their retirement."

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN expressed the thanks of the Directors, remarking that it had not been a bed of roses. Inimical editorials and anonymous poetry had been showered upon them. They were only sorry that they had not been able to accomplish more than they had. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the auditors, Messrs. Milne and Schwabe, which was seconded by Mr. PRICHARD and carried.

The meeting then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

IS JAPAN A BRITISH COLONY?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Not long since the writer had a conversation with an intelligent Englishman, a resident of Yokohama, who warmly espoused the views upon extraterritoriality and treaty revision recently advanced by Mr. A. J. Wilkin. After listening for some time to that pleasant and plausible way of putting things, I ventured to inquire whether if we were in the position of the Japanese, the "inherent reasonableness" of those views would not be modified. The answer came promptly that the case would then undoubtedly appear quite different, "but," it was added, "it is impossible to discuss the question on the ground of justice to the Japanese, for we should then have to admit that we have been wrong all along from the time of Commodore Perry down to the present hour."

This answer struck me as quite significant. It was not the falseness of the position taken, for Perry's circumstances and demands were quite different from those of the treaty powers of to day; nor was it the eminently un-English position assumed,—that of refusing to do the fair thing to-day lest we should convict ourselves of having been unfair yesterday; it was the apparently utter misconception of the relation of the treaty-making powers to each other—the misconception that Japan is not an independent and sovereign nation, but (so far as Englishmen are concerned) a dependency, a colony of Great Britain. Have we not in this misconcep-

tion the real secret of the difference of opinion that exists among our by no means purposely dishonest residents on this question? The more I have thought upon the matter, the more fully have I become convinced that it is a real factor in the case; and the more natural does it appear that such a misconception should exist.

Many British subjects have come to Japan from British colonies—all come with traditions of colonial life. The presence of British troops in Yokohama for many years greatly fostered such an opinion. The continued presence of British judges, courts, &c., have the same tendencies. Indeed, as I visit Yokohama from my home in the interior where the Japanese language is the ordinary means of communication between myself and my friends, the great majority of whom are Japanese, and where I, being in the minority, naturally conform to Japanese manners and customs, and so am led to look at many of these questions in the same light that my Japanese friends do: when, I say, I visit Yokohama and see how perfectly isolated the life of the ordinary Englishman is from Japanese life and thought and higher aspirations, I am not surprised that this should be discussed as though it were a *Colonial* question. Furthermore, if anything were wanting to establish the correctness of this view, it would be found in the attitude of the Yokohama local press. Only the other day I saw an extract from a Yokohama daily which spoke of the propositions of the "Native Government"!

Scientists are right in attaching much importance to "Environment." Have we any number of men in Japan, not connected with the foreign legations, who speak the Japanese language and associate with Japanese people and yet are opposed to a modification of the extra-territorial provisions of the treaties? I know of none.

Yours, &c.,

FAIR PLAY.

April 19th, 1884.

INHERENT—WHAT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I take the earliest convenient opportunity to acknowledge my inability to cope with your correspondent "Foreigner." It often happens, in conversation or in public discussion, that certain signs and tokens make their appearance, before which a sensible disputant will fly with all the celerity he commands, regretting only that it should have fallen to his share to evoke such amazing manifestations. They can best be likened to the colloquial achievements of very young—or perhaps very old—ladies who, plunging into debates upon all conceivable themes, are not unfrequently surprised, though rarely disconcerted, to find that a great silence has suddenly fallen about them; that

"All the air a solemn stillness holds,"

and that the countenances of the bystanders have assumed various expressions of mocking incredulity, or profound compassion, or blank dismay. The persons who alone are not thrown into confusion by the awkward turn of events are generally those who have produced the phenomena. Mrs. Malaprop, we know, never shared the consternation caused by her extraordinary flights of speech. Under these conditions, valour is the last thing to rely upon. The sole safeguard lies in dumb discretion. Possibly the gentleman who pressed political economy upon Mr. Toots acted unwisely in asking him what should be done with the raw material; but we may be sure that on receiving the answer—"Cook it,"—he retired from the field without loss of time. Not to indulge in further illustrations, I confess myself similarly stricken powerless. If there is one topic, more than another, which has been debated from all points, in this community; which has been submitted to every species of investigation; which has been so uninterruptedly forced upon popular attention as to make it familiar almost to children, it is that of the inherent rights or privileges of nations. Acquaintance with the principles, or even the phraseology, of International Law is by

no means essential to a thorough comprehension of what the phrase signifies. It has been reiterated in the local newspapers ever since the question of treaty revision was first agitated, and has been made the basis of such unceasing argument, on all sides, that no idea associated with it could by any chance be supposed to remain in obscurity. The *Japan Mail* published a leading article on the subject, with extracts from Lord Granville's despatches and "Phillimore's Commentaries," only four days before the date of "Foreigner's" last communication. And now, behold! I make an inquiry as to "Foreigner's" intent in using the term "so-called," with reference to the inherent privileges of nations, and he, undertaking to explain, proceeds to deliver his views upon—what?—the aforesaid privileges of nations? Nothing of the kind; upon the *Rights of Man*, if you please. He seems to believe,—does believe, I make no doubt,—that he has settled a question relating to the sovereign rights of States—the privileges which are recognized everywhere as fixed and inseparable attributes of *all* countries, in whatever quarter of the globe,—by stating that "the inherent rights of *man* are those of liberty, property, and protection." That is to say, these are the inherent rights of "us foreigners." The Japanese, he is careful to let us understand, have no participation in them.

I respectfully submit, Mr. Editor, that intelligent discussion, under such circumstances, is impracticable. A correspondent who announces that he will "explain" a particular thing, and who assumes that he does so by imparting his opinions respecting a totally different thing, allows himself a range of liberty to which I do not myself aspire. I may be told that a person who introduces a topic of newspaper debate is bound to carry it through; but the impossible cannot be expected from any man, and it is plainly impossible to contend with a writer who openly professes that he looks upon the inherent privileges of Sovereign States and the rights of man as identical things. A proposition so confounding could never have been foreseen, and in the face of such an obstacle it would be absurd to proceed. My original desire, in asking whether Japan's inherent rights—(it may be that "Foreigner" will now take pains to find out what these are)—would continue to be denied by European Powers if she were possessed of a strong army and navy, was to place in a new light the question whether this country's privileges were withheld as a matter of pure justice, or because of her comparative weakness. To this, "Foreigner" answered, in effect, that the possession of such a force would be sufficient evidence that Japan ought to be trusted with her "so called" inherent privileges. As a matter of course, I next invited attention to the fact that if the standard were to be thus fixed, many nations in America and Europe, now enjoying absolute independence, could not be trusted, etc.; and I incidentally inquired why the expression "so-called" was applied to rights which are admitted and recognized by every known authority on the subject. "Foreigner's" response to the interrogation concerning "inherent privileges" abundantly demonstrates, as I have said, the hopelessness of carrying the correspondence any further. If that were not sufficient, I might point out, in addition, his extraordinary assertion that he himself possesses "inherent rights and privileges as a foreigner." I have no wish to injure anybody's feelings, but what *can* one say, when one finds oneself confronted with an alien who speaks of the peculiar and exceptional liberties which he enjoys in Japan,—his immunity from native jurisdiction and his exemption from all but nominal taxation,—liberties which were expressly secured by treaties, formal compacts imposed upon this country by powerful Western Governments,—what *can* one say to an alien who speaks of these as his *inherent* rights and privileges? It is a case where language fails, and silence is the only resource.

Once again, and finally, if still further reason

were needed for withholding serious consideration from "Foreigner's" epistle, I should refer to his inability to represent with accuracy the position of the correspondent against whom he arrays himself. I do not say that he fails in this with vicious intent. On the contrary, I believe him to be as guileless as any infant, in this and all other details. But the misrepresentations are none the less flagrant. He misquotes a remark of mine, applied to the whole community of States, by inserting the word Japan and otherwise altering it so as to confine its purport to this country alone. He states that "'Libertas' himself is determined to stick to his original idea of battalions and fleets being necessary to treaty revision in Japan," whereas no such idea, nor anything resembling it, has ever been expressed by me. He accuses me of "repeating statements which are an insult to our common sense and a libel upon foreign nations," when, in truth, I made no statements whatever, in my first letter, but simply asked two or three very ordinary questions, in which "Foreigner" found nothing insulting or libellous until he discovered where his naïve reply to them had led him. He complains that, instead of responding to him as he conceives I ought to have done, I contented myself with "reasserting my own proposition;" forgetting, unfortunately, that I asserted no proposition at all, but, as just now remarked, asked only two, or at most three, questions, the answer to which, he said, was "simple." He intimates that I think him "inimical to Japan," the fact being that I have no thought on the subject, in any way. I think, as I before observed, that his first ingenuous communication represented the opinion of many on the topic in hand, who are adverse to Japan's pretensions; but that is quite a different matter,—although I do not expect him to see it. The ability to detect differences, even between expressions of totally dissimilar signification, does not seem to be one of "Foreigner's" gifts.

I need hardly say, Mr. Editor, that nothing could induce me to pursue this subject further. The notion of following up a controversy in the course of which I might have occasion to allude to Vattel or Wheaton, while my opponent would be expecting a reference to Tom Paine or Jean Jacques Rousseau, is altogether too ludicrous. I withdraw, unconditionally, from a correspondence upon which I should never have ventured if I had dreamed of the existence of a single European in this neighborhood who supposes himself to be invested, as a foreigner, with *inherent rights and privileges* in Japan, or who is unacquainted with the meaning of a phrase not only of common, every day utterance, but also vitally significant in its bearing upon Japan's struggle to regain the independence of which she is unjustly deprived.

I am, yours very truly, LIBERTAS.
Yokohama, April 30th, 1884.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE FATE OF THE ORIENT.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*).

Dr. Lorenz Von Stein, one of the most eminent politicians in Austria, has recently published a work on consular jurisdiction in Eastern Asia, in which he strongly condemns the extraterritorial system which obtains in the East. He particularly emphasizes the fact that the extraterritoriality brought about in the Far East by the Great Powers, in imitation of the system prevailing in Turkey, though perhaps justifiable two or three decades ago, is no longer suitable to the radical changes that have nearly revolutionized the Orient of late years. He urges, therefore, that the system of consular jurisdiction should be utterly abolished, and that a juridical system on the European plan should be established. Not to speak of other countries, he

affirms that Japan is by far the most progressive of Eastern nations, and that the abolition of consular jurisdiction in this country is both just and absolutely necessary.

At first sight, these words would lead us to conclude that our national progress is, at last, universally acknowledged by foreigners, and that this fact warrants our admittance into the comity of nations, though forsooth all Asiatic countries are ever subject to humiliating insults on the score of their low development. Dr. Von Stein has advanced just views and sound doctrines, but as to the feasibility of his ideas, we have not a word to say. As matters now stand, all European Powers apply the epithet "barbarous" to every nation of the East, nor do they make the least distinction between this and other countries. The insults to which China is now perforce submitting may at any time befall us as well, and there is no telling when Japan may not be made the object of an aggressive policy. Whatever praise may be bestowed upon this country, strict justice should never be expected by Oriental nations at the hands of Europeans. There are but two means by which we can hope ever to realize our desires:—*first*, the careful development and increase of our material and national resources, and *second*, the formation of an Oriental confederation.

Let us, for a moment, direct our attention to the existing condition of Eastern nations. Ever since the subjugation of India by Great Britain, the neighbouring countries have scarcely dared to breathe, knowing their momentary independence to be as near extinction as is a flickering flame in a furious gale. That great vassal of China, Annam, is now entirely in the hands of the French, and the embarrassment of China is great beyond description; for is she not constantly confronted by the probable diminution of her territorial possessions? It needs no great insight to appreciate the piteous condition of Asia, and the black clouds of misfortune that forever frown on the horizon of her future. The world is well aware of the intentions which Russia harbours against Central Asia, for most European Powers, and England in especial, are continually troubled by their consciousness of this fact. Not long ago, the country of Merv was annexed by Russia; and the General now in command at Merv is reported to be contemplating the establishment of a military station at that place, which, if accomplished, will considerably further the plans of the Russian Government. From these and other circumstances, it is clear that the aggressive policy of Russia is as great as it is far-reaching. So soon as England's troubles are on the increase, Russia will take the final step towards the fulfilment of her schemes, and all Asia will suffer in consequence. The nations of the East must be prepared to see their fair lands, sooner or later, converted into sanguinary battle-fields. At such a moment, it is out of the question for Japan to desert the fellowship of Eastern nations in order to enter the coterie of European powers. Our country is, perchance, far different from all others in the eyes of the diplomatists of the great European powers, like England or Russia; but there is no telling what plan they would pursue against us should opportunity offer. How then can we Japanese rest idly in this false security and place implicit confidence in the words of Dr. Von Stein?

Extraordinary occasions require extraordinary measures, and we must be trebly panoplied with extraordinary determination. The abolition of extraterritoriality and the acquisition of equal rights with aliens can scarcely be brought about by ordinary means. We should rather see the treaties annulled in their entirety, than long for their revision. Treaty revision can only be accomplished when both of the contracting parties stand on an equal footing; for neither would then accept a revision that entailed any disadvantage upon the other nation. But not so with the total abolition of the treaties. We can do this at our discretion, nor would this fact admit of any interference on the

part of foreign nations. We cannot look forward to a policy of conciliation and benevolence so long as the diplomatists of Europe pursue an unjust and dishonest course of action, favoring the one at the expense of the other. To compel them to recognize our inherent rights there is but one course left open to us: an appeal to material power. Material power, so called, signifies "wealth and strength," but the material power necessary for the abolition of the treaties does not have this meaning. It is a physical and moral impossibility to adhere to an old, worn-out treaty, the revision of which was due years ago, and, at the same time, to ensure perfect liberty of foreigners by establishing European institutions in this country. Should we propose to annul the treaties, just at this present, the contracting powers would be forced to recognize our proposal, though they would all more or less oppose the idea. But to carry out this great scheme, the whole nation must be filled with a spirit of determination, and stand fast by the Government, in order to give full force to its words and power to its acts. We do not make these statements with any desire to discredit the present Government, but the necessity of fostering our material power still remains.

So much for Japan. Whatever eminence this country may attain, while other Asiatic nations are still stigmatized as barbarous and unenlightened, we cannot hope to increase, single-handed, our national prestige, or to check the aggression of foreigners. An Asiatic confederation is the one thing necessary. China, first of all Asiatic nations, deserves our confidence and good fellowship. We deeply regret the contemptuous manner in which our countrymen are disposed to speak of her, and are earnestly desirous of consolidating our friendship with the Middle Kingdom. But since France has heaped insults upon China and the Chinese troops in Tonquin have suffered complete defeat, our countrymen have more than ever been disposed to evince perfect indifference towards China. *Yet are we the more convinced of the necessity of a mutual confederation now that China has been enfeebled, and France made strong.* Should China, once for all, call all her latent power into play, smarting under the insults inflicted upon her, she would be no mean ally, and a powerful lever in freeing the East from the momentous preponderance of the West. Every country in Asia should step warily, and be prepared for the gravest emergencies. For the days are evil, and peace no longer "flows like a river."

CONSULAR TRADE REPORT OF NEW YORK.

(Translated from the *Kwampo*).

The report of the Japanese Consulate in New York on the direct export of tea, contains the following remarks:—As tea is the second great staple of Japan, the decline and rise of the tea trade bear directly upon the national finances. Knowing, as we do, that foreigners command this branch of our exports, entailing not infrequently great losses upon our dealers and growers, we have often commented upon the necessity of establishing a firm which can undertake the direct exportation of tea. The state of the trade in this city during the last two months has more than ever convinced us that the establishment of such an institution is absolutely indispensable. The tea market in this city has undergone a complete metamorphosis since November of last year, principally owing to the opening of a large and novel tea-change. This exchange was instituted in order to ascertain with accuracy the exact amount of the demand, and to supply the quantity required without loss of time, thereby securing great promptness and facility in tea transactions. The results of this innovation have been awaited with lively interest. The winter passed off, on the whole, without any great commotion in the

market; but in January quotations began to fluctuate in an alarming manner, owing to the unusual amount of speculative transactions, so much so, that the average price of tea rose 5 to 7 cents per pound. A corresponding rapid decline is sure to come sooner or later. In arguing from past experiences, we venture to predict that the Japanese merchants in Yokohama, ignorant of the goings on behind the scenes and thoroughly perplexed with the rapid rise and fall of quotations, will be subject to greater inconveniences than they were last year. Even when speculative bargains were not nearly so universal, our merchants were made the victims of foreign machinations, and unforeseen failures resulted in the discomfort of our tea-growers and dealers, while exerting a depressing influence on the trade in general. Much more will this be felt, now that speculative business has been indulged in on so large a scale. The necessity of establishing a direct export company with branches in this country is imperative, for the absolute futility of the present mode of conducting the tea trade is becoming daily more manifest.

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF DEALERS IN SECOND-HAND GOODS.

(Translated from the *Meiji Nippo*).

On the 25th of March, a number of Regulations for the Control of Pawnbrokers was promulgated by Imperial Notification, No. 9, and will come into force from the 15th of May. Rumours pointing to legislation of this nature had been current for some time, and the public had busily discussed its probable effects. We, however, have hitherto refrained from dealing with the subject, as we felt that, pending the issue of the Regulations themselves, no exhaustive comment was possible. Our readers may remember that, on the 28th of December last, a Notification (No. 50), was issued embodying regulations for the control of dealers in second-hand goods generally, and that, in accordance with Article 23 of those Regulations, the Board of Metropolitan Police published (January 25th) a number of bye-laws in the same sense. The business of the second-hand-article dealers referred to was clearly defined as the sale or purchase of old furniture (household), manuscripts and paintings, second-hand apparel, and copper, iron, gold, or silver which had been once used. The regulations also applied to the class of dealers known as *Koma-mono-ya* (sellers of toilet, &c., articles), *Fukuro-mono-ya* (sellers of purses, pouches, &c.), tortoise-shell ornament manufactures, watch and clock makers, gold and silver smiths, gold and silver beaters, pipe manufacturers and sword-dealers. It is scarcely necessary to explain that the purpose of these regulations was not only to check theft and facilitate its discovery, but also to prevent the sale of murderous weapons to disreputable characters. It has, nevertheless, been maintained that the effects of the new legislation would be to seriously hamper the business of dealers in second-hand goods, and though this may be in some degree true, we cannot but think that the benefit to the public will more than outweigh the inconvenience to the traders. The Regulations embodied in the Notification of March 25th with regard to Pawnbrokers have been already published in these columns, so that reference only will now suffice.

It is scarcely necessary to say that Pawnbrokers stand in a not less intimate relation to thieves and burglars than any other class of dealers in second-hand goods, and that regulations for the control of the former are not less essential than for the control of the latter, if it is really desired to prevent criminals from disposing of their ill-gotten gains, as well as to facilitate the discovery of theft. The spirit and details of the new ordinance correspond, almost exactly, with those of the regulations previously issued for the control of dealers in second-hand goods. Some slight differences,

necessitated by the difference in the trades concerned, are, of course, observable; as, for example, in the case of Articles VIII. and IX., which refer to the sale of goods remaining unredeemed after the expiration of the period for which they are pledged. It is unnecessary, therefore, to comment on these new Regulations in detail. An examination of the various Articles may, however, induce an idea that pawnbrokers will lose their custom, and therefore their trade, if they are compelled to register the names and addresses of persons pledging goods; to obtain, in some cases, the seals of the pledgers and their securities, and to refuse to receive articles from untrustworthy persons without satisfactory guarantees. Some persons hold that should these restrictions impede the pursuit of the pawnbroker's profession, the lower orders of the people will be seriously embarrassed, finding themselves deprived of facilities to obtain small loans; and that thus, as a set-off to the advantages which the Regulations will confer in the matter of preventing or exposing theft, we shall have great inconvenience caused to persons in straightened circumstances, so that, on the whole, the benefits of the new legislation may be deemed problematical. We cannot share these apprehensions, or consent to regard the restrictions as unwise or inconvenient. It is possible, indeed, that the regulation with regard to the registration of names may have a deterrent effect on intending customers, since people will not be willing to give their real names when they offer articles in pawn. But it must be observed that such registration is by no means an innovation. It was universally practiced in former times, and it is also required by the regulations for the control of the eight classes of dealers in second-hand goods. In some cases, indeed, pawnbroker's receipts were made out in favour of old women, who made a business of pawning articles for other persons. This custom will become impossible under the new system, and some inconvenience may result for the pawnbrokers, if not for the public. But such a habit was obviously calculated to encourage the very abuses which these Regulations are designed to prevent. On the whole, it seems to us strictly equitable that pawnbrokers should be forbidden to receive in pledge articles offered by untrustworthy persons, or under fictitious names; and while such a restriction is by no means detrimental to fair trade, its removal would prevent the accomplishment of the object contemplated by the Regulations. Pawnbrokers, indeed, will find themselves obliged to conduct their business on lines of unprecedented strictness, and all dealers in second-hand goods will be more or less embarrassed, but that the ultimate consequences will be in any respect disastrous, we do not anticipate. The bye-laws to be published by Local Authorities in accordance with Article XVIII. may have the effect of diminishing the difficulties under which pawnbrokers will labour, and we look to the promulgation of those bye-laws for confirmation or contradiction of our views.

GREAT BRITAIN'S TREATY WITH KOREA.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

We heard some time since that a Treaty between Great Britain and Korea had been duly concluded by Sir Harry Parkes. We now learn from trustworthy sources that the question of tariff has been determined by the two countries, and that this tariff is at once more convenient and more minute than that now existing between Japan and Korea. According to the information we have received, the duty ranges between the minimum of 5 per cent., and the maximum of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, while our Korean tariff varies from 5 to 30 per cent. *ad valorem*. The British Government did not particularly request the Korean authorities to sanction foreign trade in Sōul at once, although the Chinese had been anxiously apprehend-

ing such a proposal. For the Peking Government, with a view to enjoying a monopoly of the trade in Sōul, has frequently urged the Korean Court to refuse to license foreign trade in the capital. As for China's relations with Korea, the Peking Government contends that they are of a paternal nature, and that the Celestial Empire should by no means be treated as an outside nation. But the British Minister stipulated from the outset that whatever tradal privileges were granted to China should in like manner be enjoyed by his countrymen, weakening thus at once the overwhelming political supremacy of the Chinese. Sōul, on however small a scale it may be, is the metropolis and capital city of Korea, and a monopoly of its trade by the Chinese would simply deprive aliens of the benefits of commerce, not in the capital alone, but in the outports as well, for China might easily absorb all Korean exports before they ever reached the coast. Sir Harry Parkes, shrewd, keen-sighted politician as he is, immediately grasped the full purport of the situation, and at once frustrated the schemes of the Chinese Government by inserting in the Trade Regulations a clause providing for the opening of Sōul should the requirements of trade suggest that course; and he is even prepared to take the initial step towards opening up trade in the capital before the Chinese have had any chance to secure a monopoly.

The main point of difference between the British and Japanese treaties with Korea is in the fact that British subjects may, in accordance with the regulations, erect dwellings anywhere within treaty limits. As for judicial administration, extra-territoriality obtains as a matter of course. Cases in which British subjects are concerned, require the immediate presence of their own authorities in the Court-room; not so much as judges, but as interested arbiters, who may interfere with the legal proceedings should they deem it necessary. This judicial system is a new style of Mixed Court, for the foreign authorities watching the case may or may not be competent judges. There are several other discrepancies between the British Trade Regulations and our own, but the principal points we have touched upon already viz. :—(1) the decreased tariff; (2) the conditional opening of Sōul; (3) privilege of residence anywhere within treaty limits; (4) discretionary judicial authority of the British representatives. It is undeniable, at the same time, that our present information, however apparently trustworthy, may be at fault; but we have heard so much about the salient points at issue that the four above-mentioned particulars are pretty certain to be correct. Were our own Trade Regulations with Korea not satisfactory, the Government would surely take steps to ensure the welfare of the "most favoured nation;" yet the question remains whether our diplomatists would care to make such stipulations as the four especially enumerated. The Government ought not to imitate the example of England with regard to the judicial administration, at least, not in our opinion. It is about nine years since Japan concluded her first treaty of peace and commerce with Korea, and although we cannot entirely endorse the manner in which Korean jurists deal with criminal cases where Japanese are concerned, yet in all these nine years we have never once heard that the commerce carried on between the two countries was obstructed by misconduct on the part of the native judiciary, or that the Japanese Government has had occasion to directly interfere with the Korean Courts. They are merely selfish reasoners who urge that the condition and comfort of the Korean Government are not to be taken into consideration, but that, whenever occasion serves, the judicial rights and territorial possessions of the Hermit Kingdom should be usurped. They may argue with great plausibility that Japan should follow the example of Great Britain; but our impression is that Japan's trade with Korea will rather profit by the lenient and neighbourly way in which we treat the judicial

claims of that country. Of course, if the welfare of Japan or her commerce were at stake, some interference would be warranted; yet nine years have come and gone, and Korea has adjusted all affairs within her jurisdiction in a fair, honest, and unobstructive manner. Now, of all times, when extra-territoriality is doomed to be expelled from our own borders, we should first of all people be willing to recognize the inherent rights of the Koreans. Instead of being ready to stir up strife, the Japanese Government is eager to consolidate the friendship of the two countries, nor will our authorities rashly copy the doings of Great Britain.

LEGISLATION FOR THE CONTROL OF DEALERS IN SECOND-HAND ARTICLES.

During the past four months, regulations of a very drastic nature have been enacted by the Japanese Authorities for the purpose of enabling the police to exercise an effective surveillance over dealers in second-hand goods, it being generally understood that the operations of this class of tradespeople conduce largely to the prevalence of larceny and other cognate offences. These regulations have been embodied in two Imperial Notifications, the first issued December 28th, 1883, and the second March 25th. For the information and convenience of our readers we now publish both the Notifications, as well as the bye-laws drawn up by the Police Bureau in connection therewith:—

Notification No. 50 (Dated, December, 28th, 1883), issued over the signatures of their Excellencies the First Minister of State and the Minister for Home Affairs, and embodying Regulations for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Articles.

Art. I.—Persons who make it their business to purchase or sell second-hand furniture and wares, second-hand books, second-hand manuscripts and pictures, second-hand clothes, or copper, iron, gold, and silver which have been once used, shall be known as Dealers in Second-hand Articles for the purposes of these Regulations, and in the same category shall be included any of the following traders who make the purchase, sale or exchange of second-hand articles a part of their business; namely, sword-dealers, dealers in, and manufacturers of, pouches and purses, toilet articles, tortoise-shell ornaments, watches and clocks, gold and silver ornaments, gold and silver leaf, or tobacco-pipes.

Art. II.—Every Dealer in Second-hand Articles must obtain a license from the local authorities of the district to which he belongs; and if in Tokiyo, from the Board of Metropolitan Police.

Art. III.—When a Dealer in Second-hand Articles sells, purchases, or exchanges any article, he must record the particulars of the transaction in his books in such a way that the police will have no difficulty in tracing the article as well as its buyer or seller. This rule must be observed even when the Dealer is well acquainted with his customer.

Art. IV.—All purchase of goods from, or their exchange with, untrustworthy persons is strictly forbidden.

This rule does not, however, apply to cases where a trustworthy person becomes security for the transaction, or where special sanction has been obtained from the police.

Art. V.—The purchase or exchange of articles must not be effected with persons under fifteen years of age; with persons suffering from mental derangement, or with servants who reside in the houses of their employers.

This rule does not, however, apply to cases where parents, guardians, employers or other trustworthy persons become security for the transaction.

Articles bearing the seal, or mark, or number, of an office, a town, a village, a school, a hospital, a temple, a company, or a firm, must not be purchased, or exchanged for other articles, unless the legality of the transaction is attested by two or more sureties.

Dealers who violate the provisions of this, or the preceding Article, may be ordered to restore the articles in question without receiving any compensation.

Art. VI.—Dealers in Second-hand Articles must

obtain permission from the police authorities when they purchase, receive in exchange, or take charge of, goods belonging to persons (whether their fellow-tradesmen or not) who have been punished for theft, or for obtaining money under false pretences, or for offences enumerated in Articles 399 and 401 of the Criminal Code.

Any person infringing the provisions of this Article shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term of not less than one month and not more more than three years, or to a fine of from 30 yen to 300 yen.

Art. VII.—Dealers in Second-hand Articles are forbidden to purchase or exchange goods in places other than their own residences, or the residences of the sellers of such goods, or the markets officially sanctioned for such transactions.

Art. VIII.—Swords, or any articles containing them, must not be sold to untrustworthy persons, or to persons who have been punished for theft or gambling. The sale of such articles by the roadside, or at stalls by the public thoroughfares is also forbidden.

Art. IX.—When dealers in Second-hand Articles desire to transport their goods to other cities or Prefectures, or when they have received goods from other cities or Prefectures, they must forward a catalogue of such goods to the police-station of the district to which they belong, and it shall be lawful for the police authorities to examine the goods and detain them after examination. Any expenses thus incurred must be borne by Dealers forwarding the catalogues.

Art. X.—When official notices are issued with regard to articles stolen or fraudulently made away with, copies of such notices must be kept by dealers in Second-hand Articles, and on them must be noted the hour, day, month and year of their receipt.

Art. XI.—If articles indicated in such notices are purchased, or received in exchange, or temporarily taken charge of, by Dealers in Second-hand Articles within one year after receipt of the notice; or if it is found that the articles in question were obtained previous to the issue of such notices and are still in the possession of the Dealers, a report of the fact must be made to the police-station. Should Dealers neglect to make such report and fail to give a satisfactory explanation of their neglect, they will be liable to the penalties enumerated in Article VI.

Art. XII.—The ledgers in which are entered the records of articles sold, purchased or exchanged, and the copies of notices issued with reference to goods stolen or fraudulently made away with, must be preserved for ten years. Should a ledger be lost, the fact must be immediately reported to the police-station of the district.

Art. XIII.—It shall be lawful for officers of police to enter, at any time, the shops of Dealers in Second-hand Articles, to inspect the ledgers and goods of the dealers, and, if necessary, to seize such goods. The Dealers must also present their ledgers for examination at the police-station, if required.

Art. XIV.—Dealers who violate any of the provisions of Articles II., III., IV., V., VII., VIII., IX., X., XII., or XIII., or who make false reports, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 2 yen and not more than 200 yen.

Art. XV.—Dealers who are punished for violating any of the provisions of Articles VI., XI., or XIV. of these Regulations, or of Articles 399 or 401 of the Criminal Code, shall be liable to be subjected to Special Restrictions by the local authorities of their district (if in Tokiyo, by the Board of Metropolitan Police), for a period of not less than three months and not more than three years.

Art. XVI.—Dealers subjected to such Special Restrictions must observe the following rules:—

1. When articles are purchased or exchanged, the name, age, and residence of the sellers or exchangers, an accurate description of the article—including any marks, numbers, figures, or other peculiarities—together with the price and date of purchase or exchange must be entered accurately in the ledger.
2. Articles must not be purchased, exchanged, or received in charge, before sunrise or after sunset.
3. When articles are purchased or received in charge from, or exchanged with, persons who are not professional dealers, such articles must be kept for five days in their original state.
4. When articles are sold or exchanged, a description of the article, its price, as well as the date of sale must be entered in the ledger. Particulars must also be entered, if procurable, as to the name, age, and residence of persons to whom such articles are sold or with whom they are exchanged.
5. The ledger in which particulars of sales, purchases, and exchange are entered, must be

submitted once a month for the inspection of the police.

6. Should Dealers under Restriction desire to change their residence, go on a journey, or take persons to lodge in their houses, they must seek and obtain the sanction of the police authorities.

Art. XVII.—Dealers violating any of the provisions of the foregoing article shall be liable to a fine of not less than three yen and not more than three hundred yen.

Art. XVIII.—Dealers who, while subjected to Special Restriction, are sentenced to fines in accordance with articles VI., XI., XIV., or XVII., shall be required to pay such fines in one sum; and in default of payment they shall be detained at the police-station for a period adapted to the circumstances of the case.

Art. XIX.—Any Dealer contravening these Regulations twice within a year shall be liable to be sentenced, by due process of law, to permanent or temporary prohibition from carrying on his trade.

Art. XX.—In the case of contraventions of these Regulations, that portion of the Criminal Code which refers to the concurrence of infractions shall not be applicable.

Art. XXI.—Should articles purchased or exchanged in contravention of these Regulations be identified as stolen or fraudulently made away with, the police authorities shall take steps to recover them and restore them to their rightful owners, whether their purchase or exchange was effected between professional dealers or not. Should the rightful owners be unknown, the articles will be carefully preserved, and after the lapse of a year will become the property of the State.

Art. XXII.—The responsibility of a dealer in matters relating to his business shall extend to acts committed by members of his family or by his employés.

Art. XXIII.—It shall be competent for Chiefs of Local Police, Governors of cities (Tokiyo excepted), or Prefects, according to circumstances, to make and enforce such Bye-laws as may be necessary for the promulgation and enforcement of these Regulations, and such Bye-laws shall be duly reported to the Minister of the Home Department.

Notification No. 5, A. of the Board of Metropolitan Police, issued in accordance with Art. XXIII. of the Regulations for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Articles, over the signature of Osako Sadakiyo, Inspector General of Police, and embodying the following:—

BYE-LAWS FOR THE CONTROL OF DEALERS IN SECOND-HAND ARTICLES.

Art. I.—Dealers in Second-hand Articles desirous of obtaining a license must forward to the Board of Metropolitan Police a petition in duplicate bearing the signatures of the Magistrate in the case of an Urban Division, and that of the Headman in the case of a Rural Division.

Provided that, in the case of Dealers who, having been subjected to Special Restrictions for a term, abandon their calling before the expiration of that term, or live in the houses of other dealers whether with or without the intention of abandoning their calling, a license shall not be granted during that term.

Art. II.—Dealers who abandon their calling, change their names or residences, or transfer their registration to another jurisdiction, must give due notice of the fact to the Board of Metropolitan Police. Such notice may be forwarded by post, enclosed in a registered letter, if convenient.

Art. III.—All Dealers in Second-hand Articles within the police district to which they belong shall form one Corporation, with minor Corporations formed according to trade classifications, and having Directors and vice-Directors. Such Corporations may, with regard to the number of their members, be amalgamated with similar Corporations in other police districts, provided that such amalgamation shall first receive the sanction of the Board of Metropolitan Police.

Art. IV.—Dealers in Second-hand Articles must provide themselves with a sign-board, which, having been branded by the Director of the Corporation, shall be hung before their shops. In case they abandon their trade, this brand must be obliterated by the Director. The sign-board shall be 1.5 feet long by 4.5 inches wide, and it shall bear the name of the trade, the Director's brand, the name of the dealer, that of his shop and that of his residence.

Art. V.—The Director of a Corporation must provide himself with a book in which the names of the members of the Corporation, their residences, their shop-names, and their ages, shall be accurately entered, with the seal of each member affixed.

Art. VI.—It shall be incumbent on Directors to adopt measures for transmitting to the members of Corporations any Notifications published by the authorities for their control, or notices issued with reference to articles stolen or fraudulently made away with.

NOTE.—The transmission of such notices must be in accordance with special instructions which will be issued for the purpose.

Art. VII.—Dealers in Second-hand Articles are required to provide themselves with the under-mentioned ledgers, all of which—with the exception of the ledger in which notices referring to stolen articles are copied—must receive the stamp of the police station of the district.

1. A ledger for registering purchases and receipts of articles. The entries in this book must be in the first form of registration prescribed by the Regulations.

NOTE.—When the sanction of the police authorities is obtained in the cases specified in Art. VI, and in the second clause of Art. IV of the main Regulations, the corresponding entry in the ledger must have the official seal attached. The same rule applies with regard to the second and third clauses here following.

2. A ledger for registering sales and deliveries of articles. The entries in this book must be made in the second form of registration prescribed by the Regulations.

3. A ledger for registering articles received on trust. Entries in this book must be made in the third form of registration prescribed by the Regulations.

4. A ledger for copies of notices issued with regard to articles stolen or fraudulently made away with.

In this ledger must be entered the hour, day, month and year of the receipt of the notices, and due precautions must be taken to bind the ledger so that none of the copies it contains may be lost. The copies must also be arranged in the regular order of their dates.

Art. VIII.—Should Dealers in Second-hand Articles (sword dealers excepted) desire to carry on their trade at out-door stalls of any description, or to hawk their goods as pedlars, they must provide themselves with a wooden sign-board and have it branded at the Board of Metropolitan Police as directed in Article I. of these Bye-laws. Such sign-board must be hung in front of out-door stalls and carried about in a conspicuous fashion by pedlars. Further, when the duties of stall-keeper or pedlar are entrusted to servants or *employés*, their names and ages must be recorded on the board. When dealers carrying on their trade in this manner desire to abandon it, they must report the fact to the Board of Metropolitan Police, following the mode of procedure prescribed in Article I., and must apply to have the brand effaced from their board.

(Here follows a drawing of the sign-board, with a statement of its dimensions in the cases of stall-keepers and pedlars respectively.)

Art. IX.—When Dealers in second-hand furniture, iron, or copper, travel from place to place to effect purchases or sales, they must carry their wares in such a manner as to be visible to every-one.

Art. X.—When Second-hand goods are to be transported from one city or prefecture to another, or when they have been received from another city or prefecture, notice must be forwarded to the police station one day before transportation in the former case, and one day after receipt in the latter. Dealers upon whom Special Restrictions have been imposed, must forward such notices of transportation three days earlier than the time mentioned above.

Art. XI.—Goods intended for transportation to other cities or prefectures must bear the names and residences of consigners and consignees, as well as a classification of the goods themselves.

Art. XII.—Dealers contravening these Bye-laws will be punished in accordance with Police Regulations when penalties for their offence are not specified or indicated in the Regulations for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Articles.

Notification No. 9 (dated March 25th, 1884), issued over the signatures of their Excellencies the First Minister of State and the Minister of Home Affairs, and embodying
REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF PAWN-BROKERS.

Art. I.—All persons proposing to commence business as Pawnbrokers must first procure a license from the local authorities of the district. If within the City of Tokiyo, application for such license shall be made to the Board of Metropolitan Police.

Art. II.—Pawnbrokers shall keep an accurate register of all the articles they hold in pawn. The register shall contain a fixed number of pages, and shall bear the stamp of the authorities by whom the license has been issued.

Art. III.—In this register the following information shall be embodied (in such a manner that

examination by the police shall be perfectly easy), viz., all the articles held, now or previously, in pawn, the amounts lent on them, the names of the persons by whom they were pledged, and the exact dates when they were pawned, when the pledges expire, and when they were redeemed or exchanged. In cases where the pledger of an article has been guaranteed by another person, the seals of both pledger and guarantor shall be plainly entered.

Art. IV.—It shall not be lawful for Pawnbrokers to take articles in pledge from persons whose identity is not established, unless the pledger is guaranteed by a person of clearly established identity.

Art. V.—It shall not be lawful for Pawnbrokers to take articles in pledge from persons under 15 years of age, from persons who are deranged or imbecile, or from servants who reside in the house of their employers; unless such pledgers be guaranteed by parents, guardians, employers, or other persons of established identity.

When articles bearing the seal, or mark, or number, of an office, a town, a village, a school, a hospital, a temple, a company, or a firm, are offered in pledge, two or more guarantors must vouch for the legality of the transaction: otherwise, the articles shall not be received in pledge.

Pawnbrokers failing to comply with the provisions of this Article shall be liable, at the discretion of the Police Authorities, to have the pawned goods confiscated without compensation of the amounts advanced or the interest due on them.

Art. VI.—In the event of Pawnbrokers receiving articles in pledge or for purposes of storage from persons convicted of theft or fraud, or from persons who have been convicted under Articles 399 and 401 of the Criminal Code, they (the Pawnbrokers) shall report the fact to the Police Bureau without delay.

Art. VII.—When there is suspicion that articles offered in pledge have been stolen, or when they appear unsuited to the station of the person offering them, the Pawnbroker shall, without delay, report the fact secretly to the Police Bureau, or give information to the nearest policeman on duty.

Art. VIII.—When a Pawnbroker proposes to sell articles of which the pledges have lapsed, he shall forward a list of such articles to the Police Bureau five days before the date of the intended sale.

Art. IX.—When articles of which the pledges have lapsed are sold, their sales, the prices obtained and the names of the purchasers shall be recorded in the register in such a way as to offer every facility for examination by the police.

Art. X.—A Pawnbroker, on receiving from the authorities descriptive notices of stolen articles, shall enter in a "Register of Stolen Articles" the year, month, day, and hour of receiving such notice.

Art. XI.—If within one year after the receipt of such descriptive notice of stolen goods, a Pawnbroker receive in pledge or warehouse articles of the nature described; or if he discovers that, prior to the receipt of the notice, he has received articles of the nature described, he shall report the fact to the Police Bureau without delay.

Art. XII.—Registers of articles received in pledge, of articles sold after lapse of pledge, and of notices of stolen articles, shall be preserved by Pawnbrokers for a period of ten years. In the event of a register being lost, information of the fact must be immediately given to the Police Bureau.

Art. XIII.—It shall be lawful for officers of police to enter at any time the establishment of a Pawnbroker, to examine the articles held in pledge, as well as the register, and, if necessary, to seize such articles. It shall also be necessary for a Pawnbroker to present his registers for examination at the Police Bureau when required, and in everything to obey the orders of the Police.

Art. XIV.—Any person acting in contravention of any of these Regulations, or any person falsifying a register, shall be subject to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 200 *yen*.

Art. XV.—Any person contravening these Regulations twice within the space of one year, shall be liable to be sentenced, by due process of law, to permanent or temporary prohibition from carrying on the trade of Pawnbroker.

Art. XVI.—In the case of contraventions of these Regulations, that portion of the Penal Code referring to the concurrence of infractions shall not be applicable.

Art. XVII.—The responsibility of a Pawnbroker, in matters relating to his business, shall extend to acts committed by members of his family or by his *employés*.

Art. XVIII.—It shall be competent for chiefs of Local Police, Governors of Cities (Tokiyo excepted), or Prefects, according to circumstances, to make and enforce such Bye-laws as may be necessary for the promulgation and enforcement of these Regulations, and such Bye-laws shall be duly reported to the Minister of the Home Department.

IN THE TOKIYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SHIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—MONDAY, 28th April, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsushima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsushima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

The Court sat at 11.15 a.m., when Mr. Ramsay, in reply to the judge, said that he was willing that his remarks should be taken down in the Japanese language. He proposed, after concluding his address, to hand a copy of same to the Court to be compared with the Japanese translation, after which he would be prepared to sign both documents.

Mr. Ramsay, through Mr. Kataoka, then said as follows:—"As the attorney for the Respondent, who is a Minister of State, I ask the kind indulgence of this honourable Court to permit me to make a few remarks before I make any comments upon the statements made by the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant. My reason for asking for the peculiar favour is briefly stated, viz.:—That this petition of appeal having been granted a hearing through the orders of the August Assemblage of the Daijo-kwan this most honourable Court has been authorized to investigate the same; and from the decision of this Court there is no appeal, I believe. Consequently, I would ask this most honourable Court to grant me permission to comment in full upon the statements or arguments addressed to it by the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant. The reason I do so is that this case is of a peculiar and most interesting nature to the mercantile marine of this empire, and it will be accepted as a precedent. The Department of State, through whom certificates of competency are issued to either masters, mates, or engineers of the mercantile marine, has certainly the legal right to suspend or cancel such certificates, upon the decision of a Marine Court of Enquiry, and that they do so is beyond dispute; still, should any one feel aggrieved at such decision of the marine court, he has a perfect right to appeal to that Department of State; and the petition of appeal distinctly sets forth the reasons of the appellant for so appealing. Then such department, having duly considered the evidence as laid before the first court, together with the grievances as set forth in the petition of appeal, either confirms the judgment of the first court or rescinds a part, or the whole of same, and in case of the latter, immediately returns the appellant's certificate; and in case of the department confirming the decision of the court, such decision is accepted. It is a most unusual proceeding for anyone whose certificate has been finally dealt with by such department, to carry his case into the law courts of the land. This may doubtless arise in a great measure, owing to the expense that would be of necessity entailed by such a proceeding. But in this country what a brilliant example has been set! namely, that the administration of justice shall not be frustrated by the rejection of the appellants' petition of appeal to the Noshomusho. Hence the August Assembly of the Daijo-kwan has ordered this honourable Court to enquire into this petition of appeal of the master, for the following reasons:—Firstly, owing to the adverse decision of the Marine Court of Enquiry, by which court he was deprived of his certificate for 12 months. Secondly, the Noshomusho declined to entertain his petition of appeal on the ground that it (the petition of appeal) contained no argument which could induce His Excellency to reconsider his decision, as the case had received the fullest investigation from the Court during three days."

Mr. Ramsay here apologized for the length of his preliminary remarks, after which the Court adjourned till 2 p.m.

On resuming, Mr. Ramsay continued as follows:—"The legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant has travelled outside the borders of the case at issue, which case at issue is, namely, the appeal and the reply thereto. In the petition of appeal there is but one grievance mentioned, namely, that he, the appellant, was deprived of his certi-

ficate wrongfully, as the loss of the vessel was not caused by his wrongful act and default. There are now three more grievances set forth by Mr. Uchiyama, and which grievances are entered on the records of this honourable Court of Appeal. It is now my duty to dispose of the same and to utterly disperse them. The first grievance (new) is that in all Western countries the president was always a person who had a knowledge of the law and must be conversant with the laws of the country, and he was sure that the chief judge of the first court had no knowledge of Japanese law nor of those of England or America. That the judgment by such a person is the first objection. Mr. Ramsay is conversant with the laws of England, and of this empire, in regard to the constitution of marine courts of enquiry and the procedure thereof. It is not the practice or custom for judges learned in the law to preside invariably, for here have I, in my hand, a list of wrecks and casualties the presidents of which courts were not judges or men conversant with the laws of the country. In this list there are captains, commanders, lieutenants, harbour-masters and shipping inspectors. The presidents in these cases are conversant with the technicalities of the cases at issue. The marine courts of enquiry in this empire are constituted by order of the officers of the Noshomusho, over which department of state H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi presides. It is hardly becoming a Japanese subject to criticize the acts of a Minister of State. Mr. Ramsay's appointment (I am not speaking individually but as the respondent) to the Noshomusho was sanctioned by His Excellency, and Mr. Ramsay would certainly never have accepted the responsible position had he not felt himself fully competent to discharge faithfully and conscientiously the duties of that position. Note to first objection. In the list in my hand are recorded several names of officers of the Royal Navy and others who have presided over marine courts of enquiry. Surely one who has been an officer in H.M. Indian Navy, and who resigned his position owing to the fact of that service being abolished, and who has had previously and subsequently great experience in the mercantile marine, is fully capable of presiding over a marine court of enquiry, especially as his services have been called into requisition by the Noshomusho authorities during the absence of him who has filled the position previously. For, in all marine courts of enquiry facts are only enquired into, not those relating to law. When a judge learned in the law of the land presides (as Mr. Uchiyama would have us to believe) he invariably or almost always, depends upon his nautical assessors."

The court rose at three o'clock, when the case was adjourned till Monday, the 5th May next, when Mr. Ramsay will continue his address.

NAVAL COURT.

A Naval Court was held on Wednesday at H.B.M. Consulate for the trial of a seaman for assaulting his superior officers. The Court was composed as follows:—Russell Robertson, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, President; Walter Strugnell, Esq., Navigating Lieutenant H.M.S. *Sapphire*; and Cornelius Crowley, Master, British bark *Lucia*, Assessors. E. D. Hadley, Esq., Assistant-Paymaster H.M.S. *Sapphire*, was Clerk of the Court.

Alexander Singleton, a seaman on the British steamship *Oxfordshire*, was charged with assaulting Mr. Edwards, chief mate, and W. Frost, quartermaster of the *Oxfordshire*.

The prisoner denied assaulting the chief officer, and said that he had struck the quartermaster, but not in the way of assault.

W. Frost, quartermaster, stated that about midnight on Thursday last, just as he came off watch and was going forward, the prisoner came forward from the wheel and seeing him going below, turned round and hit him on the chin. He asked him why he did it, and he told him to see the chief officer in the morning. He then swore and cursed him for about five minutes. Witness then went below. On the following morning he went and complained to the chief officer and told him all about the affair.

To Prisoner—He spoke to him after he had struck him.

To the Court—He did not know the reason why he struck him. He had had trouble with him before. He was constantly using abusive language to him. They were at sea when the assault took place, on the passage from Hongkong to Yokohama.

James Edwards, chief officer of the *Oxfordshire*, stated that on the morning of the 25th instant about 6.30 a.m., W. Frost came to him and reported that he could not stop in the ship any longer

if the prisoner remained in the ship. He asked him his reasons, and he said that as he was leaving the bridge going off watch the prisoner struck him in the face. He enquired for what reason, but he could give none. At 8 a.m. he called the prisoner aft and asked him why he struck the quartermaster. Prisoner answered because he did not relieve him at the wheel. At 1 p.m. the same day he heard a noise, and on going on the bridge found that the third officer had hold of the wheel and the prisoner was leaving the bridge. He asked the third officer why the prisoner had left the wheel, and he said he had turned him away for using abusive language to the master. Prisoner went down the after-ladder from the bridge and he ordered him forward to shift himself. He then made use of very abusive language, telling him that "he did not want him to tell him what to do." He went down the ladder and prisoner struck him in the face. Prisoner was then put in irons, and has since been confined in the chart-room.

To the Prisoner—The third officer told witness that prisoner was swearing. He did not pull him off the ladder and shove him against the sky-light. He did not jump down the ladder on top of him.

To the Court—Prisoner struck him in the face. He was sober at the time. Witness had never raised his hand against him. He had frequently given trouble on board.

C. Jones, master of the *Oxfordshire* said—On the 25th, at 1 p.m., he was in the chart-room and heard a disturbance on deck. Going out he saw the prisoner deliberately strike the chief officer in the face with his fist. Seeing a sheath knife in his belt, he rushed down and took the knife out of his belt, when he said, "Come on, I will fight the two of you," and would have struck him had it not been for the chief officer. The other officers of the ship then put him in irons until 8 p.m., after which he was confined in the chart-room. Prisoner did not attempt to use the knife, but had uttered so many threats that he thought it better to take the knife from him.

Prisoner said he did not strike the chief officer; neither did he say, "Come on, I will fight the two of you." He did not speak to the captain. He did not use any abusive language to any of the officers. The chief-officer had hold of him, screwing his arms behind his back. He acknowledged striking Frost, but without the intention of an assault. He was desirous of making an apology to the quartermaster next day. He had no complaint to make of his treatment on board the ship.

The Court, after consulting for some time, delivered the following judgment:—The Court finds the charges preferred against Alexander Singleton, seaman of the British steamer *Oxfordshire*, of having on the 25th instant assaulted James Edwards, chief officer, and William Frost, quartermaster, respectively, of the *Oxfordshire*, duly proved, and sentences Alexander Singleton to be imprisoned in the British Consular Gaol at Yokohama for a period of six weeks, with hard labour; the Court further orders that Alexander Singleton be discharged from the *Oxfordshire*, receiving such balance of pay as may be due to him, and directs that the expenses of this Court, which are fixed at two pounds sterling (£2) be borne in equal proportions by the master of the *Oxfordshire*, as a charge on the ship, and by the prisoner, Alexander Singleton.

(Signed) RUSSELL BROOKE ROBERTSON,
H.B.M. Consul, President.

W. STRUGNELL,
Nav. Lieutenant, R.N.

C. CROWLEY,
Master Mariner, British bark
Lucia.

CRICKET.

The opening of the Cricket Ground for the season on Thursday was celebrated by the usual scratch match, The Eleven *versus* the "two twos," which brings together more of the members than any other arrangement of sides. The ground was in very good order and few Mays have commenced with lovelier weather. The 22 commenced their innings at 11.45, but, owing principally to the bowling of Mr. W. B. Thomson, had lost half their wickets before tiffin, at one o'clock, for only fifty runs. After tiffin the batsmen were more successful, and the innings closed for a total of 122 runs. The Eleven were unfortunate at the start of their innings, two wickets falling for one run, then Messrs. Kirkwood and W. B. Thomson kept together for a time and improved matters, but to Mr. Duff belongs the honours of the day; he kept wickets capitally, and made the top score of the match, not out, for which he has to thank "square leg" for missing an easy catch.

Contrary to expectation, the Twenty-two won the match, for opposed to them was the entire bowling strength of the Club. Following are the scores:—

THE TWENTY-TWO.

Mr. Harris, c. Duff, b. Thomson.....	9	Mr. Wilson, st. Duff, b. Thomson.....	7
Mr. Shand, b. Thomson ..	1	Mr. Robinson, b. Sutter ..	23
Mr. Cottell, b. Thomson ..	22	Mr. A. Vivanti, c. and b. Thomson ..	5
Mr. Kenny	0	Mr. Bing, b. Sutter.....	0
Dr. Fisher, run out.....	2	Mr. Cameron, c. Thomson, b. Sutter.....	1
Mr. Sullivan, b. Thomson..	0	Mr. Milne, b. Sutter	7
Mr. Cope, c. Sutter, b. Wheeler	4	Mr. Hamilton, not out	13
Mr. Snow, b. Wheeler	3	Mr. Glennie, st. Duff, b. Sutter	2
Mr. C. D. Moss, b. Thomson ..	1	Mr. Melhuish, b. Sutter ..	2
Mr. Boag, b. Thomson	1	b. 3, lb. 6, w. 3.....	12
Mr. Brewer, b. Wheeler ..	6	Total.....	122
Mr. C. Flint Killy, b. Thomson	0		
Mr. Wood, thrown out, Hearne	1		

THE ELEVEN.

Mr. Kirkwood, run out	9	Dr. Wheeler, run out.....	4
Mr. Strange, b. Kenny	0	Mr. Trevithick, b. Hamilton ..	9
Mr. Barlow, c. Melhuish, b. Kenny	0	Mr. Hearne, run out	0
Mr. Thomson, b. Melhuish ..	21	Mr. Moberly, b. Hamilton.....	3
Mr. Sutter, b. Melhuish ..	1	b. 2, lb. 2, w. 13	17
Mr. Duff, not out.....	43	Total.....	118
Mr. Abbott, c. and b. Melhuish	11		

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

It is reported that the Senate and the Sanji-in intend sending several members to foreign countries, in order to examine the various national constitutions.

In Asakusa District, thirteen bankruptcies have recently occurred, the total liabilities amounting to 18,665 yen.

During the recent festival of *Keito*, a famous saint, which was celebrated by the Honganji at Kiyoto, no less than 314,323 yen were presented to that temple by various monasteries throughout the country.

Mr. Takamatsu Choshiro, a resident of Tokiyo, went to Berlin in May, 1880, under the instructions of the Industrial Bureau, to learn the various processes of dyeing. He was taught up to December last by a celebrated dyer of Berlin, who exacted from him a written agreement, under the guarantee of H.E. Aoki, Minister to Germany, to the effect that he should not divulge the secrets of the art either to his countrymen or to foreigners.

The hotels at Nikkwo are looking forward to large profits this summer, as a greater number of foreigners will visit that place this year than in 1883.—*Fiji Shimpo*.

We hear that the decoration of the second order of *Ho-sei* has been conferred on Admiral Yenomoto by the Chinese Government.

Mr. Kusuda, a member of the Senate, has been released from service on account of his advanced years. He is the first member who has retired for this reason.—*Fyū Shimbun*.

It is reported that the Government will completely alter the organization of the Metropolitan Police Bureau in 1885-86, and considerably extend the scope of its authority.

The first draft of the Civil Code being nearly completed, the authorities propose to publish the laws respecting the taking of oaths, and to carry them into effect from the beginning of next year.

The gardens of the *Yenriyo-kwan* are closed to the public.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

An application for permission to establish a Tea Industrial Association, brought forward by Mr. Otani and seventy other tea-dealers, has been granted by the authorities. The office of the Association is at the *Machigwaisho*.—*Bukka Shimpō*.

Every now and then the old ideas of social caste crop up in an unpleasant and forcible manner. Not long ago, the son of a *shisoku* at Nishitagawa, Dewa, thrust a spear into the body of a little *yeta* (an individual of the lowest caste), with fatal consequences. The excuse of the young murderer was that the *yeta* had struck one of his intimate friends, and thus disgraced the dignity of the old *samurai*.

Some of the adherents of the old Imperialist party contemplate establishing a large seminary at Shanghai, to which Japanese students above the age of twenty will have admission. The idea is that many young men are, just at present, anxious to go abroad, and not a few of these might be willing to enter such an institution, be they Liberals or Progressionists, thereby adding to the future influence of the Imperialist party. Our correspondent who forwards us this information says that steps are being taken to put this plan into execution.—*Choya Shimbun*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 25th.

THE ENSUING FINANCIAL YEAR.

The Revenue for the ensuing financial year is estimated at £85,562,500, and Expenditure for the same period is estimated at £85,312,500. There will be no change in the taxation.

London, April 26th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Osman Digna and his followers are encamped seven miles from Suakin. The *Briton* (corvette), and the *Ranger* (gun-vessel) are anchored off the port prepared for every emergency.

London, April 28th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

France is raising difficulties in relation to the proposed Conference on the financial arrangements in Egypt, and is demanding a discussion of the whole Egyptian question.

London, April 30th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Osman Digna threatens an advance on Assouan.

THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

The Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, a subscription of 100 sovs. each, h ft., for three-year-olds; colts, 9st.; fillies, 8st. 9lb.; the owner of the second horse to receive 200 sovs. out of the stakes, and the third to save his stake; R.M.—85 subs.

Scot 1
St. Medard 2
Harvester 3

London, 14th April.

DESTRUCTIVE EARTHQUAKE IN ENGLAND.

A shock of earthquake has occurred in the Eastern counties of England. Several persons have been injured and much damage has been done to houses in the town of Ipswich and the villages in its neighbourhood.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

London, 16th April.

THE WAR IN TONQUIN.

The occupation of Honghoa by the French is announced. The Governor of Yunnan is summoned to Peking. It is reported that he will be punished for the reverses in Tonquin and that the officers responsible for the loss of Bac-ninh have been sentenced to death.

It is further reported that a general levy has been ordered by the Chinese Government.

London, 18th April.

THE COURT.

Her Majesty the Queen has arrived at Darmstadt.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

The Conservative candidate for Poole has been elected in room of the deceased Member, by an increased majority.

London, 19th April.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

At a meeting of the Corporation of the City of London it was resolved to oppose the passing of the Municipal Bill to the utmost.

London, 20th April.

COURT NEWS.

The Queen is suffering from an attack of lumbago.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Peking, April 21st.

Hsu Keng-shên and Yen Ching-ming, two of the newly appointed members of the Grand Council, have been nominated to seats in the Tsung-li Yamên.

[FROM THE "SAIGON INDEPENDENT."]

Paris, 10th April.

THE NEW TREATY WITH ANNAM.

The newspapers announce the departure of

M. Patenôtre on the 20th instant with instructions to conclude the Hué treaty. The giving up of Binh-Thuan is spoken of.

M. Patenôtre leaves by the English mail.

THE NEW COMMISSAIRE OF TONQUIN.

It is rumoured that Dabry de Thiersant is to be the new Commissioner-General at Hanoi.

THE PARIS MUNICIPAL LAW.

The Chambers have been prorogued to the 20th May. The Senate have thrown out the Paris Municipal Law, notwithstanding the great majority in the Chamber and the Ministry.

THE ITALIAN MINISTRY.

The Italian Ministerial crisis is over.

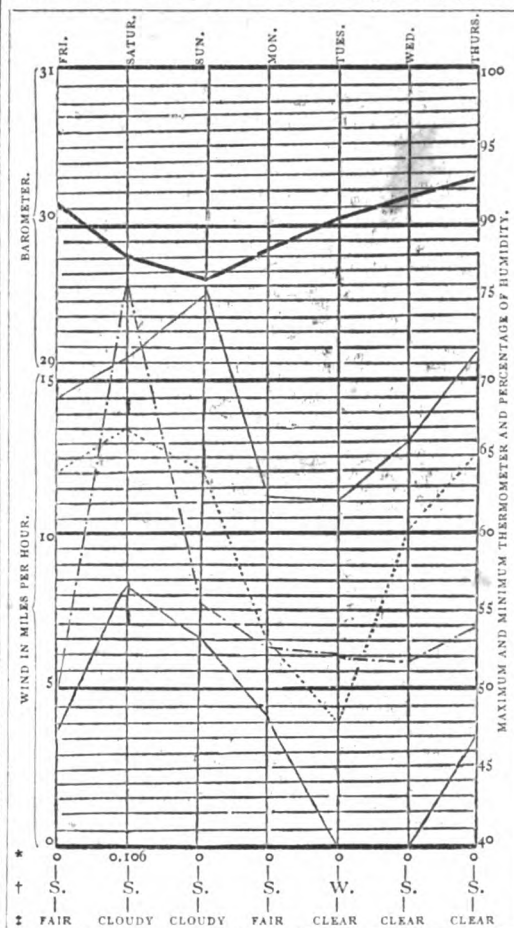
FRENCH CREDITS.

The Chambers have voted the Tunis Convention, have voted a final credit of three and a half millions for Senegal, and have approved the Madagascar policy.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
--- percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 44.1 miles per hour on Saturday, at 5 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.301 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.519 inches on Sunday, at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 75.2 on Sunday, and the lowest was 39.4 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 74.2 and 45.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .106 inches, against .962 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

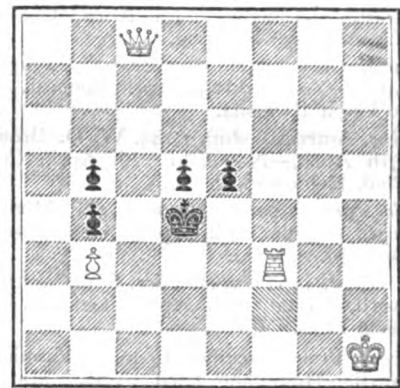
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By M. P. RICHARDSON, Williamsburg U.S.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 26th April, 1884,
by Mr. A. E. STUDD.

White.

Black.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.—R. to Q. B. 4. | 1.—R. takes B. |
| 2.—Q. to K. B. 4 ch. | 2.—B. or Kt. takes Q. |
| 3.—Kt. mates. | if 1.—Kt. checks. |
| | 2.—B. takes Kt. dis. ch. |
| | 3.—Mate. |
| | if 1.—B. takes B. ch. |
| | 2.—Q. takes B. ch. |
| | 3.—Mate. |

Correct answers received from "W.H.S.," "K. OMORI," and "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, May 4th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe per M. B. Co. Thursday, May 8th.
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, May 13th.

* Kashgar left Nagasaki on May 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. M. Co. Sunday, May 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong... per M. M. Co. Sunday, May 4th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per M. B. Co. Monday, May 5th.
For Europe, via Hongkong... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, May 11th.
For America... per P. M. Co. Friday, May 16th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.38; First-class, yen 2.00; Third-class, yen 1.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.30 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 802, J. Adair, 26th April, — Hakodate 24th April, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 27th April, — Yokkaichi 25th April, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Pactolus, American ship, 1,145, W. D. Bromham, 27th April, — Nagasaki 12th April, Coals. — Paul, Heinemann & Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Moto, 27th April, — Kobe 24th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 28th April, — Kobe 27th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, E. Vannier, 29th April, — Hongkong 23rd April, Mails and General. — Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 29th April, — Hakodate 26th and Oginohama 28th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oscar Mooyer, German bark, 382, H. Johannsen, 29th April, — Takao 18th April, 8,600 piculs Sugar. — J. E. Collyer & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 424, Arai, 30th April, — Yokkaichi 28th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 834, Mikiyara, 30th April, — Kobe 28th April, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 1st May, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Newminster, British steamer, 1,196, Webster, 1st May, — Rangoon, Teakwood. — Takata & Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 1st May, — Sagara 30th April, General. — Seiriusa.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 1st May, — Kobe 29th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 698, Haswell, 1st May, — Oginohama 29th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 2nd May, — San Francisco 12th April, Mails and General. — P. M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 2nd May, — Handa 30th April, General. — Handasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 2nd May, — Yokkaichi 29th April, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Guiding Star, British bark, 312, H. Schnitger, 2nd May, — Takao 22nd April, 7,550 bags Sugar. — J. E. Collyer & Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 2nd May, — Fukuda 30th April, General. — Fukudasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 2nd May, — Yokkaichi 30th April, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 2nd May, — Shimidzu 1st May, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 3rd May, — Oginohama 1st May, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Kilgour, 26th April, — Kobe, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 27th April, — Hakodate, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 27th April, — San Francisco, Mails and General. — O. & O. S.S. Co.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 27th April, — Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General. — P. & O. S. N. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 28th April, — Kobe, Mails and General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hakodate Maru, Japanese steamer, 266, Narai, 28th April, — Hakodate, Mails and General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 28th April, — Shimidzu, General. — Seiriusa.

Razboingh, Russian cruiser (8), Captain Pojarsky, 28th April, — Nagasaki.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 28th April, — Hakodate, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tamaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Davison, 28th April, — Hakodate, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,384, Courtney, 29th April, — London via ports, General. — Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 29th April, — Yokkaichi, General. — Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 470, Taneda, 29th April, — Kobe, General. — Seiriusa.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 29th April, — Hakodate, Mails and General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 29th April, — Kobe, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 424, Arai, 30th April, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 30th April, — Toba, General. — Seiriusa.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 42, Hiraoya, 30th April, — Toba, General. — Todasha.

Amaki Kan (6), Commander I. Miura, 1st May, — Shanghai.

Fuso Kan (12), Captain R. Inouye, 1st May, — Shanghai.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 1st May, — Kobe, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 876, Makiyara, 1st May, — Kobe, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 68, Omura, 2nd May, — Yokkaichi, General. — Kowyekisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 2nd May, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Thomas, 2nd May, — Hakodate, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 3rd May, — Hakodate, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 3rd May, — Shimidzu, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Hakodate:—44 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—74 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. W. Pearson, Messrs. Saunders, Hunt, and Noventhal in cabin; and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Kent, Messrs. Nitta and Namba in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Sawada, Messrs. E. R. Holmes, Maki, Tsuruno, and Kitano in cabin; and 34 Japanese in steerage. From Oginohama: Mr. and Mrs. Katsuno and Mr. Kawana in cabin; and 45 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. Legge, Mrs. J. H. Hunt, Miss Krebs, Mrs. Yamagata, Mrs. C. Leonard, Major William C. Cumming, Rev. J. Georgii, Messrs. J. Walter and servant, J. F. Calder, H. V. Love, F. D. Cooper, W. R. Barrett, Cornu, Imai, Tanabe, Yoshida, Wakisaka, Namada, Namura, Norimoto, and Asida in cabin; and 206 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. H. Everett, Miss F. Adams, Miss M. Mailes, Miss M. Williamson, Captain N. Pratt, Messrs. T. B. Van Vorst, A. D. Savage, A. G. Wood, A. R. Platt, R. B. Smith, H. J. Hunt, Colgate Baker, C. Braes, L. Wertheimer, John Middleton, J. Winstanley, and S. Samuels in cabin; and 2 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong: Mrs. H. S. Greeley, Miss L. Ashton, Miss D. R. Snell, Dr. William Young, and Mr. H. Best in cabin; and 187 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—General Miyoshi, Colonel Yagami, Miss Furushio, Messrs. Y. Isobe, J.

Iijima, U. Sekiguchi and J. Imai in cabin; and 120 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco and beyond:—H.I.H. Prince Yamashina, Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Wheeler and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. MacKean and 3 children, Major and Mrs. Carr-Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. Cardross Grant and servant, Commander and Mrs. Orme Webb, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Conrad and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Karpeles, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Toney, Rev. S. B. Partridge, 2 children, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Buchanan and child, Mrs. Elwood, Miss Wheeler, Miss Houston, Lord Ronald Gower, Lieutenant A. G. S. Howes, Colonel C. P. Jankea, Rev. A. H. Newman, Rev. A. Ridhaner, Master Buchanan, Messrs. G. V. Fittock, F. J. Cartuyvels, R. H. Adams, Wm. Bean, Wm. Alexander, H. M. Fraser, W. H. Minnock, W. H. Pitkin, John Speke, Geo. C. Sim, W. W. Carlisle, F. de Bovis, G. Barger, J. H. Conklin, C. V. Sale, R. W. Irwin, H. V. Poor, J. Hachida, T. Mizoguchi, T. Matsumoto, Hayashi, Noguchi, Sakamoto, Yamaguchi, Moritomo, Seki, Ito, Okubo, and Saito in cabin; and 17 Europeans, and 763 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. De La Lande, French Consul, Rev. and Mrs. H. Waddall, 7 children, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. R. Johnstone, 3 children, and European nurse, Miss Heap, Dr. Thornicraft, Captain Walker, Messrs. C. F. Rowland, P. Christian, A. Wolff, Peltza, J. R. Merian, A. W. Gillingham, J. Gillingham, A. H. Groom, Wismer, T. A. Singleton, Renard, and W. H. Piot in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 1 Indian, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, for Hachinohe:—2 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Ogawa and son, Mrs. Stone and child, Mrs. J. Drummond and child, Mrs. Nishino and son, Mrs. Rohde, Mrs. Fujioka, Mrs. Fujioka 1 son and three ladies, Miss I Purfele, Miss R. Falls, Dr. Richter, Professor A. Statham, Messrs. M. Mees, E. B. Jones, S. Endicott, J. S. Farron, H. Lynch, R. Lynch, G. Lynch W. Lynch, N. N. Vacher, Amano, Tsuda, Yamamoto Hirayama, Oshima, Owonishi Berada, Furuse, Kitabatake, Kato, Moridera, Matano, and Ikeda in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, for Oginohama:—1 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Oceanic* for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	163	—	—	163
Nagasaki	—	—	314	314
Hiogo	—	—	133	133
Yokohama	969	86	40	1,095
Total	1,132	86	487	1,705

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	363	—	363
Shanghai	—	238	—	238
Yokohama	—	154	30	184
Total	—	755	30	785

Per British seamer *Thibet*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 19 bales.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, from Hongkong:—430 tons.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—Treasure, Yen 70,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, Yen 100,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 26th April, at 10 a.m. with fresh S.E. winds and thick rainy weather winds veering to south with dense fog and heavy head sea to Kinkazan; thence strong west wind with hazy weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 27th, at 7.15 p.m., and left on the 28th, at 6 a.m., with variable winds head sea and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 29th April, at 1 p.m.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving San Francisco on the 12th April, at 12.30 p.m. with variable winds and fine weather to the 22nd; strong gale from S.W. to W.N.W. and large sea on the 23rd and 24th; moderate gales from S.W. to W. and head sea on the 30th; thence to port light westerly winds and smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd May, at 9 a.m. Time, 19 days, 2 hours, and 30 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The fine weather seems to have imparted a better feeling to the Market generally, clearances have again been good, and dealers appear more disposed to operate.

COTTON YARN.—There has been a strong demand for 28/32 which have advanced 25 to 50 cents per picul, other counts, as well as Bombays, have not been in such keen request but are very firmly held, Stocks having become much reduced of late.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—For Grey Shirtings dealers are inclined to offer a trifling advance, but the firmness of holders has limited transactions; fair sales of Turkey Reds are reported and a few sales of miscellaneous articles.

WOOLLENS.—There is little change to notice, as transactions have been on a very small scale and for many articles quotations are quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	23.00 to 25.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

The sale has been reported, during the past week, of 6,000 cases Devoe at \$1.70, and other holders are willing to make sales at a little over this rate. Deliveries have been 7,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.70 to 1.72½
Comet	1.67½
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

There is nothing doing in Sugar of any description, and the prices require no alteration.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.20 to 3.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 25th April, since when there has been a moderate business doing; Settlements for the week are returned as 150 piculs. Buying for the *Oceanic* was completed at full rates, and since her departure, prices are even stronger

than before. Desirable parcels of Silk are very scarce, and nearly one-half the reduced Stock is held off sale altogether, the native dealers being strong holders and quite content to await developments. Markets in Europe and America are reported to be better than for some little time past, but we cannot learn that prices there are yet on a level with those which apparently are freely paid here.

During the week the trade has run almost exclusively on *Filatures*, *Re-reels* and *Kakedas*, other kinds not participating. *Hank* sorts are not offered, and it is a question if business could be put through at quotations; one large holder keeps quite aloof for the present. Arrivals have come in to some extent, the *Filatures* and reeling establishments appear to be at work again; and the total Stock shows but little change from last week's figures.

The O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*, which left for San Francisco on Sunday, 27th ultimo, carried 184 bales for the United States Markets, and the P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, which sailed on the same date for Hongkong, took 19 bales for France. These vessels bring the Export to date up to 29,113 bales, against 26,110 bales to same date last year, and 18,051 bales in 1882.

The weather continues favorable for vegetation and hatching is expected to become general in the lowland provinces within a few days.

Hanks.—No transactions during the week. A few small parcels have been taken for native use; we leave quotations unchanged, but they must be looked upon as all more or less nominal in the absence of business.

Filatures.—The principal trade has been in these and long prices are reported for good quality and well known chops. Among the transactions are *Nihonmatsu* \$700, *Utsunomiya* \$680, *Yechu* \$660, *Mino* \$640.

Re-reels.—Not much actually done, and very little Stock to choose from. A parcel *Stork* chop (*Maibash*) is held for \$650, and some *Hikone* is reported settled at \$615.

Kakedas.—One fair-sized lot of "Phoenix" has been taken at \$610. Stock of good quality is not large and firmly held in strong hands.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—No change to report and the Stock practically unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. \$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	635 to 645
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 2nd May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,068	13,245	8,967
America	9,406	8,774	5,743
England	2,639	4,091	3,341
Total	29,113	26,110	18,051

WASTE SILK.

Business in this article has progressed steadily during the week. Settlements are not more than 135 piculs divided up among all classes, and generally speaking at full rates. *Filature* kinds come in slowly, and in small lots; for these dealers strive hard to obtain an advance, and in some cases have succeeded.

The P. & O. steamer of 27th April carried no Waste at all, and the Export figures are now 22,767 piculs, against 23,125 piculs last year, and 22,926 piculs at same date in 1882. Arrivals have come in more freely, and the Stock is increased to 550 piculs.

Noshi-ito.—But little has been done in this class, owing to the absence of good assorted cargo at this time of year. Among the few purchases made are *Utsunomiya fil.* at \$155; *Oshu*, \$145; *Joshu*, \$87½; *Kawamuki*, \$52½.

Kibiso.—Some few transactions reported on basis of *Oshu*, \$85; *Shinshu*, \$55; *Joshu*, \$43, \$39, \$36, \$25. In *Filatures* business has been done in *Tomiyoka* at \$127½, with *Shinshu* at \$120, and inferior at \$110.

Mawata.—The only parcel left on the Market has been taken up at \$165, and it is doubtful, if any quantity will now arrive until next season.

Sundries.—One or two sales of *Kusu-ito* at \$75 to \$65, according to quality. In *Neri* a parcel of ordinary has been taken at \$13, for a small lot *Utsunomiya fil.* \$18 is asked.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 2nd May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	20,572	19,924	18,980
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,201	3,946
Total	22,767	23,125	22,926

Exchange has again advanced, and is now quoted steady at:—LONDON, 4m/s., Credits and Documents, 3/9; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have once more started upwards, and are supposed to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 108 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 2nd May, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	520	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	160	Noshi-ito	140
Kakeda	130	Kibiso	310
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	—
Taysam Kinds	10	Sundries	100
Total piculs	920	Total piculs	550

TEA.

The season 1884/85, may be considered as opened, and about 172 piculs of new leaf have been taken at an average advance of 4 to 5 dollars per picul over last year's opening rates. The first crop promises to be abundant, and it is estimated that the total yield will be about 10 or 11 per cent. more than last season's production. We have seen enough, however, to lead us to hope that some Tea districts will turn out a rather superior crop than the last, while few are likely to yield (if any) an inferior one, and as a general rule we look for an improvement in the condition and keeping qualities of the Teas. At the moment we are only able to say that, as a rule, the leaf shows an improvement in make as compared with last season's growth from the same district (*Suruga*). The quality of the liquor seems about the same as last year's, though in point of strength we think that some parcels have shown in the cup a little more flavor and pungency. The O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*, which sailed from Yokohama for San Francisco on the 27th of last month, took 51,398 pounds of Fired Tea which was distributed as follows:—7,921 lbs. for New York, 2,020 lbs. for Chicago, 1,220 lbs. for Portland (Oregon), and 40,237 lbs. for California.

EXCHANGE.

A slight advance has again to be recorded during the week, but the transactions have only been on a small scale. Quotations are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.64
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.77½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

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YOKOHAMA, MAY 10TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

“FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!”

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the “JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL,” must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 10TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

TWENTY-TWO prisoners escaped from the jail at Nara on the 23rd ultimo.

THE railway between Horonai and Horoma, in the Hokkaido, was opened on the 1st instant.

TWO grass plains, in Noto province, measuring upwards of 75 acres, were burnt on the 19th ult.

CONSIDERABLE distress is reported to prevail among the agricultural classes in the province of Awa.

A NUMBER of coolies have been fined for obstructing the thoroughfare at the Western hatoba, Yokohama.

THE import of foreign goods by Japanese traders to Pusan, Korea, during 1883, is placed at 677,115 yen.

THE Emperor has recovered from his slight indisposition, the nature of which is said to have been a feverish cold.

H.E. INOUE, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been presented with the Italian Order *La Concepcion de Notre Dame*.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club came off on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Negishi, Yokohama.

A NEW journal, the *Jiyuto Shimbun*, is about to

be published in Tokiyo, in the interests of the Liberal party.

A PROPOSAL has been approved to introduce the study of the English language into the primary schools in the Chiba Prefecture.

THE railway authorities have announced that, in future, goods traffic on the Tokiyo-Yokohama line will not be suspended on Sundays.

THE deliveries of imported goods in Yokohama during April amounted to \$1,110,933, and the sales of goods for export, to \$603,120.

THE number of Japanese students attending the Theological School in Tsukiji, Tokiyo, is said to be this year double of what it was last year.

A STONE sarcophagus, containing an ancient mirror and sword, has been exhumed at the village of Kawai, in the province of Yamato.

HIS EXCELLENCY Terashima, hitherto Japanese Representative at Washington, has been attached to the Bureau of Examination (*Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku*).

HIS EXCELLENCY Admiral Yenomoto, Japanese Representative at the Court of Peking, has received the Second Class of the Imperial Order of China (*Hosei*).

THE tea-dealers of Yokohama have applied for, and received, permission to establish an association which will hold its meetings in the Town Hall (*Machigaisho*).

IT is asserted by the Tokiyo Press that during festival at *Keito* the Hongwanji, in Kiyoto, sums amounting to a total of 314,323 yen were presented to the temple.

A MEMBER of the French Legation was somewhat roughly treated by one of the Lancers forming the Imperial escort on the 2nd instant. The man has been punished.

THE works in connection with the Tokiyo harbour scheme are likely to be soon commenced, but it is thought that the dimensions of the undertaking will be largely reduced.

IT is stated that the portion of the Civil Code referring to the taking of oaths in Court will be promulgated immediately, so as to go into effect from the beginning of next year.

A DISTURBANCE occurred on board the American ship *Pactolus*, on the night of the 4th instant. One man received two revolver bullets in his body and had to be carried to hospital.

THE traffic returns of the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway (18 miles) for the month of April amount to 53,284 yen being an increase of 2,732 yen as compared with the same period last year.

A CONSIDERABLE export of gold-fish has recently taken place from Japan, the value of those sent away during the first four months of the current year being \$72,500.

A DIFFERENCE of opinion having arisen as to the

best route for the Shinano-Yechigo Railway, the commencement of the work is said to have been temporarily postponed.

IT is reported that the priests of Hongwanji, Kiyoto, have declared the necessity of considerably reducing their establishment in consequence of financial difficulties.

ON receipt of the intelligence of the decease of the Dowager Empress of Austria, His Majesty the Mikado conveyed expressions of sympathy to the Emperor of Austria by telegraph.

HIS EXCELLENCY Mori Arinori, hitherto Japanese Representative at the Court of St. James's, has been appointed to the Council of State. He will be replaced in London by Mr. Kawase.

A CONGRESS of bankers is to be held in Tokiyo for the purpose of discussing various questions in connection with the rules for the recall of the paper currency issued by the National Banks.

A PROMISING vein of gold ore has been discovered on a mountain in the district of Tsugaru, Hakodate. The place had previously been indicated by an English expert as likely to be auriferous.

FAVORABLE reports of the prospects of the tea crop have been received from the principal producing districts of Kanagawa Prefecture. It is expected that the yield will be 20 per cent. above an average crop.

THE sentences passed in 1882 on the Japanese sailors, convicted of mutinous conduct while serving in a Russian merchant vessel, have been reduced from six and two years to two years and one year respectively.

A FRACAS between the local police and the soldiers in garrison at Sendai occurred on the 27th ultimo. The police were at first considerably in the minority, and several men were wounded on both sides.

A SMALL boat, carrying a passenger from the steamship *Godavery*, was upset in the harbour on the 2nd instant. The occupants were saved with some difficulty by a steam-launch from the Custom House.

THE vernacular press is carrying on an animated controversy with regard to the recently developed taste for the literature and language of Germany. The Opposition journals largely exaggerate the nature of the tendency as well as its probable results.

THE trial trip of a steamer, the *Kinriu Maru*, built at the Imperial Government Works, Hiyogo, took place on the 30th of April, and was very successful. The steamer's speed averaged more than eleven knots, being one knot over the contracted speed.

A GENERAL MEETING of the members of the new social club in Tokiyo is announced to take place at the Rokumei Kwan on the 14th instant. The club will be open from the following day. The first body of members—i.e. the honorary members,

and active members elected by the inter-Departmental Committee—numbers 100, of whom about 35 are foreigners.

THE Local Assembly of Gumma Prefecture, one fifth of whose members are Christians, has adopted a resolution to issue no more licenses to public brothels and to take measures for the speedy closure of all such establishments at present existing.

THE Association of Tokiyo Tea-dealers has decided to establish an examining office in Tokiyo, and has invited the local associations to send delegates to a conference in the Capital, in order to concert measures for improving the quality and increasing the quantity of the staple.

THE official opening of the Tokiyo-Takasaka Railway is finally announced to take place on the 12th instant. It is said that the loss incurred by the Company in connection with the two postponements, which were necessitated by the Emperor's indisposition, amounted to nearly 4,000 *yen*.

REPORTS from the Prefecture of Yamanashi are to the effect that the unseasonable weather has retarded the growth of the mulberry trees, and that some apprehensions are beginning to be entertained of an insufficient supply of leaves. Rumours of a similar nature are always common at this time of year.

THE spring festival, *in memoriam* of Japanese soldiers and sailors who have fallen in battle, was held at Kudan on the 7th and 8th instant. A salute of 100 guns was fired on the morning of the latter day, after which the Minister of War and other high officials offered prayers before the Shrine of Yasakuni. Horse-racing and wrestling also took place.

ON the 2nd and 3rd instant four fires of some magnitude occurred; one at the village of Dekadomaye, in Niigata, destroying 41 houses; another at Takata, in the same province, destroying 48 houses; the third at Inabe, destroying 108 houses, and the fourth in the district of Nanjo, Fukui Prefecture, destroying 120 houses and killing one person.

JAPANESE educational statistics, published on the 31st of December last, show that the number of schools (common) throughout the country is 29,081, being an increase of 339 as compared with the preceding year, while the number of scholars is 3,004,137, being an increase of 396,960, and the number of teachers is 84,765, being an increase of 8,147.

THE preparation of Japanese exhibits for the London Health Exhibition is proceeding rapidly. It is in contemplation to make all the arrangements necessary for a cooking establishment, *à la Japonnaise*, so that visitors to the Exhibition will have an opportunity of learning by actual experience what is meant by a Japanese *cuisine*. A sum of 200,000 *yen* has been appropriated to cover expenses.

GLOOMY accounts of trade affairs still continue to arrive from Korea. The Japanese begin to fear that the results of Chinese machinations will be to render the country uninhabitable by foreign merchants. The Custom's revenue is said to be insufficient even to defray the salaries of the *employés*, and the Government is not

less distressed than the commercial and agricultural classes.

FOLLOWING the announcement, received on the 2nd instant, that the Oriental Bank had suspended business, came news, on the 7th, that a new corporation, the Oriental Bank, Limited, is in process of formation with a capital of £2,000,000 in £10 shares fully paid. The news has caused universal satisfaction throughout Yokohama, where the Oriental Bank had come to be regarded as an essential part and parcel of the settlement.

JUDGMENT has been delivered, in the Ministerial Court of the United States of America in Japan, in the case of Consul-General T. B. Van Buren *v.* Dr. T. H. Tripler. The Judge, the Honorable J. A. Bingham, United States Minister, ruled that the plaintiff had given the defendant probable cause to believe that the accusations made by the latter against the former were true, and decided that the alleged libel was not of a nature to justify exemplary damages. The defendant was, therefore, adjudged to pay the plaintiff a sum of \$20, with costs.

NOTES.

VERY great doings are promised at the inauguration ceremony of the Industrial Association (*Kangiyō-Shihon-gwaisha*), to-day. We have not yet learned what are the precise objects of the Association, but they have evidently reference to the promotion of industrial undertakings. The ceremony is to take place at the well known tea-house, Nakamura-ro, Riyogoku. About five hundred guests have been invited, among them several nobles, Ministers, the Foreign Representatives, newspaper editors, and officials. A *déjeuner à la Japonaise* will be provided, after which there will be day fireworks, dances by wrestlers and *geisha*, and sundry other species of entertainment. We may mention for the information of readers not posted in such matters that the "music of motion" is supposed to attain perfection in a dance by wrestlers, whose muscular training enables them to throw into their pantomime an amount of *verve* and precision beyond the compass of persons with a less highly developed physique.

THERE has been great trouble in Tokiyo for some days past. On the 7th instant it became known that the bank called Maruya Ginko had suspended payment, and that many tradesmen, as well as private persons, would be heavily hit by the failure. The President of this institution is a Mr. Kondo. He does not enjoy a specially high reputation as a business man, and indeed his position appears to have been somewhat of a sinecure. The Vice-Presidents (*Kanji*), Messrs. Hayashi and Nakamura, are, however, gentlemen well known for integrity and financial ability alike. Indeed, it would almost seem as though the high qualities of its Vice-Presidents were the proximate cause of the Bank's disasters, for while the shareholders numbered many men of great competence, their confidence in the management was so complete that little if any supervision was exercised. It is said that indications of the coming disaster were not wanting. The Bank's acceptances were not taken up over-punctually, and sometimes the payment of a draft was extended over a period of two or three days. To all these things, however, no attention was paid. The public found in the names of the

shareholders a sufficient guarantee against any mischance. At last the *coup de grace* was dealt by a well known shareholder, who suddenly transferred his shares, and withdrew a sum of thirty thousand *yen* which the Bank had on deposit to his credit. A run immediately commenced, and the crisis came on the 7th instant. The capital of the Bank is 150,000 *yen*, and its engagements are said to amount to 790,000. But though obliged to suspend, great confidence is expressed in its ultimate ability to meet all its obligations, and many persons go so far as to assert that its resumption of business is only a matter of time. Meanwhile, the fate of another well-known firm also hangs in the balance. Messrs. Maruzen & Co., whose establishments in Tokiyo are familiar to nearly all the residents, are the Bank's debtors to the amount of 80,000 *yen*, and as it will be impossible for them to realize this sum at once, their downfall is apprehended. We sincerely trust that both these disasters may be staved off. Such events, adding their influence to a commercial depression already serious, are not to be contemplated with indifference.

It is not the custom among foreigners to credit the Japanese with any large amount of commercial enterprise, yet we are disposed to think that they will develop rather startling capacities one of these five days. Already in the matter of advertising, they can afford to give their critics considerable odds. Even Holloway himself never conceived the brilliant idea of employing ladies to sell his pills. He was completely outdone by the Japanese speculator, who hired a hundred comely lasses, and dressing them in parti-coloured uniforms gave to each a knowing little hand-valise and a natty umbrella, in company with which they strolled about the streets in bands of three or four, singing out the name of a certain nostrum in a pretty contralto, and turning the heads of half the city with curiosity or a gentler sentiment. We have all seen these enchanting itinerants, and some of us have actually suspected them of being conspirators engaged to foment another rebellion or to restore the Tokugawa dynasty. They have ceased to ornament the thoroughfares now. The tax imposed on patent medicines proved too much for their employer. None the less he drove a thriving trade before these new fiscal tyrannies, though we confess that, for our own part, we never detected, nor ever met anyone who had detected, the pretty peddlars in the act of selling so much as the worth of a cash. Another specimen of splendid advertising is about to be furnished to-morrow, on the occasion of the opening of the premises where the new journal, the "Light of Liberalism," is to be printed. What form the opening ceremony at the office itself will assume, we cannot predict. The subsequent part of the programme is what interests the public more. Its chief feature, of course, will be an extensive entertainment to which the chiefs of all the Bureaux connected with the government of the city will be bidden, not forgetting editors of newspapers and doctors of hospitals. The guests will number several hundreds, and after they have partaken of whatever fare the fashionable tea-house Sumiya, in Tsukiji, can provide, they are to be amused by the discharge of 15,000 fireworks, each containing handkerchiefs, some of silk and some of cotton. Every handkerchief will bear the name of the paper—*Jiyūto Shim-bun*—and whoever is so fortunate as to pick up a silk handkerchief, will be entitled to a free

copy of the journal during one month. There are, further, in course of construction twenty thousand flower hair-ornaments for young ladies, and these will be distributed to the passers by in some of the most frequented thoroughfares. The Japanese must be supposed to understand each other's dispositions pretty well. In the eyes of practical foreigners, these vagaries look like casting a great deal of bread upon decidedly muddy waters. It is to be hoped that the return of the errant dough may not be delayed *very* many days.

A JUDICIARY Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington is engaged in discussing the propriety of granting copyright to newspapers. The evidence taken by the Committee showed that the principle has been recognised in many cases by English Courts. "There is no special statute in England," says the *New York Herald*, "for the protection of newspapers, but the doctrine of property in news has received ample recognition, and it has been held that newspapers fall within the scope of the law granting copyright to 'periodicals.'" Legislation of this nature, though certainly just, would be variously received. There are many papers which could not possibly fill their columns were extracts prohibited, and not a few which, though they might survive the excision, would have to reduce their dimensions by more than one half. In the case of the press of this Settlement, for example, the effect would be disastrous, though possibly the community might welcome any occurrence which relieved them of having to pay for the same news in three or four different sheets. In the end, the general public would be the sufferers, for by the system of exchanges now practiced, a journal is able to lay before its readers intelligence gathered from all quarters, which would be inaccessible otherwise. Nor, indeed, is it easy to agree that a newspaper has much to complain of if its articles and items are copied with due acknowledgment. This serves as a species of advertisement, and cannot fairly be called plagiarism. But the case becomes very different where no acknowledgment is made. Then, truly the law might interfere with advantage. The purpose of the proposed reform refers, however, to telegrams rather than to articles. It is held that when a journal goes to large expense to procure news by wire, its contemporaries ought to be restrained from reproducing its items until a certain interval has elapsed. This seems only fair. Newspaper work as a business ought to be governed by the ordinary rules of business. If its proprietors invest, in a particular branch of their enterprise, a larger sum than their competitors, it is scarcely just that the latter should be able to divide the resultant advantages simply by using the scissors and paste-pot. We speak as sufferers. In former years there existed in Yokohama a combination between the journals and a section of the public. Everybody contributed a trifling monthly amount, and, in return, received batches of telegrams. The arrangement was philanthropic on the part of the public, selfish on that of the journals, and not particularly satisfactory to any one except those outside the combination. It fell through ultimately; after a series of troubles which need not be recounted here. Then for some years we remained entirely without direct telegraphic news, a most benighted community. Anything might have happened in Europe—stirring events did happen—without the slightest indication to vary

the monotony of Yokohama life. This was too much to endure perpetually. When the Tonquin embroglio and the troubles in Egypt were added to the every-day chances of the times, the *Japan Mail* made an effort, more intrepid, perhaps, than sensible, and ordered telegrams on its own account. Could we have asserted an exclusive title to the news telegraphed at our sole request and charges, the enterprise might possibly have proved in the end self-supporting. But our local contemporaries took care that no right of property should be possible. One of them—the *Japan Gazette*—showed considerable reluctance about appropriating our news, but was ultimately compelled, in self-defence, to follow the example of its less scrupulous *confrères*. The result is that telegrams which appear in our columns in the forenoon, are reproduced in the afternoon by our contemporaries, and nothing remains to us but a shred of kudos. We do not complain of this. Our contemporaries are strictly within their right. But, nevertheless, the case seems to be a fair example of the grievances which the proposed legislation might properly redress. A newspaper ought to be able to keep what it pays for just as securely as a man keeps his furniture or his books. When the law takes the trouble to make this possible, there will be more room, and a better prospect of reward, for enterprise and originality.

We observe that the next *réunion* of the Society of Art Critics (*Kangwa-kwai*) is announced to take place on the 11th instant (to-morrow) at the Meiji Kwaido. The specimens exhibited will be of the *Soga* and *Ukiyo-ye* schools. The reputed founder of the latter is Hishigawa Moronobu, who flourished at the end of the 17th century, though in reality he merely followed the example of Iwasa Matahei, who, more than a century and a half before, had ventured to abandon the stereotyped canons of the art, and to copy the people and customs of his day. The school of Moronobu culminated in Hokusai, the celebrated artist of Yedo, than whom no Japanese painter has ever been more renowned for versatility and originality. Nearly every foreign notice of Japanese pictorial art has made Hokusai its central figure, though for our own part we have always thought that his abilities are over-rated. He delighted in depicting, vigorously, indeed, but roughly, figures and scenes from vulgar life, but when he attempted to produce a finished drawing his success was mediocre. Nevertheless, his productions and those of his school are full of interest for the student of Japanese art and Japanese customs. It is probable, therefore, that the next exhibition of the *Kangwa-kwai* will be at least equal to any of its predecessors, and the subject of the promised lecture—Japanese Art Education—is an additional attraction. We venture to suggest that the popularity and usefulness of these *réunions* might be much increased if Mr. Fenollosa would supplement his lecture by a brief historical sketch of the School illustrated by the specimens, and a notice of its characteristic excellencies and defects.

MR. KITAGAWA INOSAKU has been appointed Vice President of the Railway Company of Japan (*Nihon Tetsudo-gwaisha*). It is stated that the recent extensive purchases of this Company's Bonds by the Banks were prompted

by the advice of a well-known financier, manager of one of the most flourishing National Banks, who predicted that the possession of such securities would not only improve the credit of the Banks but also be a source of substantial gain to their shareholders. These predictions, we believe, have already been partly fulfilled, as the Railway Bonds which were obtained by the Banks at about 91, could now be sold at 92 or 93. As a matter of fact, they are not sold, the Banks preferring to hold them. We suspect, too, that were they put upon the home market, purchasers would not be readily found in Japan. Not that the Bonds are a bad investment: quite the contrary. But simply that the money to purchase is wanting. If the Banks desire to realize at a profit they will have to go to foreign markets, and should they be able to do so after the resumption of specie payments, they will probably net sixteen or seventeen per cent.

It is not surprising that China objects to have France as a neighbour. Never since the middle ages has a programme of aggressive aggrandisement been so openly avowed by any European Power as is now avowed by the new Republic. The most far-sighted and philosophical of French writers, instead of checking, seem bent upon encouraging, this propensity. Russia's action at Merv has furnished them with a fresh example and incentive. Since the Crimean war, the monster empire has been silently pushing forward its frontiers in Central Asia, until its outposts are now 200 leagues advanced. Even in Germany's proceedings the French appear to feel a spur, for although Germany despises regular colonies, her influence is making itself appreciated more and more in neighbouring countries. As for the English, their Egyptian doings have undoubtedly stirred up a strong sentiment of jealousy throughout France. The Parisian Press professes to believe, and it is probably right, that England will have to keep Egypt in spite of herself. Since, then, everybody is enriching himself at his neighbour's expense, the French find it just and natural that they should go and do likewise. They have the courage of their opinions. There is nothing secret about their plans. Public spirit, they say, or at least the spirit of the educated classes, supports every attempt made to extend France's colonial possessions. Africa is her chief attraction: especially Northern and Eastern Africa. Algiers, Tunis, Senegal, and Brazza's new acquisitions, all interest her immensely in her present mood. She declares, in the frankest possible manner, that her policy in Algiers ought to be modelled on the lines adopted by Russia in Central Asia. That is to say, it ought to be a policy of perpetual advance. She has 1,800 *kilomètres* of railway open, or in process of construction, in Algiers and Tunis. Pecuniarily these are losing speculations. They had cost the Treasury interest to the amount of 46,969,000 francs, up to the end of 1882, and they go on costing. By they may pay their way hereafter, and meanwhile they serve as factors in the growth of rejuvenated France. Some of these roads, indeed, are very losing concerns, notably those traversing the Sahara from Biskra to Tougganot and Ouargla; but the dream of their projectors is that they may yet be pushed so far Southward as to tap the Soudan, and deprive England of the advantages she hopes to derive by a similar proceeding *via* Suakim and Berber. At all events, the fever of advance is nothing daunted

by expense. The Chambers are now called on to vote the credits required for pushing another line towards the Soudan from the direction of Senegal, where also the word is "*en avant!*" That dispassionate economist, Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, assures his countrymen that "with perseverance and circumspection they may successfully copy in Africa the excellent example Russia has set them in Asia." A powerful nation with immense resources, a fine fleet, a strong army, a military prestige which it desires to re-establish, and a very unusual appetite for aggression, is not the sort of neighbour China may be supposed to desire. Tonquin is said to be one of the finest grain-producing countries in the East, and Yunnan is a place which has long been the cynosure of covetous eyes. China has quite enough to do to keep her body at rest. She does not want to have her extremities exposed to new sources of disturbance. It is doubtful whether France, in her present humour, would be welcomed as a neighbour by any power in the world, but to a power with so little effective vitality as the Middle Kingdom, her propinquity must assume the character of a veritable nightmare.

Miss FORTESCUE's suit against Lord Garmoyle, for breach of promise of marriage, will not be strongly contested. The noble defendant admits everything, but protests that the damages claimed,—now reduced to £30,000,—are excessive. The lady has renounced her original determination to remain in retirement pending the judicial decision, and has accepted an engagement to participate in the nightly proceedings in the "Court" which sits in Sloane Square. The terms of her contract with the managers of that establishment show that, for the present, she has suffered no material loss from the notoriety into which she has been brought. At the Savoy Theatre, her salary was three pounds a week. At the Court, it is fifty pounds,—considerably more than Mr. Irving ever received, until he became a manager. The newspapers unhesitatingly declare that the first-named sum represents the just remuneration for such talent as she possesses. Fortunately for her, the judgment she is awaiting will depend in no degree upon her dramatic capabilities, good or bad. Lord Garmoyle has gone far away from the scene of his activity as an amatorculist. When last heard from, he was at Constantinople, bearing still farther East.

THE Black Flags are now known to be a recognized unit in China's territorial army. They were not originally Taiping Rebels, as has generally been stated, but bands of outlaws with whom the Chinese Government came to terms ten years ago. Their leader holds official rank as a Chinese General, and receives from the Peking Government, not only large supplies of arms and ammunition, but also a monthly subsidy of twenty thousand silver taels, with which he is supposed to keep an army of four thousand men on a war footing. The chief stronghold of his followers is at Pao-shêng, which, standing at the junction of the Anh-si and Red River, lies just beyond the borders of Yunnan. The district is called Lao-kai, or the ancient boundary. The town is described as a fortified place, having a strong citadel built with massive concrete walls. Within the citadel lives Liu Yung-fu, chief of the Black Flags, with a picked band of 200 warriors. A number of wealthy Cantonese traders are permitted to

reside within the walls, where they carry on a lucrative commerce in imports (cotton, salt, tobacco) and exports (opium, copper, tin). From this trade Liu derives an annual income of eighty thousand taels. General Mesny says that food of all kinds is cheap and abundant in Lao-kai, and describes the exceptional care which the Black Flags take to guard their water supply. It is derived from a fine spring which bursts forth on a hillside some few hundred yards from the town, and the water is conducted thence by means of bamboo pipes. The spring is hidden from view by a thick fence of bamboos, and surrounded by a dense grove of these trees so trained as to be impenetrable. A guard of twenty soldiers is always on duty at this grove to prevent any attempt to poison the water. The Black Flags are evidently splendid troops. A French officer, who had been in the thick of the fighting at Son-tai, told *The Times'* correspondent that "a Black Flag is as good as the best European soldier." At the assault of Son-tai, "the flower of the French troops were beaten back, time after time," and it is asserted that but for the failure of their ammunition, the garrison would have succeeded in holding the place. One deed of gallantry performed on that occasion deserves special mention. "At the West Gate, where the main attack was made, the moat was full of spiked bamboos, and the approaches defended by thick log palisading and *chevaux de frise* of pointed bamboos. On this a terrific fire was opened. The whole of the top of the gateway, built of large slabs of conglomerate, was literally blown to pieces with bullets. There was hardly a square foot of the face that had not its shot mark. Half-a-dozen shells exploded in and around it and crashed through the log stockade. It seemed impossible that any creature could be there and live, yet when it came to the final assault, the Black Flag told off to stand between the bamboos and the wall was there, faithful to his post, with his cartridge belt round his waist and his Winchester repeating rifle charged to the full. With the full strength of the Foreign Legion outside, the drums beating, and the bugle sounding the charge, he stood his ground and fired as steadily as if he were at practice. He shot Melle, the leader of the storming party of the *Étrangères*, through the heart. With each bullet he brought down his man, and when the Legion broke through, he was bayoneted with his finger on the trigger. In recognition of his gallantry the French buried him under the gate when, two days later, it was blocked up—the only Black Flag who received a grave to himself; one of the very few Black Flags who received a grave at all." It is evident that troops of this sort are capable of carrying on a warfare very different from anything Europeans have been led to expect in China. Indeed, the correspondent of *The Times* speaks generally of the Tonquinese as a brave, hardy people, whose complete pacification will require "many years of a strong military occupation." Up to the present, they have only been provoked to resistance. The so-called "pirates," of whom we have heard so much since the campaign began, are said to consist chiefly of "patriotic Tonquinese or men rendered desperate by the burning of their houses and the loss of their property." Their numbers and resolution have increased so that it is "unsafe anywhere to go beyond the range of French guns. You will receive a quart of nails and pebbles from a blunderbuss out of

a bamboo thicket; half a dozen men will jump out upon you with cleavers tied on to long bamboos; or, failing that, you will be pelted with stones by the women and children. At Nam-dinh, Hai-phong, Nam-binh, and Haidzuong, it is impossible to go outside the town." To carry the campaign beyond Hung-hoa, would be to drive the Black Flags to desperation. Hitherto they may have been fighting to some extent under Chinese incentive and direction, but they have also been fighting on their own account; and in the mountain fastnesses between Hung-hoa and Lao-kai they might carry on a very protracted, if not an entirely successful, resistance. We believe, however, that France will not push matters to that extremity. Her object will now be to come to some arrangement with the Black Flags, by which they will be left in possession of their citadel and its environment; they, in their turn, guaranteeing the free navigation of the Red River. The correspondent of *The Times* appears to think that France will have no peace in the Delta until she takes Lang-son. That place is said to be the gateway through which all the Chinese troops have passed. But to seize Lang-son would be to force China's hand, by depriving her of the last condition on which she can assent to have the French as neighbours; namely, the maintenance of a neutral zone beyond her frontier. It is not likely that this fact will be overlooked. Some loop-hole must be left for negotiations. At all events, the campaign in Tonquin is over for the present. The rainy season has set in, and during the rainy season large tracts of the country are completely submerged.

THE social topic of greatest interest just now appears to be the proposed reinstatement of Baker Pasha in the military position which he forfeited some years ago. The *Standard*, it seems, has received no fewer than 200 letters from ladies urging that the erring officer should be forgiven. Forgiveness being with many women the heroic virtue, this is not very surprising; but have these ladies no fear that in their impulsive generosity they may be helping to break down the barrier which society, none too careful as a rule for female honour, has placed about their sex to protect them from foulest wrong? "It was only a momentary impulse," they say, but is that any reason for relaxing the penalty which tends to keep those momentary impulses in check? Suppose the victim had been less courageous, the yielding to that impulse would have entailed a term of penal servitude, and that, too, we suppose, might have been remitted on the same grounds. "I am mightily amused," writes to us a graceless reprobate, "at the announcement in the *Standard* the other morning that the editor has been deluged with letters from hundreds of ladies impetuously demanding the reinstatement of a certain gallant officer in the British army. They are all unanimous, it seems, not one dissentient voice among the whole two hundred. It brought to my mind the familiar couplet of Pope:—

Men, some to business, some to pleasure, take,
But every woman is at heart—

Let those finish the quotation who will."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A SEAMAN belonging to H.M.S. *Sapphire* sustained rather severe injuries, on Thursday evening, by being repeatedly thrown from a native pony. His head was badly cut, and he

lost a large quantity of blood in consequence. It is hardly necessary to add that the man was in an inebriated condition. "Blood Town," otherwise Honmura Road, is a standing disgrace to our Community, and the vile poisons sold in the rum-mills are the cause of endless vice and misery. It is one of the attendant "blessings" of the exterritorial system, and a constant reproach to the defenders of this pitiable condition of affairs.

THE Lasker incident has ended in Bismarck's inviting Mr. Sargent to a dinner in honor of the Emperor's eighty-seventh birthday, and in our Minister's attendance. He was also invited to a "swarry" at the palace. The dinner is the principal thing, however. In countries where a stiff etiquette prevails, a man may be let in after dinner to a house where he would never be invited to dine, and, according to foreign ideas, no better proof of Bismarck's goodwill to the United States could be given than in inviting Mr. Sargent to his table. This will we, presume, put an end to the story that Bismarck hates Mr. Sargent because of a letter written by the latter, explaining the German hostility to American pork by the fact that the Prince himself is a great landowner and pork-raiser. The moral of the Lasker incident as regards the House of Representatives is this:—Never pass resolutions, especially those relating to foreign politics, without knowing what they contain. It would have been more consonant with our notions of magnanimity and high statesmanship if Prince Bismarck had transmitted the Ochiltree resolutions to the Reichstag without comment; but he was not bound to do so even if the phraseology of the resolutions had been agreeable to him, there being no recognized channel of communication between the legislative bodies of different countries. For this reason the form of the resolution ought to have been considered with care. If the intention was what the House now says it was, viz.:—to be "a tribute of respect to the memory of an eminent foreign statesman who had died within the United States, and an expression of sympathy with the German people for whom he had been an honorable representative," it would have been well to have confined it to those lines, in which case there would have been no Lasker incident to lacerate our feelings afterwards. The original resolutions were the product of a total want of system in the matter of giving expression to the views of the House. The lesson which Prince Bismarck in his unfeeling way has taught us, will not be without its value if it leads to greater carefulness in confining the opinions which we send abroad under official seal strictly to the subject in hand. Turn it as we will, it is humiliating to acknowledge, as the House has been forced to acknowledge, that it said something more than it intended to in the first instance. If the practice of *harikiri* were in vogue, Mr. Ochiltree might well avail himself of its privileges.—*Nation*.

SYMPTOMS of what may be termed mental elephantiasis have for some time been noticeable in the English Press. The arrival of the famous white elephant Toung Taloung was heralded by a flourish of journalistic trumpets, for the "Jumbo craze" was still at fever heat, and it was thought that "Old Tongue" would probably take the place of the departed popular favorite. The *Pall Mall Budget* indulged in enthusiastic rhapsodies on the occasion of the

new arrival, and other journals were not slow to follow in its footsteps. Even Pears, that man of a superhuman genius for advertising, found it profitable to refer to the dingy spots on the forehead of Toung Taloung as a triumphant proof of the cleansing properties of his soap even in the most case-hardened pachydermata. But science has vitiated the popular taste for white elephants, now that it has been proved that "Old Tongue" is not a true albino; and so his recent departure for the New World has hardly elicited any sympathy whatever. But that the public must have some pet elephant is a self-evident fact, and items concerning the daily doings of Jumbo—even though that huge favourite is at a distance—are again at a premium. We were told, a short time since, that Jumbo was writing a book on his American experiences, in a somewhat heavy Spencerian style, with notes on elephantine society in general. Now, the news reaches us that "Jumbo is about to become a father,"—a truly gratifying announcement, for, popular prejudice does not generally place much confidence in elephantine genealogy, but inclines rather to the opinion that the lines of Bulwer Lytton are applicable to infant elephants as a rule:—

Little dancing loves we are,—
Who in the deuce is our papa?

THE appointment of H.E. Mori to the Educational Department, says the *Yiji Shimpō*, has occasioned much remark. It has been currently reported that the educational system of Japan would be modelled after that of Germany; but such a scheme, if it ever really were intended, will be considerably influenced by the appointment of H.E. Mori to the Department in question.

THE birth of monstrosities has been frequently reported of late by the vernacular press, and now the *Choya Shimbun* mentions a case of quadruplets—two boys and two girls—in Akita-gori, Akita Prefecture. With Mrs. Partington, we shall not now be surprised to hear of the birth of "quadrupeds and centipedes."

A COLOMBO paper announces the death, after a short illness, of Louis De Zoysa, Maha Mudaliyar, one of the most learned Native scholars of Ceylon, whose name is well known to European Orientalists.

THE Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's opinions on any current topic are sure to be facetious, and are often, but not always, instructive. When he says that "a tariff with incidental protection is like beefsteak with incidental strychnine," we perceive that he has hit the nail on the head. But when he says that a Presidential candidate ought to be jovial, and that jovial men are commonly "big-bellied and big-chested," and that here Senator Sherman and Senator Edmunds are found wanting, "having able heads with shad bellies," we can only say that he has added new terrors to the political arena. It is interesting, however, to know that Mr. Beecher prefers Mr. Arthur as a candidate this year, regardless of his qualifications as a story-teller or his measure around the waist. He thinks that General Sherman could be elected, although his wife is a Catholic, and that his standing by his wife under the disadvantage of her being a Catholic is very much in his favor. An alluring hint was given by Mr. Beecher to the *Herald*

interviewer that he "could name a ticket for the Democracy that would carry the country without a doubt." But he declined firmly to render the Democracy the service of naming it.—*Nation*.

THAT antiquated and highly respectable institution called trial by jury is gradually receiving blows which threaten to undermine its supports altogether ere long. All modern Governments have agreed that it fails totally at the very time when its services seem most desirable; namely, in political trials. It had to be suspended in Ireland under the Prevention of Crimes Act, and it had to be suspended the other day in Vienna when the socialists began to be troublesome. In the calmest seasons its incompetence to deal with certain classes of cases has long been recognised, and the list of such cases is gradually swelling. Able writers now declare that in applying the doctrine of liability for negligence, juries often administer not so much justice as what they consider to be equity. "They either disregard the evidence, and declare themselves not satisfied that the accident arose from the defendant's negligence; or they minimise the injury, and give damages which represent their sense rather of what the defendant can afford to pay, than of what the plaintiff is entitled to receive." When, on the other hand, the defendant is a wealthy corporation, as a railway company for example, "what they think of is not so much the precise relation between a particular injury and a particular sum of money, as the fact that an injury has been sustained, and that there is a rich company to which the law allows it to be charged." "Sympathy," says the *Spectator*, "with all the seductive reasoning it can command, clamours against justice, and not seldom gains the victory." Mr. Chamberlain's "Bill for the better Protection of Life and Property at Sea" deprives juries of another function. If the Bill becomes law, insurance cases will be tried without a jury, and with this prospect a meeting of underwriters at Lloyd's has expressed its satisfaction. Before this clause had been introduced, the Secretary at Lloyd's wrote on behalf of the underwriters expressing their "serious fears that it would be difficult to secure a verdict for the insurer who, after accepting the premium, should refuse to pay the insurance." He said, in short, that the jury's verdict would be in the direction of its sympathies, that is, for the insured. Commenting on this, the *Saturday Review* pithily observes that "a judge may be trusted to administer the law uninfluenced by sentiment." It would be difficult, perhaps, to mention a place where the abuses of the jury system are more clearly displayed than this very settlement of Yokohama. Here we often see five men empanelled to pass judgment in the case of a person with whom they daily associate, whose circumstances are familiar to them, and with regard to whom they are almost invariably prejudiced one way or another. How, under these circumstances, can the verdict of a jury be expected to satisfy the modern definition, "the decision of persons whose judgments are unwarpd by previous acquaintance with the matter at issue, or the statements of the parties in dispute"? The original function of juries was not to try a case according to the evidence, but to try a case without evidence. They preserved this function until the seventeenth century, and their decisions at the present time show that they not unfrequently re-assume their primary character.

EUROPE appears to be very busy reconstructing or adding to its navies. In Germany, on the 18th of March, the Reichstag unanimously voted a sum of 18,790,000 marks for the construction of torpedo boats and batteries. The Naval Department has also been congratulated from all sides on the rapidity with which it has created a German fleet. In 1871, the navy numbered only 48 vessels with 300 guns. It now numbers 108 ships, carrying 518 guns and over twelve thousand men. With regard to the quality of these ships, however, opinions are not favorable. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, quoted by cablegram in the *New York Herald*, says:—"We have now vessels which, by reason of their flat bottoms and their lack of rigging, roll frightfully in a heavy sea (so that there can be no question of good shooting with their heavy guns,) which leaves very much to be desired in point of speed, while can only manage to manoeuvre fairly well when their engines are at full speed, and which, finally, draw so much water that the idea of running them into any of the Baltic ports upon occasion seems very problematical. Another new type of vessel devised by the previous naval administration is that of iron-clad gunboats, of which there are now thirteen. These are vessels of 1,100 tons displacement, each carrying a gun of the heaviest calibre behind a semi-circular armour shield toward the prow, and costing over a million marks. Intended to defend river and harbor mouths, these gunboats are nothing but a sort of floating battery. The slightest sea makes them roll and stagger in such a manner that accidental hits by them can only be counted on, and a really heavy sea sends them back at once into calmer water. But the series of doubtful achievements of the former marine administration is not yet exhausted, and when we say that the German navy possesses no corvette which makes more than fourteen knots, and no torpedo boat that makes more than sixteen knots, we have said enough, especially when it is considered that Russia, England, and even Denmark have built torpedo boats which run their good twenty knots." Germany has, therefore, plenty to occupy her in the way of naval construction. France, Russia, and Italy all seem to be better off, but are all, nevertheless, strengthening their fleets industriously. England has never shown greater activity. The Marquis of Hartington, speaking in the House on March the 18th, said that three guns of 110 tons—the most powerful in the world—four of 63 tons and three of 43 tons would be finished during the present year. During 1883, no less than fourteen vessels were launched for Her Majesty's navy, and orders were given for the construction of twelve more, the greater part of which were commenced. Besides these, there are now on the stocks seven others which were commenced before 1883. Among the vessels at present in progress, some of which are in a forward state for launching, the following are included:—a sixteen-gun screw corvette, built of steel and iron, cased with wood, of 2,770 tons and 3,000 horse-power engines; a fourteen-gun screw composite corvette, of 1,420 tons, with engines of 950 horse-power; three twin-screw steel armour-plated bar-bette ships, each of 9,600 tons and engines of 7,500 horse-power, to carry ten guns each; a similar vessel, but of less tonnage—namely, 7,390 tons, but with engines of greater horse-power—namely, 8,000, and a ten-gun double screw steel second class steam cruiser, of 3,750 tons, with engines of 5,000 horse-power. It is pleasant to

learn, also, that the prospects of the army are better than they were. Lord Hartington, speaking on the Army Estimates Bill, said that the elastic terms of the service and the bounties were inducing the men to prolong the period of their foreign service, and had attracted, during 1883, more than thirty-three thousand recruits, the largest number known in one year.

GOVERNOR BOWEN is very evidently a classical scholar. His latest address, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of Victoria College, teems with apt allusions to the inspired utterances of Horace and Virgil. But it strikes us, as painstaking readers of his earlier addresses, that he has a sort of stock-in-trade of quotations which always reappear in his remarks at recurrent and well-defined periods. The flattering allusion to Her Majesty as the *Ta Whang Ti* of the English race, was we sadly fear, somewhat unintelligible to the Chinese auditors; especially as the title employed means "Emperor" and not "Empress," and is besides not the term usually applied to Her Majesty in diplomatic despatches. We have elsewhere read orations of Governor Bowen couched in almost identical words, but what particularly strikes us is His Excellency's fondness for quotations. It was intensely instructive to hear that Hongkong was an *επιτεχισμα* rather than an *εμποριον*,—for so Governor Bowen spoke of the island colony in his despatch to Lord Derby,—and it was a relief to the over-taxed brain to find an explanatory foot-note referring to Liddell and Scott's Greek Lexicon for corroborative evidence. But in his latest address, the learned speaker directed his remarks especially to the Chinese bricklayers, hod-carriers, and carpenters employed in erecting Victoria College, and eloquently called their attention to the great men who had risen from e'en such humble spheres, "the Boltions, the Watts, the Telfourds, and the Stevensons," and held before them the flattering prospect of ranking, at some future date, with these same benefactors of the race. We can imagine the wild enthusiasm of the Chinese artisans at hearing these cheering words, as well as their intense gratification when Governor Bowen rounded his rhetorical period with a Virgilian quotation in its native Latin. Again, His Excellency's happy allusion to "Kung Tse, or Confucius, the Aristotle of China" must have been pleasing to his audience, especially as the preamble, "And you, my Chinese friends," had prepared them for the choice tit-bit to come. On the whole, we can but regret that we were not present to enjoy the classical eloquence of Governor Bowen.

WRAXHALL, in his "Memoirs," relates a very interesting account of a duel which took place in Germany, while the Earl of Stair commanded the British army in that country, in which Lord Mark Kerr (Stair's nephew) neatly disposed of an ungentlemanly Frenchman. The quarrel grew out of misconduct at a dinner on the part of the French officer, thus:—A difference of opinion having arisen during the repast, on some point which was maintained by one of the French officers with great pertinacity, Lord Mark Kerr, in a very gentle tone of voice, ventured to set him right on the matter of fact. But the Frenchman, unconscious of his quality, and perhaps thinking that a frame so delicate did not inclose a high spirit, contradicted him in the most gross terms, such as are neither used nor submitted to among gentlemen. The circum-

stance took place so near to Lord Stair as unavoidably to attract his attention. No notice whatever was taken of it at the time, and after dinner the company adjourned to another tent, where coffee was served. Lord Mark coming in about a quarter of an hour later than the others, Lord Stair no sooner observed him, than calling him aside:—"Nephew," said he, "I think it impossible for you to pass by the affront that you have received from the French officer at my table. You must demand satisfaction, however much I regret the necessity of it." "O, my lord," answered Lord Mark, with his characteristic gentleness of manner, "you need not be under any uneasiness on that subject. We have already fought. I ran him through the body. He died on the spot, and they are at this moment about to bury him. I knew too well what I owed myself, and I was too well convinced of your lordship's way of thinking to lose a moment in calling the officer to account."

ONE of the vernacular journals announces that an addition is to be made to the treasures of the Shrine of Yasukuni, at Shokonsha, Tokiyo, in the shape of a collection of portraits in oils of all the General Officers in the Japanese Army. It is a good thing to promote the development of art, but we are decidedly of opinion that Japan would do well to postpone such projects as the above. There is in Tokiyo a certain Department where a series of full sized oil paintings of Japanese statesmen and other celebrities are reposing in deal cases. It is enough to say of them that we hope they will never be hung anywhere outside the walls of a blind asylum.

WE take the following paragraphs from the Sōul correspondence of the *Mainichi Shimbun*:—Mr. Von Möllendorff, Foreign Adviser to the Korean Government, intends travelling throughout the Kingdom, next summer, on a tour of inspection. He is expected to make strict examination into the existing system of local administration. A large number of Chinese merchants have arrived in the capital, and occupy the better portion of the streets. The Japanese, being prohibited from opening shops in Sōul, are doomed to remain at Inchhōn, where they bewail the general stagnation of trade. As matters stand, the entire foreign trade of Korea will, sooner or later, be subject to a protectionist system, and it is not improbable that the Japanese merchants will be forced to leave the country. For this reason, the absence of the Minister is greatly regretted. The Government proposes to garrison all the soldiers hitherto trained in Japanese and Chinese style, as well as the new recruits (who will number about 3,000) in a place to the north of the Amnok-gang River, which runs along the Chinese frontier. This is to be done with a view to strengthening the boundaries lying along Russian territory. Conscription is going on actively in all the eight districts. The Government further intends purchasing three or four steamships, in order to facilitate the transport of the rice received in payment of the land-tax, as frequent shipwrecks and other calamities have destroyed a large number of native craft.

Another letter from Pusan, dated April 24th, contains the following additional items:—In consequence of commercial depression, the number of foreign residents at this port is re-

duced to 1,600. The Customs' Revenue for the last month falls even more than half short of the salaries of the employés in the service. Lieutenant Watanabe will leave for Chôl-la-do early next month, on a tour of inspection. The rebuilding of the Japanese Consulate has been commenced. The Trade Regulations between Japan and Korea fortunately admit of fishing being carried on along the coast of either country. A short time ago, a number of fishermen from Tsushima, while fishing along the coast of Man-chiu, came quite unexpectedly upon large quantities of the edible nacre-shell (*Haliotis tuberculata*) and sea-slugs (*bêche de mer*). On the fourth of last month, a native of Wakasa was sentenced to a fine of 20 yen for having come to this port from Sôul overland, thereby infringing the regulations regarding the treaty limits.

A GENTLEMAN, by name Hashiba Kojiro, who resides at No. 18, Sugatacho, Yokohama, is said to have captured a somewhat remarkable animal. It is a rat with eight legs, four before and four behind. Mr. Hashiba is treating the monstrosity with great kindness, which it will probably repay.

THERE is at present in Paris no less a person than the Mahdi's tutor; and of course he has been interviewed by the *Figaro's* correspondent. The interviewer says Gemal-ed-Din (the Beauty of Religion) is a man of about forty-seven years of age, and is an Afghan. He has been a long time at the same business as the Mahdi, apparently without the same success; but at all events the Mahdi is his favourite pupil, and all the Mahdi's staff are his other favourite pupils; for in this respect he resembles the late Dr. Arnold. On the arrival of the interviewer, Gemal-ed-Din at once asked him what he would take; a piece of courtesy, by the way, which does not fall to the lot apparently of most interviewers. The conversation was carried on in Arabic, with the aid of a dictionary; and both parties got on tolerably. The tutor, it seems, is over in Paris on business connected with his pupil, who is about to set up a newspaper to spread over the Eastern world his views on politics, which are much better known in Europe, he says, than in Asia. This organ, he says, will be despatched in bales to all Mahommedan countries, and read with avidity; and in a short time there will be a grand Mussulman upheaval, ending with the conquest of the world, including America, and universal happiness for two hundred years. For the benefit of timid persons, however, it may at once be said that the conquest will be carried out with as little bloodshed as possible, and no pillage; and any one who likes to submit will be allowed to do so. About the Prophet's life the tutor says very little. The Mahdi has lived seven years at the bottom of a well—no doubt in search of truth—and has a great liking for the French. "L'Anglais, voilà l'ennemi," said Gemal-ed-Din, imitating Gambetta: and the interview terminated, for the Prophet's tutor was getting enthusiastic, and there were a good many deadly implements about.

THE March number of *Chamber's Magazine* contains an amusing article entitled "The Muse of Parody," which gives specimens of some excellent parodies on popular poems and poets. From the days of the great Cæsar Augustus

downwards, the art of parodying well-known poetical and rhetorical effusions has always been held in high favour, but there are few who can really use the art with telling effect. One of the best bits in this anthology is the parody of the late J. R. Planché on the once all-too-popular song "When other Lips":—

When other lips and other eyes
Their tale of love shall tell—
Which means the usual sort of lies
You've heard from every swell;
When bored with every kind of bosh,
You'll give the world to see
A friend whose love you know will wash,
Oh, then remember me!

Equally good is the skit on Moore's lines, "I never nursed a dear Gazelle":—

I never had a piece of toast
Particularly long and wide,
But fell upon the sanded floor,
And always on the buttered side.
I never roved by Cynthia's beam
To gaze upon the starry sky,
But some old, stiff-backed beetle came
And charged into my pensive eye.

Tennyson's "Mariana," with its melancholy refrain, has given one enterprising parodist some decidedly curious ideas:—

They lifted him with kindly care;
They took him by the heels and head;
Across the floor and up the stair
They bore him safely to his bed.
They wrapped the blankets warm and tight,
And round about his nose and chin
They drew the sheets and tucked them in,
And whispered: "Poor old boy—Good-night!"
He murmured, "Boys, oh, deary, deary!"
That punch was strong," he said.
He said, "I am weary, weary;
Thank Heaven, I've got to bed!"

Even the soothing ballads of Mother Goose order have been tampered with by mischievous poetasters, robbing them of all their original charming simplicity of composition by substituting other words which utterly destroy their pristine freshness. We have room for only two specimens, and may add that both originally appeared in an American magazine:—

Jack and Jill
Have studied Mill,
And all that sage has taught, too;
Now both promote
Jill's claim to vote:
As every good girl ought to.
Sing a song of phosphates,
Fibrine in a line;
Four-and-twenty follicles,
In the van of time.
When the phosphorescence—
Evolved brain,
Superstition ended,
Man began to reign.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the dealers in old clothes in the Nihon-Bashi district, Tokiyo, are about to turn over a new leaf, or rather have already turned it over. Since the 1st of this month they have marked all their goods in legible and unalterable figures, and announced their intention to carefully select everything they expose for sale, as well as to desist from offering the public any more take-ins (*Kuwase-mono*). These are very excellent resolves. It is a pity that their appearance of spontaneity should be marred by the memory of the recently published regulations for the control of dealers in second-hand goods.

OSMAN DIGNA's whole relation to the revolt, and the amalgamation in him of religious, political and mercantile aspirations, says *The Times*, are hard to comprehend. A broker and trader, and principally a slave-trader in Suakim and Jeddah, he received a severe financial blow when, some six years ago, a British cruiser captured two slave-dhows full of victims, on the way to Jeddah. Osman Digna's trade then fell from bad to worse, his house property in Suakim was all mortgaged, and he became hopelessly involved. Being of no great distinction by birth, his selection by the Mahdi to lead a religious rebellion in these parts

is not in accordance with the structure of Arab society and feeling, and is attributed to the accident that Osman Digna, in one of his incursions far south for slaves, met the Mahdi, who formed a high estimate of his ability and of his influence, acquired through successful trading. If this history be trustworthy, passions for other objects than holiness are the keynote of Osman Digna's character and motives, and it is against all probability that he will cast his goods and his position into the broken balance of battle. He is no ignorant fanatic, and he cannot himself believe the myths which he multiplies in order to control his followers.

PROFESSOR E. S. MORSE's report to the Peabody Academy of Science, describing his latest visit to Japan, has been published in American newspapers. His labours in this country were devoted chiefly to the collection of ethnological material, and especially of ceramic specimens, for the institution of which he is the director. As is always the case, in such circumstances, the fullest facilities were afforded by the Japanese authorities, and Professor Morse was enabled to gather an unusually varied and interesting assortment of articles; many of them being of especial value to students of Oriental art and mechanisms,—such as the tools employed in Japanese trades, with pictures illustrating their peculiar uses; weapons of all periods; examples of admirably modelled human figures of the kind exhibited in Asakusa and elsewhere; characteristic wearing apparel, household utensils, and a host of others, equally desirable. Numbers of these were gratuitously presented to the Peabody Academy by private Japanese citizens as well as by Government establishments. Professor Morse succeeded, also, in obtaining a large supply of ethnological objects from Korea, "the first," it is believed, "ever sent from that country." The total number of his new additions to the Museum exceeds eight hundred.

ACCORDING to the latest advices received in Hongkong, it has been semi-officially denied that any treaty has been completed between France and Portugal, and that, therefore, there is no reason to suppose that the rumoured French overland expedition to Canton, *via* Macao, is correct. Yet it appears that the question has undoubtedly been raised as to the possibility or feasibility of landing French troops in Macao, and the officials of the Portuguese colony are ominously reticent on the subject. The report seems to have originated in official circles in Macao, and although H.E. da Roza has received no positive instructions as to the matter, there is every reason to believe that negotiations between France and Portugal have been privately carried on for some time past.

It is announced that the official opening of the Tokiyo-Takasaki Railway is to take place on Monday, the 12th instant, without fail. It is not yet distinctly known whether His Majesty the Emperor proposes to be present, but we presume that under any circumstances there will be no more postponements. The unfortunate shareholders may well begin to look askance at all these wasted preparations. If the opening comes off on Monday next, there will have been 4,000 invitations issued, 3,200 of which were so much waste paper; and 2,400 dinners prepared, 1,600 of which were never set before the guests. On the whole, we learn that His Majesty's indis-

position has cost the Company something like 4,000 yen. Fortunately they can afford to pay for these accidents without much anxiety.

THE "Lord Cobden" of the Paris *Temps* has been out-done, says a home paper, by the "Lord Gladstone" of M. Barodet, a Radical deputy from Lyons. But neither the *Temps* nor M. Barodet is half so funny as the *Rappel*, which rebukes M. Paul de Cassagnac and Count de Mun for having laughed at the deputy's mistake. "Do these aristocrats suppose," asked the indignant *Rappel*, "that Mr. Gladstone is a simple bourgeois, like M. Thiers or M. Guizot? Ought they not to know that he is a squire, and therefore a better gentleman than any newly created temporal peer? Moreover, by virtue of having been several times Premier, he bears the title of right honourable, and as such is on a par with marquesses, earls, and barons." The *Daily News*, whose own spelling of foreign names is sometimes extremely comic, makes fun of M. Barodet, and of Frenchmen in general, with regard to their perfectly original conceptions of English titles. Among the illustrations it gives there are two that are worth reproducing. One is that of a character in a novel by Gaboriau, variously styled "Mr. Thomas Elgin," "the Honourable Elgin," "Sir Elgin," "Honourable Sir," and "Sir Tom." The other is a detective named Piedouche, who passes himself off as an American named "Sir Francis Disney of Baltimore." The "Honourable Elgin" strikes us as being in no way inferior to the "Honourable Derby," to which we have already given our tribute of admiration.

THE fourth reunion of the *Kangwa-kwai* (Society of Art Critics) took place on the 20th ultimo at the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo. A fine collection of master-pieces by the great artists of the Kiyoto School was exhibited, and attracted a large number of Japanese and Foreign visitors. The building, though in general excellently suited for the purpose, left a good deal to be desired in point of light. Reunions of this sort require, however, special facilities. The *Meiji Kwaido* is perhaps the best building to be found in Tokiyo, and we trust that the Society will continue to employ it. It is not often that the public is enabled to examine authenticated and properly classified specimens of Japanese pictorial art, as it existed in its palmy days before the period of modern decadence. The following is a *resumé* of the excellent lecture delivered by Mr. E. F. Fenollosa on the interesting subject, "Can Japanese Art be revived?"—

The whole world has become interested in Japanese Art, and deeply regrets its recent rapid decline. This decline, due chiefly to the cessation of local patronage, public and private enterprise, during the last two years, has been earnestly striving to arrest. Every one has been looking forward to this second Competitive Exhibition of Paintings at Uyeno, with the expectation that it would record a decided improvement in quantity. We have been doomed to disappointment; and in view of the frequent predictions of failure on the part of foreigners, and the fear that the present agitation may spring only from a shallow enthusiasm, it is important to reconsider the question asked above.

First then, what is there distinctive in Japanese Art to revive? I speak here only of painting, as the source of all Japanese decorative design.

Art excellence is not in its nature one, any more than excellence in human nature is one. The result of moral, mental, and social education, is not the production of a standard uniformity among men, but of a more decided individuality. Similarly, perfect art ought never to repeat itself. If it be urged that nature is the same for all men, I reply that this is not true of nature as representable in Art. What we want to express in art is not scientific fact for its own sake, but some subject. But the subjects in nature, that is, its parts and aspects, are infinite; and even they do not concern the art of painting, except as expressed in artistic

form, that is, beautiful lines, shades, and colours. It is, further, easy to show that in a good painting, the two elements, form and subject, must be correlatives, that is, mutually determinative. We ought not to think of a subject or story first in terms of words, and then add pictorial form. Neither should we confine our attention to pictorial form, and leave to chance what it shall express. The two must be born together, and thinkable only in terms of one another. In this necessity of union is founded the vital distinction between schools of painting. The art of any one time and place cannot treat every subject in every possible form. It becomes powerful and perfect only as it becomes special. This peculiarity may be determined indeed, either from the side of the form, or from that of the subject; but in any case it originates in historical necessities.

We may now state the essential difference between the European conception of painting, and that dominant in the East. In Europe painting had its origin in the art of sculpture, while in the East painting had its origin in the art of hand writing. From this root all the other differences naturally spring. Thus, while in the West, the object was from the start to produce an effect of sculptural reality, in the East it was to produce as much beautiful suggestion of nature as could be realised in using the ordinary pencil. From this principle spring the chief peculiarities of Eastern painting; for example, its generalization of natural form into terms of ready pen-execution, its preservation of outlines as a characteristic beauty, its indifference to true relief and cast shadow as scientific non-essentials, its substitution in their place of delicate gradation and sparkling diversity of dark and light parts, its freedom from rules of linear perspective in reaching its artistic aim, and its conception of man as a mass of flowing drapery and not as a naked figure. Such are the limits within which Eastern painting must work, if it is really to retain its individuality.

It ought not to be difficult to distinguish this view from that held by some conservative Japanese gentlemen to-day, that the art of painting is nearly identical with the art of hand-writing. In practice this theory amounts to ignoring all quality whatever except fine pen-strokes. But in the above explanation, all other artistic qualities, while bound into union with this one, still remain as essential elements of pictorial beauty.

But can this essentially Eastern beauty be revived? It cannot be that in so few years Genius has died out in the Japanese breast. Art is like a seed, which remains unseen during the winter of hostile circumstance, but ever germinates and realizes its internal possibilities under the warmth of favorable conditions. The historical theory of the rise and fall of art, I have unfolded in a previous lecture. From it we may deduce, that the conditions necessary to a healthy growth of art, are at least those grouped for convenience under the three following heads.

1st.—Perfect freedom of variation. Unless you have a broad variety to choose from, there is little chance of being able to choose anything good. No variation, no progress, is the law of the universe. It is most important then, that originality should be consciously fostered. But in Japan the old forms hang like a heavy drag upon this freedom. Unless the unthinking conservatism of those who would do no more than preserve the old styles is broken down, Japanese art cannot begin to revive. Here, perhaps, we may find one cause of the failure of the present exhibition. Its managers and judges, I hear, in many instances have discountenanced individuality; and their peculiar regulations, such as that an artist must exhibit his work as representative of some established school, that all pictures must be of a uniform size, and that each artist must offer one rough painting and one carefully executed, tend inevitably to the same result.

2nd.—Opportunity for selection. This means that public and artist have got to be brought together in such a way that a selection of the best tendencies may be made. This is indeed what such exhibitions as the present at Uyeno are for. They are not for the sake of mere display, but to facilitate that sifting, from which the unconsciously produced good shall be consciously produced and made better. But a yearly exhibition is not enough. Extensive patronage of artists in the decoration of new buildings, private associations of artists, local exhibitions, an organization of dealers who shall mediate between artists and patrons—such things as these will have to grow up before anything else than aimless experiment can be achieved.

3rd.—Development of high taste and aim in patron and artist. The mere establishment of a rapport between the two parties is not enough. It must call out and employ great quality, in order to produce great result. It is not necessary that an artist should be scientific; but his perception of what is great and organic in things must be instantaneous. He must be in earnest. He must love his art so truly that he will always strive to do his best. No age can paint any subject well if it does not love it. The new art will not find itself, until it has incorporated into its nature the true need, the best hope, the earnest reverence of the time. Therefore in bad periods, when no one believes in or cares for anything, art is always poor. Let each artist strive to make his heart pure, and then paint whatever he loves most. It is the same with the public. It must be true enough itself to appreciate the true. Here then is an important question facing Japanese to-day. Is there any nucleus of love or interest which art can satisfy, and about which the production of the future can cluster? If not, then Japanese art cannot be revived. I believe that such exists. In the bustle of

transition it may not be clear; but honest spontaneous interest in certain subjects never dies out of the heart. An extraordinarily rich and picturesque national history lies ready at hand. The possibilities of Eastern Painting have not been half exhausted. Has any one the power and the courage to-day to strike the new keynote? If so, let him paint for himself, not for the critics, and the world will not be slow to recognize him.

At no time in England previous to the suppression of the prize ring, were such scenes enacted as are frequently reported in the American papers at present. It may be safely assumed that the ruffianism which migrated to America, combined with the native article already on the spot, has produced a race of pugs of which Deaf Burke and the Tipton Slasher and their contemporaries would be heartily ashamed. A *Despatch* Cumberland, Md., special says:—A prize fight came off at Hyndman, Pa., near the Maryland State line, at an early hour this morning, April 5th, between a Hungarian named Nickvest, formerly of St. Louis, and an unknown, alleged to be Kilrain, a Boston pugilist. The fight was arranged a short time ago, and the party left Huntingham, Pa., last night in coal cars, arriving at Hyndman at three this morning. During the trip a *melée* occurred on the train, in which several persons were injured. Arriving at Hyndman, the ring was pitched and the fight began. Fifty-three rounds were fought, with the advantage about even, when a cry of "foul" was raised. A terrible riot ensued, in which pistols and knives were freely used. The riot lasted for some time, and at the conclusion three men, including Nickvest, were stretched on the ground dead, while several others were badly wounded. Nickvest was shot through the head. No arrests were made.

Texas Siftings has some curious particulars about the late Ben Thompson, the noted desperado of that State, recently slain by a brother desperado. He is said to have killed fifteen men with his own hand, and once killed two by successive shots of a revolver, fired in opposite directions, both having him covered with their own weapons, and only showing their heads. His clothes were always fashionable, and he wore \$3,000 worth of diamonds. In 1882 he was made City Marshal or Chief of the Police of Austin, but had to take a vacation in June in order to kill a man in San Antonio to whom he owed a grudge. He killed him, accordingly, and was put in prison for it and tried at San Antonio, bail being refused. He was acquitted, of course, but he retained his office in Austin during his incarceration, and, on his return to that city, had the horses taken from his carriage, and was drawn through the streets by an enthusiastic crowd. He was unwell at the time of his death, but people remarked, "Ben is a little bilious, but he will come all right again as soon as he has killed a man." Sure enough, he soon after sought to effect his cure by killing a certain Foster at San Antonio, but Foster was too quick for him. Ben killed him, but not before he had relieved Ben himself of all further pains and aches by a well-directed shot.

THE items in Indian papers on affairs in Burmah are slightly conflicting. The following paragraphs are taken from various sources:—"The Irrawady Flotilla Company's steamer *Palow*, which was sent specially to Bhamo, single-handed, to ascertain the truth about the rising in Mogoung, has returned to Mandalay, reporting that the rebels have scattered, and the country is much quieter.—The Kachyen rising

in Upper Burmah is reported as over. The King's troops slaughtered many rebels at Modah, which dispersed the dacoits, and restored confidence—Some of King Theebaw's cousins and a Mahomedan have been caught attempting to fire the palace at Mandalay. Had the flames been seen from the city, there would probably have been a rebellion there.—The rebel Kachyens appear to be in greater force than was originally supposed, 400 having been killed in a single engagement. All their attempts to capture Bhamo have failed. Continuous fighting is going on between Mogoung and Bhamo. The latest, however, is no doubt the sequel to the attempt, above-mentioned, to fire the Palace at Mandalay. A telegram in an American paper, dated London, April 9th, says:—"One-half of Mandalay, the capital of Burmah, a city of 90,000 people, has been burned."

AN American paper says:—T. A. Matsudaira, the new City Engineer of Bradford, McKean county, is a native of Japan, and the first man of his nationality to be chosen to a civil office in the United States. He is the son of a wealthy Japanese farmer, educated in this country, and was for three years Chief Engineer of the Union Pacific in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. There are only two other Japanese engineers in America—S. Haraguchi, Assistant Engineer of the Pennsylvania Road, and J. Komura, a mining engineer in Montana—altogether there are about three hundred of that nationality engaged in business in this country.

REFERRING to the wreck of an ocean steamer, the particulars of which we published on Saturday, the *Alta* says:—The investigation into the loss of the *Daniel Steinmann*, with her hundred and odd victims, promises the usual result, viz., failure to fix criminal responsibility on any one. A strong tide prevailed and the Captain had overrun his reckoning ten miles. There are perils which those who go down to the sea in ships cannot avoid. One of the seven wise men of Greece was once asked who were the most numerous, the living or the dead, and replied by making the counter interrogatory, "In which class do you count the men who are at sea?"

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* says:—In Mr. Marvin's new pamphlet about Merv we find the promised information regarding the Russian Mission to Cabul in 1882. It appears that a few months ago, on his way to Baku, Mr. Marvin stayed a few days at Kertch, and there came across, quite by accident, a man, named Samuel Gurovitch, who had acted as interpreter to the Mission. Mr. Marvin learnt from Gurovitch that, early in 1882, Captain Venkhovsky, of the Russian Engineers, and Prince Khilkoff, Chief of the Trans-Caspian Railway, and Gurovitch himself, left Askabad in disguise and made their way to Merv, Bokhara, Herat, and Cabul. At Cabul, Gurovitch declared, the Amir Abdur Rahman entertained them hospitably and offered to help them to survey the road to Candahar. The story is interesting, of course; and, if true, throws some light on the various rumours that have reached India, from time to time, about the presence of Russian agents in Cabul. But without further confirmation, a story of this sort told to Mr. Marvin by a casual stranger, proves nothing; except that Mr. Marvin is at times somewhat indiscriminating. Samuel Gurovitch may have told the truth; but there is nothing to prove that he was not romancing. For the rest

Mr. Marvin's pamphlet is merely an ill-arranged summary of information already known, interspersed with the unnecessary comments of the compiler.

It will be seen from the announcement in the Official Gazette (*Kwampo*) that the Chinese Minister at Berlin replaces the Marquis Tsêng only *ad interim*. Tsêng's real successor is to be Hû King-ch'ing, a gentleman who was nominated, a few years ago, Representative of the Middle Kingdom in Tokiyo, but was prevented, by the death of his mother, from taking up the appointment. Hû has received a foreign education. He speaks English excellently and is understood to be a man of distinctly liberal views. He is also a *protégé* of Li Hung-chang, which fact furnishes another evidence that the conduct of the Tonquin negotiations has been wholly entrusted to the great Viceroy. Tsêng's removal becomes doubly significant in view of the circumstance that he does not even await the arrival of his successor from China. His warlike policy is evidently about to be completely reversed.

THE *Rangoon Gazette* publishes a translation of the royal proclamation issued at Mandalay by the King announcing important reforms in the Government of Upper Burmah. Under the old *régime* officials get no salaries, but are given tracts of land, on the revenues of which they live paying a certain proportion to the Royal Treasury. In this way persons who have benefited or who have pleased the King have become rulers of Districts which they have never seen and care nothing about, so long as money is forthcoming. Some of them are eunuchs and palace ladies. The executive duties are performed by their creatures who are valued according to their success in raising money, and who, therefore, practice extortion and oppression at their own will. According to the proclamation, all this is to be entirely changed. The country has been divided into ten districts, and a Commissioner appointed to administer each district. All the revenue is to be sent to the treasury. A civil list and a budget are being prepared, and officials will henceforth be paid fixed salaries. King Theebaw has been induced to take this step principally through the influence of the Kinwoon Mengyee, whose lieutenants the Pouk Myne and Kyouk Myung Atwinwoons are elaborating the scheme. The King is going to get out two new river steamers. No further news of the rebels.

THE death of General de Wimpffen leaves Marshal MacMahon the sole survivor of the three generals who turn by turn commanded the French army at Sedan. MacMahon exercised the chief command from daybreak, or even earlier (for the Bavarians began the attack between one and two in the morning), until six, when, wounded in the thigh, he was carried of the field. He was at once replaced by General Ducrot, the senior of the commanders of army corps; who, finding that the Prussians were turning his position, tried to evade the movement by ordering an immediate retreat to the fortified town of Mézières, where he would have found a division of fresh troops and an abundance of provisions and ammunition. Disposition had already been made for the retreat, by a road which the Prussians before long would intercept, when General de Wimpffen, who had joined the army only the day before, produced a paper from the Minister of War entrusting him, in case of accident to

MacMahon, with the chief command. Ducrot begged his successor to continue his orders for a retreat to Mézières; but De Wimpffen would not hear of such a thing, and (according to Ducrot) declared that the French were already gaining the day, and that he was about to "drive the Prussians into the Meuse." Ducrot replied that the enemy was endeavouring to surround him, and that he would be fortunate if at the end of the day he saved a portion of his army; and in the end, as everyone knows, De Wimpffen, hemmed in on all sides, was forced to capitulate. Sooner or later the result would doubtless have been the same, whether De Wimpffen, Ducrot, or MacMahon had commanded in chief. But the disgrace of having signed the capitulation had to be borne by De Wimpffen, while the honour of *not* having signed it fell to the fortunate MacMahon, who had escaped the painful necessity by a mere accident. —*St. James's Budget*.

THE following story from the Midlands, says a London paper, is too good not to be true. A large provincial town having recently launched out into the luxury of a People's Park of the approved Battersea pattern, the town council met to solemnly discuss a proposal to place a number of Venetian gondolas on the large and ornamental piece of water which graced the park. The proposal was agreed to, and it then became a question of how many should be provided. Up then rose the worthy mayor. "Gentlemen," quoth this Midland Counties Solon, "a couple will, in my opinion, be sufficient for the present needs: we may safely leave the rest to Nature!"

A VERY horrible story is told by the *Fiyu Shimibun* about a notorious "Baby Farm" at Jiusangenchō, Kanazawa, Kaga. It seems that a widow living at that place had established a sort of association, with several branch offices, which, as the *Fiyu* remarks, was little else than an "Infanticidal Association." Fatherless children and orphans were readily received by the widow and her colleagues on the receipt of a small sum of money, which was nominally supposed to defray the expense of nursing and clothing. As several children were not returned to their relatives, and most of the nurselings were stated to have died shortly after admission, the police made a strict investigation and found that no less than *sixty-five* children had been murdered either by being interred alive or by other quite as barbarous means. It is a matter of universal congratulation that the infamous widow and her colleagues have all been arrested. Hanging is far too good for them.

THE *Fiyu Shimibun* announces the discovery of a rich vein of gold ore on the side of a mountain at Tsugaru-gori, Hakodate Prefecture. The officials of the Prefecture have already sent in a report on the new mine, which will probably be opened before long. It appears that an English employé of the Colonization Department reported some time ago that gold was to be found in the vicinity, but the authorities did not, at the time, convince themselves of the truth of this report.

THE U.S. corvette *Essex* (6), Commander McCormick, arrived here on Monday. The following is a list of her officers:—Commander, A. H. McCormick; Lieut. M. R. S. MacKenzie; Executive Officer, Lieut. Wm. H. Parker; Navi-

gating Lieutenants, Wainwright Kellogg, Karl Rohrer, Corwin P. Rees, and Wm. M. Irwin; Ensigns Junior Grate, R. O. Bittler, and W. C. P. Muir; Surgeon, M. L. Ruth; Past Assistant Paymaster, Louis A. Yorke; Chief Engineer, D. P. McCartney; Passed Assistant Engineer, F. J. Hoffman; Assistant Engineer, M. Bevington; Lieut. Marines, O. C. Beryman; Pay Clerk, C. E. James. The *Essex* has a complement of 200 men.

WE regret to have to record the stoppage of the Oriental Bank, a notice announcing that fact having been posted at that institution on Saturday afternoon, in accordance with a telegram received by the manager. A message was received at the Bank yesterday from the official liquidator, and a telegram to a Yokohama firm announcing the suspension expresses the expectation of payment in full. The immediate cause of the stoppage is doubtless a run on the bank at its numerous branches consequent upon the recent depreciation of the shares. There are probably no new losses, and depositors are not likely to suffer beyond the inconvenience of a lengthened liquidation. It is to be hoped that the widespread connection of the bank will be kept together, and that, if the O.B.C. is not resuscitated, some other institution will incorporate its extensive business.

IN the United States Ministerial Court, Tokiyo, judgment was delivered on Monday in the case Van Buren v. Tripler. The following is the final paragraph of the finding of the Court:—

The case is not such as to justify vindictive or exemplary damages. No evidence was given of special damages.

I therefore assess the plaintiff's damages in the premises at twenty (\$20) dollars, and do hereby adjudge and decree that the Defendant, Thomas H. Tripler, pay to the Plaintiff, Thomas B. Van Buren, the said sum of Twenty (\$20) dollars, his damages assessed as aforesaid, and I do further adjudge and decree that said Defendant pay the costs of this suit.

(Signed) JOHN A. BINGHAM,
E. E. & M. P. of the U. S. of
America in Japan.

U. S. Legation, Tokio, Japan,
May 5th, 1884.

THE Hackney Radical Club, having, after a lecture by Captain Campbell on the subject of "Our Rule in India," passed a resolution approving of Lord Ripon's Indian policy, forwarded copies of the same to the members for Hackney. The Postmaster-General has replied, saying:—"I most cordially edorse the approval which the resolution expressess of Lord Ripon's Indian policy; for I believe that no one who has ever been Governor-General of India, has been more anxious than he has been, to promote the true interests of the people of that country."

IN the temple of Gokoku, at Otowa, there is a celebrated picture painted by Kano Tanenobu. It represents Buddha entering into Nirvana, and its dimensions are 30 feet in width by 66 feet in length. The priests of the temple proposed to send it for exhibition to the *Kiyoshinkwai* at Ueno, but the Committee was, not unnaturally, puzzled to know how such a monster painting might be disposed of. Ordinary walls do not offer spaces of 30 feet by 66. It was decided that the picture should be officially inspected before any further steps are taken.

A SHOOTING affray occurred on board the American ship *Pactolus*, Captain Bromham, on Sunday, the result of which is that a man is now lying in Hospital with two bullets in his body.

It appears that some of the crew were on shore Sunday, and two of the men met an old shipmate who is living on shore. This man went off to the ship about eleven o'clock with his two friends, and some trouble ensued, during which the captain is said to have fired amongst the crowd forward, two shots taking effect on the visitor, one in the head and the other in the arm.

A FIRE broke out shortly after three o'clock on Friday in the back premises of Mr. Witt's house, No. 133. The flames spread with such rapidity that nothing could be removed. The bowling-alley attached to Clausen's Hotel was at one time in great danger, but was luckily saved. The roof of the adjoining house caught fire in several places, but the flames speedily gave way before a perfect deluge of water. The "Relief" was first on the spot, and had the fire quickly under control. Two Chinese women are said to have been in the house when the fire broke out, and were rescued with some difficulty, owing to their being partially stupified by the smoke. We understand that the premises were insured for \$4,000, but that the policy expired the day before yesterday.

H.E. TERASHIMA MUNENORI, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, has been appointed an officer of the Imperial Household Department; H.E. Mori Arinori, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, member of the *Sanji-in*; Kawase Masanori, Vice-Minister of Justice, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary; Iwamura Michitoshi, the President of the Board of Auditors and of the Pension Bureau, Vice-Minister of Justice; and Watanabe Noboru, member of the *Sanji-in*, President of the Board of Auditors.—*Kwampo*.

THE Government of British Columbia has found a way to "better the instruction" of California, with respect to Chinese immigration. Nothing in United States legislation can stand beside the laws recently passed by the parliament of that province, with the view of excluding Mongolian labourers in the future, and rendering the lives of those already residing there a burden to them. Any new corner from the Middle Kingdom is liable to a fine of \$50, or, in default, to imprisonment for six months. Any person instrumental in introducing a Chinaman is subject to a fine of \$200 for each separate offence. All members of the obnoxious race now in British Columbia are required to pay a license fee of \$10 a year; and the non-possession of a license is punished by a fine of \$40. This document must always be presented for inspection to toll-gatherers on bridges and highways, and to any civil officer elsewhere, who may choose to demand it. A person who employs an unlicensed Chinaman will himself be fined \$50. All employers, moreover, must at stated periods furnish lists of those in their service; and if this requirement is evaded, or if an incorrect report be given, a penalty of \$100 is imposed. Chinese residents who desire to leave the province temporarily, can return only upon the condition of having a photograph taken, at his or her own cost, to insure identification when readmission is applied for. The exhumation of a Chinese corpse, for transmission across the Pacific and burial at home,—or for any other purpose,—entails a forfeiture of \$100. The same amount is exacted from every opium smoker, the use of that drug, excepting for medicinal purposes, being strictly

prohibited. Some doubt appears to exist as to whether the Dominion Government will sanction the enforcement of these laws; but the British Columbians are confident, and expect to derive an annual revenue of some \$200,000, through their operation.

THE *Meiji Nippo* says that there has been discovered in the district of Amerigawa, Tomiyama Prefecture, a species of earth which, for cleansing purposes, is an excellent substitute for soap, and, at the same time, possesses none of the latter's deleterious properties. This discovery reminds us of Madame Darnet whose thrifty search for a natural soap at St. Yrieix disclosed the Kaolin which afterwards supplied the workshops of Sevres.

THE *Yeiiri Shimibun* put, the amount of deliveries of imported goods in Yokohama during the month of April at \$1,110,933, and the amount of sales for export at \$603,120; the balance in favour of deliveries being \$507,813.

A LADY purchased some articles in the North-West Provinces Court some days before the Culcutta Exhibition closed, and wished to take them away. The Babu in charge said that this could by no means be allowed, whereupon the lady asked, "Then when may I take them away?" To which the Babu oracularly replied, "Not till the day of judgment."

SAYS the *St. James's Budget*:—"Some of of the marines are being mounted." So says a serious telegram from Suakim; and, indeed, without some such stroke the policy of the Government would have wanted finish. In statesmanship they have exhausted absurdities; but to realize a mythical ideal by adding a troop of horse-marines to the forces of the Crown—there is genius in that.

THE winner of the One Thousand Guineas, Busybody, a bay filly of Lord Falmouth's, is by Petrarch out of Spinaway, and was heavily engaged as a two-year-old, having been entered in ten of the principal events last season.

SHORTLY after three o'clock on Friday a man, apparently about forty years of age, was found hanging from the eaves of a house occupied by one Tsubouchi, No. 7, Nichome, Aioicho.

WE are informed that telegraphic information has been received of the death of the Dowager Empress of Austria.

THE American ship *Lucile*, Captain C. M. Lawrence, arrived on the evening of the 7th instant from New York. She came by way of Australia, and experienced moderate weather throughout the passage, which occupied 154 days.

THE American schooner *Letitia*, from San Francisco, arrived at Hakodate on the 1st inst., and sailed thence for Vladivostock on the 2nd.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for this port, left Hongkong on the 6th instant.

THE British barquentine *Glenury* arrived at Nagasaki on the 1st inst. from this port.

"THE HALT AND THE BLIND."

ONE cannot but feel sincere pity for those persons who find themselves obliged to halt between two opinions in the matter of treaty revision. Pulp of jelly-fish consistency is yet splendidly consistent when compared with the condition to which they are compelled to reduce their mental fibre in order to receive to-day and efface to-morrow the impressions imparted to it by every passing wind of doctrine. The memorial presented two years ago by the foreign residents of Yokohama is still fresh in the memory of the public. "Signed by the entire mercantile community," it asked for extended facilities of commerce, and declared that to permit foreigners to trade in the interior would "strike at the very foundation of the grievances of which they justly, yet vainly, complain." The memorial was published only two months ago. The journal in whose columns it appeared emphatically endorsed every word of it. Yet the same journal now says:—"With regard to throwing open the country to foreign travel, residence and trade, little benefit, immediate or remote, is anticipated from such a course. No one treats such a proposition as worthy of serious consideration, for there is certainly little to recommend it." Only invertebrates can wriggle like this without fracturing something. Half a column farther on in the very same article we are treated to another startling contortion. We are told that "the thirty-six millions of Japan only await the removal of restrictions to make a large and paying volume of trade." What restrictions? The restrictions imposed by the present treaties. This, at all events, is plain enough, for we are assured that "treaty revision on sound principles will certainly have the effect of enlarging trade." It is necessary, then, to believe, that although to remove a portion of existing restrictions would "make a large and paying volume of trade," to remove the whole of those restrictions would produce "little benefit, immediate or remote." We cannot twist ourselves around these two propositions. No mind of any stiffness could compass them both. There is, however, one statement which we can heartily endorse. It is this:—"The assertion that foreigners are not likely to benefit by revision of the treaties is pure nonsense, and deserves to be held up to common contempt." That announcement has all the rudiments of a vertebra. But how are foreigners to benefit? Not by any throwing open of the country. "Little benefit, either immediate or remote, is anticipated from such a course." The Memorial of the Yokohama merchants, to be sure, when urging the desirability of permitting trade in the interior, said:—"As we are now placed, we are compelled to remain ignorant of each other's wishes and requirements, and to submit our commercial

transactions and ourselves to the mercies of men who are the remnants of an evil past." The memorialists wanted the country opened. That is indisputable. Their memorial, too, was presented expressly with a view to treaty revision. But their sometime fellow-thinker now declares, in effect, that one of the chief restrictions they desired to see removed is absolutely immaterial. How, then, we repeat, are foreigners to benefit by treaty revision? Simply thus: it is urged, apparently, that the treaties should contain a clause permitting Japanese to charter foreign-owned ships for use in the export trade. For there is an assumption, now, that Japan has, or can speedily produce, quantities of wheat which would go abroad if there were vessels to take it. Formerly the cry was about rice. One-fourth of the whole annual crop of rice was supposed to be lying stored in the interior only waiting for an opportunity to travel Westward. And this at a time when the price of the staple in the Japanese markets was such that profitable export did not seem possible. Rice, however, is out of the running now. Wheat is the new favorite. An export of wheat to the value of four or five million dollars—that is to say, about fifty per cent. of the total present production—is talked of. This, of course, is only in prospect. For the moment, the beginnings alone of such a trade are supposed to exist. We are told that if freights were cheap, if the conditions of export were relaxed, if "restrictions disgraceful to the government" were removed "a revival of trade would set in, and tend steadily to improvement on a vastly larger basis than the volume of imports and exports can ever permit while the treaties remain as they are." In other words, the chief, if not the only, point to be aimed at in treaty revision is permission for the employment of foreign ships in non-treaty ports. We remember that, at the end of 1882, when the wind blew in the direction of denouncing the project of a new semi-official steamship company, this same critic of treaty revision admitted that, in condemning the freights charged by the Mitsui Bishi Company, he "had made no allowance whatever for loss of time in loading and various other contingencies." But it would be hypercritical to look for consistency extending over such a lengthy period as sixteen months. Besides, we are ourselves convinced that freights are too high in this country, and that Japan would derive great benefit if foreign vessels had free access to all her ports, and if—an essential hypothesis—their foreign owners were allowed to employ them in the export trade. Chartered by Japanese, their usefulness seems more than problematical. The Japanese have not yet acquired sufficient experience to engage successfully in direct trade. Their first attempts at shipping wheat, or anything else, on their own account, would probably be attended by deterrent results. For some years to come they

must work in combination with foreigners. This proposed employment of foreign ships would, in our opinion, be virtually futile if surrounded by the restrictions necessary in unopened ports. The foreigner must be able to go himself, and take an active part in, or exercise an efficient supervision over, the business in which he has a share. To his intelligence, enterprise, and experience Japan owes the greater part of the trade she possesses, and in an extended exercise of the same qualities lies the best hope of its future development. Treaty revision will be a mere fiasco if its main achievement is to confer on Japanese a privilege which they are virtually free to exercise already. At the present time any respectable Japanese, desiring to export produce directly, can charter a foreign vessel to load at a non-treaty port, with official sanction. No longer ago than the spring of last year a foreign steamer was actually so chartered by Japanese merchants, who had no connection, however remote, with the Government. There are in Japan immense tracts of land that might be brought under cultivation, and would be brought under cultivation, if the means of internal and external transport were so improved as to make Western markets accessible. But in all this, as in many other inviting enterprises, foreigners must take an active share. It will not be enough that they should sit quiet at the open ports, and wait till the Japanese themselves develop the resources of the country. If that is the rôle they contemplate, one of the inevitable consequences of the development will be the complete loss of their business. By judicious co-operation they can make themselves necessary factors in the gradual growth of which the country is unquestionably capable; by persistent isolation they can achieve only one result—their own effacement.

THE "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" ON AFFAIRS IN JAPAN.

THE *Manchester Guardian*, in a recent article, echoes a rumour which, though wholly erroneous, was recently circulated with remarkable assurance by one of our local contemporaries. It was to the effect that the MIKADO'S Government, while leaving the foreign settlements under the protection of Consular Courts, as at present, proposes to open the country to all who are willing to submit to Japanese jurisdiction. This measure was recommended by us two years ago as an alternative to be adopted should all efforts to obtain a less inconvenient solution prove abortive. But it is obviously an alternative beset with many difficulties. In the first place, would the Treaty Powers consent to such an arrangement? It seems to be tacitly assumed by many writers that a foreigner is at liberty to do as he pleases with regard to the jurisdiction he accepts. They think that an Englishman may entrust his person

and property to the care of a Japanese tribunal in Shidzuoka, to-day, and to that of a British tribunal in Kanagawa, to-morrow. Some critics, indeed carry this singular ignorance and obtuseness so far as to ask why those who advocate a modification of extritoriality do not themselves submit to Japanese systems. They are apparently incapable of appreciating the fact that the voluntary action of a few individuals can have nothing whatever to do with international relations; and at the same time, they are so ill-informed as to suppose that an Englishman desirous of submitting to Japanese jurisdiction can do so by any process other than that of denationalizing himself. It is possible, of course, that Western Governments might consent to the arrangement described. But their consent would have to be unanimous. If the United States agreed that, in return for extended privileges of trade and residence, American citizens should be subject to Japanese jurisdiction while enjoying those privileges, Great Britain, interpreting the most favoured nation clause as she now interprets it, would at once claim the same privileges for her own subjects without the same conditions. Therefore, we say, consent must be unanimous, and unanimous consent on any point involving a radical change is exceedingly difficult to obtain. Without such consent, it is plain that individual foreigners are powerless. And rightly so, in our opinion. Interminable complications might be the result of allowing the subjects of a Treaty State to submit, here to this jurisdiction, there to that. Moreover, the practical exercise of Japanese jurisdiction over such voluntary recipients would involve processes which are obviously illegal under existing compacts, and without which any exercise of jurisdiction might be farcical. It is unnecessary to enter into these contingencies in detail. As *apis-aller*, Japanese Ministers might open negotiations upon this basis, and were there any necessity to prove the sincerity of their proposals, the plan would not be without advantages. But it would leave unremedied the many flagrant abuses attending the extritorial system as it now exists within treaty limits. Those abuses touch Japan very closely. They touch foreigners also, though in a lesser degree and any arrangement which ignores their existence must necessarily be unsatisfactory.

Our Manchester contemporary, having enumerated some of the objections put forward by conservative foreigners—as, for example, that “trial by jury is not recognised,” which is rather a benefit than a loss to the cause of justice; that “the proceedings of the courts are not published,” which is false; that “no Japanese dare comment on injustice or wrongdoing therein,” which is both false and frivolous—proceeds to announce that “the best way to develop the confidence of foreigners will be by opening up the country, so that opportunities of becoming acquainted with Japanese laws and their administration

may be afforded, and intercourse between foreigners and natives promoted.” This proposition may be regarded as a truism. But it obviously includes the hypothesis that foreigners residing or travelling in the interior should be subject to Japanese jurisdiction; and that hypothesis, as we have shown, is impracticable without the consent of all the Treaty Powers. Our contemporary, however, adds a remarkable rider. It is this:—“So long as artificial barriers exist, suspicion is only natural.” The term “artificial” is very significant. We do not quarrel with it ourselves; but we foresee grave differences of opinion with regard to the origin of the artificiality. A leading member of this community recently described these barriers in different language. He called them “a relic of barbarism;” thus echoing the tone which has been adopted during the past twenty years by foreign critics of Japan’s semi-seclusion. But neither he nor they have ever shown, or even rationally attempted to show, how intercourse with an Oriental people can be made perfect until it is placed upon the same footing as intercourse between all Western peoples. Japan is taunted because she cannot devise some method of accomplishing a feat for which the history of the world furnishes no precedent. The singularly unpractical arguments of conservative foreigners in this respect contrast quaintly with their avowed contempt for sentiment. They appear to be quite incapable of considering the problem from the Japanese standpoint; incapable of understanding that a civilized government could not be guilty of any greater betrayal of the nation’s confidence, than to permit strangers, against whom its subjects have virtually no legal remedy, to trade, travel, and reside with and among those subjects. Any European State would scoff at such a notion. It has been proposed, indeed, that passports should be issued, and that foreigners trading in the interior should give bonds for their good behaviour. But these measures—to which the term “artificial” indubitably applies—are purely preventive. Their utmost effect would be to limit, in some degree, the enjoyment of the privilege. They leave the root of the difficulty wholly untouched. Though a foreigner carried ten passports and had signed twenty bonds, he would still be justiciable at the open ports only. A Japanese suitor would still have to carry his complaint and his evidence to a far-distant place, and there submit, in sixteen cases out of seventeen, to an imperfectly equipped tribunal, presided over by an official of doubtful qualifications, and offering no practicable opportunity of appeal. Were such an arrangement proposed to ourselves, the positions being reversed, we should laugh it to scorn. If foreigners are to trade directly with Japanese in the interior, the commonest principles of right require that justice shall not be virtually inaccessible by the latter against the former’s possible

wrong-doing. There will, perhaps, be very little wrong-doing. Some persons take a pride in indulging that hope. But nobody, we presume, advocates the advisability of trusting such matters to chance. The other phase of the question—that which concerns criminal law—presents fewer difficulties; first, because it seems to be pretty generally agreed that the jurisdiction of the local tribunals must be accepted in minor cases; and secondly, because in criminal proceedings the State is the prosecutor. For the rest, no intelligent writer has ever proposed that the present medley of jurisdictions and conflicting authorities—a system which, as the *Manchester Guardian* justly observes, is “only defended on the grounds of expediency”—should be extended throughout the territories of an independent State. Where, then, does the responsibility for these “artificial barriers” rest? We find no difficulty in answering the question, or in admitting the inference, that so long as the barriers exist, “suspicion is only natural.”

MUTUAL INTERESTS.

THERE was one point of policy which HER MAJESTY’S former Representative at the Court of the MIKADO gave himself much concern to inculcate, and it so happened that within the course of eighteen months he had three exceptional opportunities of taking the public into his confidence on the subject. On his return to Japan in the spring of 1882, on his departure in the autumn of the following year, and on his arrival at his new post in China, addresses of welcome and valediction were presented to him by the foreign communities. To each address he replied in almost identical terms. On the first occasion he said:—“Those interests, whether foreign or native, are so intimately bound up together that they admit of no real antagonism, and the advancement of the one must depend upon the prosperity of the other.” On the second occasion he said:—“I have always felt that the interests of foreigners in this country were inseparable from those of the people.” On the third occasion he said:—“I am sure you will remember that it is only by showing to the Chinese that their and our interests are not antagonistic, but are mutually advantageous, and that we are not working for our own prosperity alone, that we can get them to grasp the same ideas regarding our interests that we ourselves entertain.”

It cannot be supposed that this reiteration of the one notion was accidental. Sir HARRY PARKES saw clearly that there had been gradually created between foreigners and Japanese an atmosphere of mutual distrust and apprehension; that each side seemed to the other to be pursuing antagonistic aims. Whether his own too inelastic policy counted for anything in this unfortunate result; or whether he himself

was quite capable, having regard to his training, associations, and experiences, of carrying into practice the principles he inculcated, are points we need not discuss now. It is enough that the facts were as Sir HARRY stated them. There is, probably, not one intelligent man in this community who will hesitate to endorse the proposition that the true interests of Japanese and foreigners in Japan are identical: that the prosperity and advancement of the one are involved in the prosperity and advancement of the other. As an abstract theory, this is incontrovertible. If, therefore, to advocate foreign interests is to promote Japanese, the converse must be equally true; namely, that to advocate Japanese interests is to promote foreign. Yet this simple axiom is ignored with most curious pertinacity by local writers in Yokohama. Even at this eleventh hour, when blind prejudice has begun to admit that there may be light somewhere beyond the range of its own narrow vision, we find a journal claiming in one breath to be fair and just, and in the next charging a contemporary with being "English only in name" because—and the reasons are worthy of notice—"it sets forth the Japanese version of affairs: argues in support of the Japanese as distinct from the foreign view of all questions involving difference of opinion; and exerts itself to promote the known desires of the Government." We quote this accusation not with any controversial intentions. It gives us no manner of concern. But it offers an excellent illustration of the propensity we have alluded to—the propensity which Sir HARRY PARKES, in his public speeches, at all events, laboured so hard to correct. It shows that whatever may be the professions of its author, his creed, when submitted to the test of practice, is blind and partial. He declares that "a good understanding and community of interest between Japanese and foreigners are essentials to the removal of difficulties which keep up a formidable barrier of separation between them;" he repudiates the notion that "the duty of an essentially foreign journal, avowedly published in foreign interests, is to advocate Japanese interests instead of those of its own countrymen," thereby explicitly suggesting that those interests are different; and he pretends that an English journal which "exerts itself to promote the known desires of the Japanese Government," "betrays its trust, and weakens the just cause of those with whom it is identified by ties of nation and blood." All these assertions are meaningless and irrational, except on the hypothesis that Japanese and foreign interests are not identical.

On no less an authority than that of Mr. GLADSTONE, we know that the anti-progressive section of English communities in the East always "lays claim to what is called the British party, and represents itself as having a monopoly of loyalty." Therefore, in the main, we are neither

unprepared for accusations of the above nature, nor disturbed by them. It matters very little whether this newspaper or that establishes a reputation for itself, provided the cause of justice and expediency wins. Moreover, a public recantation of faith demands a large exercise of magnanimity, and so long as our sometime opponents consent to endorse our views, they may cover their conversion by any process of recrimination they please. For a concise and accurate summary of the opinions we have persistently advocated during the past four years, we can now refer to the very article which charges us with being "English only in name." We learn from that article that, while "within the limits of Yokohama Japanese behold some fifteen different peoples, each of whom they regard as antagonistic to themselves, Liverpool, with a population of 600,000 composed of people from every land, recognises no distinction of nationality." For "this remarkable difference," we are told, "the system of exterritoriality is responsible; and few Japanese, accredited as they are with the most patriotic feelings, can understand and realise more forcibly than the foreigner the irksomeness of a condition which precludes every hope of improvement until an understanding can be arrived at, with regard to the future, satisfactory enough to warrant the Government in granting temporary concessions, calculated to remove some, at least, of the barriers now effectually separating and keeping in mutual ignorance of each other, Japanese and Foreigners." This is the sum and substance of our own contention; the gist of what we have over and over again urged since the beginning of 1881. We have long seen that the circumstances of the foreign communities at the open ports are in the last degree irksome; that they must soon become intolerable, under the present system; that there can be no development of trade nor any mutual prosperity until restrictions suited only to obsolete conditions are removed or relaxed; that the Japanese, growing daily more conversant with the foreign interpretation of independent rights, must become daily more intolerant of the distrustful isolation of foreigners and of the *imperium in imperio* they have set up here; and that the cornerstone of the whole unsightly ruin of better hopes is exterritoriality. Therefore we have urged, and do still urge—not the immediate abolition of exterritoriality; not "the cessation of foreign jurisdiction"—but some preliminary modification, some departure from the rusty groove in which motion towards better things has become impossible. If any change in this sense be contrary to foreign interests, then, indeed, we must plead guilty to having espoused the cause of Japan against that of our own countrymen. But whether we have been right or wrong, it is certain that events have shaped themselves as we predicted. Our own arguments of yesterday

are to-day in the mouths of our former opponents. From them we borrow the assertions that, "it is now but scant justice to acknowledge the progress Japan has made, particularly during the past few years," and that "a good understanding and community of interest between Japanese and foreigners are essentials to the removal of difficulties which keep up a formidable barrier between them." To build a golden bridge for a retiring foe is a prudent proceeding. If an adversary, while endorsing our views point by point, desires to preserve his reputation for consistency by continuing to abuse us, we raise no manner of objection.

RECALL OF THE MARQUIS TSENG.

A TELEGRAM published in this issue announces the recall of the Marquis TSENG, or at any rate his removal from the scene where he has so long been a prominent figure. It has always been anticipated by those familiar with China's reckless habit of sacrificing her most devoted subjects on the altar of her own fickle policy, that should the stout menaces and bold bearing of the Ambassador in Paris be found to contrast inconveniently with subsequent phases of the Tonquin embroglio, he, too, would be unhesitatingly immolated. On the other hand, it is possible that the Marquis himself may have declined to remain in Paris. No European statesman could so long have consented to occupy a post which entailed such a series of humiliations. During the past year it was his business to submit ultimatum after ultimatum, each of which was quietly disregarded by the French Government and tacitly abandoned by the Chinese, until he saw himself, at last, reduced to the condition of the shepherd in the fable whose cries of wolf had come to be treated as practical jokes. There is no reason to suppose that TSENG ever exceeded his instructions, but it is very possible that he may have made the mistake of believing in their sincerity. At all events, he will leave behind him the reputation of a bold and patriotic diplomatist, whose misfortune it was to serve a Government which neither knew its own mind nor hesitated to make Europe the confidant of its vacillations. With regard to the policy which his successor will be instructed to pursue, we can, of course, speak only conjecturally. The public has hitherto had little reason or occasion to become acquainted with the opinions entertained by the Chinese Representative in Berlin on the subject of the Tonquin complication. It will, however, be remembered that when TSENG published his celebrated journalistic manifesto, which was regarded by many as an open defiance to France, his colleague in Germany not only condemned the proceeding, but was understood to express views materially opposed to those of the manifesto. After all, how-

ever, the question is not so much what the new Ambassador thinks as what instructions he will receive from his Government. Six months ago, had we been asked to interpret the meaning of a change of Chinese Representatives in Paris consequent upon the accession of the father of the EMPEROR of CHINA to the highest position in the State, next to the EMPRESS-REGENT, we should have had little difficulty in concluding that Chinese threats were at last about to bear practical fruit. But it would appear that in the Middle Kingdom everything is destined to go by contraries to the end of the chapter. Prince CHUN, who before he reached his present eminence was always regarded as the head and front of the war party, no sooner comes into power than he recalls the one Minister who has shown himself a master of thrasonical diplomacy, and at the same time degrades and punishes the generals who failed to make good that Minister's menaces. The whole thing looks, at first sight, thoroughly unintelligible; and yet, if it were safe to solve that strange problem called Chinese statesmanship by any ordinary processes of inference and reflection, we might conclude that China's eyes have at length been opened to the error of her ways. In our opinion the pivot upon which her change of front has been made is LI CHUNG-TANG. The Great Viceroy was, until recently, perhaps the only Chinese statesman who fully appreciated the hopelessness of a struggle with France. Had his counsels been followed, it is a fair assumption that the game of brag which has ended so disastrously for his country would never have been attempted. His efforts, often misdirected, no doubt, but always earnest, to make China capable of using her strength, had taught him, by their virtual failure, the inevitable consequences of a war with a Western Power. TSENG may have possessed a similar, though differently acquired, knowledge. But TSENG made the mistake of supposing that France would not fight. That false instinct was at the root of all his bluster. And it is pretty certain that in this respect he joined issue with LI. Indeed, by those most capable of judging, it has long been asserted that whether the former's policy succeeded or failed, it must be regarded as a policy for which the latter was not responsible. Now LI HUNG-CHANG alone remains untouched, so far as the public can judge, by the storm which has overthrown his colleagues. That he was too strong to be disturbed by a political catastrophe of such magnitude as the accession of Prince CHUN to virtually supreme power, is more than we can readily believe. What seems probable is, that his disapproval of the policy represented by TSENG had been sufficiently marked to disassociate him from its disasters; and that, at the same time, the grounds of that disapproval have commended themselves to the new Cabinet. On this hypothesis, the action of Prince

CHUN and his Ministers becomes both intelligible and consistent. The punishment of the Generals and Governors who failed to carry out their instructions may be regarded as a simple measure of discipline, by no means implying an endorsement of those instructions. If the game of brag was to be abandoned, the men who had hitherto been playing it, were better out of the way, both in the field and in the Cabinet. TSENG's successor will be LI HUNG-CHANG's representative. His diplomacy will be moulded on the Viceroy's policy, and will be essentially pacific. But against this agreeable prospect we have to set the fact that Prince CHUN is not likely to accept any concession of a humiliating nature. The maintenance of concord between him and the great Viceroy probably depends on the latter's ability to secure for his country respectable terms. And thus, after all, we come back to the really vital factor—France's mood. If France has truly mapped out for herself the route indicated by recent telegrams—the seizure of Langson and Kobang and the establishment of a basis of offensive operations within five days' march of Canton—China cannot help herself: she must fight. But we do not believe that France contemplates anything of the sort. She has no desire to fight China, and though she will naturally take advantage of the presence of her troops in Tonquin to force a settlement, she will be wise enough to build a golden bridge for the retreat of her sadly discomfited opponent. It may be that China will have sense to decipher the moral of her bitter humiliation. But we doubt whether even that grain of comfort remains. At all events, so far as other Treaty Powers are concerned, they have to thank France for this,—that whatever may be the ultimate result of her civilizing influence in Annam and Tonquin, its immediate outcome has been to bring to the surface of Chinese politics the leaders of anti-progressive and anti-foreign thought.

MR. GLADSTONE.

IN spite of Mr. GLADSTONE's evident resolution to stand by his guns at the present crises of England's home and foreign affairs, public opinion appears to be gradually accepting the conviction that his retirement from the scene of his many triumphs cannot be much longer deferred. A few months more will complete the sum of his seventy-five years. Rarely, very rarely, has it been given to any man to serve his country so long and so vigorously. The wonder, is, not that his constitution has begun, at this late period, to protest against the terrible strain put upon it, but that it consented to remain so long submissive. He entered the House of Commons at three and twenty, and during more than fifty years he has unceasingly enriched that great assembly with the treasures of his genius and attain-

ments. It will be remembered how, in 1875, his temporary weariness of a struggle which had arrayed against him a host of class interests, led him to announce that he thought himself entitled to rest, and that his desire of retirement was "dictated by personal views as to the best method of spending the closing years of his life." There can be no doubt that he was sincere in this declaration. England, however, could not yet spare him to write essays on Ritualism and Vaticanism. He himself may have felt that—as Mr. BRIGHT said of him—"like an old and a noble Roman, he could be content with deserving the praises of his country though some of his countrymen should deny them to him." But his country was resolved not to lose the services of such a statesman. He resumed his leadership of the Liberals and subsequently of the Government, only to justify the criticism pronounced upon him by an eminent writer of that time:—"A great many people entertain towards Mr. GLADSTONE'S Government the same sort of sentiment as that which worthy Mr. BETRAM in SCOTT'S romance felt for the energetic revenue officer who would persist in doing his duty, instead of following the example of his predecessor, who sang his song and took his drink, and drew his salary without troubling any one." This it seems to us, exactly indicates the point at which Mr. GLADSTONE'S touch of the English mind has always been at fault; and never more at fault, perhaps, than in his Egyptain policy. EDWARD DICEY, writing in the last number of the *Nineteenth Century*, tells an anecdote admirably illustrative of the feeling entertained by the great majority of Englishmen on this subject. "In the grandest days of the Venetian Republic, in the days when the Cape route to the East had not yet been discovered, and when the City of the Lagoons was the centre of the world's commerce, a discussion took place in the State Council as to the expediency of the Republic making herself mistress of Egypt in order to protect her trade and to promote her interests in the Isthmus which then, as now, formed the highway between the East and West. The proposal was discussed for some days, and was opposed on the ground that the Republic had complications enough to deal with already; that it was more for her interest to develop her possessions nearer home; and that the cost of the undertaking might burden her finances. The non-contents carried the day, and the flag of the Lion of St. Mark was never planted on the Isthmus of Suez. The opportunity was lost, the course of trade passed into other hands and other channels, and the Queen of the Adriatic became a tradition of the past, the shadow of a great name." This, we believe, faithfully echoes what most Englishmen feel. Great empires are not exempt from the law which governs everything cognizable by human beings—a law embodied thirty centuries ago in the

Chinese proverb, "wax or wane, increase or decrease, whatever there is has but one story." England must grow or she must decay, and so long as the enterprise and energy of her people push the frontiers of her empire in this direction or that, so long must her Government be prepared to follow and support them. But Mr. GLADSTONE would restrain this practical instinct, or, at any rate, confine it within limits dictated by a morality which the world is not yet, and probably never will be, prepared to obey. He has not been inconsistent in respect of Egypt. On the contrary, whatever his enemies may say, it is his unfaltering consistency that is at fault. From first to last he has remained faithful to the dictates of a policy all the more distasteful to his countrymen in that it is based upon principles which they cannot openly denounce. His position now is almost intolerable. Fresh disasters in the Soudan would convict him of error: successes can only be obtained at the sacrifice of his principles. If the events that succeeded his great rival's accession to power in 1873 made him weary of the political arena, the events of the past twelve months, aided by his increasing burden of years, must have weaned him from every remnant of desire to continue the battle. Lord BEACONSFIELD was not less competent to advise and control the Conservatives than Mr. DISRAELI. Mr. GLADSTONE in the House of Lords, while removed from the heat of the combat, might continue to serve a party of whom none yet appears worthy to wear his mantle. Doubtless he might have been a peer long ago had he desired. But, apart from all other considerations, his fortune, never very large, had suffered considerably by unfortunate mining investments, and it was not until he succeeded to the Welsh estates of his brother-in-law, Sir STEPHEN GLYNNE, that his pecuniary ability to support a title became assured. Should he go to the Upper House, the Conservatives may discover to their cost that his influence was not only progressive but restraining, and that while he seemed to stand between them and the sunshine of power, there was lurking in the shadow of his greatness a Radicalism which had gathered irresistible momentum from his teachings without inheriting the prudence of his genius.

CHINESE COMMERCIAL POLICY.

IN the story of the protracted negotiations which took place in 1881 and 1882 between the Foreign Representatives in China and the T'sung-li Yamên, on the subject of "transit passes outward," there is an incident which strikingly illustrates the diplomatic methods pursued in the Orient as well as the processes of the Celestial mind with regard to trade.*

* The information contained in this article is taken from the diplomatic correspondence recently published in the "United States Foreign Relations."

For many years complaints had been raised not only by foreign merchants with reference to alleged failures on the part of the Chinese to comply with treaty provisions, but also by the Chinese against abuses and frauds said to have been perpetrated by foreigners under cover of treaty provisions. Proposals devised to remedy the latter state of affairs had been submitted to the Foreign Representatives by the Yamên from time to time between 1872 and 1877, but these attempts, as well as others of similar aim made by the local Chinese authorities, having been unsuccessful, rules for the issue and use of transit passes outwards were, in the end, arbitrarily introduced and enforced by the Chinese local authorities at some of the open ports. These rules, though in part unobjectionable, were deemed in some respects contrary to existing treaty stipulations, and, moreover, lacked foreign official consent. The Foreign Representatives, therefore, anxious to substitute a general, uniform, and duly authorized system for all the open ports, and seeing, as they thought, an opportunity to remove some sources of foreign complaint, submitted to the Yamên, May 18th, 1880, draft rules intended to cover all the grounds of difficulty. We propose to refer here to one only of these rules. It was a rule that, goods manufactured at an open port from native produce bought there, should not, on exportation, be required to pay any other duty or tax than the export duty. The rule was motivated by complaints that such goods had previously been required to pay inland taxes. At first the Chinese Government, while accepting, apparently, the principle of this proposal, claimed that native produce, before being submitted to any manufacturing process at an open port, ought to undergo inspection by the Custom authorities, since, in default of such inspection, "abuses would certainly arise owing to confusion caused by substituting one article for another." The Foreign Representatives, not unnaturally, finding this reason vague and insufficient, pronounced the proposed condition "neither practical nor practicable," and asserting that their own draft rule was in entire conformity with treaty stipulations, refused to alter it. The T'sung-li Yamên then suggested a modification, according to which a foreign merchant would only be required to give notice of an intention to manufacture, whereupon the Custom authorities should at once despatch, at their own cost, an officer to inspect the produce before the commencement of the manufacturing process; while, after manufacture, certain limits of time should be fixed, within which the goods must either be exported, or stored, under Customs' supervision, at the owner's charges. Thus modified the rule was pronounced, by Mr. VON BRANDT, "on the whole very satisfactory," and in submitting it for the approval of his colleagues, he wrote:—*This part of the agreement has, besides, the advantage of giving a legal*

status to the manufacturing of goods at the port out of native produce brought there under transit pass, which, until now, could be done only with the tacit acquiescence of the Customs."

A month later (July 10th, 1881), Mr. VON BRANDT, at a long conference with the Ministers of the Yamên, found himself confronted by new difficulties, the key-note of which was furnished by a casual remark of one of the Chinese statesman, to the effect that foreigners could not be allowed to compete with Chinese in the trade in native produce. It will be observed that the rule proposed by the Yamên, in both its original and modified forms, implied an obligation that all goods manufactured at an open port out of native produce should be exported. The restriction thus imposed does not appear to have previously aroused any opposition on the part of the Foreign Representatives; but Mr. VON BRANDT, made wise perhaps by the casual remark of Minister HSIA, now took occasion to lay down the general principle that a foreigner might do exactly what he pleased with *produce bought at an open port*. In the case of native *produce brought from the interior* under transit pass, be admitted the Chinese Government's right to exercise the strictest supervision, inasmuch as such produce was exempted from the payment of inland taxes under the express condition that it was intended for export, and the obligation to export could be cancelled only by the payment of two-and-a-half times the export duty as compensation to the Chinese for the loss of the inland taxes. The T'sung-li Yamên then came out boldly. It declared that the treaties did not give foreigners the right to buy Chinese produce anywhere in China *except for purposes of export*, and that, the Chinese Government being thus entitled to levy export duty upon everything purchased by foreigners, the latter were not allowed to put their purchases to any other use, or to sell them at the open ports, until they had first paid two-and-a-half times the export duty, to compensate the Government for the loss of revenue it would otherwise suffer. The Chinese Ministers added that they were willing to make a concession by not enforcing their right so far as native produce in its natural state was concerned, but that they must insist upon forbidding the sale within China of goods manufactured out of such produce until two-and-a-half times the export duty had been paid on them. The grounds of this curious contention were not absolutely unreasonable: they were that, as "Chinese had to pay taxes and duties on all commercial transactions amongst themselves within the ports, foreigners could not be allowed to compete with them on more favorable terms."

The matter having been thus reduced to a single but serious point of disagreement, Mr. VON BRANDT's correspondence with the T'sung-li Yamên was confined to the discussion of that point. About a week

later he received a *déspatch* from Prince KUNG containing the following :—

With regard to Your Excellency's assertion that native produce purchased by foreign merchants at the ports may be used for manufacturing purposes, or that it may be resold at the port in its original or manufactured state, we have to reply that no explicit statement to this effect is contained in any of the treaties or regulations for trade. Your Excellency says, in respect of this, that there is no reason why the treaties and regulations need not be followed; but we do not know which treaty or regulation it is that you say ought to be followed. The purchase of native produce by foreign merchants, if not exported, but if used for manufacturing purposes, or resold at the port, would be equivalent to allowing foreigners to do the same trade as Chinese merchants, and would be prejudicial to the business of the latter. Moreover if the goods are not exported, the duty to which they are liable will be lost to the imperial exchequer.

In reply to this, Mr. VON BRANDT expressed the opinion, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, that foreigners in China have liberty to transact, at the open ports "every kind of commercial business subject only to such conditions and restrictions as are contained in the treaties themselves, or in the rules and regulations agreed upon conjointly since the conclusion of the treaties." Pointing to a rule which provided that "native produce carried from the interior to a port may be exempted, by payment of the half duty, from all inland charges *only if bonâ fide intended for shipment to a foreign port*," he urged that this was in itself sufficient proof that no obligation existed to export native produce which had paid all inland charges, as would be the case with produce bought at an open port. And finally he quoted from the German, Belgian and Austro-Hungarian treaties an article which entitled foreigners at the open ports "*se livrer au commerce ou à l'industrie*."

But the Chinese Ministers refused to be convinced. They were willing to accept the doctrine that trade is subject to such restrictions only as are explicitly stipulated in the treaties, provided the logical converse were also admitted; namely, that only such *liberties* of trade as are specially stipulated can be claimed. They wanted to know how the Foreign Powers would feel if China assumed the position that she had a right to take any step not expressly interdicted by the letter of the treaties. They contended that a negative restriction does not necessarily include a positive privilege, and that when certain exemption from inland taxation was granted to produce *bonâ fide* intended for export, it did not at all follow that produce not so exempted might be manufactured and sold in the home markets. Finally, they declared that the expression "*se livrer à l'industrie*," simply meant "to engage in manual labour," and could not be construed as conferring the right to manufacture goods, still less to sell them when manufactured.

Thus the position taken by the Chinese Ministers was briefly this: that trade in native produce at the open ports is a branch of commerce reserved to native merchants solely; and the process of reasoning by which they arrived at their

conclusion was very remarkable. Had they adhered to the ground that, according to Chinese fiscal regulations, all manufacture of, or sale of manufactured, native produce by native merchants, is liable to certain classes of taxation, and that unless foreigners consented to be similarly taxed, they could not fairly engage in similar manufactures or sales, their contention would have been reasonable enough. But what His Excellency WANG WÊN-SHAO said was, that "if, for instance, cotton goods were manufactured at the ports from Chinese cotton, and if foreign merchants were permitted to sell such goods at the ports, then, the Chinese Government would lose, either the export duty on the cotton or the import duty on the goods manufactured from it:" while, "if these manufactories were in Chinese hands, also the foreign merchants would be losers, for the foreign article would not, of course, be able to compete with the article manufactured in China, as the latter would have paid no import duty." Lest the latter hypothesis should sound superfluously specious, he went on to explain that "the Chinese Government, desiring as little to give to the Chinese merchant an undue advantage over the foreigner as *vice versa*," had already given orders that if the Chinese cotton goods manufactory in Shanghai came into existence, the articles manufactured in it should have to pay an impost, equal to the tariff import duty on foreign cotton goods." The Chinese Government, it would thus appear, cares not a straw for the development of Chinese industries and manufactures, but is simply concerned about its own revenue. It carries the cold principles of justice to such lengths that if fiscal needs oblige it to levy an import duty on foreign manufactures, it will tax the same class of native manufactures to the same extent so as to prevent the latter from competing injuriously with the former, and, above all, so as to avoid any apparent diminution of its own income. To combat such logic as this must be a difficult task. One does not often hear now-a-days of rulers so unenlightened that their object is, not to help the nation to get what it wants at the minimum cost, but rather to obtain for themselves the maximum profit out of the people's needs.

THE ORIENTAL BANK.

We are pleased to be able to announce that a new company, the Oriental Bank, Limited, is being formed to take over the business of the Oriental Bank Corporation. The Manager here has received the following telegram :—

"Oriental Bank, Limited,—Capital £2,000,000—shares £10 fully paid. How many can you place?"

Mr. Cargill, some years since prominently concerned in the affairs of the O.B.C., has been the means of bringing about this satisfactory condition of affairs, and the public desirous of becoming interested in the new institution are requested to communicate at once with Mr. G. W. F. Playfair.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE LAW OF INEQUALITY.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

Many years ago, a certain Daimiyo of Oshiu, resident in Yedo, sent a number of ladies of high rank, graceful deportment, and elegant speech, to his country domain to wait upon his consort and her daughters, in order to keep them from acquiring the inelegant local dialect. Some time afterwards these same ladies returned to the capital in company with the family of the Daimiyo, when, to the disgust of His Highness, it was found that they had lost all their one-time polished speech and spoke the same low dialect and used the same vulgar idioms as did the common people of the Daimiyo's lands. On being asked how it came that they used such inelegant language, they replied, "Ah! Your Highness; minority is no match for majority!" Our forefathers have told us this tale, and it embodies a significant truth. Mencius, complying with his son's eagerness to acquire the T'sai dialect, engaged a scholar of T'sai to live with him; but as most of the companions of the young student were men of Su, he failed, to the great regret of the sage, to learn the language of T'sai.

Physics teach us that the effect of an applied force varies with the density of matter in the passive body. Certain particles attract each other, or exert a repellant influence over other particles of less weight and density. And even the law of gravitation teaches us that in the solar system the great rule the small, and that the planets are subject to the sun as the moon is to the earth. The same physical theory of superior force applies equally to social affairs. Because the many do indeed govern the few, so in a country just emerging from semi-civilization into intellectual enlightenment, those who hold a leading position in society and bear the responsibility of governing the community at large, should use the greatest precaution in all they do. Now, as regards the learning of the Japanese nation, it is but fair to state that the followers of Chinese philosophy and Buddhism make eight-tenths of the whole reading population; while those who prefer pure Japanese scholarship take up one and one-half tenths, and one twentieth of the intellectual class devote their time and attention to the civilized wisdom of the Occident. Take these figures for a moment into consideration. Those who now-a-days are conversant with European tongues or study scientific works through the medium of Japanese translations, may seem, to the superficial observer, to form a large portion of the public; but, in reality, they bear a proportion of 1 to 10,000 in comparison with the grand total of inhabitants. They are, in good sooth, the fixed and shining stars of our national sky. In Tokiyo there are many private and public schools attended by a fair number of students, and this fact may lead the casual observer into wrong conclusions. But stroll out into the country, and you will hardly find a single foreign book outside of the city limits. Those who understand the principles of Western civilization are, in point of numbers, far behind those who still dress their hair in the *yara* style. The disciples of Occidental learning are few and far between, while the upholders of Chinese lore are numberless. The self-same inequality exists between the idle and the progressive, the low and the high, the slavish-minded and the lovers of liberty. These social phenomena do not augur well for the future of our country, and enterprising men should not overlook these facts.

And now a most uninviting and distasteful vista opens before our eyes; a vista that discloses the true characteristics of the Chinese people. Our country is separated from China but by a narrow stretch of sea; our intercourse with her dates back to a remote period, and much of our civilization was introduced from that coun-

try. China covers an area of 4,560,000 square miles, and has 375,000,000 inhabitants, while Japan has an area of but 146,000 square miles and barely 37,000,000 inhabitants. The shilly-shally, half-hearted, manner in which China is negotiating with France about Annam, is a matter for the most profound regret. And all this is due to the universal prevalence and corrupt state of one particular philosophy, known commonly as the "Philosophy of China." This creed inculcates doctrines of patience and long-suffering, and is remarkably averse to progressive ideas. As every reader of Chinese history knows, there was, once upon a time, a great, generous, open-hearted individual yclept Long Tse-teh. When questioned by his brother, to whom he was imparting pearls of wisdom, upon the virtue of forbearance, the learned man laid down some truly remarkable rules. "Suppose," said his brother, "that one man should spit in the face of another man; should the aggrieved party wipe off the spittle and keep on smiling placidly?" "No," replied Tse-teh, "if he wiped off the spittle it might tend to irritate the spitter: rather let him wait patiently until the saliva has evaporated." Ah! China is a merciful country! Taking Tse-teh's views into consideration, it was a most brilliant and laudable stroke of policy to remain unruffled and undisturbed while France insulted the nation in the most contemptuous and open manner. But, as it happens, the world unluckily does not reason thus. Were China an European nation and did she still hold such remarkable political tenets, her sovereign would be exposed to constant contumely, and her lands devastated in the twinkling of an eye. And yet, and yet, China is regarded as the greatest of Eastern nations—the very pinnacle and roof-tree of Oriental learning. And these same Chinese teachings have been ruling the minds of our countrymen for hundreds, aye, for thousands, of years.

When European arts and Western civilization were first introduced into this country, the people were surprised with the novelty and utility of Occidental contrivances, and rapidly took up foreign teachings,—and the "Four Books" and "Six Scripts" were put on the topmost and dustiest shelf of the bookcase. Now, however, the current of national sentiment has changed its course: European arts and sciences are at low ebb, while the cumbrous philosophy of China is again rising to the surface. *We greatly fear, that in conformity with the law of inequality, our small land is being imperceptibly swallowed by the neighbouring Empire!* If our countrymen are, metaphorically speaking, undergoing a transformation into so many Long Tse-teh's, gentle and forbearing as he was, there is small prospect of our ever maintaining national independence, or competing with European Powers on a footing of equality. The science and arts of the Occident, transplanted into our native soil, are just beginning to be acclimatised, and the many buds are giving rich promise of future blossom, flower, and fruit. But some people cannot help touching things they should let alone; and even those who are influential in this our community are already at work with their pruning knives upon the helpless and tender buds of this new tree of knowledge. When we think of the future, we are filled with righteous indignation.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

Nothing is at present better calculated to increase the wealth of the nation than the construction of railways. This is a maxim which we have ever endeavored to impress on the minds of our enterprising capitalists. The excellence of railways is indeed great and universal, for it is neither limited to any one locality nor to any particular class of people. A long-continued rain in the early spring is deplored by every town resident, but is inexpressibly pleasant to the farmers, who take it to be

the earnest of a rich harvest. The sweltering heat of the long midsummer days is almost intolerable to every dweller in the city, who longs for the cool breezes and gentle showers of later seasons; but this same heat is welcomed by the peasants living in marshy districts, whose inundated and over-wet fields spring into new life under the burning rays of the summer sun. Water and heat, essential as they are to life, are not enjoyed equally by all, owing to the different occupations and pursuits of men. It is rare, indeed, that any human enterprise should benefit all classes and all communities without distinction. But the railway is an exception to the rule. It brings manifold and abundant blessings, and yet gives no appreciable cause of offence. Agriculture, commerce, political economy, the arts and sciences are all directly benefited by the railway, as is, indeed, every department of human thought and action. We can most emphatically assert that the importance of the railway more than outweighs that of any other human undertaking.

Yet this great instrument of civilization is almost as costly as it is important; it is beyond the power of acquirement of any one individual, and requires the united effort of multitudes in order to be called into existence. The people of Japan, anxious as they are to press forward in the march of civilization, have, as yet, but few railways in their country. Nothing is a surer indication of torpidity and the lack of steady intellectual progress. We are not accustomed to undertake great enterprises in combination with the many, and most people find it safest to start out alone, employing only their own immediate capital. Hence, although many wide-awake and intelligent individuals have proposed constructing railways in various parts of the country, but very few have had the courage or desire to associate with them,—for to raise a capital of three or five million *yen* requires both time and labour. And then, again, enterprises which necessitate arduous labour not infrequently prove fruitless after all. But although the great use and necessity of the lines along the Tokaido, Sanyodo, or the lines between Tokiyo and Yechigo, or Osaka, Yechizen, Kaga, and Yetchiu, are obvious to every one; still the capitalists of those districts through which the railway is to pass, the very men who would derive the speediest profits, have not sufficient zeal to set about the work without loss of time. The fact that our countrymen are unused to, and suspicious of, joint-stock corporations, is always making itself felt. To remedy this evil, we have hit upon the following scheme:—The railways constructed by the Government since 1872 cover in all nearly 70 *ri*, and have cost well-nigh 15,000,000 *yen*. We contend that the Government should transfer the older lines to the public, and construct new railways with the proceeds, and continue so doing until all the important cities and towns of Japan are bound together by a network of steel rails. There are two ways in which the Government railways can be transferred to the public:—(1) by selling them to private individuals or corporations at a fixed price; (2) by dividing the price into a certain number of shares in which any one can invest, so that the Government and people would virtually enter into partnership. The first method is simple enough, but buyers would have to co-operate in order to raise the funds necessary to carry on the work. While it is clear that such an union could far more easily be brought about than an association ready to undertake the construction of brand-new lines, it is equally patent that the present condition of the country does not argue in favour of many million *yen* being collected by a limited number of capitalists. The second method is far more practicable and satisfactory. In accordance with this plan, the right of possession of a line is practically divided into so many shares at so many *yen*. Any one desirous of holding shares need but apply to the Government; while the distribution of dividends, the election of officers, etc., would be conducted as in a private corporation. No matter

how many or how few applicants came forward, their number would not affect the working of the railways. Should all the shares be taken up, the Government could easily withdraw from interfering in the management of any one particular line. Things would, moreover, go on very smoothly, free from the confusion attendant upon wholesale disposal. Unless our countrymen cast all their hearts into the matter, and are ready to enter joint-stock corporations, there is really no way in which the construction and management of railways can be made public property.

FOREIGN PARTICIPATION IN DOMESTIC ENTERPRISES.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

Without railways no country can hope to advance in civilization, nor to increase its wealth and strength. For the railway does not follow in the van of civilization, but is one of its earliest pioneers. It is not because society had become enlightened that the iron road sprang into existence, but because the railway became universal, social progress was made possible. Japan of to-day is, in many senses, in advance of Japan of two or three decades ago; yet is she by no means on an equal footing with other civilized nations of the world. Still, it is the secret and most cherished desire of the Japanese people to attain an equal rank with western nations,—if possible, to go even farther, and out-do them in intellectual development. It is plain that, were this intention harboured by one and all, it would not be long before railways were constructed throughout the country, thereby reaping the first fruits of civilization. Many do, indeed, acknowledge the necessity for rapid internal communication and transport, but few dare touch unaided the profits which lie within their very grasp. This is not so much due to the lack of enthusiasm on the part of our enterprising men, as it is to the want of people in the habit of amassing immense sums from private sources for the execution of magnificent enterprises. We have already had occasion to speak of the manner in which this lamentable blemish can be eradicated. We have urged that the lines now in operation should be transferred to private capitalists, and that, should this method be found impracticable, the general public should be permitted to actively participate in the Government railways,—either by becoming direct proprietors, or, at least, shareholders. This was not the end of our programme. The sums which the Government may raise by either of these methods should be appropriated to the construction of new lines. Thus, by disposing of the new lines so soon as they are completed, the Government might speedily bring about this civilized system of intercommunication throughout the country, nor rest until the entire work had been successfully terminated. This is, beyond all doubt, one of the most desirable and convenient means of having our beautiful country covered with a network of railways. There is, however, still another way in which this longed-for consummation may be brought about, and to this we would direct the special attention of the public.

In 1870 and 1873, our Government sanctioned the sale of public loan bonds in the British capital. These bonds were purchasable in English currency, the interest on them being payable on the same basis. All the business connected with raising the loans, selling the bonds, etc., was transacted in London. Though properly and actually representing a national debt, the loans raised in London were distinguished by peculiar characteristics, not to be found in domestic loans. Until recently, foreigners were not able to buy or hold our domestic loan bonds. In December of last year, this prohibition was annulled simultaneously with the publication of the Nakasendo Loan Bonds' Regulations, and the Regulations for Loan Bonds payable in *Kinsatsu*. Foreigners

can at present become legalized holders of the domestic loan bonds exactly as do the Japanese. This marks a new era in our financial administration. We would now ask the Government to extend still farther the spirit of confidence shown towards foreigners, and to permit them to hold shares in joint stock concerns. The rate of interest in this country is much higher than in England, and as railways yield an ample profit even when started on capital paying high interest, they would certainly bring in an extraordinarily rich harvest when undertaken with capital paying a comparatively small rate of interest. Should our gates once be opened to the introduction of foreign funds, our people would no longer complain of the tightness of the money-market, and a much-desired end would be happily accomplished. A line promising the greatest profits might at first be selected, and, should the capital turn out insufficient, millions of *yen* could easily be raised in foreign lands. We are thoroughly convinced that, were foreigners allowed to own shares of private joint-stock corporations in the interior, we might justly hope to see this fair country everywhere under the beneficent sway of the iron horse.

PUBLIC LOAN BONDS.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

From time to time reports reach us to the effect that the prices of Public Loan Bonds are on the decline, that there is little demand for them, and that the general tendency of the share market is downwards. Yet pension bonds, of a face value of 100 *yen*, bearing seven per cent. interest, are actually sold for 96.30 (*yen*); bonds bearing six per cent. interest are saleable at 88.30 *yen*; ten per cent. bonds realize 114.30 *yen*; industrial six per cents are quoted at 89.20, and six per cent. bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu*, at 99. The shares issued by banks and commercial companies also command good prices.

This rise in the value of such securities has evoked much discussion. Some attribute it to the strong confidence which the people place in the Government's financial policy; others to a development of the spirit of enterprise throughout all classes. We do not doubt that both these explanations are, to some extent, satisfactory, yet, in our opinion, they embody the remote causes only, and leave untouched the direct and principal influences which are at work. What then are these influences? We reply, without any recourse to abstruse terms—the universal stagnation of trade is the immediately active factor. "But how," it will be asked, "could a decline of commerce enhance the value of bonds? Securities of this nature possess no quality of self-adjustment: their value can only appreciate in consequence of an increased demand, as is the case with all commodities." To understand this apparent anomaly, it is necessary to remember that although some of our merchants now carry on their business with a capital less than the amount of their transactions, yet in former times operations conducted in this way were the exception: they were confined to particular branches of commerce and particular localities. To borrow capital or to employ promissory notes so as to increase the volume of one's transactions was once considered a hazardous proceeding, to be avoided by every possible means. Men were careful to confine their monetary transactions to the limits of their shops or offices, fully persuaded that no otherwise could a really safe business be done. This conviction still influences a great number of our most wealthy traders: they take a sort of pride in carrying on their commerce in the old methods. Take, for example, the case of a timber-merchant possessing a capital of 100,000 *yen*. His method of proceeding will be to lend thirty thousand *yen* to the proprietors of the forest where he gets his timber, so as to help them to keep their part of the business going, but at the same time he will store

timber himself to the value of another thirty thousand *yen*. He then sells timber on credit to brokers, retail dealers, or other customers, to the extent of thirty thousand *yen*, and by carrying on this process constantly, and all the while keeping up his stock of timber, there remains of his capital only a sum of ten thousand *yen*, which he shuts up in his desk. Sometimes, indeed, he will think that this reserve of ten thousand *yen* is insufficient. It will thus be seen that with a capital of 100,000 *yen*, the amount he actually devotes to his business is only thirty thousand. The same is true with regard to wholesale dealers in woven stuffs. They generally pay a sum of money in advance to the producers at the time of giving an order, and when they come to disburse the full cost of the goods, they deem it a disgrace to borrow money or to call in their debts from their customers, whatever the amount of those debts may be. Thus they make all their payments out of the funds they have in their safes. Consequently, if they wish to keep on hand a stock of goods to the value of, say, fifty thousand *yen*, it is absolutely necessary for them to hold a reserve fund of from ten to twenty thousand. This method of doing business is certainly solid, and has obtained for the large merchants of Tokiyo a considerable degree of public confidence; but it obviously obliges them to provide themselves with a considerably larger capital than that actually necessary for their business. Merchants in Osaka and elsewhere pursue similar methods; and, in short, it may be asserted without any risk of exaggeration, that the capital of prominent merchants in Japan largely exceeds the amount absolutely required by them.

When trade is brisk and sales are quickly effected, or when values show an upward tendency in consequence of an inflated currency, it is plain that merchants are obliged to increase their stocks in a degree more than proportionate to their ordinary clearances, and that their sales on credit will also be augmented. At such times, the reserve funds which they generally keep in their safes fall short, and it becomes necessary to make good the deficiency by obtaining loans from the banks or by pledging merchandise. The consequence is that the banks, too, do a brisk business. But so soon as the tide of commerce falls to its normal point, traders find their capital sufficient for their business and have no need to obtain monetary facilities from others. The every-day course of commerce shows that, just as a brisk demand on the part of consumers is followed, when it ceases, but a correspondingly active competition among merchants to dispose of their goods, so the eagerness of dealers to increase their stocks is generally succeeded by a desire to suspend purchases. During the past few years currency restriction has exercised its usual depressing influence upon trade. Merchants, for the most part, having on hand larger stocks than they require, and seeing that the prices of commodities generally show a downward tendency, abstain from buying as far as possible, and avoid sales on credit, not knowing what may be the value of the money they will ultimately receive from their debtors. Thus they find, in many cases, their capital superabundant, and a corresponding change in their method of employing it has taken place. The men who, with 100,000 *yen* capital, appropriated, as we have shown, thirty thousand to the producers or manufacturers, thirty thousand to the purchase of their stock, and thirty thousand to cover their sales on credit, keeping ten thousand in their safes, now reduce the three first sums by ten thousand each and hold a reserve fund of forty thousand. To let so large a proportion of their total capital lie idle would obviously be fatal, while, on the other hand, to apply it to the purchase of goods would be too hazardous. Under these circumstances they naturally turn to public loan-bonds, since, by investing in this class of securities, they can obtain nine or ten per cent. interest on their money, with the assurance of being able to realize at any moment. All this has reacted upon the

banks. They, too, find no applicants for their loanable funds, and have no resource but to convert them into Government securities. Thus, on every side, loan-bonds are in demand, and, as a natural consequence, they have abnormally appreciated, the same influence extending, in varying degrees, throughout the whole share market. These considerations are the basis of our assertion that commercial depression is the proximate cause of the appreciation of governmental securities.

REFORMS IN THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Rumours are current that considerable reforms will shortly be introduced into the Imperial Household Department, and that the relations between this Department and the Privy Council will undergo a change. Some are inclined to suppose that the official authority of the Imperial Household Department will be so extended as to enable it to maintain a higher status than that of other Government Departments, just as is the case with Russia. Others think that it will be made the principal administrative department, and that the guidance of the national policy will devolve upon it. Again, it is said that the proposed reforms will be postponed until next year, and that no initiative will be taken this year toward any alteration. Many other different opinions have been expressed, and innumerable statements given in the vernacular journals in regard to the Imperial Household Department, but as these opinions and statements are simply based on rumours that are circulated in the streets we can scarcely persuade ourselves to place any confidence in them. Yet, when we consider how they came to spring up among the people, we find that they are, to a certain extent, justifiable. Our countrymen are naturally disposed to love and respect the Imperial family; while the customs which have existed for thousands of years have strengthened this disposition. However broad the world may be, there is no nation which shows greater sympathy and pays greater respect to its royal family than do our people. As this is the real condition of affairs, our fellow countrymen are usually disposed to give greater attention to affairs relating to the Imperial Household than most other nations; and if this be true, it might possibly happen that, so soon as rumours became current respecting the changes to be introduced into the Imperial Household Department, they preferred to discuss the subject in hand rather than ascertain the correctness or incorrectness of their information. It may be justly stated that the discussions so brought about only evidence their loyalty as subjects of the Emperor. If the people of this country did not possess that spirit of respect and veneration for their Emperor in the high degree we have just mentioned, they would not have so sincerely interested themselves in the affairs relating to His Majesty's Household. Had they been indifferent to the matters of the Imperial Household, they would not have so anxiously discussed the subject among themselves, even though the rumours concerning the proposed changes had been true; and, more especially, would this have been the case, as they were unable to ascertain the truth of the rumours. The discussion created by the rumour may be of no significance; but it certainly proves the strong attachment of the people to their Sovereign.

Nothing could be more dubious or incredible than the rumour as it is; yet it should not be entirely ignored. When the Bureau for Constitutional Reform was established in the Palace on the 17th of March last, the public were disposed to imagine that the measures thus taken involved the intention of the Government to introduce reforms into the Imperial Household Department. Rumours quickly spread abroad, and the transfer of the Minister of that Department took place on

March 21st. The different ranks of the Chamberlains were abolished, and the office of Lord High Chamberlain was instituted. Meanwhile, His Excellency Hirobumi Ito, Privy Councillor, was appointed Minister of the Imperial Household, while His Excellency Sanenori Tokudaiji, who had long occupied this position, was transferred to the post of Lord High Chamberlain. Although various political changes have occurred during the period of more than ten years since the Restoration, the Imperial Household Department has held only the sole duty of managing the affairs of the Imperial family, independent of other Governmental Departments; and even when the Ministers of these Departments were required to perform the additional duties of Privy Councillors, the Minister of the Imperial Household alone was not allowed to discharge this dual function.

A Bureau for the preparation of the Constitution was first instituted immediately after the Restoration (January, 1868); its name being subsequently changed to *Giji Torishirabe Kiyoku*, then to *Seidoriyo*, then to *Seido Torishirabe Gakari*, and finally to *Seido Kiyoku*. Indeed, it underwent so many changes that we cannot enumerate them all here; yet it was always established beyond the precincts of the Imperial Household Department, and now, for the first time, the re-establishment of the Bureau has taken place in the Palace (March, 1884) on the occasion of H.E. Ito being nominated Minister of the Imperial Household, while retaining the rank of a Privy Councillor. These unusual proceedings did not fail to start the rumour that reforms would shortly be introduced into the Imperial Household Department. Whenever a few persons met together, the conversation turned naturally to the reforms in question. When the rumour reached our ears, we partly believed and partly questioned its correctness. Nevertheless, it was somewhat supported by the recent establishment of the Imperial Treasurer's Office (*Kurariyo*) in the Palace. According to the old system of Imperial Government, the *Kurariyo* was one of the Six Bureaux of the *Chiumusho*, which held a leading position among the eight administrative departments. The duties of the Minister of this important department were to attend upon the Emperor and to watch over his proceedings, that they might not deviate from the system of etiquette. Besides, the Minister had to examine the drafts of Imperial decrees and manifestoes; to receive petitions forwarded to the Emperor; to take charge of the national archives; to regulate the duties of the Empress as well as of the ladies and officers of the Court, and to determine their appointments and ranks. Furthermore, he had to receive the census returns, the accounts of taxation and revenue, and a statement of the numbers and names of the female ecclesiastics for the purpose of submitting them to the inspection of the Emperor. He was assisted by a Vice-Minister and an Assistant Vice-Minister, who were allowed to advise the Emperor, but not to approve or alter the latter's decision.

Secretaries, known as *Jo* (丞), were required to give work to the officials, to prepare drafts of Imperial rescripts, and to appoint officers who were to remain after the duties of the day were over; while officers, holding the title of *Roku* (録), were called upon to keep a record of all affairs the management of which fell to them, and to examine the drafts of the rescripts in question, as well as to read all official documents. (The above account is taken from the "*Shoku-kwanshi*" or "History of Official Functions.") Yet even in those days, there was an Imperial Household Department, which was itself subordinate to the Eight Departments, but whose duty was to take charge of the Treasury; to investigate the revenue and landed property of the various provinces; to report upon Government rice lands as well as the process of hulling the rice; to regulate edibles suitable for culinary purposes, and to look after other miscellaneous matters. The "*Shoku-gunsho*" or "History of

the Original Functions of Officers" states that the Imperial Household Department referred to was charged with the management of all affairs of the Imperial Court, and partook of the duties of the *Chiumusho*.

As we have stated before, the *Kurariyo* was under the control of the *Chiumusho*, which latter consisted of six different classes of officials: first class Hall-porters, second class Hall-porters, Librarians, Tailors, and Astronomers. The principal functions of the Superintendent and Vice-Superintendent of the *Kurariyo* were to take charge of the gold and silver in the Treasury, the precious stones and jewels and other costly articles, silk brocades (*nishiki*) and coloured carpets, the curios presented as tribute by the barbarian tribes, as well as the costumes provided for the Emperor, and all other things prepared by special order. The receipt and payment of money was conducted by the Senior and Junior accountants, while the price of commodities was regulated by an officer called *Kacho* (價長). Another officer, the *Tenri* (典履), superintended the manufactures of shoes, clogs, and saddles, and overlooked the different work of the tailors. (This account is taken from the "*Reigikai*" and "*Shoku-kwanshi*"). According to the "*Shoku-gensho*," it seems that the *Kura-no-kami*, or Superintendent of the *Kurariyo*, held a higher rank than the *Fu-goi*, or juniors of the fifth grade, and was generally selected from among Court nobles of the fourth and fifth ranks. He was looked upon as a prominent official in the Imperial Court. A well-known story says that the nobles who had wives of common extraction were not eligible for this post, as the position required the supervision of the manufacture of the Imperial dresses. The old *Kurariyo*, belonging to the *Chiumusho*, performed the task we have just described, but we do not know as yet exactly what will be the principal functions of the similar Bureau recently established in the Palace.

Yet, so far as we can judge by the transfer of the Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, H.E. Sugi, to the post of its Superintendent, the new Bureau seems to undertake the supervision of weighty matters. Rumours are current, however, that the *Kurariyo* has been established simply with a view to examine Government lands, and to take some portion of them under its control as the landed property of the Emperor. Neither are we able to judge as to the correctness or incorrectness of this rumour, nor do we find it easy to determine the probable consequence of the appropriation of land to the property of the Emperor; yet the rumour pointing to the introduction of reforms into the Imperial Household Department seems to be justifiable. The establishment of the Bureau for Administrative Scrutiny (*Seido Tori-shirabe-kiyoku*), the Ministerial changes in the Imperial Household, the appointment of Imperial Chamberlains and the institution of the *Kurariyo*, all of which were effected in one or two months, have almost revolutionized the organization of the Imperial Household Department, and the loyal people of our country, who are ever disposed to direct their full attention to the affairs of the Imperial Household, are anxiously discussing the probable results of the proposed changes. This has given rise to the rapid spread of the rumour pointing to reform. Some assert that the changes will be confined to those that have already taken place; others declare that this is but a prelude to the main reform. We, too, have no definite opinion; yet we congratulate ourselves upon the fact that the enthusiasm thus displayed by our people in discussing the rumour is the outcome of their loyalty and warm interest in the affairs of the Imperial Household. As regards the truth of the rumours, we wait to see them verified or contradicted by future events.

A RIVER TRIP TO SŌUL.

We have been favoured with the following account of a visit to the capital of Korea by a gentleman who has recently returned from that country:—

We left Rose Anchorage at 1.30 p.m., on the first of a flood spring tide, and at 6 p.m. had covered a distance of 19 miles. In the Narrows, the tide was running with a force of 7 to 8 knots. On the west side of the river forts were prominent at every point and bend, and battlemented walls extended for miles along the banks. On the east side, the forts were not nearly so distinct, as they were mined from the hills inland and their flanks covered with long, thick grass. At this part of the river we passed by a strongly-built wall extending for many miles up and around some steep hills, completely enclosing a valley in which there is a large town, but which we could not see owing to the low hills lying between. At 6.30 p.m. we reached the bend where the river branches of from North to S.S.E. Wild fowl were numerous, and we managed to bag a couple of geese on the mud-flats. Soon after this it became dark, but, getting in the wake of a large passenger junk, we managed to get a tow until abreast of Ki-ou-niu. Here we made fast to a junk at anchor, spread our tent, and set the watch, having made about 31 miles without using the oars. On the following morning at 5 a.m. we cast loose from the friendly junk and started again up the river; but owing to the head tide and adverse winds we were forced to pull the whole way, a distance of 26 miles. At 11.45 we arrived at Yang-ho-to, and our boat was immediately surrounded by Korean craft full of natives. They were, however, perfectly civil, and when requested to keep off a little further did so without being told a second time. At 1.30 we went ashore and hired ponies to carry us to the capital, which was about 4½ miles distant. On the road we passed a number of Korean women, but they did not appear at all surprised to see us. The little children were, however, very curious, coming up close to our cavalcade and examining us with evidently critical eyes. In some of the villages through which we passed we were stopped for a short time, but invariably treated with great civility, despite the fact that the native dogs and horses were considerably startled at our strange appearance, and evidently thought foreigners an unpleasant innovation. The highway leading to Sōul is in a wretched condition, and mud and filth abundant everywhere. On arriving in the capital, our Korean guide conducted us at once to Mr. Von Möllendorff, who very kindly entertained us, and directed us to Mr. Halifax, at whose house we got another guide to take us on to the King's Palace. The royal buildings cover an area of some two square miles, enclosed in a strong, substantially built wall, the houses themselves being of Chinese architecture. The central palace is built on some 30 granite pillars, each about 14 ft. high, and surrounded by a moat. In the same enclosure, there was another large building, in which we caught a glimpse of what appeared to be a very dilapidated throne. Numbers of smaller houses lay in ruins on all sides, many bearing the stamp of having been destroyed by fire. Tall archways and strong gates met us on every hand, so that we would have certainly been lost in the labyrinth of ruins and remnants of past grandeur had we gone thither without a guide. In passing through the city, the stagnation of trade was quite evident, for in not one shop did we see a purchaser. We returned to the boat on foot, without exciting the least curiosity on the part of the natives. We left Sōul at 12.15, and, after making a distance of 18 miles, anchored off the village of Kon-pa-oui, the flood having set in. At midnight we made some little progress with the ebb, but had to anchor again soon afterwards off Kang-cho. At daybreak we went on shore in search

of game, but were unsuccessful. Pheasants were heard crowing all around us, while geese, duck and curlew were plentiful along the flats. Paddy fields lined the banks of the river and could be seen in all the valleys, but the hills were not cultivated at all and were covered with a sparse growth of dwarf firs. We left Kang-cho at noon, and arrived at Rose Island at quarter past three, having done 39 miles in 3 hours and 15 minutes. This speed was owing to the swiftness of the ebb, which was running somewhat over 7 knots an hour. The river traffic seemed very small, and none of the villages were in possession of any useful boats. Indeed, we passed only two loaded junks, and met two others in ballast.

IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—MONDAY, 5th May, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsushima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsushima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

On the opening of the Court, Captain Ramsay proceeded with his reply to the counsel for the attorney for the appellant.

Second grievance:—"The decision of the first Court had been given in apposition, and without regard to the evidence given in that Court." This is absolutely ridiculous, for the whole of the evidence was duly and most carefully weighed and pondered over by the members of the Court, and they thus were only enabled to arrive at their decision and judgment. The third grievance, bears more on the subject upon which the appeal is to be heard, and here, upon this I must more fully comment, asking for the kind indulgence of the Court, whose patience will not be, I trust, exhausted, for this grievance must be dealt with in detail, and, I fear, minutely so. The third grievance was "that all the evidence in the Court below tended to show that the appellant was misled by a light of the same description and colour to the Shiriya-saki light, which on being first seen bore from the ship in the direct direction where the Shiriya-saki light was expected to be sighted." I am grieved to say that this is entirely incorrect, for the Master stated in his evidence distinctly his reason for preparing to take a cast of the lead (see page 6), Master's evidence, "What reasons had you for preparing to take a cast of the lead?" "Because I ran in from midnight to sight Shiriya-saki light, and had reason to believe ship's position was further north than I suppose thought she might have been in Tsugaru Straits and in soundings." How is it possible for Mr. Rossetsu's statements to be accepted viz.:—"That the light when first seen was in the exact position where the Shiriya-saki light was expected to be sighted," viz.:—bearing west magnetic; when seen? while the master had stated he supposed he might have been in the Tsugaru Straits, when he had been there, the light could not have been on that bearing West; it would have been to the Eastward of South (Master's evidence page 16). "Did you feel any certainty as to the ship's position on the 9th at midnight? No. "How then could the light be seen where expected to be made?" Mr. Rossetsu stated "that the Court, in spite of the Appellant's request that Captain Young and his officer should be summoned, who had both seen the light and had

expressed their opinion that under the circumstances it might well have been mistaken for the Shiriya-saki light, disregarded the request, thus denying the appellant an opportunity of justifying his action."

This is incorrect, for there is no such record on the minutes of the Court. Had the Master preferred any such request, most certainly the Court would have adjourned until those gentlemen had appeared to give evidence. The Master was neglectful of his own interests in not obtaining a written statement from Captain Young and his officer in regard to this light, so that he might have presented it to the Marine Court. Regarding the four reasons given by the marine Court (see *Japan Gazette* and *Japan Daily Mail*, but not on records of Court of Appeal), Mr. Rossetsu states, "They were first, error in judgment by overestimating the speed and leeway on the 9th of October. He (Mr. Rossetsu) would remind the Court that when the disaster occurred, the weather was not as calm as at present (16th April), a hurricane had been blowing; even during the day-time it was so dark that one could not see more than two or three ken" equal to 12 or 18 feet, etc. This is not mentioned on the records of this Court, of which I have a translation; but inasmuch as Mr. Rossetsu stated to the Court that "he had carefully read the reports, and they were correct, in fact Mr. Ramsay need have no fear for every point of his argument was embodied in them," therefore I have now a right to comment thereon with the sanction of the Court. Now what does the Master state in his evidence given on the 12th of November (see evidence of Master, page 5). "At midnight sea was moderating, wind being N.W. clear overhead and stars visible, could see three miles." The second officer states, page 2, "pretty clear, no stars visible, could see five or six miles, weather kind of hazy." The third officer states, page 1, "on 10th hazy, wind had decreased and smoother water. Speed $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 knots." The Master in his report states "Weather clear." Consequently I have now disposed of the presumptive and incorrect statement that the vessel was lost during the time a hurricane had been blowing, as this statement is opposed to, and contradicted by the evidence as above quoted. Regarding leeway. The statements made are absurd. Let me refer Mr. Rossetsu to Inman, Rosser, Norie's and Raper's, etc., works on Navigation. If Mr. Rossetsu in conversant with nautical matters, he must know that in moderate weather a manageable ship makes no leeway. As for his remarks regarding instruction given in school, it would be well for all to remember some of the instructions they had received to prepare them for their future profession and not to disregard them, primarily that of truth and correct statements. The records of the Court state, "That he (the attorney for the respondent) knew distinctly that there were four points leeway, because the appellant said so, and his mate," and so did the second mate. The Master's evidence, page 13, "At night how was leeway ascertained?" "By judgment. I could see the ship's wake about a ship's length off." Chief officer, on page 6, "what leeway making?" "Four points; judged leeway by wake." Second officer states, "Leeway, four points I judged." Here I must again remark that no attempts were made to correctly ascertain the leeway either by day or night. Mr. Rossetsu's remarks concerning paragraph two of the judgment of the lower Court, vide *Japan Mail* and *Gazette*: Imprudence in shaping his course direct for the land at a speed of 8 knots from midnight of the 9th of October. (Midnight omitted in Court's minutes.) And also for running his ship at the same speed on a N.W. by W. course immediately after sighting the light at 4 a.m. on the 10th October. Regarding this, Mr. Rossetsu's statement is correct, that every one on board (that is to say those who gave evidence) who saw the light considered it to be the Shiriya-saki light. This following is incorrect "and was picked up in the direction bearing West." According to evidence, but as was previously stated,

the Master had no idea of his position, consequently did not know in what direction to look for the light. Therefore, this statement made by Mr. Rossetsu is erroneous.

The Court adjourned to the 10th inst., at 9 a.m.

NOTIFICATION NO. 41 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

TO ALL CITIES AND PREFECTURES.¹

It is hereby notified that the Governors of all Cities and Prefectures will, in future, personally nominate the *Kocho* (ward officers), and that Governors may instruct the inhabitants of all Urban and Rural Districts to elect three to five persons from each District respectively, from among whom the ward officers shall be selected.

SANJO SANEYOSHI, Prime Minister.

May 7th, 1884.

¹ The prefecture of Okinawa excepted.

THE CRISIS IN PEKING.

REPORTED SUICIDE OF PRINCE KUNG.

A rumour was current in the Settlement yesterday (25th April) that the Shansi bankers had received news of the suicide of His Imperial Highness Prince Kung. We immediately instituted enquiries, with the result that all knowledge of any such event was denied by the officials, but emphatically confirmed by the native bankers. We have no further information, and are not in a position to decide upon the genuineness of the story. There is, however, nothing impossible in it.

From other sources we learn that matters are not improving, great anxiety being felt among the Chinese respecting the movements of the French fleet.

PRINCE KUNG AND THE VICEROY OF YÜN-KUEI.

His Excellency the Viceroy of Chihli, in a telegram to the Tao-t'ai of Shanghai, emphatically contradicts the current report respecting the death of Ts'ên Yü-ying. No mention is made of the rumoured suicide of His Imperial Highness the Sixth Prince.

DESPATCH FROM THE PRINCE OF CH'UN.

Tso Tsung-t'ang, Viceroy of Nanking, in retirement, has received a despatch from the Prince of Ch'ün, expressing His Imperial Highness's wish that Tso should proceed at once to the province of Yünnan, if the state of his health permits him to do so. The reply of His Excellency has not transpired, but the missive occasioned him considerable satisfaction, which he was at no pains to conceal.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

We hear that the Central Post Office will be known in future as the Postal Department, and will be removed to a new building in Otamachi, Tokiyo.

The brokers in Yokohama have hit upon two promising schemes: (1) to apply to the authorities for permission to establish a new specie exchange, to be called the *Ginkwa Koyenjo*; (2) to petition the authorities to decrease the tax levied upon the present exchange.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

The Mitsu Bishi Steam Navigation Company are offering four of their older vessels for sale: the *Atago Maru*, *Kagoshima Maru*, *Chisato Maru*, and *Yenoshima Maru*. The public are well aware that the Company has a large number of old ships on its hands, and it is to be hoped that the sale of these vessels will render the purchase of new steamers possible.

It is rumoured that the Privy Councillors, in their recent meeting at the residence of the Premier, decided upon an increase in the annual appropriations for all of the Government Departments, said increase to commence with the 18th fiscal year.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 2nd.

TSËNG SUPERSEDED.

The Chinese Minister to Germany replaces the Marquis Tsêng at Paris. This is generally regarded as a graceful (? peaceful) indication.

THE ONE THOUSAND GUINEAS.

The ONE THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES, a subscription of 100 sovs each, h.ft, for three-year-old fillies; 8st 12lb each; the owner of the second filly to receive 200 sovs out of the stakes, and the third to save his stake; R.M.—58 subs.

Busyboddy 1
Queen Adelaide 2
Whitelock 3

London, May 4th.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

In the House of Commons, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach gave notice of a resolution condemning the want of support to General Gordon and the delay in rescuing him from his present position.

London, May 6th.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

The Egyptian Government has demanded a voice in the Conference to consider the financial arrangement.

THE QUEEN ON THE CONTINENT.

Her Majesty the Queen has left Darmstadt.

London, May 8th.

THE TARIFF BILL IN THE UNITED STATES.

The House of Representatives of the United States has rejected the Bill for the reduction of the tariff.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Peking, 23rd April.

A Decree has been issued by the Empress with regard to tax collections in the Provinces. The amount of extortion practised by provincial officials is well known to Her Majesty, who threatens severe penalties upon all mandarins, from the highest to the lowest, if any further cases of this sort are brought before her.

London, 28th April.

The evacuation of Berber commenced to-day. The majority of the troops fraternized with the insurgents.

An infernal machine has exploded abortively in the Barracks at Dublin, when at a magisterial enquiry it transpired that there were plans for a rising.

The members of the Dai Nippon Sanitary Association, numbering upward of 5,000, will hold a general meeting at the *Kosei-kwan* (the old *Meiji Kwaido*) on the 24th instant.

During the recent period of prayer-offering, no less than 450,000 pilgrims ascended Koya-san, where there is the chief temple of the Shingon sect of Buddhists.—*Choya Shimibun*.

H.E. Kawase, has been nominated Minister to the Court of St. James's.

The Chief Justices of the local Courts and Police Inspectors will hold annual meetings in future.

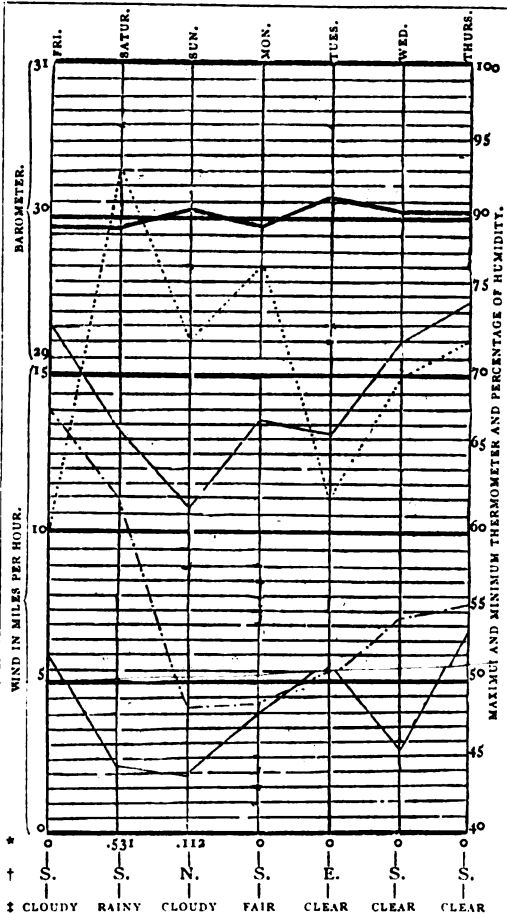
The War Department has refused an application to permit the establishment of an infantry drill school.

Mr. Takagi Hoko, a well-known pen-vendor of Tokiyo, will celebrate the festival of *Mo-ten*, the Chinese inventor of the pen, who lived during the Shin Dynasty, on the 18th instant. Many noted men and Chinese scholars will be present at the celebration.—*Fiyu Shimibun*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 2ND, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 43.5 miles per hour on Friday, at 8 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.175 inches on Tuesday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.731 inches on Saturday, at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 74.3 on Thursday, and the lowest was 43.9 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 65.3 and 40.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.643 inches, against 1.328 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Monday, May 12th.*
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Monday, May 12th.†
From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, May 14th.
Nagasaki, and }
Kobe }
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, May 16th.‡
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Monday, May 19th.

* Polga (with French mail) left Hongkong on May 6th.
† City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on May 6th. ‡ Arabic left San Francisco on April 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, May 11th.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, May 13th.
For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, May 14th.
Kobe, and }
Nagasaki ... }
For America ... per P. M. Co. Friday, May 16th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, May 18th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

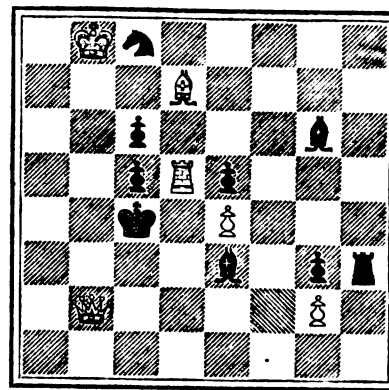
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. F. W. LORD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 3rd May, 1884,
by Mr. P. RICHARDSON.

White.

Black.

1.—Q. to Q. Kt. 8. 1.—K. to K. 5.
2.—Q. to K. B. 8. 2.—K. to Q. 5.
3.—Q. to Q. Kt. 4, mate. if 2.—P. to Q. 5.
3.—Q. to Q. R. 8, mate. if 2.—K. moves.
2.—Q. to Q. R. 7 ch. 2.—K. to K. 5.
3.—R. to K. B. 6, mate. if 1.—P. to K. 5.
2.—Q. to Q. Kt. 6 ch. 2.—K. to K. 4.
3.—Q. to K. B. 6, mate.

Correct answers received from "TESA" and "W.H.S."

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.

English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo:
11 a.m.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.38; First-class, yen 2.00; Third-class, yen 1.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, E. Vannier, 29th April,—Hongkong 23rd April, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 8th May.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 5th May,—Hongkong 26th April via Nagasaki Kobe and, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Dai-ni Teibo Kan (4), Commander Jogo, 7th April,—Yokosuka.

Essex, American corvette (6), Commander A. H. McCormick, 5th May,—Jaluit, one of the Marshal Group of Islands.

Kongo Kan (13), Captain R. Aiura—Yokosuka.

Sapphire, British corvette (12), Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, 13th March,—Kobe 10th March.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 4th May,—Kobe 3rd May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 5th May,—Toba 3rd May, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Essex, American corvette (6), Commander A. H. MacCormick, 5th May,—Jaluit, one of the Marshal Group of Islands.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 5th May,—Hongkong 26th April via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 5th May,—Hakodate 2nd and Oginohama 4th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Benarty, British steamer, 1,119, E. Le Boutillier, 6th May,—London 5th March and Hongkong 28th April, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 6th May,—Yokkaichi 3rd May, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 6th May,—Yokkaichi 3rd May, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 6th May,—Yokkaichi 3rd May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 6th May,—Yokkaichi 4th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 7th May,—Kobe 5th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 424, Arai, 7th May,—Yokkaichi 5th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 7th May,—Shimidzu 5th May, General.—Seiriusha.

Lucile, American ship, 1,320, C. M. Lawrence, 7th May,—New York 4th December, 51,220 cases Kerosene and General.—Cornes & Co.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Shiroka, 7th May,—Fukuda 5th May, General.—Fukudasha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 8th May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 8th May,—Toba 5th May, General.—Seiriusha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 8th May,—Yokkaichi 5th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 8th May,—Yokkaichi 6th May, General.—Kowyekisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 9th May,—Shimidzu 6th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 9th May,—Shimidzu 7th May, General.—Seiriusha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 9th May,—Yokkaichi 8th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, Lampert, 9th May,—Hakodate 7th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Oscar Mooyer, German bark, 382, H. Johannsen, 3rd May,—Chefoo, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 1,096, Jones, 3rd May,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Penelope, British schooner, 86, Van Pelt, 3rd May,—Kurile Islands, Stores.—G. Nachtigal.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,120, J. Maury, 4th May,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 4th May,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 5th April,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 5th May,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 5th May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 5th May,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 6th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 7th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 470, Taneda, 7th May,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 7th May,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 7th May,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 7th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Shiroka, 7th May,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 8th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 68, Masuda, 8th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 8th May,—Fukuda, General.—Yeisinsha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 826, Frahm, 8th May,—Sakata and Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

B. F. Watson, American bark, 993, Geo. E. Hawkins, 9th May,—Cebu, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 9th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Guiding Star, British bark, 313, H. Schnitger, 9th May,—Kuchinotz, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Masuda, 9th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Newminster, British steamer, 1,196, Webster, 9th May,—Kobe, Teakwood.—Takata & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 9th May,—Yokoska Dock.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 9th May,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 10th May,—Toba, General.—Seiriusha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Kobe:—154 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—19 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—28 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong, via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Hobson, 3 children and 2 maids, Miss Heap, Messrs. Groom, Callaway, Billbrough, Goodison, Ket Sung, Pow Choi Chee and infant, Pow Sin, Shin Tuck Sheng, Hing Kee, Low Yun, and Pow Thong in cabin; 29 Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. Yukishita and child, Messrs. Mogami, Masaki, Towata, Hata, and Okuda in cabin; and 94 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—78 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. H. S. Van Buren and Niwa in cabin; and 1 European and 102 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—62 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Fukuda:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Morioka, Mr. and Mrs. H. I. H. Kirchhoff, Mr. and Mrs. Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Kuga and 2 children, Mrs. Murata, Dr. J. Harris, Messrs. T. B. Glover, Wismer, S. B.

Ellis, T. C. Parr, C. Nielsen, J. MacKein, P. Peltzer, J. S. Wong, Kizu, Matsuno, Nago, Kiyoka, Kuki, Orita, Kato, Takehara, Ide Takehara, Mayeda, Kojima, Okuda, Nakayama, Matsuyama, Kawakami, Asada, Tanaka, Hara, S. Takehara, Fukui, and Ida in cabin; and 5 Europeans and 296 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Toba:—19 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—43 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—70 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Hakodate:—40 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mrs. Gun, Judge Machida, Judge Toriwo, Messrs. T. Hirateuka, and Mushiko in cabin; and 90 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. H. S. Greeley, Miss L. Ashton, Miss D. R. Snell, Dr. William Young, and Mr. H. Best in cabin; and 187 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. M. Hanagawa, S. Sugimoto, Y. Sonoda, M. Takei, T. Takashima, and C. Kaji in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Ivers, infant, and servant, Judge Midzuno, Judge Hatano, Judge Ito, Judge Matsuoka, Judge Okayama, Dr. A. R. Platt, Captain N. Pratt, Messrs. Stover, C. Brass, J. G. Walsh, J. T. Wood, F. D. Cooper, J. F. Calder, Colgate Baker, W. C. Barrett, Shun, Shimada, Gotsugi, and F. Hamada in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. C. Fujisawa in cabin; and 62 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Judge Takagi, Dr. Bailey, Messrs. H. V. Love, Storror, A. Suwa, F. Doi, M. Makino, N. Ando, H. Watanabe, Y. Sakurai, and T. Shida in cabin; and 145 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Meusaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 126 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$55,100.00.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong, via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Sugar, 12,943 bags; Cattle, 31 head; Sundries, 2,699 packages. Total, 15,672.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, Yen 25,528.75.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 2nd May, at 10.15 a.m. with light variable winds, thick and rainy weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 3rd, at 1.15 p.m., and left on the 4th, at 6 a.m. with light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 5th May, at 11 a.m. Passed Company's steamship *Takasago Maru* on the 4th May, at 12.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 5th May, at 6 p.m. with light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 7th May, at daylight. On the 6th May, at 3.30 a.m. passed the steamship *City of Tokio* off Oo-sima, and on the same day, at 10.15 a.m. Company's steamship *Nagoya Maru* off Cape Sima.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

Benvenue, for New York via Amoy—Quick Despatch.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, for San Francisco—16th May.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Claymore, for New York via Amoy—Quick Despatch.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, for Shanghai and ports—14th May, at 6 p.m.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kashgar, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki—11th May, at 4 a.m.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A quieter feeling has prevailed throughout the Market without any marked alteration in quotations, and there have been three days holidays for the Races at the end of the week, consequently the volume of business has been rather small.

COTTON YARN.—The demand for 28/32s continues and a further slight advance has been paid; 2 fold 42 have also been dealt in at higher rates but all other counts, as well as, Bombays have been rather dull of sale.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Grey Shirtings seem to be coming into demand but dealers are not disposed to pay the equivalent of present home rates so long as they can obtain occasional lots at their own prices. Turkey Reds and Velvet are rather firmer on small sales.

WOOLLENS.—Moderate sales of Mousselines and small sales of Italians are reported but heavy goods are scarcely saleable.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	23.00 to 25.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER CASE.
Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajine, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

KEROSENE.

Business during the past week shows the sale of about 32,000 cases Devoe and Comet at quotations. The Lucile has arrived with 51,222 cases, making present Stock about 679,500 cases sold and unsold Oil.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.71½ to 1.72½
Comet	1.69
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

No change to note in prices, business dull and retail transactions only have to be recorded. Buyers freely offer \$3 for Brown Formosa, but holders refuse to part at that figure.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 2nd instant since which date there has been very little business doing and the Settlement list for the week is practically a blank. True, sales of about 40 piculs have been recorded; but as rejections are not less than 60 piculs there is actually an increase of Stock on the week's trading, to say nothing of a few fresh arrivals from the interior.

Holders maintain their firm attitude and in fact both sides have taken up a post of observation pending reliable news as to the "new crop" in this and other countries. Here, the reports from the nearer provinces are favorable; the worms in some districts, have safely passed the second stage and vegetation is abundant. The latest news from North China is on the whole fairly good; there are some rumours of trouble in one or two districts, but apparently these do not amount to much and the worms generally would seem to have passed through the early stages in safety. From Europe

there is nothing disquieting up to the present, and at the moment everything promises well for a good *raccolta*.

The M.M. steamer *Menzaleh* which left this port for Hongkong direct, on the morning of the 4th instant carried 126 bales, all entered as going to France. This vessel's cargo brings the Export to date up to 29,239 bales against 26,419 bales at same date last year, and 18,607 bales to 9th May, 1882.

Buying for the next P. M. steamer does not appear to have begun in earnest yet; it remains to be seen whether or no holders will be able to obtain the high figures which they are now disposed to ask. We leave all quotations unchanged in the absence of business, merely premising that they must be considered as more or less nominal; some dealers persistently keep their stock off the market until they see which way the crop balance will incline.

Hanks.—There have been no purchases whatever; and the only thing recorded beyond some light arrivals has been the rejection of 17 piculs belonging to a lot settled some weeks ago. A portion of last month's purchases were shipped to France by last week's steamer but no new transactions have been entered upon.

Filatures.—The small business passing has been in this class on the basis of *Utsunomiya* (Oshu) at \$680 with *Sekini* (Joshu) at the same price. A parcel of Medium Shinshu at \$630 has been returned again. Some dealers have a most extravagant idea as to price and ask rates which are quite prohibitory: a fair sized parcel *Tokosha* was hawked round at \$720, but finding no buyer the owner now professes his willingness to reduce the price \$10 per picul.

Re-reels.—Nothing actually done in these: one parcel *Takasaki* supposed to be fine size, was taken in at \$605 but rejected on inspection, \$650 is asked still for a few bales *Stork* and *Turtle* chops.

Kakeda.—No transactions, and the Market is much as last advised. Some of the good parcels are beginning to be shown once more, and it looks as if holders would not be quite so intractable should an offer be forthcoming.

Oshiu and Coarse Kinds.—Nothing done either for the internal trade or Export; position remains absolutely unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. \$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	635 to 645
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 9th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,104	13,523	9,459
America	9,406	8,774	5,743
England	2,639	4,122	3,405
Total	29,239	26,419	18,607

WASTE SILK.

Business in this department has not been large, and the sales for seven days are not more than 110 piculs. Stimulated by the short Export, as compared with recent years, buyers are in the field, for some classes of good Waste, but are unable to find what they require. *Filature* sorts continue to arrive in small parcels, and in these some business has been put through at about previous rates; on the other hand ordinary *Noshi* and *Kibiso* of good quality is quite absent from the Market.

The M. M. steamer *Menzaleh* of 4th instant, had on board 34 bales of which 9 were cleared for England and the remainder for Marseille. The Export figures now stand as under, viz:—22,878 piculs to date against 23,456 last year and 24,037 in 1882. Arrivals have been about on a par with settlements; and the Stock, although changed as to details, gives the same total as last week.

Noshiito.—A little done in *Filatures* at \$155, \$145, \$135, \$125 according to quality. In reeled *Noshi* nothing much has transpired; there are enquiries for *Joshu* but nothing good can be found in the Market at this late period of the season.

Kibiso.—A few small purchases reported on basis of *Utsunomiya* filature at \$125 and Medium *Joshu* at \$31. The stock has increased somewhat but consists of mixed undesirable lots.

Mawata.—Nothing to note; and it seems that we must reckon this class (in company with *Pierced Cocoons*) as a dead letter for the remainder of the season.

Sundries.—About 30 piculs *Neri* settled at \$8, \$11, \$14 and \$15 (uncleaned) for a very mixed assortment. In other kinds, no transactions.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshiu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 9th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	20,677	20,255	19,874
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,201	4,163
	22,878	23,456	24,037

Exchange.—The foreign Banks are closed for Race holidays, but quotations are firm at last week's rates:—LONDON, 4m/s., Credits and Documents, 3/9; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have weakened, and after touching 109 leave off at about 108½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 9th May, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	550	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	230	Noshi-ito	100
Kakeda	130	Kibiso	340
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	—
Taysaam Kinds	10	Sundries	110
Total piculs	1,020	Total piculs	550

TEA.

Arrivals of New Crop Teas are now taking place rapidly and the Stock this morning is estimated as 1,250 piculs. A good number of musters have been shown, chiefly of near country kinds and these cannot be considered as superior in hand to last season's crop as many parcels show traces of the inferior leaf call *bancha*. Apparently the weather was not favourable during the time of picking and curing the leaf. The consequence is that the Teas lack, in great measure, the nice small hard twisted leaf usually pertaining to first crop growth, and are not so even in leaf as they should be. The important districts, Ise and others, are not yet represented by musters, but arrivals are said to be taking place to-day and possibly musters may be put on the Market this afternoon. The aggregate receipts since our last Market Report are 4,625 piculs against 2,400 piculs in the previous year. Total Settlements from 2nd to date footed up to 3,375 piculs as compared with 1,810 piculs at corresponding date, in 1883. There are now seven steamers advertised for New York, calling at the usual ports. Rates of freight at present are undecided. The next Pacific Mail steamer, which leaves on the 16th instant, will take Tea at 5 cents. per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada and 2 cents per lb. gross to San Francisco. The Market is now active, and prices are firm as undernoted.

QUOTATIONS.

Fine	\$29 to 30
Finest	31 to 33
Choice	34 to 37
Choicest	39 to 43

EXCHANGE.

Owing to Holidays there have been few Settlements made during the week. Quotations however close firm, with a probability of higher rates when business is resumed.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.64
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.77½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
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Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
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May 1st, 1883.

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Yokohama, March 15th, 1884.

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May 1st, 1883.

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Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR, at 72, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 12, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, May 10, 1884.

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No. 20, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, MAY 17TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 17TH, 1884.

DEATH.

At New York, on May 10th, JOHN FOGG TWOMBLY, President of the China and Japan Trading Company, Limited.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

IT is reported that Korea is about to conclude a treaty with Russia.

THE arrival of the new season's teas is considerably later than usual.

A METEOROLOGICAL observatory is in process of erection at Sakai, in Fukui Prefecture.

A MINERAL spring has been discovered in the district of Shibata, Prefecture of Miyagi.

A BURGLARY with violence took place in a wine-shop, Furocho, Yokohama, on the 13th instant.

THE number of Japanese houses in Kobe is said to have increased by 3,262 during the current year.

MR. JOSE DA S. LOUREIRO has received his *ex-equatur* as Consul-General for Portugal in Tokiyo.

A CLASS for the study of foreign languages has been opened in the Law School of the Judicial Department.

THE Graduation Ceremony was held at the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokiyo, on the 14th instant.

A CONSIDERABLE land-slip is reported to have

occurred, on the 28th ultimo, in the district of Akumori, Shina.

A TOKIYO Journal states that gambling by female professionals is becoming prevalent in the province of Yechigo.

TWO cases of cholera having occurred in Tokiyo, stringent measures have been taken to prevent any spread of the disease.

IT is stated that the next annual appropriation for the Postal Bureau will be 300,000 *yen*, instead of 250,000, as heretofore.

MR. KAWASE, the new Japanese Representative at the Court of St. James's, is expected to set out for his post towards the end of June.

IT is stated that the new Commercial Code will be published in September and that it will come into force from the beginning of next year.

A LARGE reservoir is about to be constructed at Koishikawa, Tokiyo, for the purpose of supplying the city with water during the hot weather.

THE weather during the week has been exceedingly variable. On Tuesday and Wednesday the cold was almost equal to that of early March.

A SCHEME is on foot to construct a railway from Kanagawa to Hachioji. The Prefect of Kanagawa is interesting himself actively in the enterprise.

NINETEEN convicts escaped from the Shiogama jail, Miyagi Prefecture, on the 11th instant. A jailer was severely wounded in trying to prevent their escape.

THE Nippon Race Club had the "off day" of its Spring Meeting on the 13th instant. There were four events, two of which were won by Mr. "Hugo."

TWO monuments are to be erected to the memory of the famous Minister Ii Kamon-no-kami. The monuments are to be at Ueno, Tokiyo, and Noge, Yokohama.

THE traffic receipts on the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway for the week ended 11th instant, were 12,566 *yen*, against 10,700 *yen* for the corresponding period last year.

THE brokers in Yokohama, who suspended business pending the investigation of certain questions connected with the recent case of embezzlement, have again resumed operations.

A VIOLENT hurricane is reported to have visited the coast of Idzu, on the 20th ultimo. A ship of 300 koku burden was blown up on the beach far beyond the reach of the tide.

THE *Official Gazette* announces the appointments of H.E. Tanaka Fujimaro to represent Japan at the Court of Rome, and of H.E. Kuki Takakazu to be Japanese Minister at Washington.

A SUM of 4,440 *yen*, which had been collected by the Tanaka Bank in the district of Agumori,

province of Shinano, was stolen on the 2nd instant. The thieves have not been discovered.

AN attempt to sell spurious tea, made from the leaves of a shrub possessing deleterious qualities, has been discovered. All the persons engaged in the enterprise were arrested and are now awaiting trial.

THE editor of the *Fiyu Shimbun* has been fined 10 *yen* for failing to republish from the columns of the *Government Gazette* a correction of a Notification which he had previously copied from that journal.

THE health of this Majesty the Emperor is not yet fully restored. His Majesty unfortunately suffered a slight relapse in consequence of attending a meeting of the Privy Council before having entirely shaken off his cold.

THE Protestant Missionaries of Kiyoto, Kobe, and Osaka, have unanimously addressed to the Foreign Representatives in Tokiyo a memorial urging that in the pending revision of the treaties greater liberality should be shown to Japan's claims with regard to extraterritoriality.

A PRIVATE bank in Tokiyo called the Maruya Ginko has suspended payment. The liabilities are said to be six hundred and ninety thousand *yen*, and the capital one hundred and fifty thousand. The chief sufferers are the medical gentlemen of the capital, with whom the bank was a favorite on account of the name of the great scholar, Mr. Fukuzawa, being included among its promoters.

A NEW newspaper called the *Fiyuto Shimbun*, or Light of Liberalism, has been started in Tokiyo. The proprietors celebrated the birth of the journal on the 11th instant at an entertainment to which a large number of guests were invited. The proceedings were very animated, and an immense number of fireworks were sent up containing handkerchiefs on which the name of the paper was inscribed.

AN association called the *Kangiyo-shihon-gwaisha*, or Company of Capitalists for the Promotion of Industry, held its inaugural ceremony at the large tea-house, Nakamura-ro, in Tokiyo, on the 10th instant. The object of the Company is to lend money to persons desirous of engaging in agricultural enterprise, and for this purpose a sum of ten million *yen* has been subscribed by the shareholders.

THE new Club in the *Rokumei-kwan*, Tokiyo, was opened on the 14th instant, under the presidency of His Imperial Highness Prince Kita Shirakawa. The Governor of Tokiyo, Mr. Yoshikawa, was unanimously elected Vice-President, and the following gentlemen were appointed as a Committee of management:—Major Tajima, Captain Kurōka, Messrs. Hayashi, Saito, Nakagawa, Katsu Inouye, the Honorable P. le Poer Trench, Baron Zedtwitz, Mr. Malenda, and Mr. W. H. Stone.

THE telegram brought news on the 13th instant

that a treaty of peace had been concluded between France and China. There were four conditions. First, that France is to have the full right of establishing commercial relations with Yunnan, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi. Second, that China surrenders to France the protectorate of the whole of Tonquin and Annam, and definitely abandons all responsibility within their limits. Third, that France does not demand an indemnity. Fourth, that the Chinese forces immediately evacuate Tonquin.

A SALE of Railway Bonds to the value of five million *yen* has been notified by the Minister of Finance. This is the second instalment of the loan of twenty millions for the construction of the Nakasendo Railway. The Bonds are issued at 90. A guaranty payment of ten per cent. of the face value (100 *yen*) is required to be made at the time of application, and the remainder of the purchase money is to be paid in two instalments, the first on or before July 30th, and the second on or before August 30th. All applications must be forwarded to the Bank of Japan, its Branches or Agencies, before June 10th. It is thought that these bonds will not be subscribed for as readily as the last, the interval between the two issues being so short.

NOTES.

ON Saturday afternoon last the large tea-house, Nakamura-ro, at Riyogoku, Tokiyo, presented a very busy scene. The grounds were tastefully decorated with lanterns, and in the river lay several barges containing an ample supply of fireworks. The occasion was the inauguration of the *Kwan-giyo-shihon-gwaisha*, or Association of Capitalists for the Promotion of Industry, a company which has been in gradual process of formation during the past five years, and which now numbers about two thousand shareholders and has a capital of ten million *yen*. The Japanese profess to think that a prominent fault of their national character is a love of starting projects with a great display, and afterwards allowing them to dwindle down to insignificance and inanition. They recognise that the rule of permanently successful enterprises is to develop from small beginnings, whereas here the tendency is a large beginning and a very diminutive sequel. The founders of the new company, resolved that this should not be their fate, seem to have gone almost to the other extreme: for during all these years their steady and rapid growth has attracted so little attention that their magnificent opening ceremony on Saturday took the public by surprise. Five hundred guests were invited to take part in the affair, and from noon till three o'clock, the stream of arrivals was incessant. The whole of the immense tea-house was thrown open, but with the exception of some rare old pictures hung in the alcoves, and a tastefully composed collection of the emblems of happiness, prosperity, and longevity, no attempt was made to decorate the interior. It was worthy of note that among all this large assembly not more than half-a-dozen wore foreign clothes. Everything was purely Japanese. Even the naval band, which was in attendance, confined itself, for the most part, to Japanese airs, and among the viands which were served at four o'clock in great profusion, the only alien was beer. About two hours after noon the fire-works commenced, and continued until half-past three o'clock, after which short addresses were delivered by the

promoters of the Company, and then the huge crowd of guests arranged themselves round the rooms, or in double lines down the middle, to partake of soup, *sashimi* and boxes of rice with condiments, the whole washed down by quantities of *saké*. Fifty dancing girls acted as cup-bearers, and though assisted by a large staff of servants as well as by some twenty of the hosts, their post was no sinecure. Until dinner was served, a very tolerable degree of order was preserved; but when the lights were lit everybody seemed to do just as he pleased, some organizing *geisha* performances, others urging the wrestlers, of whom a number were present, to show their skill as dancers, and others dancing on their own account, or exercising their lungs by cheering the fire-works. Altogether it was as merry a meeting as Tokiyo has witnessed for a long while, and not the least interesting part of the affair was, that while the merchants were disporting themselves up-stairs, their wives, seated to the number of thirty or forty, in a room below, were eating their soup and watching the fire-works or listening to the band in the most demure fashion imaginable. The official element was very small; Admiral Yenomoto, the Governor of Tokiyo, the Postmaster-General, the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, the Inspector-General of Police, and three or four Secretaries of Departments, being the only representatives of the Government. The foreign guests, too, were very few—not more than twenty in all—and though three or four of the Ministers had been invited, they were unable to be present. The chief object of the Association is to further Agricultural industry. The promoters, seeing that there are still large tracts of land in Japan waiting to be brought under cultivation, but not likely to be reclaimed unless the people are offered monetary facilities on terms altogether different from those prescribed by the Banks, conceived the idea of forming a company whose chief object should be to lend capital to active, enterprising persons, who have no better security to give than their own qualities and the land they reclaim. With regard to the purpose to which the land is applied, no restrictions are admitted, everything that comes within the category of agriculture being allowed. Loans are either made in the ordinary fashion—i.e., for a fixed period during which interest only is paid,—or they are made in the form called *Nen-wari-shō-kwan-Kashitsuke*—i.e., for a period of not less than five, and not more than ten, years, during which half-yearly payments at the rate of fifteen per cent. and upwards, per annum, suffice to discharge both interest and principal. The liability of the shareholders is limited to the amount of their shares, which are 50 *yen*, and anybody, except a foreigner, may become a shareholder. The directors say that five years' experience has amply demonstrated the usefulness of their enterprise, and indeed there can be very little doubt that an united effort of such a nature, and such magnitude is certain to assist immensely in developing the large resources Japan possesses. The people have not hitherto concerned themselves much about the reclamation of land. Until the markets of the West were opened to them, they had little inducement to grow crops or multiply products which were in excess of home consumption. But things are different now. It is time that the export trade should begin to show some capability of reaching dimensions worthy of

the country and its population. Apart, too, from its excellent purpose, this Association is interesting on account of the evidence it furnishes that money is more abundant in Japan than we have been accustomed to suppose. It is evident that under existing circumstances, what the Association must be prepared to lend is cash, not merely credit, as would be the case in Europe or America were a similar company formed. That a number of merchants and capitalists can be found competent and willing to apply ten million *yen* to a scheme which, however good, is not by any means as remunerative as some other varieties of investment, argues with much force in favour of the theory that the people's stores of money are not by any means exhausted.

IN corroboration of what "a missionary" writes about the quiet but rapid progress of Christianity in the East, we have just been informed that in Takasaki, the terminus of the railway now opened, tapping the interior of the country, there is already a large and influential Christian church, planted by native pastors, entirely self-supporting, and their new church building, erected by Japanese funds, will be opened on the 16th inst. It might do some of our readers good to take an initial trip on the new railway that day, and be present at the opening of the new church. Then, as an evidence of the indirect influence Christianity is exercising on the moral development of the country, we learn that in the provincial assembly of the same Prefecture (Gumma), out of 40 members eight are Christians. And one of the reforms they have already accomplished is a deathblow to public brothels, that curse and scourge of Japan. No fresh blood is allowed now to enter those institutions which are in existence, and a period of six years is given them to "put their house in order", for after that time the existence of the public nuisance is to be forbidden by law. We learn also that in Nagasaki, where utter indifference reigned for years, a current has set in towards Christianity, one church alone reporting an increase of a hundred or more within the last few months.

WE have had occasion to observe before now that were we to correct all the false renderings and misrepresentations published about writings contained in the *Japan Mail*, our time and space would be completely occupied with the task. We prefer, therefore, to repose confidence in the intelligence of our readers. But it is really very quaint to be charged with "asserting at one time that the Government do not desire absolute jurisdiction over foreigners," and at another, that "foreign opposition to the total abolition of extraterritoriality is suicidal." When it comes to putting words into a writer's mouth for the purpose of convicting him of self-contradiction, something shrewder and less palpably manufactured than this might be devised. These accusations, however, are not important. As we have already said, if those who have adopted our opinions, still think it expedient to keep up a semblance of opposition, they are welcome to their pastime. We do not work to prove ourselves right, but to make the right win. *Non opus est verbis, credite rebus ait.*

The Times, in reviewing George Elliot's Essays, a collection of which has been recently published, says:—"There can be little question that

in her later years her writings took their colour from the character impressed on them by intimate association with a mind that was more philosophical than imaginative. *Middlemarch* and *Daniel Deronda* are leagues apart from her *Adam Bede* and her *Silas Marner*; the great novelist had been loosening her hold upon her wonderful magic wand, or, as we might almost say, she had tried to change it. We admired the brilliancy that dazzled us while it kept our faculties on the strain, but we missed the sense of those gentle and simple human sympathies, which, by inspirations that seemed well nigh divine, touched us with the pathos or the humour of realism. *Adam Bede* and *Silas Marner* will live and breathe so long as the English language is written; while we suspect that her latest novels, if they must always rank among the classics of fiction, will be rather held in respect than read with pleasure." We do not know how it is with our readers, but to our thinking the greatest of George Elliot's novels is *Silas Marner*. Indeed, we doubt whether the English language possesses any work of fiction worthy to rank above it. We should as soon think of comparing *Daniel Deronda* and *Silas Marner* as of preferring a flower of muslin and paper, however exquisitely formed, to a newly gathered bunch of violets and primroses.

ONE of the facts brought out in the investigations of the Committee appointed to enquire into the Star Route Prosecutions is that a lawyer in New York, enjoying a good practice, considers himself poorly paid if he only receives \$100 per diem and his expenses. Mr. Bliss, one of the leading counsel for the prosecution in that case, brought a bill of \$59,532 against the Government, \$8,000 of which he has not yet received. It was shown in evidence that the District Attorney of the United States, whose salary is \$6,000 a year, charges from \$100 to \$500 a day for his services, and that a successful barrister thinks the former rate decidedly unremunerative. Considerable as these figures seem, it is certain that many an English lawyer derives a much larger income from his business. We have known a case of a leading practitioner at the Indian bar, whose fees amounted to a minimum of \$60,000 a year, and sometimes as much as \$100,000.

OUR office, says the *Yiji Shimpō*, with mournful significance, lately had the misfortune to sue a newspaper agent in Osaka for the sum of 180 *yen*, representing the cost of papers sent him for several years past. After being repeatedly pressed for payment, he was declared insolvent. On examining his personal effects, they were found to be worth altogether 42 *sen*, consisting of an old hat, a tobacco-pipe, and a well-worn cushion. And, more by token, we have had to pay the costs of the suit. The woes of a newspaper office are by no means insignificant.

THE *London Daily News* has the following:—"The National Health Society has made use of the Foreign Office to get some valuable information as to foreign legislation against the use of arsenical and other poisonous colors in wall-papers and textile fabrics. In response to a circular from Lord Granville, our representatives at the European courts and at Washington have made careful inquiries on the subject, and their reports are issued as a parliamentary paper of fifty pages. There is a curious variety in the reports, some of the countries possessing the most

careful legislation, while the laws of others take no notice of the matter. In the United States there is no federal law on the subject at all, and from thirty-three out of forty-six states and territories to which Mr. West addressed questions, answers have been received that there is no state legislation or municipal enactment dealing with poisonous pigments. A similar reply comes from Switzerland. There is no federal law on the subject, and in fourteen out of the twenty-five cantons of which the Swiss confederation consists there are no local laws. In eleven others laws do exist, but they differ greatly in stringency and accuracy of detail, and present nothing valuable. In Belgium there is a complete absence of any decrees on the subject; the restrictions in the penal code which apply to the sale of poisonous substances refer only to those used for food. In France, too, the regulations which exist have to do only with articles of food, but the Minister of Commerce has issued a circular in which he cautions manufacturers as to the responsibilities they might incur in the event of accidents arising from the use of poisonous dyes. In Spain and the Netherlands no special enactments forbid the use of arsenical colors; but in the latter country two articles have been inserted in the new penal code which inflict severe penalties upon persons who sell anything which they know to be dangerous to life or health without warning the receiver. In Italy the municipal regulations as to the use of unhealthy coloring matters have to do chiefly with food, and it is proposed to deal with them as regards manufactures in the sanitary code. It is perhaps natural to look to Germany and Russia for the most complete legislation on such matters. The habit of these governments to regulate everything that is done comes out curiously in this connection. In Germany the police have power to enter places of business, take samples of the goods exposed for sale, and examine the materials of which they are composed. Most elaborate regulations are made as to any manufacture in which poisonous substances are used, and a special order was issued in May, 1882, forbidding the use of arsenic colors in paper hangings, and the use of both copper and arsenical colors in the fabrication of articles of apparel or of toys. In Russia, not only is the manufacture of such articles made penal, but the importation of wall-papers, toys, muslins, and other materials containing poisonous pigments is forbidden, with the exception of small ornaments. The Medical Council, too, has issued instructions to tradesmen as to the tests for these poisons."

GENERAL SIR O. CAVENAGH presided at the Royal United Service Institution, when Major Bucknill, R.E., lectured on a means by which artillery fire in foggy weather or in absolute darkness might be made automatic. The lecture was largely composed of an explanation of the technical arrangements for firing the guns automatically, and electricity was the means by which the operation was to be conducted. The guns in a fort would be "laid" in the day-time at a causeway, bridge, or defile which was a long way beyond the outposts, and which it was desired to protect from the enemy at night. The lecturer suggested that it would be easy to reel out a mile of field telegraph cable, terminating at the bridge or causeway in a "circuit closer," under the surface of the ground, the other end of the line being led to a suitable position for a couple of guns, and connected, in continuous

circuit, through the electrical gun tubes of a firing plug, with a portable firing battery. In this way, if the guns were carefully laid at a previous time on the bridge, as soon as the enemy attempted to cross, the circuit closer would cause the fire of the distant guns, and the passage of the bridge would be denied to the enemy except at a loss nearly equal to a passage attempted in open daylight. The relaying of the guns in the dark might be carried out, direction being obtained by pickets having white luminous paint, and elevation obtained by certain sights recommended by Captain J. K. Scott. The lecturer pointed out that like means might be adopted for protecting the channels of rivers in the darkness, and preventing vessels from doing what the Confederate vessels did in the American war, in running past the Federal forts and batteries at night. He also described an automatic pistol and alarm, designed to fire at a distance of 50 yards from a picket and prevent surprise in a night attack. The lecturer stated that experimental trials for sea forts could be made without any special votes to meet the cost, as the stores were in the service, and the labour could be incorporated with the annual exercises of the Royal Artillery and the Royal Engineers.

THE so-called "champion wrestler of Japan, who is at present on a visit to the United States, has just scored an easy victory over Mr. Edward Bibby, "one of the best catch-as-catch-can wrestlers in the world." It is scarcely necessary to say that Matsusada Sarakichi does not at all answer to the description given of him by the New York journals. He is not the champion wrestler of Japan. He is not even a wrestler of budding reputation. He is essentially one of the tyros whose performances serve to fill the gaps between sterner struggles in the *Dohiyo*. That he has a very respectable allowance of muscle, and that he knows how to employ it, are, however, facts which a New York mob practically ascertained. It would appear that a Japanese dressed in the costume of his country is a somewhat uncommon object in the great city, and when Matsusada visited the Bowery, a crowd of curious people soon collected about him. It was a much more demonstrative crowd than the good-humoured assemblages which a foreigner sometimes attracts in Japan. In fact the athlete found it necessary to defend himself vigorously. He commenced operations by butting "a burly longshoreman" in the face, and damaging him so severely that extensive repairs in hospital were found necessary; after which, he seized another truculent individual, and lifting him bodily off the ground, banged him twice or thrice against a lamp-post. Of course when these performances were over he had to fight his way back to his hotel, where the landlord, assisted by a shot-gun, saved him from further molestation. Sarakichi's abilities as a wrestler were not long left unchallenged. He agreed to meet Edward Bibby at Irving Hall, and wrestle for a purse of \$500 and the receipts of the house. The contest was conducted according to English rules, of which the Japanese knew nothing. He was thrown three times in seven minutes. But he did not consider his defeat decisive, and challenged Bibby to another tussle, *more Japonico*. The match came off on the 9th of March, before a large crowd, the betting being three to two against the Japanese. After all the money offered at these terms had

been taken up, Sarakichi's backers turned round and laid odds against Bibby, so that a good round sum depended on the issue. Of the contest itself, the following description is given by a New York journal:—

When the men jumped upon the stage they were enthusiastically applauded. Bibby was as round and rosy as a baby. He moved quickly and was all smiles. The Jap smiled too. His high-cheeked, almond-eyed face looked like that of a Japanese doll suddenly endowed with life. There was nothing presumptuous in the smile; it was childlike and serene. The air of perfect satisfaction never deserted him through the night. At the very outset there was a misunderstanding. The Jap could not understand a word of English, and there was no one at hand who could interpret for him. Pop Whitaker, the master of ceremonies, advanced to the front of the stage and said:—"Gentlemen, we are trying an experiment. I am sorry to say that the distinguished foreigner on my right cannot understand a word I say, but he should nevertheless receive the fairest show in the world. The men are to wrestle in a way that is new to all of us. The rules for to-night are that if any part of a man, except his feet and hands, touch the floor it shall be considered a fall. An elbow or a knee or a shoulder touching earth is a fall, remember." Then he retreated and called, "Time." The men sprang from their chairs into the middle of the stage. They moved like cats. The Japanese rose to his full height, stretched out his arms, clinched his fingers, bent over backward and roared with the mighty roar of an angry bull. Then he dropped his head forward as though his neck was broken and screeched like a frenzied owl. The muscles stood out all over his body in huge rolls and bunches, and the sinews of his neck and arms were like whipcords. The muscles played up and down under his shiny skin. Bibby stood with his legs well apart and his hands outstretched, watching the Jap with amazement. Then the Oriental stamped his bare feet like pile-drivers, rubbed his hands on the floor, and without an instant's hesitation shot head-foremost at his rival. He went forward as if shot from a catapult. His head caught Bibby on the shoulder and the Englishman was knocked westward. He fairly flew through the air coming up heavily against the ropes. If the ropes had not been around the ring Bibby would have gone out of the window and over toward Fourth Avenue. As it was, he hung on to the ropes, while the Jap jumped into the middle of the stage and waved his hands victoriously. Then he turned toward his seat, when Bibby who had recovered himself, sprang forward and seized the Jap from behind. The Jap had evidently considered the bout ended, and was about to sit down when caught by Bibby. He clung to the post which ran up from the corner of the stage and looked appealingly at the judges. During a tremendous uproar the judges forced Bibby to drop his hold. The Englishman was very angry, and would have broken Sarakichi's back if he could have done it. Sarakichi evidently considered butting Bibby into the ropes as a well constituted fall.

No one could be heard above the uproar until Edward Plummer, a well-known sporting man, ascended to the stage and addressed the crowd:—

"Gentlemen, let us have fair play. That bout was won by Matsada Sarakichi. [Storm of hisses.] In Japan men wrestle on a round platform nine feet in diameter; this platform is on four posts at a considerable height from the floor. The two wrestlers ascend to this platform and begin the match. If one of them knocks the other off the platform he wins the bout. I wish also to correct the rule about elbows and knees. That is not right. If the hands touch the floor it is a fall—don't forget that. If a finger touches the floor it constitutes a fall."

On this, Sarakichi, who seemed to divine what was going on, came forward, and illustrated it graphically by touching his little finger to the floor, and then, in pantomime, making a fall. At this juncture a Japanese merchant, who has a store on Broadway, came forward and explained matters to Sarakichi. The Japanese then announced they must adhere to the rule, and constitute a fall on the hands a regular fall. A half hour was wasted in protesting and wrangling, and then the men faced one another again, after agreeing to consider the first fall off. They were both very much in earnest. Once more the Jap shot forward, but Bibby was ready for him. The Englishman lowered his head, and the two athletes came together like goats. Both recoiled. Then, before Bibby could pull himself together, the Jap dashed forward again. Bibby braced himself for another butting match, but instead of butting him the Jap seized the Englishman by the back of his head, and by a terrific effort yanked him forward.

Bibby, taken entirely unawares, shot head first to the floor on his face. The Jap smiled. After being sponged off again the men flew forward like bantam roosters. Once more Bibby was pulled forward, but he saved himself from a fall by clutching the ropes. There was a struggle which made the men glisten with sweat, and once more Bibby went to earth, as if hit by a pile-driver. The Jap grinned. At this point the men who had wagered their money on Bibby grew wild. It was with the utmost difficulty that the crowd could be kept in order. The match was for the best three falls out of five, and two had already been decided. Things began to look blue for Bibby's backers. The

Englishman himself was in anything but an amiable mood. He still wore his stereotyped smile, but was as angry a man as could be found in New York. The Japanese was now giggling. The referee called time and they sprang forward. The Jap once more tried to butt, but Bibby's blood was up, and he was ready for him. As the Jap came at him Bibby lowered his head and dashed forward. He got lower than his antagonist and butted him partly on the face and partly on the chest. He loosened the Jap's teeth, set the blood flying from his nose and made him pant for breath. The Jap butted again, but once more Bibby got in on him. The cheering in favor of the plucky little Englishman was deafening. Then Sarakichi gathered himself together and dashed forward again. Bibby acted as if he had been caught in a cyclone. He was knocked half way through the ropes, and before he could gather himself together, was yanked forward once more and sent sprawling on the floor. He didn't know what had struck him. The Jap roared with delight, danced around the stage, and then joined his friends."

It has been claimed that explosive cigars are manufactured by a Chicago firm especially for the 1st of April. Believing that such an invention could have originated nowhere but in the fertile brain of O'Donovan Rossa, a *Herald* reporter called upon that great man yesterday and asked him if he could give the public any information on the subject. "Why, of course I can," replied O'Donovan, "and as the *Herald* reporters are always so truthful and report me so accurately, I will tell you all about it. The cigar was designed in this office. It is filled inside with gunpowder and dynamite, and the moment a man lights it—whiz-bang!—and away he goes. It will blow his face off inside of thirteen seconds, and it is the grandest invention ever conceived by the brain of man." "Did you invent it?" asked the reporter. "Well, I won't say that," answered Rossa, "but I will tell you one thing. We have sent a dozen boxes of the cigars to Mr. Gladstone. At the next Cabinet meeting he will, of course, hand them out to his fellow hounds, and, as all the Cabinet smoke excepting Sir Charles Dilke, the latter will be the only member of it alive this time Saturday night." A reporter asked Mr. Straiton, of Straiton & Storm, if such a cigar could be manufactured. "No," said Mr. Straiton, "it is impossible. To make a cigar you have to moisten the tobacco, and this, of course, would destroy the explosive effect of the powder. I am positive no such cigar could be made."—*New York Herald*.

In a recent *Punch* there is one capital joke. A bishop is depicted travelling in a third-class compartment, from a sense of duty, in company with a "pitman." The collier "warrants he is only a poor curate." The bishop says, "I once was, my friend, but—" "Ah! I see," breaks in the collier, "that wretched drink!" This actually happened not long ago to the Bishop of Newcastle. One can fancy the feelings of the Rev. Ernest Wilberforce, the eloquent and persistent advocate of total abstinence, at being sympathized with by one of his gentle flock upon having ruined himself with intoxicating liquors.

SOME very interesting Roman sepulchral discoveries have been made lately at Mayence, in the carrying out of considerable excavations and earthworks required for laying the Ludwigsbahn Railroad around the city. Close to the Neuthor the workmen came upon a place of considerable extent, evidently assigned to the sepulchre of civilians. A number of large and small stone coffins were found at irregular distances from each other, the intervening spaces having been occupied by wooden coffins, as is proved by the fragments and the nails which were found. One stone coffin bore a plate, which seems to have previously served as the "head-

stone" of a former grave, and all the indications suggest that the place had been used at successive periods as a place of burial. Most of the graves that were opened contained skeletons of women and children, with which lay bracelets, rings, needles, censers for burning incense, etc. There was one metal coffin, in which lay a woman's skeleton, but without any inscription or ornament. In the children's graves there were toys and other objects, generally of beautiful workmanship, such as little bracelets, glass and earthenware utensils, etc. There was a little polished goblet of singular beauty. One stone coffin (the inscription on which contained some mistakes) held the body of a woman dressed with lime for the purpose of preservation, having the back hair arranged in a long plait of eight strands, woven with great elegance, and the clearly discernible remains of a cap. The hair is now red, but most probably was once black. There was in the coffin a stone needle-case, ornamented with gold bands, two bone dice, a wooden casket with bronze mountings, the key of which was in excellent preservation, and a bronze ring. As to other objects found in the place, a small bronze figure of a dancing Bacchante, three black earthenware water vials, beautifully painted and bearing the following inscriptions: "Vivas mi," "Bibe," "Dos," were especially deserving of notice. A quantity of silver and bronze coins were found, ranging from the time of Hadrian to the end of the third century.

We are requested to state that the next Mitsu Bishi Mail steamer to Shanghai will be the *Genkai Maru*, instead of the *Tokio Maru*, and that the departure will be made on Thursday, the 22nd inst., at 6 p.m., instead of on the date previously announced.

THERE were but fourteen American exhibitors at the Calcutta World's Fair, and six of these were manufacturers of patent medicines and three manufacturers of sewing machines. There was one exhibit each of shade rollers, cotton-bale compressors, plows, harvesters, and pumps. This is a sorry showing for a nation of fifty million people. When we take so little interest in foreign international expositions, how can we expect that one in San Francisco, or any other city of the United States, will be generally recognized by the countries whose efforts in this direction we ignore.—*Alta*.

THE lighting of H.M.S. *Colossus* has been entrusted by the Admiralty to the Anglo-American Brush Electric Light Corporation, whose engineers and electricians are to have entire control of the whole work. Brush incandescent lamps will be used, and the current will be supplied by three "Victoria" dynamos, as specially constructed by the Corporation for incandescent lighting.

AMONG the curiosities at the Patent Office, says the *Washington Letter*, is a model of an invention patented by Abraham Lincoln, May 22, 1849, and probably whittled out by Lincoln's own hand. The invention is for carrying river steamboats over shoal places, especially destined for Mississippi steamers. It consists of two bellows-shaped appliances placed at either side of the boat under the guards, and inflated by means of poles projecting up through the upper deck. The idea was never put into use to any extent, the boatmen preferring the old-fashioned method of "sparring" the boats over the shoals.

So long as Mr. Terashima held the position of Minister to the United States, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, he spent all his leisure time in studying the constitution of the country. He gave much thought to the future constitution of Japan, and spent hours in his library. This, in connection with the fact that he rather neglected the usual round of social duties, caused considerable remark among the fashionable circles in Washington. Even his private means suffered somewhat in consequence, and it is therefore a matter for congratulation that he has recently been appointed to the Imperial Household Department as well as to the *Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku*. In this capacity, Mr. Terashima may be of great assistance to H.E. Mori in the consummation of the latter's elaborate scheme. Shortly after Mr. Terashima had returned from the United States, a certain dignitary called upon him, and expressed great appreciation of, and admiration for, his arduous investigation of the American constitution. "Shortwitted as I am," Mr. Terashima is said to have replied, "I failed to gain a perfect knowledge of the American constitution, though I did my best to understand it. But I learned one thing, and that is, that no one can hope to understand America in its true light who spends but two or three years in the country." We cannot vouch for the truth of this report, but it serves, at least, to teach those a lesson who believe that the Japanese are better acquainted with foreign affairs than they are with their own.

THE United States of America are evidently becoming ashamed of the ruffians who, living under the protection of the Stars and Stripes in the land of liberty, concoct fiendish schemes for the destruction of innocent lives. President Arthur has called the attention of the Government law officers to the necessity of vigorously executing the statutes against the secret shipment of explosives, and the *New York Herald* suggests that America should take the lead in proposing "an extradition clause by which those who engage in dynamite plotting shall be refused safe refuge in the United States, and shall be given up on the proper demand of any European Government which enters into such an agreement." There may be some shadow of excuse for harbouring the political refugees of another State, but why any such consideration should be extended to dynamiters it is difficult to see. In the last explosion at the Victoria Station, the ladies' waiting-room and the refreshment bar were wrecked, and there can be no doubt that had the affair been better timed, several women and children would have lost their lives. It is impossible to imagine that the concoctors of these devilish outrages can be aiming at any result with which human beings could sympathise. Not the least remarkable part of the story is that the capitals of Republican States seem to be the favourite haunts of the dynamiters. New York, Paris, Berne, and Geneva, are their headquarters. In Paris these plotters of treason and murder cannot be touched by the police unless dynamite, or some other explosive, is found on their premises; and the action taken by Challemlacour in preventing the extradition of Byrne has given them fresh confidence. The Paris Prefecture of Police is, nevertheless, lending every assistance in its power to the English authorities. Two or three Inspectors and Commissaires and a score of agents have been placed at the disposal of English police officers who are engaged

in watching the movements of suspected Irishmen. The task ought to be easy enough, for the dynamiters do not hide their lights under a bushel. At the banquets held in Paris in honour of St. Patrick's day, the speeches contained hints that more explosions would soon occur in London, and a man called Patrick Casey openly advocated the use of dynamite. As usual, Mr. O'Donovan Rossa has been making himself conspicuous. It was proved that the pistols used in the infernal machines which were found in the London railway stations had been made by Remington and Sons, of New York, and enquiries showed that twelve such pistols had been purchased by a stranger shortly before the attempted outrages. A newspaper reporter called on Mr. O'Donovan Rossa and asked him whether he had any idea who this mysterious stranger was. "Yes," replied the apostle of dynamite, "I know who he is, but I won't tell. But if you wish an interesting piece of news I'll give it to you. In less than four weeks the Suez Canal will be no more. It will be blown—""Higher than a kite," interrupted Mr. Patrick Joyce, the secretary of the Fenian Brotherhood, who sat in the adjoining room. "What's the use in blowing up a few railroad stations that England does not care for. The proper way to hurt England is to touch her pocket, and the best way to do that is to ruin her commerce. So, after we have blown up Windsor Castle—""And both houses of Parliament," chimed in Mr. Rossa. "And Dublin Castle," said Mr. Joyce. "And Marlborough House," said Mr. Rossa. "Don't forget Marlborough House—""We then intend," continued Mr. Joyce, "to turn our attention to the Suez Canal. And when that's gone I think England will be ready to admit there is something in the 'resources of civilization.'" "I assure you, sir," said Mr. Rossa, "if I would only tell what's going on in this office at the present time the whole British Empire would tremble." All the detectives in the world won't catch them. Look how easily they passed through Castle Garden with all of Pinkerton's men watching for them. Yes, they are certainly here, and, what's more, they are on business. You will soon find out what that is." Mr. Rossa is probably more mad than mischievous, but it might be well if his own account of himself were accepted just by way of showing that self-proclaimed murderers are not always counted heroes.

A SIGNIFICANT *contretemps* occurred the other day at Keelung between the officers of the French frigate *Volla* and the Chinese. It appears that on the 13th ult. as some of the officers were walking on shore, they evinced a disposition to examine some of the forts. This the Chinese objected to, whereupon the Frenchmen withdrew, and began sketching the fort from a short distance. As this was also regarded by the Chinese as a breach of privilege, the latter made strong protestations against it, on which the officers returned to their ship in great anger. The next day the Captain of the *Volla* ordered some coals to be purchased. The Chinese, however, irritated at the events of the day before, and probably not feeling disposed to provide the French ship with material which was likely to be used against themselves, refused to comply with the requisition; whereupon the Captain threatened that if the coals were not delivered by 8 a.m. on the following day he would immediately bombard the town. At the same time, he demanded an apology for the

alleged insult to the officers on the day before. The Chinese, being unable to do otherwise, acceded to both demands.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE *New York Nation*, in a paragraph written by a gentleman who has visited Japan, pays skilful homage to "The Loyal Ronins," which, as our readers are doubtless aware, was translated, some time ago, by Mr. Saito Shuichiro, the translation being "dressed" by Mr. Greey. The critic is decidedly ingenious. He is evidently incompetent to pronounce, of his own knowledge, a verdict upon the fidelity or excellence of the version which the authors have given of Takeda Idzumo's celebrated drama. But, by a convenient stretch of veracity, he succeeds in bestowing a suggestive mead of vicarious praise. "Besides the honour," he says, "of further retranlations of his version into German, Italian French, Swedish, and Spanish, Mr. Greey has been honored with the thanks of the Mikado, and Mr. Saito has been appointed to a secretaryship in the Foreign Office in Tokiyo; after assisting our Minister, General Foote, during his first experiences in Séoul, Corea." This is decidedly ingenious. The expression "his version," while not absolutely asserting the thing that is not, leaves the reader to draw the inevitable inference that Mr. Greey translated, or at any rate assisted to translate, the original; whereas, he had probably no more to do with the actual translation than the editor of the *Nation* himself. The paragraph, as it stands, leads as to suppose that retranlation into five European languages and the thanks of the Mikado were the immediate results of Mr. Greey's share in the work, while Mr. Saito's reward was a Secretaryship in the Foreign Office. We have had occasion before now to comment in strong terms on the disingenuous, if not absolutely dishonest, nature of the panegyrics bestowed by American newspapers on the literary labours of their countrymen in Japanese fields, and in this particular instance, it may safely be asserted that nobody would condemn the clap-trap of the *New York* journal more than its objects themselves. It is very possible that they may have sent a copy of their work to the Mikado, and that His Majesty may have expressed his pleasure; but we venture to assert that the story of Mr. Greey receiving the Imperial thanks for his labours as a translator is a pure myth. Certainly Mr. Saito's appointment as Secretary of the Foreign Office was not even remotely connected with his translation of "The Loyal Ronins," and it may be safely predicted that his experience of American puffing devices will not be likely to tempt him again into the field of foreign literature.

A SINGULAR exhibition of fidelity on the part of a house dog was witnessed in Stapleton, S. I., on the occasion of the death of Mrs. Walter Odell, wife of a tradesman in that village. A Scotch terrier, named Fido, had been a pet with Mrs. Odell for the past twelve years. During the two months that Mrs. Odell was sick, Fido remained continually beside her bed. After her death the dog persisted in lying beside the coffin, and followed the casket to the hearse. When the funeral cortège reached the grave Fido was there, having followed the hearse, and watched the interment of his mistress' remains. After the funeral Fido returned home and took up his former position beside the bed that had been occupied by Mrs. Odell. The dog from that time refused to eat and gradually grew weak, and was evi-

dently irritated at any efforts to disturb or feed him. At times the animal moaned in a low tone. Two days ago Fido came across a pair of shoes that had belonged to Mrs. Odell and had been thrown out of doors. These he carried to his self-assigned post, near the bed, and placing them on the floor, laid his paws and head across them. In this position the dog remained several hours. During Monday night Fido roused the household by his whining, and Mr. Odell, who was also very much attached to the animal, went to the room where the dog was. It was apparent that the animal was in great distress, and at three o'clock on Tuesday morning, exactly one week to an hour after Mrs. Odell's death, Fido suddenly ceased his whining, looked up, rose to his feet, barked quickly and wagged his tail as if pleased, then instantly dropped his nose on his late mistress' shoes and died.—*New York Herald*.

THERE is scarcely any subject about which so many misleading statements have been published as the subject of torture in Japan. Some people seem determined to believe that torture is still applied, and others are so careless as to pretend that it was only abolished two or three years ago. There is no ignorance so hopeless as the ignorance that remains ignorant within easy reach of knowledge. Any foreigner who pleases can obtain access to a Japanese police station and make himself thoroughly acquainted with the methods of the *procès-verbal*, as it has been practiced since 1876. What he will see is a quiet conversation, conducted without any semblance of violence. It fact, the whole *raison d'être* of torture disappeared years ago, when it was finally decided that confessions should thenceforth cease to be necessary for conviction. The whole system of Japanese criminal procedure, and the treatment of prisoners, are now in entire accord with European civilization. It is not unnatural that the public should be slow to arrive at absolute credence on such a subject. The Japanese might have expected that, and ought not to complain of it. But what they have reason to complain of is the unreasoning statements published from time to time by the local English press. A few days ago one of our contemporaries asked the public to infer that torture is still "applied" in Japan because two policemen had been sentenced to five months' imprisonment with hard labour, and a fine of 15 *yen*, for ill-treating some prostitutes. The curious part of this affair was that the same journal, when originally publishing the same news, made the following comment:—"This exemplary punishment affords the best evidence of the resolve of the Government to suppress practices which, existing in however slight a degree, must inevitably reflect upon the administration of Justice in this country." The practices in question were kicking and cuffing—practices not generally included in the category of judicial tortures. But the injustice and inconsistency of the writer in this case were not so remarkable as the apparent anxiety of another English journalist to prove that "the taint of torture still lingers in the judicial practice of Japan." A foreigner, whose cook had been arrested on a charge of gambling, complained to the police of inconvenience caused by the man's detention. The answer was that, "if the accused would confess, his case could be quickly disposed of." This, the public was informed, must be regarded as a proof that "when there is no evidence, or not sufficient evidence to

justify a conviction, culprits are kept in prison during the pleasure of the authorities;" and the question was asked, "what is a resort to such a system but a species of torture?" Probably not one person in Yokohama was deceived by such a transparent subterfuge. An ample stock of malevolent ingenuity is required to manufacture evidence of the use of torture out of the simple and perfectly natural statement that a case demanding further investigation would be accelerated by the confession of the culprits. We have never been able to explain the animus underlying these aspersions, but of the mistakes into which it betrays those it inspires, interesting instances are sometimes afforded. A short time ago, for example, one of the vernacular journals of Tokiyo published an extraordinary story to the effect that the Headman of a remote village in the province of Higo had prevented the people from cutting down a pauper who had hanged himself, the grounds of interference being that before disturbing the body the authorities must be notified. This incident afforded an excellent peg whereupon to hang some abuse of Japan. It could "scarcely redound," we were told, "to the much-vaunted 'civilization' of the natives of this country." It was said to be "probably unique as an instance of servility," and was described as "a stretch of abject slavishness such as we hardly expected to meet with even in the land of *Dai Nippon*." How astonished the writer of these good-natured comments would have been could he have known that, almost at the very time he was penning his sarcasms, a precisely similar event was occurring in England. At a village called Hollington, a man was drowned in a pond, and the evidence elicited at the coroner's inquest showed that the body had been allowed to remain in the water nearly an hour in the presence of a number of spectators, who thought it would be wrong to touch the corpse until a policeman had seen it. What would our Yokohama critic have said of the "much vaunted civilization" of the "natives" of England, their "unique servility" and their "abject slavishness," had fortune cast his journalistic lot in the little village of Hollington? Assuredly, if we desire to know the truth about Japan, it behoves us to remember Locke's maxim:—"The best way to come to the truth is to examine things as really they are, and not to conclude they are, as we fancy of ourselves, or have been taught by others to imagine."

It appears that wherever there is surplus moisture a large eucalyptus will prove of great service, and a group of them will dispose of a vast amount of house sewage. But where there is water which it is not desirable to exhaust, as in a good well, it will be wise to put the eucalyptus very far away. The owner of Bay Island Farm, Alameda County, recently found a curious root formation of the eucalyptus in the bottom of his well, about 16 feet below the surface. The trees to which the roots belong stand 50 feet from the well. Two shoots pierced through the brick wall of the well, and sending off millions of fibres, formed a dense mat that completely covered the bottom of the well. Most of these fibres are no larger than threads, and are so woven and intertangled as to form a mat as impenetrable and strong as though regularly woven in a loom. The mat when first taken out of the well was water soaked and covered with mud, and nearly all that a man could lift, but when dry it was

nearly as soft to touch as wool, and weighed only a few ounces. This is an excellent illustration of the way in which the eucalyptus absorbs moisture, its roots going so far to find moisture, pushing themselves through a brick wall, and then developing enormously after the water is reached. It is thought that one of the causes of the drying up of wells is the insatiable thirst of these vegetable monsters.

A LONG and elaborate article in the *New York Herald*, upon the Japanese colony in that city, opens with the remark that "it is a significant fact that among all the nations of the world whose people have made the United States their home, it may be exceptionally recorded of the Japanese that not one has been convicted of a criminal offence in an American court." As if oppressed by a necessity for qualifying this praise, the writer continues by assuming that "now and then there may have occurred instances of undue familiarity with our native 'blue ruin' on the part of the Japanese sailors who frequent the Pacific coast," but, he adds, "the page is clean whereon is written any transgression of the law above the grade of a mere misdemeanour." The reporter need not have feared to stand by his original statement. Japanese sailors do not "frequent" the Pacific coast, nor any other coast, to begin with. The few specimens that have visited other countries than their own, have generally been crews of war vessels, and their behaviour, wherever they have landed, has been without reproach. European and American naval officers have been heard to express doubts as to the efficiency of Japanese Jacky, because his language allows him no facilities for swearing, his prejudices are opposed to "looting," his appetite for strong drink is not inappeasable, and he enjoys, when on leave, many things better than fighting. The *Herald* commentator might have omitted his possible exception, in recording the general good conduct of the Japanese abroad. During the twenty years of their travel and residence in Europe and America, only four instances of dereliction, on the part of any of them, have been known to occur. The most serious was that of the unfortunate *chargé* in France, and his offence, it is well understood, had many points of extenuation. The lapse of a brother diplomatist, in another country, was rather ludicrous than criminal, and was held to be sufficiently punished by the forfeiture of the round sum he was compelled to pay for his release from the snares of a clever adventuress. The third misdemeanour was an assault, under circumstances of considerable provocation, the perpetrator of which was exempted from the usual processes of justice, as a tribute to the high reputation of his people in general. The fourth was a freak of what is technically termed "malicious mischief,"—a species of social forgery involving the reputation of several ladies. It brought more discredit upon the Japanese name than any other act of his countrymen in foreign parts, but the offender found a partial excuse in his professed ignorance of what was due to the weaker sex, and escaped with no worse consequences than a smart personal chastisement. These cases, about which there has never been any concealment, are the only shadows on an otherwise blameless record, extending over a score of years. Regarded collectively, as the *Herald* observes, the Japanese "command the highest respect—that which has been exacted by in-

telligence, sobriety, industry, and an observance of the social virtues." The author of the article from which we quote speaks especially of the reunions at the club-house in Sixth Avenue, near Twenty-first Street, where he has met hundreds of representatives of this empire, and never encountered one who was not "the embodiment of good taste, and the *beau ideal* of a gentleman;"—"well read in everything but New York politics," and always familiar with current literature, especially that which relates to material progress, in mechanics, agriculture, etc. "He converses like a well-educated gentleman, and is better posted on practical subjects than half of our own people." In addition to their social qualities, the Japanese are extolled for their ready business faculties, and for the unblemished credit which they enjoy everywhere. It is agreeable to find so complimentary an estimate in a journal which no one can look upon as other than impartial and disinterested. The *New York Herald* would perhaps be surprised that the nation to which these objects of its eulogy belong is regarded by a very active and argumentative body of foreigners in the Far East as incapable of exercising the inherent rights and privileges of an independent State.

RICHARD HENGIST HORNE, a poetical and philosophical writer who enjoyed a high reputation forty years ago, has just died in London at the age of eighty, having outlived nearly all the English men of letters of the first half of this century, whose early steps in their career it was his pleasant fortune to encourage and assist. He entered the field of authorship about 1837, and continued publishing with great activity for ten or twelve years, after which he turned to other occupations. His most memorable composition was the epic poem "Orion," the first edition of which—to show his indifference to pecuniary rewards, and his estimate of the popular appreciation of ambitious literature in 1843,—he insisted on selling at the price of one farthing. His only production of importance in later years was a collection of Mrs. Browning's letters in 1877,—he having been on terms of intimate friendship with that gifted lady. Much of his life was spent in adventurous wandering,—in India, Mexico, and Australia. Although he continued to write industriously to the last, he has withheld his works from publication, the only exception in recent years being an imitation of the ancient "miracle" or "morality" plays, entitled "The Good Samaritan," which, by a strange coincidence, appeared in *Harper's Magazine* simultaneously with the announcement of his death. This is a style of composition in which he took much satisfaction. He left many specimens, which will undoubtedly be published by his executors, together with numerous other manuscripts.

MRS. MARY A. MILLER, whose application for a license to navigate a steamboat has been a theme of newspaper talk the past winter, is not the first woman who has served successfully as mistress of a ship. *Harper's Weekly* tells of Mrs. Capt. Patten, of Bath, Me., who while her husband was lying ill in his berth, navigated his ship around Cape Horn and up to San Francisco, although his timid first officer wanted to stop at Valparaiso for assistance: of Mrs. Capt. Abbie Clifford, of the brig *Abbie Clifford*, who after her husband had been washed overboard, brought the vessel safe into New York Harbor

from below the equator; of Mrs. Capt. Reed, of the *Oakland*, of Brunswick, Maine, who was a practical navigator of celebrity; and of Miss Janet Thomas, who often used to navigate her father's ship, who is now teaching a school of navigation in New York, and who was in part author of "Thom's Navigator," a book of authority among mariners. The cases are all of recent date. To them the Leavenworth (Kan.) *Times* adds the case of Mrs. Capt. John Oliver Norton, of Edgartown, Mass. Her husband commanded a whaling vessel, and she frequently went with him into the Arctic waters. On one of these expeditions all the boats were out, leaving on board the captain and just enough of the crew to manage the vessel. A whale was noticed off to the starboard, and the captain and men were puzzled how to get it. It was the woman who solved the problem and settled the fate of his whaleship. Going to the wheel she prevailed upon her husband to leave the ship in her charge, with two disabled men, while he and his men went after the whale. He did so. The woman managed the ship all day until night, when the boats returned, that in command of her husband having captured the biggest whale ever seen in those waters. When the ship put in home, the New Bedford owners made the "woman commander" a handsome present.

ALTHOUGH but two cases of cholera have as yet been reported, and only one of these two in the capital, the Board of Health is already enforcing the strictest sanitary precautions. The public thoroughfares are under the special supervision of sanitary officials, and scavengers are busy in the more thickly populated districts. In the one fatal case reported up to date, Midzumo, a man of 53 years of age, was the victim. Though there does not appear to be much probability of an outbreak of this terrible scourge, it is better for all to be on their guard.

No recent phenomenon has more puzzled astronomers than the remarkable appearances of the atmosphere as observed after sunset and before sunrise during the past five months. These brilliant glows have been seen in all parts of the habitable world. They were first noticed on the 28th of August, and they may still be seen, both morning and evening, when the state of the atmosphere is favorable. It is well known, in fact, that on any clear day the matter by which the appearance is produced may be seen around the sun, extending to a distance of twenty or thirty degrees. The phenomena have been ascribed:—1. To watery vapor in the atmosphere. 2. To meteoric matter through which the earth has been supposed to be passing; and, 3. To the volcanic eruptions of Java and Alaska. The first conjecture has been disproved by the spectroscope. The second may be said to be rendered improbable by the long continuance of the glows. The earth crosses the meteoric streams of August and November in a few days at most, but the present phenomena have already lasted more than five months. The volcanic hypothesis is received with most favor, and we must either accept it or admit that the true explanation remains to be discovered. In the last number of the *Sidereal Messenger* I have briefly stated some objections to this theory, as follows:—"No similar results—at least to any great extent—had been known to follow volcanic eruptions. If the matter started from Java on

the 26th August, its rate of motion through the atmosphere till its appearance in Brazil was 109 miles an hour. Or, if we assume that the appearance in South America was derived from the Alaska outburst, we have the additional improbability that results of a character before unknown following volcanic eruptions in opposite hemispheres at nearly the same time. Again, what force could have maintained this volcanic matter at so great an elevation during a period of several months?" In short, no explanation yet offered is free from serious difficulties.

SHORTLY before one o'clock on Friday morning a fire broke out in a Japanese house occupied by a tobacconist, named Ishiwatari, at 95, Nichome, at Motomachi. The flames soon spread to the adjoining buildings in every direction, but as there was little or no wind, and owing to the prompt arrival of foreign and native engines, it was extinguished after 70 houses had been destroyed. Men from the *Sapphire* and *Essex* were landed, and assisted to prevent the fire from spreading by pulling down the adjacent houses. The fire is said to have originated by the upsetting of a kerosene lamp used in the kitchen, and two men are reported to have received injuries during their exertions at the scene of the conflagration.

A TRUTHFUL geographer and historian, in a special letter to the Press from the neighbourhood, tells us that Sarawak is a deadly dull place. From his account we should say it must be. He tells us that it rains there every day, the rainfall being as much as 200 inches in the year. Then there is, he complains, no society. A Yankee on a "prospecting" expedition once asked the only settler on a bit of land he had bought on speculation what sort of place it was. "Very good, stranger," said the settler, "but we badly want two things—water and good society." "Why," answered the visitor, "that is exactly what is wanted in —," a place we never refer to. At Sarawak they can console themselves for the want of society by the superabundance of water.

MR. OKI MORIKATA, the Governor of Kanagawa, entertained a number of foreign officials, including some of the Ministers, on Monday last, at the building formerly known as the Imperial Lodge, at Iseyama. After tiffin, which commenced at half-past twelve, some Japanese dancers were introduced, the performance lasting till five o'clock, when the guests departed.

AMONGST the passengers who departed on Wednesday by the Mitsu Bishi Mail steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, was His Excellency Sanjo Saneyoshi, First Minister of State, who goes to Hiogo, en route for Kyoto, to collect material for a report upon ancient Court ceremonies.

MR. JOSE DA S. LOUREIRO, lately appointed Consul-General for Portugal to Japan, has received the Imperial recognition of H.M. the Mikado, to whom the Minister for Foreign Affairs forwarded the report of Mr. Loureiro's appointment. —*Kwampo*.

A RECENT return shows that the number of mutes in Tokiyo is 615; that of blind persons 2,108, and that of deaf persons 289; the total of the three classes being 3,012.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Peking*, for this port, left San Francisco on the 13th instant.

VAN BUREN v. TRIPLER.

THE legal records of this Settlement fortunately contain few cases similar to that recently tried in the Ministerial Court of the United States, Tokiyo. We refer to it with considerable reluctance: so much so, indeed, that its unedifying details should certainly not receive further publicity in these columns, had not partial and unjust statements in other quarters made it a duty to place the truth plainly and simply before our readers. In order to understand the circumstances out of which the case arose, it is necessary to go back to the years 1864 and 1866, when, by Conventions between the Japanese Government and the Treaty Powers, certain portions of the foreign Settlement were reserved for public buildings, such as town-halls, post-offices, consulates, jails, and so forth. It was provided that the lots thus reserved should be given over in trust to the Consuls, who were bound to put them to no other uses than those specified in the Conventions; and it was further enacted that "the Japanese Government might annul the title-deed of any portion of the land in the Consular lot that might be used for any other purpose than Consular residences and offices, that being the special object for which the grant of the said land was made by the Japanese Government." In view of these international stipulations, there could be no manner of doubt that the acquisition of any part of this Consular lot, or its occupation, whether for building or other purposes, by a private person would be wholly illegal. Upon the conclusion of the above Conventions, a portion of the Consular lot was appropriated for the use of the United States. On this portion the Japanese Government agreed to construct certain premises, which should serve as a Consulate and jail for the United States, the Government of the latter, on its side, undertaking to pay, in addition to ground-rent, an annual sum amounting to ten per cent. of the total cost of construction. Under this arrangement the yearly rent ultimately reached the figure of \$1,536.40, being made up of two items, viz., ground-rent, \$175.40, and percentage on aggregate cost of buildings, \$1,361. With regard to the period of tenure, no definite arrangement seems to have existed, except in the case of the jail, which the Government of the United States was bound by contract to hold for a term of ten years at least, that is to say, until April 22nd, 1883. The cost of the jail having been \$6,000, its rent represented \$600 of the whole annual payment. Things remained thus for some time, until the Japanese authorities, finding themselves embarrassed by the question of repairs, and being moreover anxious, as it appears, to terminate this anomalous phase of their international relations, proposed that the United States Government should enter into final possession of the premises on

payment of a sum of \$5,000. The proposition was transmitted to Washington by Consul-General VAN BUREN, who strongly recommended its acceptance. But the Department of State declined to entertain any such idea, on the grounds, first, that the proposal should have come through the United States Representative in Japan; and secondly, that the acquisition of property in foreign countries was against the national policy of America. The Japanese authorities, however, were not satisfied. During the course of the next few years, their desire to surrender their functions as landlords became so strong that, in the beginning of December, 1880, they again asked Consul-General VAN BUREN to move his Government to purchase the premises. The Consul-General, according to the evidence given by him in Court, declined to act in the matter, alleging, as his reason, the decision of the Department of State that any such proposal must be forwarded through the United States Minister, and that its acceptance would be a violation of America's foreign policy. Still, from some unexplained cause, the interviews continued. Whether the Japanese authorities hoped to alter the fixed channels of official communication with the American Government, or whether they fancied that this point of national policy might be waived in view of pecuniary temptation, they went on formulating proposals, until finally they asked the Consul-General himself to become the purchaser, declaring that they were willing to part with the buildings for the sum their materials would fetch as lumber, namely, 2,547 *yen*, or, at the then rate of exchange, 1,535 Mexican dollars. It must be confessed that the offer was very tempting. We have said that the annual rent paid by the United States under an agreement which could not terminate before April, 1883, and which was virtually interminable so long as the Conventions remained unaltered—the annual rent was \$1,536.40 in gold, or \$1,690 Mexican dollars. Out of this sum, ground-rent amounting to \$175.40 was payable each year to the Local Authorities, so that what the latter proposed was to sell to the Consul-General, for \$1,535, a property which brought in an annual return of \$1,514.60. General VAN BUREN availed himself of the chance. He seems either to have been ignorant of the Conventions or to have strangely misinterpreted them. It was plain that he could not purchase the property in his official capacity. The decision of his Government was directly opposed to that. If he bought at all, he must buy as a private citizen. In other words, he, as a private gentleman, must acquire property expressly set apart by international Conventions for public use only. That he perceived this difficulty is not apparent. On the contrary, the only theory consistent with the hypothesis that he acted in good faith throughout, is that he wholly confused his private and his official characters.

Here were certain buildings erected by the Japanese Government under contract with the United States Government for the purposes of a Consulate and jail. That the Japanese Government, without the consent of the Department of State at Washington, should sell these buildings to a private citizen while they were actually in use by American officials, would plainly have been *ultra vires*, as well as a breach of faith. But that they should sell them to the United States Consul-General to serve their original purpose thenceforth as heretofore, was altogether a different matter. Whatever General VAN BUREN thought of the Conventions, he ought to have seen that he could buy the buildings only for official purposes, and therefore only in his official capacity. The rent paid by the United States Government was not fixed on general principles: it was determined with reference to the cost of these special buildings, and so long as they could be maintained in a habitable condition, the American Government had an inalienable right to occupy them for Consular purposes. They could not possibly be sold to a private person as movable chattels, because their removal would have deprived the United States of a Consulate internationally contracted for; neither could they be sold to a private person as fixed property, because they stood upon ground internationally set apart for public use only. Unfortunately, General VAN BUREN failed to apprehend these issues. Indeed, he carried his confusion of mind so far that while professing to act wholly in his capacity as a private citizen, he nevertheless went through the form of consulting the United States Government as to his proceedings. It was, in truth, a very perfunctory species of consultation, and it elicited an equally perfunctory acknowledgement. The Consul-General simply informed his Government that the Japanese Authorities, being desirous of divesting themselves of all such properties, had "proposed to him to become the purchaser of these particular buildings;" that "he supposed no possible objection to his making such purchase could exist," and that "as no legal obstacle intervened, he should accept the proposition, of course always reserving the buildings for Consular occupation and receiving the same rent as heretofore paid." This despatch, dated December 1st, 1880, concluded with the words "trusting that my course may meet the approval of the Department"—a phrase, which is difficult to reconcile with the theory of a purely private transaction. The approval, however, was not awaited. On the 16th of the same month, the Governor of Kanagawa wrote *officially*, offering to sell the buildings to the Consul-General for 2,547 *yen*. On the following day, the Consul-General accepted the offer by letter, and declared his readiness "to pay the money at any moment when the conditions of the purchase should be agreed upon and con-

veyance papers received," adding "I shall be pleased to know that the papers will be speedily prepared." The result was that by the 18th of the following month (January), the Consul-General was able to report the conclusion of the transaction. These points are worthy of note, as showing that the purchase was affected without awaiting instructions from Washington, whereas General VAN BUREN stated in Court that "he decided not to entertain the Japanese proposition until he had communicated with the Department of State;" that "he wrote to the Department that the Authorities had offered him the buildings and were determined to get rid of them, and that if he heard no objections from the Department within a reasonable time he would complete the purchase;" and finally, that "he heard nothing from the Department to the contrary and completed the purchase." As a matter of fact, so far from waiting "a reasonable time," or completing the purchase *after* hearing nothing to the contrary, his letter to the Governor of Kanagawa, quoted above, shows that he hastened the transaction, and virtually concluded it long before his first despatch could have even reached Washington. Altogether this part of the affair appears to have been singularly loose and disingenuous. It was loose, because, while informing the Department of State that he had "*agreed* to use the buildings as before for Consular purposes and upon the same terms," he contented himself with saying to the Japanese, "I *suppose* it will be of course *understood* that the buildings are always to be occupied for Consular purposes;" thereby substituting a supposition of an understanding for an agreement, while in the deed of sale itself no words were inserted which could possibly be construed as pointing, however remotely, to such an agreement or understanding. It was disingenuous, because, while securing for himself an extraordinary profit, and while afterwards acknowledging that he "bought the property to make money out of it," the account he gave his Government was, "I have assumed their (the Japanese) obligations as to repairs, &c.; this course has been pursued with all their properties occupied by foreigners, they giving as a reason for their determination to part with them the constant trouble and expense they are put to in making the necessary repairs." What the Department thought of these things is not known. The despatches reached Washington within a few days of a change of Administration, and the only reply they elicited was an acknowledgment from a Third Assistant Secretary that despatches, numbered so and so, had been received.

All these facts were brought out in evidence, oral or documentary, at the recent trial in the United States Ministerial Court. The case was an action for libel laid by Consul-General VAN BUREN against Dr. T. H. TRIPLER, who, as was proved by the

witnesses for the prosecution, had publicly charged the plaintiff with "getting the Japanese to sell him the Consular buildings in an underhand way;" adding, that "he had no right to buy them," that "it was contrary to law," and that "he had swindled the Government." These defamatory words were uttered in the Yokohama United Club, and their proximate purpose was to prevent Consul-General VAN BUREN's election as President of that institution. That the occasion was wholly inopportune, and that the utterances were, to all appearance a mere ebullition of vindictive malice, there can be little question. Public opinion must unanimously condemn the conduct of the defendant in this respect. But that the plaintiff's action exposed him to injurious reflections, is equally certain. In the first place, his purchase of the Consular buildings in his capacity of a private citizen was wholly illegal, while in his capacity of a public official, it was still more reprehensible; in the second place, the terms of the purchase seemed such as to confer an extravagant benefit upon the purchaser at the cost of the American Government, whose trustee he was. It is a well recognised principle of law that proof of probable cause goes far to justify a libel. In the case under consideration, there certainly was probable cause, and the Judge, after a lucid and exhaustive review of the facts, ruled that exemplary damages ought not to be given. It was shown in evidence that, nearly three years after the sale in question, the defendant had impeached the conduct of the plaintiff directly to the Department of State at Washington, and had received a reply stating that the Department was aware of the intention of Mr. VAN BUREN to become the owner of the buildings occupied by him as Consul-General of the United States, and did not oppose a transaction into which he entered as a private citizen and at his own risk." Whether, under any circumstances, the Department would have been willing to acknowledge the error of its previous silence, the terms of this reply show that the nature of the transaction was wholly misapprehended. As a private citizen General VAN BUREN could not possibly be the proprietor of premises standing on the Consular Lot, and if the Japanese Authorities sold the property to him in that character, they were guilty of a direct breach of the Conventions. In view of the letter of the Department of State and the ruling of the Judge in the Ministerial Court, the only course open to the officials of the Kanagawa Prefecture is to resume possession of the premises without delay. So far, however, as Dr. TRIPLER is concerned, his action in appealing from the Judgment of the Department of State to that of the bar-room of the Yokohama United Club was, to say the least, undignified. The defence in the Ministerial Court was clumsily conducted; so much so, indeed,

that the ends of justice would probably have been defeated, had not the evidence for the prosecution, by travelling beyond the lines laid in the complaint, conferred on the defendant a right of similar latitude. This, however, did not help to smooth the difficulties of the Judge's task, who, in addition to holding the balance between a plaintiff more disposed to bluster than to reason, and a defendant who had not quite made up his mind what to plead, was in a manner required to pronounce upon matters of an international character. Altogether, it was most unfortunate that the affair was made public. General VAN BUREN was under no necessity to vindicate his character. He himself admitted that the libel could not seriously injure him. But of the disclosures made in Court, the same can scarcely be said. For, although there is nothing to show that he did not intend to act in a straightforward and just fashion, it is impossible to think that the reputation of the American Civil Service will be improved by such revelations. Another, and a still more regrettable result of the affair, is the disgraceful attacks it has prompted two local journals to make upon the impartiality and honour of a gentleman whose name, throughout a long and unsullied career, has been associated with every thing that is upright and large-hearted. It does not redound to the honour of journalism in this part of world that the issue of a libel suit should have been made the occasion for utterances at least as defamatory as, and far more cowardly than, the slanders which formed the subject of complaint. There are some calumnies so miserable that to treat them with any seriousness is an insult to reason. No one will make the mistake of supposing that the United States Minister can be reached by such defamers, but it must be confessed that this feature alone was wanting to complete the obloquy of a very discreditable case.

A VALUABLE OPINION ON A POPULAR QUESTION.

IT is no small pleasure to those who have steadily advocated the adoption of a liberal policy towards Japan, to find that public opinion is at last declaring itself emphatically in favour of their views. The memorandum of the foreign Missionaries, published in our correspondence column, is a document of undeniable value. Outside official circles, there is no body of men so conversant with the language of this country and so familiar with the disposition of the people as the Missionaries. We might, indeed, justly extend this verdict. For though in point of scholarship and research the members of the English Civil Service have won distinction as honorable to themselves as it is a source of pride to their countrymen, their circumstances to a great extent preclude them from enjoying that free and general

intercourse which is essential to a true appreciation of national character. To the Missionary, whose life of noble devotion and acts of pure charity invite confidence as they promise sympathy, the hearts and thoughts of the Japanese are laid bare in a manner not possible under different conditions. He sees, as few others can see, the true attitude of the popular mind, while, as a man of high attainments and large philanthropy, he is capable of appreciating, not only the proper jealousy of his countrymen on behalf of privileges which constitute the basis of personal freedom, but also the equally proper eagerness of the Japanese to recover rights which concern their national independence. Considered from this standpoint, the weight attaching to any unanimous expression of Missionary opinion can scarcely be over-estimated; while, at the same time, the obligation to express that opinion is also established. There are, unfortunately, many phases of international policy which cannot safely be submitted to the dictates of abstract morality. Practical statesmen, especially the statesmen of a country like Great Britain, which sends out, every year, to all parts of the World, thousands of enterprising, strong-handed and stout-hearted men, intolerant propagandists of their own civilization and untiring architects of universal prosperity—the statesmen of such a country are often compelled to sacrifice abstract justice to expediency; often obliged to recognise that to recede from a position originally unwarrantable may entail results far more disastrous to the interests and happiness of both sides, than the worst consequences of maintaining it. Happily, however, Japan does not come within the category of these cases. Foreigners formerly found it necessary for themselves, as it was certainly beneficial for her, to occupy a special status carrying with it exceptional privileges. But they have never claimed any shadow of title to make that status permanent. Still less have they acknowledged any desire to treat Japan as a conquered country, and to impose upon her conditions inconsistent with her national independence. It has always been frankly confessed that the earliest opportunity, reconcilable with prudence, should be seized to remove invidious distinctions between Japanese and foreigners, and to sweep away, simultaneously, from the path of free intercourse, the barriers set up by those distinctions. The only question was—had that time come? Some answered, yes: others, as emphatically replied, no. Two things, however, were admitted by both parties to the controversy; namely, that the relations between foreigners and Japanese had become highly unsatisfactory, and that the development of mercantile prosperity demanded some radical change. Exclusiveness does not conduce to the growth of trade. The seclusion to which foreigners were condemned in

the treaty ports necessarily contemplated a limited commerce. If commerce was to increase beyond that limit, the seclusion must be proportionately relaxed. On the other hand, so soon as the seclusion was relaxed, some different arrangement with regard to jurisdiction became inevitable. On this score the time for a system more liberal had unquestionably come; since even if Japan's claims to equal treatment were ignored, it was yet certain that there had grown up, little by little, about the foreign settlements an environment which was strangling trade and placing their inmates at the mercy of a band of monopolists. Nevertheless, the Conservative section of the community could not bring themselves to trust Japan. They persisted in believing, or professing to believe, that she was unworthy of any measure of confidence; that all her progress was as hollow as her professions. They complained loudly enough of their sufferings, but, at the same time, rejected the only feasible remedy; and some of them did not hesitate to publish statements distinctly calculated to create, on Japan's side, the very sentiments of hostility which they suspected her of entertaining. Never, therefore, was there a moment when intelligent men were under a greater obligation to speak out, or when their testimony promised to be of larger public benefit; and we cannot but congratulate the Missionaries upon their resolute, though moderate, action.

There is also another, and to our thinking a much more important, aspect of this affair. We refer to the effect it must produce in disassociating Christian propaganda from traditions which were at the root of all Japan's anti-foreign feeling in former years. It is matter of history that the first reception accorded to Western visitors in this country was hearty and hospitable. Japan's earliest foreign treaty—that with England in 1613—threw the whole empire open to British commerce, and betrayed a spirit of liberal friendship as admirable as it was rare in those days. That this spirit might have been fostered and preserved, there can be no manner of doubt. But religious intrigues interfered. The Japanese, partly by the evidence of what they saw with their own eyes, partly in obedience to what they were taught by foreigners themselves to believe, ultimately came to think that their national independence was threatened, and that the expulsion of alien schemers was the only alternative to the loss of their country. They expelled the foreigners, and from that time forth the people ceased to distinguish between peaceful traders and the ambitious *bateren* (*padres*) whose plottings and squabbles had threatened to become so mischievous. It would be extravagant to assume that Christianity's reputation has yet been entirely disassociated from the evil memories of those times. But unquestionably this action of the Missionaries will go far to vindicate it. Japan has now an indisputable proof that the Protestant Missionaries

are foremost in their desire to acknowledge her progress and to obtain for her the recognition it deserves. She can now see for herself that whatever reluctance there may be in other quarters to accord her the autonomic rights of civilized independence, the pioneers of Christianity, so far from sharing that reluctance, have publicly recorded their protest against it. It is an open secret that the Missionaries of the South are not alone in this matter. A similar memorial has been forwarded by their *confrères* in Tokiyo, and we trust that considerations of official etiquette will not be allowed to preclude the advantages which its publication would confer. Christianity will be brought much closer to the national heart by these practical evidences of sympathy, and unless we greatly misjudge the disposition and desires of the leaders of Japanese thought, that result will appear to them far more valuable than any political capital their country may make out of these memorials.

CIVIL CODES AND COMPETENT TRIBUNALS.

BY those who oppose any modification of existing judicial arrangements in Japan, it is constantly urged that she does not yet possess any "reasonably sound and just codes of civil law, or competent tribunals for their administration." Of late the advocates of change have been repeatedly challenged to deny this fact, and their apparent silence is construed as an evidence of inability to reply. There are, however, limits to the perseverance of the most resolute controversialist. For our own part, when an opponent, or, to speak more correctly, a professed opponent, adopts our arguments, if not the very language in which we have habitually couched them, we are quite content that he should claim them as his own, or even taunt us with reluctance to discuss them. Presumably, the main object to be achieved is unanimity, and it really makes very little matter who said this or who said that, provided all agree that what is said is right. That is happily the position towards which this interminable question of treaty revision is now, at length, advancing. A practical consensus of opinion exists, and we are convinced that a short time will suffice to complete the agreement. To accelerate that result, by no means to invite controversy, it may be well to say a few words with reference to this somewhat threadbare argument about civil codes and competent tribunals.

In the first place, we must do ourselves the justice of denying that we have ever attempted to assert the efficiency of Japanese civil codes and courts *from a foreign point of view*. Nothing could be more explicit than our expressions have always been upon this point. Quotations from a dozen articles, written at different periods

during the past three years, might be cited in support of this fact. One, however, will suffice. It was repeated a month ago in these columns. Perhaps its repetition again to-day may be more successful:—"We cannot conclude this article without once more protesting against the utterly erroneous statement that the total abolition of extritoriality has been demanded by the Japanese Government or advocated in these columns. Extritoriality is a parasite fatal to the vitality of progress in this country, but unfortunately for Japan, as well as for her foreign visitors, it is a parasite which cannot be at once shaken off. Even if the Japanese possessed what they do not yet possess—satisfactory codes and an efficient judiciary—something would still be due to the strong feeling of reluctance entertained by so many foreigners to forego the protection of their own courts." In the face of this assertion we are puzzled to see how we can be fairly charged with being "ashamed to stultify ourselves" by an admission that Japan does not yet possess satisfactory civil codes and competent tribunals from a foreign point of view; and above all, how it can be truthfully pretended that this journal "has urged the wisdom and justice of the demand for the cessation of foreign jurisdiction." No such demand has been made. No such demand has ever been endorsed by us. "The extent of Japan's proposal"—we again quote from our own columns—"is a first modification of existing conditions, to be followed gradually and at long intervals by larger measures, and she is understood to be willing to surround that modification with the most ample guarantees." On the other hand, we cannot but think that too much importance is attached to this question of codes and courts. It is not essential that a country should have civil codes. The laws of England are not codified; neither are those of the United States. Yet that fact would certainly not be recognised by the British or American Governments as constituting in any sense a reasonable plea for the exemption of aliens from native jurisdiction. It will of course be replied that in both these countries the law rests upon a basis of precedent which affords guidance even more valuable than codification, and which, so far as we know, is wanting in Japan. This is true; but how much is included in that little phrase, "so far as we know!" Ignorance is the foundation of half the trouble. We are virtually unacquainted with Japanese laws, and our experience of their practice has inspired complaints, some of which are, doubtless, well founded, while others may be traced to that prejudice which is inseparable from the presence of personal interests. To any argument based on the difficulty of becoming acquainted with their legal systems and principles, the Japanese might justly reply that the same is true of English law, whose intricacies and obscurities baffle even Englishmen.

There is, indeed, no country in the universe where steps are taken to render a knowledge of the law accessible by strangers: yet the Japanese Government is constantly asked how it can venture to propose the assumption of any judicial authority over foreigners until it has first made them acquainted with the laws it intends to administer. It has yet to be shown that we have a right to demand of Japan more than is expected of any other independent State. If the possession of sound and just civil codes and competent tribunals were regarded as a necessary precedent to the exercise of jurisdiction over aliens, how would it fare with the South American Republics, whose judicial institutions, whose systems of Government, and whose political integrity, are not worthy, in many cases, to be named in the same breath with those of Japan, and which, nevertheless, are not more fettered in the matter of jurisdiction than the greatest and most advanced of European nations? There must be some degree of international trust in these matters. It may be difficult for foreigners to become acquainted with Japanese laws and processes, but it is not difficult for them to see that there exists on the part of the judicial body in Japan a general desire to do their duty uprightly and honestly according to their lights, and that their application of the law is never disfigured by wilful partiality or corruption. There is here no hostile feeling against alien nations or individuals, but, on the contrary, a general and earnest desire, on the part of both rulers and ruled, to assimilate the laws and institutions of the country to Western types; and there is, moreover, a national religion which is neither intolerant, fundamentally hostile to Christianity, nor in any way opposed to a community of law with the Christian nations of the West. These are all points which deserve fair and due consideration. We avoid any mention of Japan's inherent rights, not because they are unworthy of respect, but because they are beyond the immediate purpose of this discussion. It is a constant habit with foreign writers to discuss those rights as visionary, and to call the spirit which prompts their assertion romantic. Yet if they took the trouble to look below the surface, they would see that the mainspring of Japan's restlessness under this continued distrust, is her consciousness of her own feelings and mental attitude towards the outer world. She has buried the sentiments and abolished the conditions which formerly justified the restraints of extritoriality, and she is deeply hurt by the ungenerous indifference of her treaty friends to her altered mood and earnest efforts. Speaking, however, from the Foreign standpoint, it may be reasonably and logically urged that, because the lives and properties of foreigners are not specially safeguarded in many countries far less worthy of perfect autonomy than Japan, there is no reason why the safeguards which

happily exist in Japan should be hastily abandoned. We entirely endorse that contention. We have always endorsed it; and what is more, the position assumed by the Japanese Government is in no sense opposed to it. At this eleventh hour, no one interested in the subject can pretend ignorance of Japan's proposals. She does not ask for the immediate abolition of extritoriality. That fact cannot be too clearly repeated. She only asks for a modification commensurate with some part of the progress she has made; and an understanding that so soon as she can establish a valid title to assume larger responsibilities, the Treaty Powers will be prepared to discuss a further change. On the other hand, she is ready to grant additional tradal facilities; in fact the only limit she sets to her willingness in this respect is that sufficient arrangements must be made for the control of the persons enjoying those facilities. Foreign prejudices, apprehensions, distracts, call them what one may, will not be disregarded in any measure proposed by Japan. She may feel, probably does feel, that much more is expected of her than is at all consistent with the scanty confidence reposed in her. But she has, we are persuaded, quite good sense enough to see that it is only by justifying those expectations she can hope to win fuller confidence. We are ourselves convinced that what she asks is considerably short of what might safely be accorded, but every reform, to be sound and permanent, must be measured, not by the instincts of its promoters, so much as by the disposition of its recipients.

PEACE BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE amicable adjustment of the long pending trouble between France and China, is confirmed by fuller telegrams from London, and by more detailed information, dated at Tientsin, May 12th. The latter is to the effect that instructions in a pacific sense were sent by the Cabinet at Paris to Captain FOURNIER, and that the negotiations between that officer and LI HUNG-CHANG were speedily brought to a satisfactory conclusion. We say "satisfactory," because any issue that puts an end to all prospect of open warfare between France and China must be welcomed by the public; but so far as the latter Power is concerned, the only congratulation which can be honestly offered to her is that had she persisted in her shilly-shally policy, she might have gone to pieces literally, instead of preserving her nominal integrity at the cost of a shattered prestige. The terms of peace were signed by the Viceroy LI and Captain FOURNIER at the former's residence on Sunday last. The conditions are four. First, that the French Government is to have the full right of establishing commercial relations with the pro-

vinces of Yunnan, Kwangtung and Kwangsi. Second, that the Chinese Government is to surrender to France the protectorate of the whole of Tonquin and Annam, and definitively abandon all responsibility within their limits. Third, that the French are not to demand the payment of any indemnity by China. Fourth, that the Chinese forces are immediately to evacuate Tonquin. The surrender, in short, is about as complete as it could be. Probably the only salve remaining to China, in her own eyes, is that she escapes a pecuniary payment, though, in truth, an indemnity was not needed to complete the measure of her discomfiture. That she has been obliged finally to renounce her romantic and unreal claims of suzerainty over Tonquin, is rather fortunate for her than otherwise. If a similar fate befell her everywhere, it might help to inspire a policy of practical common sense, and to teach her that her sway within her own borders is too unsubstantial to cast an appreciable shadow beyond. Nevertheless, her title to interfere in Tonquin had one valid basis. The history of modern international relations incontrovertibly establishes the principle, that when a river affords to an inland State, or to a portion of an inland State, the only convenient means of access to the ocean, the right of that State, in regard to the free navigation of the river, becomes fully equal to the right conferred by the actual possession of the territory through which the river flows. Such a right China unquestionably possessed, and does still possess, in virtue of the fact that the Red River is the only convenient outlet between Yunnan and the Gulf of Tonquin. Her new treaty with France deprives her of nothing in this regard, except in so far as it transfers her right to the custody of a powerful and unscrupulous neighbour. The other conditions speak for themselves. The only comment they suggest is that Chinese professions will be regarded, for many years to come, as the idlest of empty words. She has badly prefaced her propinquity to a people whose pastime it will be to teach her that respect is due only to those who know how to command it. The memory of this campaign of menaces and its farcical sequel will not help to restrain the aggressive propensities which France has of late developed so strongly. A year ago the Cabinet at Paris declared that it proposed to accomplish exactly what it has now accomplished. Each step of the accomplishment elicited a new threat from China, and now, after a negotiation lasting only three days, she has quietly endorsed the whole proceeding. Few countries have had the misfortune to add such a humiliating episode to their history. The Peking Government cannot even console itself with the hope that it has purchased a new lease of peaceful existence. On the contrary, it must see clearly enough that it is about to enter upon a period of perpetual unrest. Apart from the fact that there can be no quiet for

China with France as a neighbour—above all when the former's mood is so yielding and the latter's so masterful—grave complications can scarcely fail to crop up in connection with this very treaty. If commercial relations are to be established with Yunnan, the Black Flags must first be disposed of. At present they virtually command that trade from their stronghold in Laokai, and China's ability to dislodge them is very doubtful. We confess that the difficulty of disposing of this obstacle appears to us very considerable. Then again, what is to be understood by "the full right of establishing commercial relations" with the three provinces named in the treaty? No foreign country at present possesses the "full right" of trading with any part of China, and it may very well happen that the French settlers interpret this clause after a fashion entirely new to their neighbours. On the whole, China will find that the measure of repose she is to enjoy henceforth at French hands will be of a very Procrustean nature. She has shown herself wholly incapable of self-help, and she will probably learn ere long the full import of having given the world that information.

THE ILBERT BILL AND EXTER- RITORIALITY.

ON several occasions, attempts have been made by our local contemporaries to establish an analogy between extra-territorial privileges in Japan and the conditions which the Ilbert Bill was intended to modify; while in the story of Lord RIPLEY'S measure, in the agitation it excited, in the opposition it aroused, and in its partial defeat by emasculation, parallels and examples apposite to Japan's case have been ingeniously indicated. Laggard foreigners in Japan have been urged, by one journal, to adopt the resolute tactics of their militant compatriots in India, and by another, the gallant sound of this tocsin has been echoed in tones of solemn warning to the Japanese, who are bid remember that such agitation by Englishmen is well nigh omnipotent to quench the impertinent aspirations of "natives" who are unduly avaricious of independence, and especially of exercising control over freemen. An some length has also been copied from *The Times*, in which the unreasoning opposition to the Ilbert Bill, so painfully prominent in the writings of the late editor of that journal, is shown in its least defensible form. We are told that "the same sufficient reasons exist in Japan against Englishmen being made subject to the native courts here:" a "striking resemblance" is discovered between the case in this country and the assumed fact that the Ilbert Bill "was never asked for by, nor interested, the masses of the Indian people;" and we are assured that "the same motives which have been operative with the Imperial Government for the modification of that measure should also

be allowed to prevail against the *limitation*, or the abolition, of extraterritoriality here." Without touching the arguments which have special reference to the Ilbert Bill, it may not be amiss to draw attention to one or two points of similarity as well as of dissimilarity between the case in India and that in Japan.

The first and most noticeable difference between the two is, that the "Imperial Government" referred to above, namely, that of Great Britain, has no right whatever to legislate for Japan. India is a dependency of Great Britain, and as such is subject to the legislation of the British Parliament; Japan is a country which has not lost her independence by conquest or by any other means. Her relations with Great Britain, as with other States, are regulated by treaties and international amenities. We do not by any means intend to animadvert upon England's conquest of India, for we believe that India owes to that conquest her present peace, prosperity, progress, and all her best hopes. But the fact, nevertheless, remains, that for every political advance made by the people of India, the consent of a Parliament sitting in London has to be obtained, and that they are ruled on despotic lines by a government whose fundamental principle at home is popular freedom. On the other hand, the extraterritorial privileges conferred by the treaties, convey to those enjoying them no permanent title as against the sovereign independence of Japan. It may be granted that they were once not only necessary to foreigners, but of immense value to Japan herself, yet it remains also equally true that when they cease to be necessary they become a galling insult to a land whose independence should be untrammelled. Japan has not to appeal to some foreign Power for permission to legislate in any sense which she judges necessary. Her own Government is the sole fountain of internal reform, and while she seeks aid and light from every quarter, she hews out for herself her own political destiny. She asks leave of no over-lord to inaugurate reforms and to clothe her people, as they advance, with popular rights and liberties. The consequences are not far to seek. England has spent large sums on schools and colleges in India, with the result of developing natives whose command of the English language and literature is equal to that of Englishmen. To these highly educated men the Civil Service is partially open, and they are found equal to the demands of the most responsible posts. But they have not been trusted and taught to trust themselves as the Japanese have been taught by their independence. Take one example: English capital and governmental help have given India thousands of miles of a railway system, extending year by year and developing the resources of the land. Yet up to the present time no native engineer has been trusted to run

a train without a foreigner at his elbow. They have not been trusted, and they do not fully trust themselves. But what have we in Japan? A short time ago there was a rumble of dissatisfaction among foreigners at the news that foreign engineers on the trains were to be partially replaced by Japanese. Lines would not be safe, we were told; terrible accidents would occur, and so following. Now, however, a Japanese engineer runs the train, and the passengers are as safe as ever: accidents occur no more frequently than before. Japanese survey their routes, build their roads, run their trains, absolutely without foreign guidance. They did not need to be taught to trust themselves. In India a splendid educational opportunity has ripened many talented natives into rivals of Englishmen in high places of trust. A short time ago, on the occasion of the temporary absence from Calcutta of the Chief Justice, the senior Puisne Judge, Mr. ROMESH CHUNDER MITTER, was not passed over by the Viceroy, but was appointed to officiate temporarily as Chief Justice of the High Court. This elicited, at first, many murmurs from Europeans, yet, among the numerous hostile critics of the proceeding, not one ventured to impugn Judge MITTER'S conduct while acting in that high capacity. But so soon as it was proposed to relieve a certain number of these properly qualified judges from the ban of being "natives" and to trust them as European judges in cases never so trivial, there was raised a hue and cry, which cowed even the Imperial Government of Great Britain! Well might Liberal writers recall the words of Lord LAWRENCE to Sir ERSKINE PERRY:—"If any thing is done, or attempted to be done, to help the natives, a general howl is raised, which reverberates in England, and finds sympathy and support there . . . Every one is, in the abstract, for justice, moderation, and such like excellent qualities, but when one comes to apply such principles, so as to affect anybody's interests, then a change comes over them."

Here we naturally find a point or two of similarity with the case of this country. In Japan and India alike, contact with British civilization has wrought a marvellous advance. The last forty years have produced as great a change in India, as two centuries produced in Great Britain herself. Recognizing the reality of this change, large-hearted statesmen in India as well as the bulk of disinterested men in England, ask for more liberal treatment of the natives commensurate with the advance they have made. The tendency of years has been in this direction. To foster progress and then to adapt politics to that progress, has been the guiding principle of English rule. In Japan also the politico-moral advance of Europe has sown its seeds, and the harvest of national social progress is already ripe. To the changed condition of modern Japan, the treaty-

relations of the Western powers must likewise be re-adjusted. As in India, here also every social and moral advance is hailed with applause, but every proposal to bring politics into unison with the new exigency is treated as the suggestion of disloyalty and treachery, should the process of adaptation seem to affect foreign interests, however so little. As Lord LAWRENCE puts it, "a howl is raised," which reverberates around the world, and the aid of the Imperial Mother is invoked. In India the question is of justice in the removal of anomalies which once were necessary but have now become, in the opinion of many able judges, obsolete and unnecessary; a question of expediency in gradual leveling of barriers which separate races and foster prejudice by giving undue prominence to anachronistic privileges. The very same terms may be used to describe the case here, though the details must differ as the political situation differs. In India, progress in the direction indicated by the Ilbert Bill is inevitable, and the question is whether the Government shall, by slow and tentative measures, gradually lead the onward movement into permanent success, or whether it shall wait to be forced, by irresistible circumstances, into some future hasty reform, which would largely fail of its real object, and, above all, leave behind it the ill-effects of agitation and of hope deferred, culminating in lasting umbrage. There is much like this in the Japanese question. Shall we stave off as long as we possibly can the inevitable restoration to Japan of her real rights, or shall we not gradually retire from an anomalous position, and as rapidly as possible give back gracefully what eventually must be surrendered? Many other points of similarity could be pointed out, but we will refer to one only. *The Times* declares, in its prejudice, that "the natives" did not desire the Ilbert Bill, only a few of them, and we are told that this is the case in Japan with regard to the question of extraterritoriality. Nothing could be farther from the mark in the latter case, at all events. The representative men in Japan demand this reform, and behind them stands the mass of educated and thinking people silently awaiting the result. The attitude of the thoughtless and illiterate classes in any land is surely not the criterion by which to gauge a nation's aspirations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

VAN BUREN v. TRIPLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Those who have had the inclination and the leisure to follow the proceedings *in re* Van Buren v. Tripler to their conclusion, must have felt relieved when the judgment was rendered, and there was an end of a case which had ceased to be interesting except to the most morbid taste for scandal and sensation. Private differences are at no time an attractive theme for public comment,

however much factitious interest they may derive from the position of the parties, and from an ingenuous simplicity which insists upon entrusting its private woes to the four winds. Still, the liveliest sympathy will tire in time, more especially when the "affair," which began with fair prospects of becoming a tragedy, degenerates into something very like a farce. Unfortunate occurrences of the kind in question, after the first nine days' wonder, cease, as a rule, to raise a ripple of interest beyond the circle of those immediately interested. It sometimes happens, however, that the controversy is enlarged, and that the original question is lost to sight in aspersions upon the motives and actions of innocent third parties. This is exactly what has happened in the present instance, and in this I find the only excuse for alluding to a topic concerning which silence would, under ordinary circumstances, be the dictate of good feeling not less than of good taste.

Two of your local contemporaries have seen fit to comment upon the trial of the cause in question and the judgment rendered, in a tone which it is difficult to fitly describe in moderate terms. No doubt the *Herald* and the *Gazette* have the right to express their own opinions upon this topic, and to draw their own conclusions, provided always they are careful, when they do so, to observe the canons of legitimate criticism. But when they travel out of the record and openly condole with the plaintiff because the Court was *personally* inimical to him, they are guilty, to put it as mildly as possible, of a grave impropriety. Against such an imputation as this, the gentleman who presided in the case does not need any defence. A charge so manifestly untrue falls of itself. But do not the *Herald* and *Gazette* see that its reflex influence upon the person whose cause they advocate is anything but flattering? Where did they obtain their knowledge of the *personal bias* upon which they predicate so much of their argument? Certainly not from the Judge of the Ministerial Court, for it has yet to be said that he is in the habit of confiding his private opinions to the *Herald* and *Gazette*, or, indeed, of making them in any manner a topic of public comment. The simple truth is that these papers have recklessly and without cause made the charge that an officer, whose high character and great abilities are recognized wherever he is known, violated his judicial oath to gratify a personal spite. Certainly neither the *Herald* nor the *Gazette* would have dared to indulge in such assertions with reference to any other official than one whose position precludes him from seeking redress. The reflection that it is possible, in this instance, for them to do so, may add to their feeling of security, but should not on the whole be conducive to their self respect. Yokohama does, indeed, seem to have become "a slanderer's paradise" when the professed organs of public opinion give such undeniable proofs of the truth of the title.

I have refrained from any comment upon the action which gave rise to the strictures of the *Herald* and the *Gazette*, for the reason that fair-minded persons who carefully read the proceedings will perceive that the judge in the case performed a delicate and distasteful duty with tact and discretion, and rendered a judgment in accordance with the law and the evidence. Doubtless every one was not satisfied with that judgment, but it has yet to be discovered that suits at law are, as a rule, productive of universal happiness, or liable at any time to create even a temporary Millennium.

Yours respectfully,
Tokio, May 12th, 1884.

REVISION OF THE TREATIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Kindly do us the favour to publish the enclosed Memorandum on the proposed Revision of the Treaties, which has been signed by every Protestant Missionary in this neighbourhood.

Believe me, yours very faithfully,

CHAS. F. WARREN,

Chairman of the Committee.

Osaka, May 6th, 1884.

Memorandum on the proposed revision of the Treaties, prepared in accordance with a resolution adopted unanimously at a Meeting of the Osaka and Kobe Missionary Association, held at Kiyoto on Tuesday, April 22nd, 1884.

The Osaka and Kobe Missionary Association having discussed the question of extraterritoriality in connexion with the proposed revision of the Treaties, the undersigned desire to place on record a formal expression of their opinion, that the time has arrived when substantial modifications should be made in those provisions of the existing Treaties which give exceptional privileges to the subjects and citizens of the Treaty Powers, and which are

considered by the Japanese Government and people to be an infringement of their just and sovereign rights as an independent nation. The circumstances under which Japan was brought into Treaty relations with Western Powers were clearly exceptional, and, in the interests of both Japanese and foreigners alike, exceptional arrangements were undoubtedly necessary. But the lapse of twenty-five years has placed us in such a widely different position, as, in our opinion, to require that at least some of the exceptional provisions of the existing Treaties should be modified, and that concessions should be made to any just and reasonable demand of the Japanese Government in this direction. The interests created under the existing Treaties certainly demand the most careful consideration of those to whom they are entrusted; but, in our opinion, the difficulty of safeguarding those interests ought not to stand in the way of a speedy revision of the Treaties, such as shall be both just in principle, and a generous acknowledgement on the part of Foreign Nations of the real progress Japan has made since the present Treaties were framed.

Osaka, April 28th, 1884.

ARTHUR W. POOLE, Bishop of the Church of England in Japan.

D. C. GREENE, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kioto.
M. L. GORDON, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kioto.
D. W. LEARNED, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kioto.
J. D. DAVIS, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kioto.
T. S. TYNG, A.E. Mission, Osaka.
JOHN MCKIM, A.E. Mission, Osaka.
T. T. ALEXANDER, A.P. Mission, Osaka.
WALLACE TAYLOR, A.B.C.F. Mission, Osaka.
J. H. DE FOREST, A.B.C.F. Mission, Osaka.
A. D. HALL, C.P. Mission, Osaka.
G. H. POLE, C.M. Society, Osaka.
JOHN T. GULICK, A.B.C.F. Mission, Osaka.
CHAS. F. WARREN, C.M. Society, Osaka.
HENRY LANING, A.E. Mission, Osaka.
C. M. FISHER, A.P. Mission, Osaka.
GEO. ALLCHIN, A.B.C.F. Mission, Osaka.
HENRY EVINGTON, C.M. Society, Osaka.
A. R. MORRIS, A.E. Mission, Osaka.
J. L. ATKINSON, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kobe.
DE WITT C. JENCKS, A.B.C.F. Mission, Kobe.
J. B. HALL, C.P. Mission, Osaka.
JAMES H. PETTEE, A.B.C.F. Mission, Okayama.
OTIS CAREY, JR., A.B.C.F. Mission, Okayama.
JAMES B. PORTER, A. Presby. Mission, Kanagawa.
ARTHUR B. HUTCHINSON, C.M. Society, Nagasaki.
JOHN B. BRANDAM, C.M. Society, Nagasaki.
W. C. KITCHIN, M.E.C. Society, Nagasaki.

CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A note in your daily issue of the 1st inst., calls attention to some items culled from the "Religious Intelligence" of the *New York Herald*, referring to matters in Japan, Formosa, and Korea; said note affirming that "for announcements of this description it would be difficult to find confirmation in this part of the world." It sometimes happens that news has to travel almost or quite round the world before some of us become aware of what is passing at our very doors. If secular papers in "this part of the world" took as much trouble as those of America to gather "Religious Intelligence" instead of waiting for it to come begging for insertion, a good many facts would come to light that would be no less astonishing than those recorded by the *New York Herald*, with the advantage of having none of the colouring which paragraphists, ignorant of the country, are apt to give to information from a far-off land.

It is an open secret that many of the Japanese Ministers, though not "converts," in the usual acceptance of the term, are decidedly favorable to the spread of Christianity. The Emperor is not kept a recluse, he reads the newspapers, he converses on all matters pertaining to his Empire. It is not, therefore, improbable that some of His Majesty's Ministers may have said a good word to him for Christianity. This, of course, is conjecture, but by no means incredible. But as to the story of Korean dignitaries and others becoming Christians in Shanghai, the thing is very probable, for that is just what is going on in Japan to-day. Just one year ago, a Korean General, highly connected, a member of the embassy in Tokio, embraced the Christian religion, and was baptized by a Japanese pastor. He was, I believe, the first Korean convert to Protestantism on record. Since then, others have been earnestly enquiring. A number of Korean young men, sent by the Government, were placed in a Mission School. They embraced the Protestant Faith. Their superior officer objected. They resigned their connection with the Korean Government until the official in charge gave them full religious liberty. That official himself has begun to take an interest in Christianity. These are only items out of history now being made "in this part of the world," in confirmation of "such announcements" as appear in American papers. And then as regards the report from Formosa, the

only error of the *New York Herald* is that it says hundreds when it ought have given *thousands* as the number of natives who, within the past few months have cast away their idols and resolved to become Christians.

Yours, &c.,
A MISSIONARY.
Tokio, May 9th, 1884.

THE NAKASENDO RAILWAY BONDS.

NOTIFICATION NO. 57 OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

In accordance with the Act of the Nakasendo Railway Public Loan Bonds published by Notification No. 47 in December, 1883, new Bonds to the amount of five million *yen* in face value have been issued, and the regulations for the same have been set down as follows:—

REGULATIONS FOR THE ISSUE OF THE NAKASENDO RAILWAY BONDS.

Art. I.—The denominations of the Bonds to be issued shall be fixed by the Finance Department according to its convenience.

Art. II.—The issue price of the Bonds shall be 90 *yen* per 100 *yen* of the nominal value.

Art. III.—Persons desirous of buying the Bonds shall apply to the Nippon Ginko, its Branch Offices or Agencies, on or before the 10th June, 1884, stating the amount of the bonds and the price of the same at which they require to buy, and giving their names and addresses.

NOTE.—Agencies shall be advertised by the Nippon Ginko.

Art. IV.—Applicants for the Bonds shall make a guaranty payment of ten *yen* per 100 *yen* of the nominal value of the Bonds to the office, where they apply for them.

Art. V.—When the guaranty payment has been made by the applicants, the Nippon Ginko, its Branches or Agencies, shall give to the applicants receipts for the amounts paid in. These receipts for the guaranty payment shall not be sold or purchased.

Art. VI.—As the Finance Department will announce, through the Nippon Ginko, the amount of the Bonds to be furnished to each applicant, on or before the 10th July, 1884, the amount of the guaranty payment made shall be deducted from the value of the Bonds purchased, and the remaining sum shall be paid in two instalments of equal amount. The first instalment shall be paid on or before the 30th July, 1884, and the second instalment on or before the 30th August, 1884. The second instalment may, however, be paid simultaneously with the first.

Art. VII.—The Nippon Ginko, its Branch Offices or Agencies, having received the payment of the said instalments, shall furnish the provisional certificates in exchange for the receipts of the guaranty payment and the cash. These provisional certificates shall not be sold or purchased, but may be mortgaged with the Government or the Nippon Ginko.

Art. VIII.—Bonds will be delivered through the Nippon Ginko in exchange for the provisional certificates.

Art. IX.—In case the instalments are not paid when due, as set out in Article VI., the guaranty payment made under Article IV. and the first instalment, if paid, shall be forfeited.

Art. X.—Should the receipts for the guaranty payment or the provisional certificates be lost, the owner of the receipts for the guaranty payment or the provisional certificates so missed, shall at once report the matter to the office where they were obtained, stating the marks and numbers of such documents, and giving names and addresses.

Art. XI.—The causes of the loss of the receipts for the guaranty payment or the provisional certificates must be testified by the owner and the written testimony authenticated by two witnesses, to the Nippon Ginko, its Branches or Agencies, and new receipts or certificates will be granted therefor. The missing documents will thereupon be advertised in the newspapers and declared null and void.

Art. XII.—The interest on these guaranty payments and instalments shall be paid at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum. On sums paid on or before the 15th day of the month, interest shall be counted for the latter half of the month; on those paid on the 16th of the month or after, interest shall be reckoned from the following month.

Art. XIII.—Interest on the guaranty payment and the instalments, and not exceeding the half year's amount of the coupons, shall be paid when the Bonds are exchanged for the provisional certificates.

The above is notified.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

13th May, 1884

THE GROWING TASTE FOR GERMAN LITERATURE.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*).

Persons who are disposed to comment on the subject of learning appear to regret that the students of the present day have shown a tendency to relinquish the study of English literature by substituting that of Germany. Yet such a change is a matter of common occurrence in society, and need cause no surprise. In our issue of the 21st April, we published an article entitled the "Change in the Study of Literature," for the purpose of rectifying the erroneous conceptions of our thinking men. One of our contemporaries, the *Hochi Shimbun*, which is recognised as a journal supported by the Reform Party, seems also to be interested in this subject, and has published a series of articles, extending over three days, commencing with the 12th of April. Reading them carefully through, however, we find that they not only disagree with the principles of sound argument, but the deductions made are contrary to existing facts. It is not a matter of great difficulty for any intelligent man to refute them; yet broad as is society, it is not altogether unlikely that some persons have been misled by them. It may not, therefore, be without advantage to discuss the statements of the *Hochi Shimbun*. With a view to entering upon this task we will take the trouble of dividing the *Hochi's* article into appropriate subdivisions, and then point out its errors separately, so that our statements shall be as clear and succinct as possible.

In the first part, our contemporary asserts that the tendency of the present revival of Chinese literature is not at all accidental, but that this state of affairs is only the reaction from the sudden and universal zeal displayed some time ago in the adoption of Western science.

The second part states that it is a matter of surprise that the promoters of German literature have considerably increased, and that, although Germany claims superiority in medical science, she has not made so great progress in philosophy, chemistry, physics, and art; while she possesses very little knowledge of politics, economy, and law, compared with her other acquisitions.

From what data has the editor of the *Hochi* been enabled to deduce such assertions? How could he allow himself to draw such conclusions without furnishing any conclusive proofs, since failing proof his assertions are idle? What may have been the ideas that actuated the writer, we are at a loss to understand. Yet it seems that he intended to inculcate the belief that because Germany has advanced far in certain philosophical sciences, she is backward in politics, economy, and law. If this is his contention, we cannot help saying that he proves himself sadly ignorant of the actual state of affairs, as well as of the first principles of sound argument. *Science, whatever form it may take, aims at investigating universal principles and applying them to particular purposes. The process of such investigation is called "philosophical research."* All sciences, therefore, must come under the category of philosophy. Most of the abstract sciences, such as politics, economy, and law, are based on philosophical deductions. Nations which are well-grounded in philosophy must also be familiar with the science of government, political economy, and law. *The assertion that a nation has but little acquaintance with politics, economy, and law, because it is thoroughly familiar with philosophy, is logically equivalent to the statement that ignorance in one direction is the result of scientific progress in another.* However pertinacious and eloquent the editor of the *Hochi* may be, he cannot possibly hope to insist upon such a senseless proposition. Yet he has declared that "the Germans who have long lived under the oppression of an absolute despotism, are really unable to employ their tongues in criticising the actual policy of their country, because they would be subjected to severe proscription and punishment for so doing; and that, therefore, both their literati and scholars are equally forced to confine their study to pure scientific principles, and never dare extend their investigations to the politics, economy, and law, adopted by their Government." Their researches into these sciences are invariably based on reasoning alone, and consequently deviate in most cases from practical rules. The result is that, on more than one occasion, they have spoken of Republicanism as the most enlightened form of government. . . . The investigation of practical phenomena on the part of the people, by enjoying freedom of speech and exercising the right of participation in the management of political affairs, can alone lead them to appreciate the authority of their sovereign, and the necessity for

a hereditary nobility, in order to consolidate the strength of their country. But if they were to confine themselves to their libraries and arrive at this decision from logical principles alone, it is not altogether unlikely that they would forget the authority of their King, and eventually propose to overthrow the nobility." Whether the German Government is despotic or not, or whether the researches of scientific men are limited to pure and simple abstract principles, we cannot venture to state. But how is it possible to assert that those who devote their energies to the investigation of logical principles are always disposed to recognise Republicanism as the best system of administration? And that those who direct their attention to practical researches are always conscious of the honour due to their sovereign and the usefulness of the nobility? How can it be pretended that a nation which clings to logical rules is generally extravagant and cunning in argument; while a people less disposed to attach importance to such rules is usually moderate in its political discussions? It is true that England, which the editor of the *Hochi* regards as pursuing a most prudent and unbiased policy, displays the utmost enthusiasm in the practical study of politics, economy, and law, granting to her people the freedom of speech and the right of administration. Yet in the days of Cromwell, she adopted the Republican form of Government; while of late her men of erudition and other prominent personages have argued the necessity of abolishing the House of Lords, and of limiting the privileges of the nobility. On the other hand, we have not heard that the tranquillity of the German Empire was ever seriously disturbed by a clamour for a Republican system of administration, nor have we even been informed that its literati or men of distinction expressed a desire to do away with the nobility. The *Hochi*'s editor has clothed his article with unwarrantable hypotheses, in utter disregard of facts, and no demonstration is necessary to show the errors into which he has fallen.

In the third section, he states that the "people of Germany do not enjoy liberty of speech . . . The students of politics, economy, and law are thus unable to pursue their studies with reference to practical phenomena; and they must confine themselves to their libraries, content with the investigation of scientific principles only. Their propositions, though abstruse, do not agree with their practice, while their judgment, though profound and philosophical, does not produce the anticipated results when actually exercised in the field of facts." How could the writer allow himself to make such whimsical assertions, disregarding the logic of realities?

Should we admit the accuracy of such an argument, it would follow that persons who are acquainted with the science of government must necessarily pursue careers as Ministers of State or members of a political assembly, and that those familiar with the principles of political economy must settle down as financial, commercial, or agricultural officials, or promoters of other practical enterprises; while the investigators of legal matters must needs become judges or barristers. With the exception of the various practical men whom we have just enumerated, it would appear that all other persons who, in the quiet of their libraries, indulge in meditation and philosophical thought, must expect to see the fallacy of their judgments so soon as they attempt to put them into execution. Should history prove that politics, economy, and law were originally studied and brought to perfection by philosophical and deep-thinking men, then must the editor of the *Hochi* perforce conclude that these sciences are but the shadows of imaginative castles in the air, and utterly at variance with all practical rules. Locke is recognised in England as the most prominent among men of erudition. But did he ever participate in the management of political affairs, or take the leadership of a political party in Parliament? Did Adam Smith ever pose as Minister of Finance, or did he ever open a shop in order to carry on trade on a large scale? Did Austin occupy the position of a senator or a judge and help to frame or enforce the laws of his country? These personages never took part in practical administration, but, hid from the outer world in their studies, spent all their time in meditation and mental research. Now, the *Hochi*'s assertion that the want of practical experience on the part of German literati proves their insignificant knowledge of politics, economy, and law, is the exact reverse of the truth, for this very fact indirectly shows their progress in these important sciences. Intelligent as is the editor of the *Hochi*, however, he will certainly not be so stupid as to willfully insist upon his preposterous arguments, now that he sees that what he wrote was completely erroneous. If he declares that the progress of German literature is confined to purely scientific principles, which do

not exactly correspond to practical undertakings, and that, therefore, Germany is not thoroughly familiar with politics, economy, and law, it is simply because he is unacquainted with the German tongue, and so fails to measure the extent as well as the depth of his own theories. Since the days of Puffendorff, Alberche, Zeckendorff, and Leibnitz, those great German scholars of the 17th and 18th centuries, the investigation of politics and law has been carried on in the most masterly style, and the results obtained have served as an infallible criterion to men of erudition. Towards the commencement of the 19th century, Savigny, Niebuhr, Darlman, Gneist, Lau, and Rossel, made themselves conspicuous by their literary attainments, and having undertaken scientific researches with untiring energy, succeeded in rendering the most abstruse scientific principles clear and intelligible. During the past thirty or forty years, Germany has always been pointed out as the home of art and literature. Scientific men in Germany have striven to investigate the minutest principles of science, and adapt them in like ratio to the progress of society, so that theory and practice might proceed *pari passu*; thus preventing the possibility of those abuses which invariably result from social arrogance and prejudice. The universities at Berlin, Leipzig, Heidelberg, and Bonn, as well as many others, give the key-note to the education of the world.

In the fourth and fifth sections of his article, the editor of the *Hochi* intimates that "German literature seeks to attain civilization in the future, while Chinese literature looks for enlightenment in the past. The former aims at making itself the source of national wealth; the latter strives to convert the country to the old standard of morality. These two literatures differ as widely in their respective qualities as do water and fire . . . If the two were allowed to compete with each other, the superiority of either would at once be decided; but if they are to be so arranged as to be independent of each other, the superior qualities of the one must be kept in abeyance, in order to protect the inferior qualities of the other. . . . With regard to their efficiency, they should be regarded as two distinct literatures: the old and new. German literature aims at a new method of development; while Chinese literature praises the excellence of ancient culture. That these two literatures of so different natures must be allowed to maintain mutual independence, may be expressed by antiquarians as a proposition suitable to their usual mode of thought; but such views ought never to be entertained by scientific men who endeavour to govern the country on the strength of literature alone." So strange is the argument of the *Hochi*, and so unenlightened is the language it uses. To search for the truth amid the multiplicity of propositions and contradictions is the only way in which civilised societies can make any progress. Where intolerance of dissent forms a criterion, and where discussion is restricted, there lies the germ which eventually gives rise to the barbarity of barbarous nations. If the *Hochi*'s assertions are to be credited, it would be necessary to prevent two propositions of different natures from existing side by side, even for a single day; and to utterly abolish all undertakings which do not agree in principle, in accordance with the example furnished by the Chinese Emperor Shiko;¹ and, finally, to carry on the administration of a country on the basis of the uniformity of popular sentiment. Such propositions could never come from the lips of scholars familiar with true scientific principles.

No demonstration is needed to show that the discrepancies between Chinese and German literature are not so serious as the editor of the *Hochi* supposes. Although the latter aims at introducing a new method of development, as he justly points out, yet it does not forbid us to make researches into ancient principles, so as to compare them with those of the present day, and to prescribe for the future by reason of the conclusions arrived at. It even admits the necessity of making such researches, for the sake of scientific culture. How the prominent members of our society could persuade themselves to encourage the growth of Chinese literature, we do not pretend to understand; but we presume that their ideas originated from a belief in the necessity of investigating the culture of the past. Although Chinese literature cannot be directly recognised as synonymous with our own literature, yet its introduction into our country can be traced back to more than a thousand years ago. It has given colour to our ideas and materially changed our customs. Our constitution as well as the system of our Government, the mode of living as well as the style of dress, were completely reformed by the study of the Chinese classics. The study of Chinese literature is, in reality, nothing but an investigation of our own social changes. It is, then, not a matter

of surprise to see our countrymen spending much of their time in the study of that same literature, especially at present, now that their civilization is advancing with such irresistible force. That Europeans and Americans spare no time in studying the literature of Greece and Rome is due to the fact that all the sciences of the present generation have originated in these two literatures, and that, above all, the permanent and fundamental principles of philosophy and law can only be acquired from the works of the great thinkers of Ancient Greece and Rome, which clearly show successive alterations in the system of administration and in the mode of social organization. The study of the two literatures referred to was never considered as a supererogatory pursuit, nor was it undertaken as a mere pastime, as the editor of the "*Hochi*" affirms. Does he not assert that the principles of modern literature ought to be adopted conjointly with those of the past, and that it is absolutely indispensable for scientific men to devote their energies to the study of the former, without disregarding the latter? The most prominent members of our society attach great importance to Chinese literature, but this may have simply arisen from their desire to investigate the customs of the ancients. So far as the present state of affairs is concerned, no one seems willing to adopt the literature of China to the extent of obstructing the progress of other sciences and arts. Should the editor of the *Hochi* endeavour to direct his attacks against those who persistently cling to Chinese literature, his words would be much like shooting forth a volley of arrows in a place where no enemy is to be found. The assertion that, because German literature postulates a new mode of culture while Chinese literature seeks to encourage the customs of the past, these two literatures cannot be judged by the same standard, is simply the outcome of his ignorance of the fact that a literature can either be rejected or adopted at will, and that its investigators may form what opinions they please. It is scarcely necessary to show how his argument can be refuted.

In the seventh section, he uses somewhat allegorical language:—"A hen may raise a duckling, but will be surprised to find that the latter takes to the water. It is a pity that the hen is such an ignorant fowl. Things ought not to be adopted or their growth encouraged until their actual qualifications have been ascertained; for the growth of them will as much astonish the people as the duckling amazes its foster-mother. That Chinese literature is not able to promote or maintain the morality of a society may be proved by the fact that Chinese are characterized by base, unfaithful, and contemptible actions. . . . Whereas German literature certainly does not tend to moderate popular sentiment, and this is shown in the fact that the Germans are generally vehement and of violent temperaments." That Chinese literature fails to maintain the morality of the Chinese people can be plainly seen from their duplicity and disloyalty; but this does not prove that it is equally inefficient to support the morality of the Japanese people, for the degraded character of the Chinese cannot, from a logical point of view, affect the value of their literature, and it is impossible to infer that the adoption of their literature will equally tend to demoralize our own people. Refraining for a moment from carrying on our argument with reference to logical principles, and turning our glance solely to facts, we find that the moral, as well as the intellectual, development of the Japanese was entirely, if not principally, effected by the adoption of ancient Chinese literature, or Confucianism. Yet the people of our country are not so false and crafty as are Chinese. Not only is this true, but their morality is also not so many degrees lower than that of Europeans and Americans, and we may confidently assert that the progress made by them in the past is a gift they have successfully obtained from the study of the Chinese classics. This literature, then, possesses more than sufficient power to promote morality, although it may be unfit to maintain the morality of the Chinese. As regards the statement that the inability of German literature to moderate the current of social sentiment may be verified by the vehement and uncontrollable temper of the Germans, we are extremely surprised at the writer's ignorance of the truth. This statement might be true, were history untrustworthy; but, so long as history is authentic, it is certain that the epithets of ferocity and vehemence are not applicable to the Germans. Have the people of Germany ever risen in rebellion, or offered desperate resistance to their King and killed him on the scaffold? Have they ever fallen into a state of anarchy by adopting revolutionary creeds? Have they ever divided their country into two parts in the interest of self-profit; or have they taken up arms, and killed their brethren, in internecine combat? The events to which we have just alluded are those which generally result from the

extreme ferocity and barbarity of a people. The history of England and France makes sad mention of such events, but we fail to find them in German annals. Does the editor of the *Hochi* still desire to insist upon the ungovernable temper of the Germans in spite of such historical proofs? The encouragement of Chinese literature with a view to maintain social morality, and the study of German literature for the purpose of moderating popular sentiment, ought not to be compared with the story of the hen and her adopted duckling, but must be looked upon as operations which will enable us to reap a rich harvest in the future.

In the same section, the writer says that "in the event of the death of the present Emperor and the great statesmen of Germany, the spirit of the people will suddenly be roused, and a reign of confusion and disturbance ensue, which will be in strange contrast with the present peaceful state of affairs. Even now, socialists are scattered all over the Empire. . . . Some of the discontented classes have emigrated to America, despite the many thousand miles." The editor of the *Hochi* is, it seems, disposed to ascribe the spread of socialism to political mismanagement, but nothing can be more preposterous than such an assertion. *Socialists, and political parties of a similar nature in Germany, have never expressed themselves dissatisfied with the administration, but rather with the present style of social organisation.* The introduction of reforms into the administration will by no means mollify them; they aim rather at the dissolution of modern society, and ask that wealth and rank be equally divided among all men. *The disastrous results of the growth of socialism are universal in the 19th century, and are not at all confined to Germany. This may be clearly proved by the fact that England, France, Italy, and Spain have recently suffered from calamities brought about by the employment of dynamite.* Without taking these circumstances into consideration, the editor of the *Hochi* has endeavoured to demonstrate the discontent of the German people, and has thus fallen into serious error. The increasing number of emigrants to America is due to the difficulty of making a living surrounded by so dense a population, as well as to two or three other causes. This can by no means be taken as a proof that the people of Germany are utterly dissatisfied with the present mode of administration. The eighth section states that "the present tranquillity of the German empire and the strict obedience of the people to its despotic government must be attributed to the fact that the Emperor exercises extraordinary power, while his Ministers have acquired world-wide renown. Such a state of affairs can never have resulted from the mere peace-loving temperament of the people, as inspired by their literature." In speaking of the tranquillity of Germany, the editor has attached great importance to the names of the reigning Emperor and his Minister—Wilhelm and Bismarck—and repeatedly speaks of them in his article as the "experienced Emperor" and the "intelligent Minister." The Government of Prussia was firmly founded in the days of King Frederic and his direct predecessor. At a later period, it was considerably strengthened by the famous ministers Stein and Hardenburg; it has now attained unrivalled strength, but neither have Emperor Wilhelm nor Reichskanzler Bismarck been the principal factors in its improvement. The Prussian people look upon their government with feelings of profound reverence, nor do the trials and wars of the country depend so much upon the existence of Wilhelm and Bismarck as the editor of the *Hochi* conjectures. *German literature is, moreover, extensively adopted. Saxony, Baden, and Bavaria, as well as other confederated states, have all been noted for their men of erudition. It is not always necessary to go to Berlin in order to find intellectual culture. The peace or the troubles of the German Empire have not the least connection with German literature. Nor can the death or life of Emperor Wilhelm and Minister Bismarck affect the condition of that literature.* But the editor of the *Hochi* has obstinately asserted that "the despotic government of Germany has been instrumental in injuring her literature." Such assertions can hardly be allowed to pass without comment. Do the German people actually suffer from oppression or despotism? This question can easily be answered by those who have made themselves familiar with the inner workings of her institutions. A proverb says that the *freedom of Europe sprang from a German forest*, and this is sufficient to prove that the people of Germany have not suffered from tyranny as have most other nations. Freedom is the inherent property of the Germans, and many European nations, which now enjoy full liberty, are the descendants of this great land. *If Prussia had sustained so tyrannical an administration as the "Hochi's" editor declares, she would have been unable to maintain a system of independent municipality which is the very ground-*

work of liberty. That she could maintain this system undisturbed, is a conclusive proof of the steady growth of freedom.

Yet in the ninth section, the writer states that "French literature was at one time so earnestly encouraged in Germany that her King himself engaged the services of French professors, and struck up a warm friendship with them. Voltaire, Rousseau, and Montesquieu were held in high esteem and the sciences they had mastered were studied by many. . . . This may be the reason why German literati are disposed to uphold the opinions entertained by the revolutionary party in France, speaking as if they themselves were Voltaire and Rousseau. If German literature is to be adopted, we must expect that French culture will simultaneously find a way to the hearts of the people." In saying that a certain German King once engaged a number of French scholars with whom he had intimate relations, the writer evidently alludes to King Frederic, who was a famous patron of *belles-lettres*. Many of the prominent literati in his day received favours at his hands. As a poet, Voltaire succeeded in attracting the notice of Frederic, who was particularly fond of versification. This is the sole reason of his friendship with Frederic. Those who comment upon the cultivation of French literature in Germany can only allude to the traces of Frederic's fondness for that literature. The introduction of French literature by Frederic seems to have arisen from no other cause than that from which we have just mentioned. *In his reign, the system of independent municipality took deep root, and each of the cities and towns had its own particular government. Even his extraordinary ability failed to concentrate all political power in himself; and as, at that time, France had succeeded in carrying out the policy of centralisation to the fullest extent, just after the fall of Louis XIV., King Frederic endeavoured to reform existing customs by the introduction of French ideas.* With what other hope could he have imported the vague ideas of Voltaire and Rousseau? Patience and moderation are characteristics of the German people. They may have a *penchant* for conservatism, but none for revolutionary schemes. The French, on the contrary, are vehement in their opinions, and reckless in action. Therefore, it is but natural that the two peoples—Germans and French—should be irreconcilable enemies. The assertion that many of those Germans who have pursued the study of French literature are disposed to advocate the revolutionary cause in France, as if desirous of doing as much as did Voltaire and Rousseau, is entirely erroneous and unfounded. If such assertions were not purposely made by the editor for the promotion of this country's interests, we should say that they were the outcome of childish credulity. French literature is not highly appreciated in Germany, and its adoption together with German literature in our country need not be feared nor regretted.

The argument of the editor of the *Hochi* may be epitomized as follows:—First, that German literature has not yet made satisfactory progress in politics, economy, and law; secondly, that it is confined to mere logical investigation, a process which does not correspond with practical operations; thirdly, that those who cultivate it may become violent in temper and immoderate in character; fourthly, that Chinese and German literature cannot run parallel to each other, as the one aims at revolution and the other at conservatism; and lastly, that both the encouragement of Chinese literature for the maintenance of social morality, and the adoption of German literature for moderating popular sentiment, will doubtless produce exactly contrary results, as the introduction of the latter literature involves the adoption of French ideas. If the above propositions are carefully examined with reference to facts, as well as to logical principles, it will be clearly seen that they are mere castles-in-the-air and totally unsubstantial. Not one of them is true, as we have conscientiously demonstrated. If the editor of the *Hochi* regrets the growing influence of German and Chinese literature in our country, he wastes his sympathy on unrealities. Yet he actually asserts that those prominent men in our country who urge the necessity of encouraging German literature, are only impelled by the desire to promote their own selfish interests. This criticism is nothing but a libel, and ought never to have been expressed. We do not wish to waste our time in discussing such scurrilous statements. As we are not directly concerned in examining the merits of Chinese literature, our comments can neither promote nor impede our personal interests. Yet that we have directed our criticisms to these two literatures is simply because we wished, on the one hand, to arouse the editor of the *Hochi* from his silly dreams, and, on the other hand, to prevent the general public from falling into the errors he entertains.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

JUDGMENT.

Opinion and judgment of Hon. John A. Bingham, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America in Japan, before whom the above cause was brought and tried.

The plaintiff, who is the United States Consul-General at Kanagawa (Yokohama), alleges in his petition in this case, that the defendant, Thomas H. Tripler, is a citizen of the United States, resident at Yokohama, Japan; and that the Defendant, on the 31st day of December, 1883, and on other previous days, at the then Yokohama United Club in Yokohama, in a certain discourse concerning the plaintiff, in the presence and hearing of divers persons, did, maliciously and falsely, speak and publish of and concerning the plaintiff the following false, scandalous and defamatory words; that is to say: "He" (the plaintiff meaning) "went into the Kencho, and in an underhand manner got them" (the Japanese authorities meaning) "to sell him" (the plaintiff meaning) "the Consular buildings" (meaning that the plaintiff, in an unfair and improper manner, that is, by unfair and improper statements or representations, induced the Japanese authorities to sell to him, the said plaintiff, the buildings occupied as offices of the United States Consulate-General and for the use of the Court and jail attached thereto) "for twenty-two hundred yen." "He" (the plaintiff meaning) "had no right to buy them" (meaning the Consular buildings aforesaid) "at all,"—it is "contrary to law" (meaning that the plaintiff in making such alleged purchase, had violated law). "He has swindled the Government" (meaning that the plaintiff, in making such alleged purchase, had defrauded the Government of the United States, of which plaintiff was and is an official, and that the plaintiff had been thereby guilty of a criminal offence). "The Department of State has been informed of it, but has taken no notice; but old Frelinghuysen will not be there for ever, and when he goes we will get him out" (meaning that an accusation had been prepared by defendant, or some other person, accusing the plaintiff of the alleged illegal act on his part, heretofore referred to, and forwarded to the Department of State of the United States of America, at Washington; of which, said Department had taken no notice whatever, &c.)

The petition concludes with the general allegation that, by reason of the grievances complained of, the plaintiff has been brought into public scandal, and has been greatly injured in his good name, wherefore he prays that defendant may be adjudged to pay to the plaintiff \$5,000 damages and costs of suit.

To the plaintiff's petition, the defendant made answer, first, a general denial that he spoke and published of and concerning the plaintiff, the alleged defamatory words in the petition set forth; and second, "That, at the time of the alleged grievances set forth in the petition, he did speak of and concerning the plaintiff, that he the said plaintiff had improperly purchased, as Consul General, the buildings and premises now occupied by him, the said plaintiff, as Consular offices and his residence, that he, the said plaintiff, had no right to buy them at all, and that the said purchase and occupancy were contrary to law, all of which said statements are true, and all of which said words the said defendant had a right to say of and concerning the said plaintiff. Therefore the defendant prays that the petition be dismissed," &c.

Testimony on the part of the plaintiff;

G. H. Prichard testified in substance, that on the 30th or 31st December last (at the Club House in Yokohama), he heard defendant say that the General had in an underhand way purchased the Consular buildings, that he had no right to do so, that it was contrary to law, that the General had gone to the Kencho and bought the buildings in an underhand way, and had swindled the Government. On cross-examination, the witness said that this conversation was on the occasion of the election of a President of the Yokohama United Club, between 6 and 7 p.m., that Mr. Beato heard part of the conversation, also that Mr. Douglass, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Walker heard all the conversation; that defendant asked witness not to vote for the General. He also stated, I meant to say, that the defendant did say Consul-General Van

Buren was a swindler and that he had swindled the Government.

Mr. Beato testified on behalf of plaintiff to the following effect: that defendant said the General had bought the property for nothing, for a small price, and is swindling the Government, that the price was 2,200 yen, that he had got the Kencho to sell him the property for nothing; that Mr. Prichard and others were present at the conversation.

Mr. Walker testified to the effect that he heard defendant say in the Club House that the defendant had written to the Secretary of State, that the General had bought the Consulate; that he thought it was not generally known; and that the General was charging too much rent for it; that Mr. Beato was present and could hear the conversation, which took place about 9 or 10 p.m.; that defendant asked him, witness, to vote for Dr. Fisher.

It is proper to be noted that no testimony was given in the case which proved the utterance by the defendant of the following words charged in the petition, to wit:—"That old Frelinghuysen will not be there for ever, and when he goes we will get him (the Consul-General) out."

The plaintiff having rested his case upon the testimony of the three witness aforesaid, the defendant called Mr. Osborn, who testified, in substance, that he is engaged in the Kanagawa Kencho, and has to do with ground rents and the transfer of lands; knows location of U.S. Consulate in Yokohama; that the land is owned by the Japanese Government, and is rented by the United States, as witness believed; that he served notices for the ground rent to the U.S. Consulate-General. He has no means of knowing who owns the buildings, they formerly belonged to the Japanese Government before they were sold to General Van Buren as a private citizen, the title of Consul-General was presumed to be put in the document (the title-deed). The transfer to Mr. Van Buren was made in 1880; could not state what was paid for the same by him. The ground rent is \$27 97-100 per hundred (100) *tsudo* annually. He further testified that the lot 234 is owned by the Japanese Government, and that it is rented to the United States Government, and that the buildings were sold to General Van Buren as a private citizen.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu testified in substance, that he is a practitioner in the Japanese Courts of law, that about September last, under instructions of Mr. Litchfield (of defendant's Counsel), he enquired into the title of the Consulate, and gave Mr. Litchfield information as to the purchase of the buildings, and reported to him correctly the information which he (witness) had obtained: that he had obtained information in whose name the Consular buildings are registered; also the date of the transfer of the buildings, and the purchase price of the buildings, and the official character of the purchaser.

In reply to questions by plaintiff, the witness further testified, that in December last, at the time of the election for President of the Yokohama United Club, he first learned and was so informed by defendant that the information which he had obtained (above-mentioned) was for the use of the defendant, and that defendant at the same time in said conversation with witness "referred to the action of General Van Buren in the matter as a swindle upon the Government." Witness further testified for Defendant, that the name he gave to Mr. Litchfield as the name of the purchaser was General Van Buren, and that the information obtained by witness was that the purchaser was described as General Van Buren, Consul-General.

The defendant, Thomas H. Tripler, being duly sworn, testified on his own behalf to the effect that he is a member of the Yokohama United Club, that there was an election for President of the Club which closed on the 31st December last; that plaintiff, Mr. Litchfield, and Dr. Fisher were the candidates; that he opposed the election of plaintiff and favoured that of Dr. Fisher; that he had some conversation at the time with Mr. Prichard in the hall of the Club about the candidates, in which Mr. Prichard favoured the election of the plaintiff; that defendant then told Prichard he did not see how he could vote for Van Buren on the ground he took in regard to the property of the Club and his hostility towards its members; something was also said about Consular matters. Witness further said the General had got the Consular buildings very cheaply. He did not tell Mr. Prichard that the plaintiff had gone to the Kencho and got them to sell the Consular buildings in an underhand manner, nor that he had bought them for 2,200 yen.

He, witness, did say the plaintiff had got the ground for nothing; that it could not be held by a private individual, but he, witness, did not say that the plaintiff had swindled the Government, on that or any other occasion.

The witness did employ a person (Mr. Litchfield) to obtain information as to the transfer of

the buildings, and received information on that subject, and as to whom the buildings had been transferred, and that they had been transferred to General Thomas B. Van Buren, as Consul-General, and officially as such Consul-General; according to that information the gaol and all the buildings, out houses, etc., as they stand on the lot, were sold to him for 2,547 yen; the land was given him for nothing; that no purchase money or upset price was paid for the land.

In reply to plaintiff, the defendant testified among other things, that he did say the plaintiff had improperly purchased the buildings, and to the effect, that the purchase and holding were contrary to law. The witness also used the words, that the plaintiff had no right to buy them at all.

The defendant then put in evidence written testimony as follows: A certified copy of an official letter of plaintiff, as Consul-General, to Mr. Hay, Assistant Secretary of State, dated the 1st day of December, 1880, and numbered 483, in which letter the plaintiff said, "the Japanese authorities are now making an effort to get rid of all properties similar to this (the U.S. Consular jail and buildings) and have verbally proposed to me (the plaintiff) to become the purchaser of these particular buildings. I (the Consul-General) suppose no possible objection to my (his) making such purchase can exist, on the part of the Government, and as no legal obstacle intervenes, I (he) shall accept the proposition, of course, always reserving the buildings for our Consular occupation, and receiving the same rent as heretofore paid. Trusting that my (the Consul-General's) course may meet the approval of the Department.

I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed)

THOS. B. VAN BUREN,
Consul-General.

Defendant also put in evidence a certified copy of the letter of Mr. Payson, Third Assistant Secretary of State, which is as follows:

"No 224 Department of State,
Washington, January 13th, 1881.

Thomas B. Van Buren, Esq.,
Consul-General of the United States,
Kanagawa.

Sir,—Your despatches numbered 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485 and 486, the last dated Dec. 7th, have been received.

I am, Sir, etc., etc.,

(Signed)

CHARLES PAYSON,
Third Assistant Secretary."

The Defendant also put in evidence a certified copy of the official letter of the Plaintiff No. 500, dated January 18th, 1881, to the Assistant Secretary of State, the Hon. John Hay, in which the Plaintiff, referring to his No. 483, informed the Department that "the Japanese authorities have conveyed to me (the Plaintiff) the Consular and Jail buildings, I (he) agreeing to use the same as before for Consular purposes and upon the same terms. I (the Plaintiff) have therefore assumed their obligations as to repairs, etc.; this course has been pursued with all their properties occupied by foreigners, they giving as a reason for their determination to part with them, the constant trouble and expense they are put to in making the necessary repairs. Sincerely hoping and believing that my (his) action will meet the approval of the Department, I have, etc., etc.

(Signed)

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN,
Consul General."

The defendant also put in evidence copy of letter of Mr. Payson, 3rd Asst. Secy. of State, dated March 5th 1881, acknowledging receipt of Plaintiff's despatch No. 500 by its number only.

The defendant further put in evidence a certified copy of a letter of Governor Nomura Yasushi, addressed to plaintiff, under date 16th December, 1880, wherein the Governor stated:—"In view of the constant trouble to you and me by the repairs required for the buildings on lot 234, Foreign Concession, which for years have been leased to your Government as Consulate and gaol, I (the governor) have the honor to propose to sell you (the plaintiff) the buildings fences, &c., for the sum of yen 2,547.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed)

NOMURA YASUSHI,
Kanagawa Kenrei.

The defendant also put in evidence a certified copy of the plaintiff's reply to the Governor's letter, dated 17th December, 1880, wherein the plaintiff, acknowledging the receipt of said letter, and reciting the proposition so made by the Governor, to sell to him (the plaintiff) "the buildings fences, &c., for the sum of 2,547 yen," plaintiff said, "I accept the proposition and will be ready to pay the money at any moment when the conditions of the purchase shall be agreed upon and conveyance papers prepared; I suppose it will be of course understood that the buildings are always to be occupied

for Consular purposes unless otherwise expressly agreed upon by convention between the Imperial Japanese and other Governments, and that I (plaintiff) shall pay to the Kencho no other charge than ground rent I (the plaintiff) shall be pleased to know that the papers will be speedily prepared." I have &c., &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN,
Consul-General.

The defendant also put in evidence the original title deed executed by Governor Nomura Yasushi to the plaintiff, in Japanese, and the original official translation thereof in English, both dated 28th December, 1880. Certified copies of which originals were, with the consent of both parties, filed and made part of the record in the case; and which deed certifies that "the main buildings with outhouses, goal, gates and fences &c. standing on lot two hundred and thirty four (234) Foreign Concession, at present occupied by the United States Consulate-General, have, by mutual agreement, been sold and are hereby transferred to T. B. Van Buren Esq., United States Consul-General, in consideration of the sum of two thousand five hundred and forty seven yen, the receipt of which I (the Governor) hereby acknowledge."

(Signed)

NOMURA YASUSHI,
Kanagawa Kenrei.

Defendant also put in evidence an original, receipt dated 5th of February 1884 under the seal of the Kanagawa Ken for the sum of Mexican dollars 175.40 paid by the U.S. Consul-General for ground rent due on Yokohama lot No. 234, for one year, from 31st January, 1884, to 31st January, 1885, a certified copy of which original is, with the consent of the parties, filed and made part of the record in this case. The defendant also put in evidence an official copy of the Annual Report of the 5th auditor of the Department of the Treasury of the United States for fiscal year ending June 30th 1883, showing, on page 30, that the rent of the prison in Kanagawa, (Yokohama) for the said year, was \$600.00.

The defendant also put in evidence an original letter, dated November 24th, 1883, from the Hon. John Dairs, assistant secretary of state, addressed to the Defendant, of which letter the following is a copy:—

"Department of State, Washington.

Washington, Nov. 24th 1883.

T. H. Tripler, M. D.

Yokohama, Japan.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 5th ultimo, in relation to the purchase by General Van Buren of the buildings occupied by him as Consul-General of the United States, I have to say that this Department was aware of the intention of Mr. Van Buren to become the owner of the property and did not oppose a transaction into which he entered as a private citizen and at his own risk.

I am, sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOHN DAIRS,
Assistant Secretary."

The defendant further put in evidence a paper of Mr. Geo. E. Rice, by him duly certified as Vice and Deputy Consul-General, to the effect that the yearly rental paid by the U. S. Government for the premises occupied by the Consul-General, is \$1,536.40, which includes ground rent, rent of jail and rent of Consular buildings.

The defendant here rested his case.

Thereupon the plaintiff called Mr. Percival Osborn, before examined by the defendant, who on his oath further testified in reply to questions of plaintiff, that since he was on the stand before, he had received permission to tell all he knew about the circumstances of the sale of the Consular buildings; that he had looked up some things and posted himself, that he was sent on several occasions to General Van Buren (sometimes alone), and asked him if the Government would not buy the buildings, or whether he would not buy them; he qualified this by saying, "I (the witness) am not certain. He (plaintiff) said the Government was unwilling to own any property, and it was useless to ask them. After several conversations, how many, witness did not recollect, there were several letters, the price was communicated to General Van Buren by letter, and was accepted. The date of the conversations, and who made them, I (the witness) forget. Do not recollect whether other sales were made about that time."

The plaintiff, having been duly sworn, testified on his own behalf (the defendant objecting) in substance as follows, that some years ago he received a proposition from the Kencho, to have the United States Government purchase the buildings at an estimate of \$5,000, which he communicated to the Department and advised the purchase very strongly. The reply of the Department was, that the offer should come from or through the Minister, and afterwards advised plaintiff that it was against the policy of the Government to purchase property abroad.

In the latter part of 1880, certain Kencho officials came to plaintiff's office, and stated that the Japanese authorities were anxious to part with all properties leased to foreign Governments; that the expense was large, and the buildings decreasing in value; that the authorities were determined to offer the buildings occupied by plaintiff as Consul-General for the appraised price of the materials, and wanted to know if plaintiff would send the proposition to Washington; the plaintiff replied he would not; the Government had once informed him that any such offer should come from the United States Minister; that he (plaintiff) told them they might send their offer through the United States Minister, or the Japanese Minister in Washington; but plaintiff said he preferred to have nothing to do with it. We had (he thought) two or three interviews on the subject at intervals. Don't remember the date. Finally urged plaintiff to buy the buildings individually to which plaintiff replied that he knew of no legal objections of any kind to his doing so, but he would prefer before giving an answer to examine the law and regulations; that he did examine the Statutes and Regulations, and could find nothing opposed to such a transaction. At another time they asked the witness (the plaintiff) to purchase as soon as possible. Witness replied, "submit the matter and price to me (the plaintiff) in writing."

"They did so make an offer in writing, which is in evidence. I accepted by letter, which is in evidence, and advised the Department of State by letter, in evidence. I have since that time receipted to the Government of the United States in my own name, not officially; and the accounts have been paid by the Treasury Department and approved by the Department of State."

"It is proper to say that the offer was made to me individually, and that the property was purchased by me individually, and is clearly so understood by both parties and the Department of State. The title to the lot is held by the United States."

In addition to this ground rent, which is part of the \$1,500, I have estimated the yearly repairs at about \$400, and pay about 150 yen a year for keeping grounds in repair; \$288 insurance on the furniture and buildings."

I (plaintiff) bought this property to make money out of it. Could I rent these premises for commercial purposes, I could double the rent. I (plaintiff) do not know who the Kencho officials were who had conversations with me, except Mr. Osborn. Any private individual has the right to own property on that lot (No. 234)."

When the foregoing testimony given by plaintiff in person was concluded, the testimony of both parties was closed.

Having thus summarized all that he deems material of the evidence which was admitted and made part of the case, the undersigned, in accordance with the request of the defendant's counsel and with his duty as well, takes judicial notice of the conventions and agreements entered into by the Government of the United States and the Governments of other Powers, with the Government of Japan in relation to the occupancy of lots in Yokohama for Consular and other public purposes.

In the officially published volume of treaties and conventions concluded between the empire of Japan and foreign nations, pp. 234-240, is recorded the convention of December 19th, 1864, between this Government and the Governments of Great Britain, France, the United States of America, and the Netherlands.

This convention, Art. VI., declares that lot No. 2, in the plan annexed, is actually assigned for Consular residence and offices. By the Convention of December 29th, 1866, *ibid* pp. 241-248, between Japan and the four foreign Governments named above, it is provided, Art. III., that three (3) New blocks on the East side of Centre-street, Yokohama, and the Consular lot, shall be reserved for the occupation of Foreigners; and by Art. IV. it is provided that one of these new blocks shall be reserved for public buildings required by the Foreign Community and approved by the Consuls, such as Town Hall, Public Rooms, Post office, etc. Art. XI. declares that these lots reserved for public buildings, &c., as provided in Art. IV. &c., shall be given over to the Foreign Consuls in trust, and by deeds to be approved by the Foreign Representatives; and the Foreign Consuls shall provide that these lands shall be used for no other purposes than those provided in this agreement; and in the event that these conditions be infringed, and on the failure of the Foreign Consuls to correct such infringement, the Japanese Government, with the concurrence of the Foreign Representatives, may reenter and take possession of that portion of said lands upon which the infringement may have been committed. On the same principles it is further provided that the Japanese Government may annul the title deed of any portion of the Consular lot. That said lot, No. 234, became a Consular lot for the

use of the United States, and was for that purpose, together with the buildings thereon, leased to the United States for many years previous to the date of the purchase, and at the time of the transfer of said premises to the plaintiff, is shown by the letter before referred to of Governor Nomura to the Consul-General; and it is also shown by the official letter of the Kenrei of Kanagawa, Mutzu Munemitsu, dated April 22nd, 1872, addressed to Mr. Mitchell, then U. S. Vice-Consul at Kanagawa, that a contract for a jail had been contracted for by the Kenrei with the U. S. Government, to be erected on said lot 234, for which an annual rental of 10 per cent. on the cost thereof, was to be paid by the United States, with a condition that the jail could not be returned to the Japanese Government within a period of ten years, and then only in my opinion upon the election of the United States Government. I consider it my duty to take judicial notice of this letter, inasmuch as a copy thereof was transmitted to me by the plaintiff as Consul-General, with his official note of date March 14th, 1875, and remains on record in this Legation, and furnishes evidence of the annual rental contracted by the U. S. Government to be paid for the use of the jail, etc. It remains for the undersigned to consider and decide first what words in the petition, charged to have been falsely and maliciously uttered by the defendant of and concerning the plaintiff, have been proved as therein laid. The whole testimony justifies the conclusion that all the words charged in the petition are substantially proved by the preponderance of the evidence in the case, except the two charges following:—"The Department of State has been informed of it, but has taken no notice; but old Frelinghuysen will not be there for ever, and when he goes we will get him (the plaintiff) out." There is no evidence whatever in the case which proves this allegation as laid, or that even tends to prove it. The following charge laid in the petition is also excepted, it not having been proved as laid, to wit:—"He" (the plaintiff meaning) "went to the Kencho and in an underhand manner got them" (the Japanese authorities meaning) "to sell him" (the plaintiff meaning) "the Consular buildings for twenty-two hundred yen." It is to be noted, that by plaintiff's witnesses testimony was given of words not charged in the petition as follows:—"That defendant did say Consul-General Van Buren was a swindler;" that the "General had bought the property (the Consular buildings and jail) for nothing," and is "swindling the government;" that "he (defendant) thought it was not generally known, that he (the General) was charging too much rent for it." It has been held, and, it is believed, correctly held, that, "if the plaintiff prove words not laid in the declaration tending to show malice, the defendant may, under the general issue, repel the malice and in mitigation of damages prove these words to be true, even though in themselves actionable." 1st *Hilliard*, p. 384, sec. 9.

The defendant, having justified in his answer the speaking by him at the time of the alleged grievances, of and concerning the plaintiff, as to the following words:—"that he"—(the said plaintiff) "had improperly purchased as Consul-General the buildings and premises now occupied by him" (the said plaintiff) "as Consular offices and his residence;" that "he" (said plaintiff) "had no right to buy them at all, and that the said purchase and occupancy were contrary to law, and all of which said words are true," &c, it is important to enquire whether this plea of justification is proved. It cannot be doubted that the words spoken by the defendant, as confessed in his answer, and also the words laid in the petition, so far as proved or admitted in this case, were spoken exclusively concerning the purchase of these buildings made by the plaintiff in December, 1880, and related exclusively to the date of said purchase. Was the plaintiff on the 17th day of December, 1880, when he concluded the contract with Governor Nomura for the purchase of these buildings, or on the 28th December, 1880, when the governor executed to the plaintiff the title deed therefor, which transferred said buildings to plaintiff as his private property, absolutely, and without limitation or condition, authorized by law to make said contract and take to himself said buildings as his private property and occupy the same in his own right? It cannot be questioned that at the dates aforesaid of the purchase and transfer of said buildings, the United States Government held the same together with said lot No. 234; exclusively for its own use for consular purposes and for prison purposes, and subject to the conditions, prescribed in the conventions of 1864 and 1866 between the Japanese Government and the Governments of Great Britain, the United States, France, and the Netherlands, hereinbefore referred to. It must be concluded, that without the consent of the United States first obtained, the plaintiff had no legal authority to conclude said contract of purchase or to take to himself absolutely

and unconditionally, as he did, said transfer of the said Consular buildings and jail as his private property and for his own profit, or, as he stated in his testimony, "to make money out of it." That no authority for this transaction of the plaintiff had been conferred upon the plaintiff, and that no consent had been given thereto by the Government of the United States at or before the transaction, is clear upon the facts in the case, as shown by the evidence on record.

Mr. Osborn testified that he was in the service of the Governor in the fall of 1880, when he called upon the plaintiff and enquired of him, if the Government of the United States would not buy the Consular buildings and jail; thereby implying that the Governor's agent was instructed that the sale of the buildings should be made, if at all, to the United States Government. The plaintiff, as appears by his own testimony, entertained the same opinion, when the offer was first proposed in 1875, to sell the buildings to the United States Government, which offer he communicated to the Department of State in that year, and was by the Department instructed that the "offer should come from or through the Minister." The plaintiff further testified that, in the latter part of 1880, certain Kencho officials, whose names are unknown to him, came to the plaintiff's office and stated that the Japanese authorities had determined to offer the Consular buildings and jail for the appraised price of the material, and wanted to know if the Consul-General would send the proposition to Washington. From which it is apparent that the Japanese authorities still were of the opinion, as in 1875, that the sale and transfer of the buildings should be made to the United States Government. It was not until the officials had asked if the plaintiff would send the proposition to Washington for the sale of these buildings at the appraised price of the materials, and had received the answer of the plaintiff that he would not send the proposition to Washington, and added that the Government had instructed him, on a former occasion, that the offer should come from the United States Minister, &c., nor was it until after two or three interviews had been had on the subject between them and plaintiff, that, "they finally" as plaintiff testified, "asked me (plaintiff) whether I individually would buy them (the buildings)." "I (the plaintiff) said I knew of no legal objections of any kind to my doing so, but that I would prefer before giving an answer to examine the law and "regulations." It further appears in the plaintiff's testimony that in a subsequent interview when they (the Kencho officials), again urged the matter upon me, (the plaintiff) I (he) stated to them, I would make the purchase and would write at once to the Department of State the fact of the offer and my (his) intention, and ask the Department's approval; and further, plaintiff testified, "I did so write to the Department as shown by letter to the Department of State in evidence" (see letter of plaintiff to the Department of State, December 1st, 1880). The question arises, why should the plaintiff write to the Department of State his intention to make this purchase and ask the Department's approval of such purchase, if, as plaintiff now alleges, he had a legal right to make the purchase individually and for his own exclusive benefit? As the plaintiff further testifies, "they then (the Kencho officials) at another interview shortly afterwards (that is shortly after the above statement was made to them by plaintiff that he would make the purchase, etc.), urged upon me, (the plaintiff) to complete the purchase as soon as possible, giving their reasons that concerned themselves not me (the plaintiff). I (the plaintiff) told them to submit the matter and price to me (him) in writing." "They did so make the offer in writing, which is in evidence" (see Governor Nomura's letter to plaintiff dated December 16th, 1880). "I (plaintiff) accepted the offer by letter, which is also in evidence, and so advised the Department of State, which is also in evidence," (see plaintiff's letter to Governor Nomura, dated Dec. 17th, 1880, and plaintiff's letter to State Department, of date, January 18th, 1881). It is to be observed that in his letter to plaintiff the Governor offers to sell to the plaintiff "the buildings on lot 234, foreign concession, which for years have been leased to your (the Consul-General's) Government as a Consulate and gaol. I (the Governor) have the honor to propose to sell you (the plaintiff) the buildings, fences, etc., for the sum of yen 2,547," and it is also to be noted, that in plaintiff's reply, of date, Dec. 17th, 1880, he says "I (the plaintiff) accept the proposition, and will be ready to pay the money at any moment, when the conditions of the purchase shall be agreed upon, and conveyance papers prepared. . . . I (plaintiff) will be pleased to know that the papers will be speedily prepared." The papers were prepared. The deed of sale and transfer was executed December, 28th, 1880, and the receipt of 2,547 yen (the consideration paid) was therein acknowledged.

This deed sells and transfers the buildings absolutely and unconditionally to plaintiff as his private property, and by its terms excludes the conclusion, that it was understood or intended to be understood by the contracting parties, "that the main buildings, outhouses, gaol, gates, fences, &c., standing on lot two hundred and thirty four (234)," and sold to the plaintiff as aforesaid, were to be occupied for Consular and prison purposes by any foreign State, save at the pleasure and election of the plaintiff. The parties to this transaction are in my opinion estopped by the express terms of the title-deed from assuming that any right of the United States for the use of the buildings for Consulate and prison purposes was thereby saved or assured to the United States. Inasmuch as the defendant served due notice on the plaintiff that on the trial he would demand of plaintiff the production of the originals or authenticated copies of the correspondence of the plaintiff with the Kencho, and also of the correspondence of plaintiff with the State Department, relative to the transfer of said buildings and also of the deed or deeds of transfer by the Kencho of the buildings to the plaintiff; and as an order was made accordingly by the undersigned for their production by plaintiff in court, it is but just to conclude that the plaintiff has furnished all the correspondence, by copy or original, had by him with the Kencho officials or with the Department of State concerning the purchase of, and the transfer to him of, the property, and also all deeds, or copies thereof, of said transfer. It is also to be noted that plaintiff's sworn statement makes no mention of any other written agreement or contract with the Governor for the sale and transfer to him of the said property. Manifestly these buildings on the Consular lot No. 234, are as much a part of the lot of land as is the ground on which they stand, and therefore it results that the plaintiff had no more color of right to purchase the buildings as his private property and for his exclusive benefit than he had to purchase the land itself.

Upon the evidence thus furnished and of record, I find that the defendant was justified in uttering and publishing, as pleaded by him, the words specified and alleged to be true in his answer, to wit: "He (the said plaintiff) had no right to buy them" (meaning the consular buildings aforesaid) "at all" and that "the said purchase was contrary to law."

Of the words not included in the defendant's plea of justification, and which are charged in the petition, it is my opinion that only the first and third charges in the petition are actionable *per se*. Have they, the first and third charges, been proved as laid and as the law requires? The other words before noted herein by me, which are not specified or charged in the petition, but testified to by plaintiff's witness, do not at present call for special consideration.

The words laid in the petition which remain to be considered are, 1st, "He" (the plaintiff) "went to the Kencho, and in an underhand manner got them to sell him the Consular buildings for twenty two hundred yen." In my opinion this charge, as stated in the petition, is not proved as laid in the petition and as the law requires. The price therein alleged, 2,200 yen, was only sworn to by one witness, (and he expressed doubts as to the amount), and it is positively denied by the testimony given by the defendant that he stated in conversation any price.

2nd. The words, "He" (the plaintiff) "has swindled the government," are, in my opinion, by the preponderance of evidence proved to have been spoken as laid, and are actionable *per se*; and that they were spoken of plaintiff, and concerning the purchase made by plaintiff of the Consular buildings and gaol. The circumstances of the speaking are to be considered. It was at the time of the Club election, wherein the plaintiff and others were candidates, and the other two witnesses of plaintiff were electors. The words, it seems, were addressed to Mr. Prichard, and partially heard by Mr. Beato and Mr. Walker. The defendant was opposing the election of plaintiff and favouring that of Dr. Fisher. The witness, Mr. Prichard, favored the election of plaintiff. The fact that only on that occasion, and in the heat of the controversy as to the merits of the candidates, is it shown that the defendant spoke any of the words as charged in the petition; and the further fact that those utterances were made three years after the purchase of the property by plaintiff, seem, to some extent, to rebut the presumption of malice. It is held that the defendant may prove under the general issue that the words were spoken on a justifiable occasion, without malice or under circumstances which induced him erroneously to make the charge complained of, believing it to be true. 1 *Hilliard*, p. 314, sec. 9.

The truth ought to be admissible in evidence to explain the intent and not in every instance to justify it. 2 *Kent*, p. 26. Damages can be given only for the words charged in the declaration, and proved as therein laid. 1 *Hilliard on Torts*, p. 314.

If the plaintiff prove, as I have before stated, words not laid in the declaration, tending to show malice, the defendant may, under the general issue, repel the malice, and in mitigation of damages prove these words to be true, even though in themselves actionable. 1 *Hilliard*, p. 314 sec. 9.

A select man having said in good faith, "the Plaintiff has put in two votes," it was held that the charge for slander could not be maintained when Plaintiff's own conduct was such as to induce the Defendant to believe it to be true. 12 *Pickering* p. 163.

If the statements are true, they are not libellous, however malicious. So, although untrue, if made in good faith, believing, or having probable cause to believe them true, the burden of proving a want of probable cause is upon the Plaintiff. 1 *Hilliard on the Law of Torts*, p. 335, sec. 16.

In the case of Howard vs. Thompson, in the Supreme Court of New York, reported in 21st *Wendell* pp. 320-326, wherein Howard, plaintiff, complained that while he held the office of Inspector of Customs and keeper of the Public Stores of the United States, the defendant falsely libelled him by addressing certain letters to the Secretary of the Treasury, charging that the plaintiff had been guilty of fraud in the execution of his trust as such keeper, &c., the record shows that the question was raised by defendant on the trial, that until plaintiff showed want of probable cause, defendant was entitled to non-suit; and that a complaint addressed by a citizen to the proper tribunal against another, from motives of ill-will towards the Plaintiff, subjected the complainant to an action of slander unless it be apparent that the complaint was not without probable cause. The Supreme Court held in this case, that where the letters were addressed to the officer having the power, and with whom rested the duty to remove, if the charges assigned were by him found to be true and were directly forwarded to him, there was not the least doubt that they were as much without the doctrine of libel as an indictment, and cited the case of *Rex vs. Baillé*, 2 *Espinasse's N. P.* 91. The complaint in this case was that a printed book which contained an account of the abuses of Greenwich Hospital, and treated the officers of that institution with much asperity, had been distributed among the Governors of the Hospital.

On motion for a criminal information Lord Mansfield stopped the prosecution on the point that such a proceeding did not amount even to a publication. He put his ruling on the ground that the distribution of the book had been confined to persons, who were, from their situation, called on to redress the grievances complained of, and had the power to do it.

The Supreme Court of New York further held that actions for petitions or remonstrances addressed to the appointing power, being *quasi* for malicious prosecution, will not lie where it comes out on the whole evidence that there was probable cause, and added, "it will never do to say that where there are circumstances raising a strong suspicion of official misconduct, the friends of the officer, or persons indifferent alone, shall come within the protection. It is important that others more ready should be equally favored. There is no reason, if they bear actual ill will to the plaintiff, why this should remove from them what would be of itself a complete shield to the rest of the community."

The plaintiff (Howard), say the Court, "admits that he took the timber entrusted to him as keeper of the public stores, and converted it to his own use in building a dwelling house. The defendant saw or was informed of the fact. Admitting, say the Court, for the present, that the plaintiff had a right thus to convert the timber, can it be said that his conduct was so entirely pure on its face as to raise no misgivings in the minds of his neighbors? They knew him for a public trustee, and saw him converting to his own use a portion of what he had in charge. "At any rate," say the Court, "whatever may be the general merit of the plaintiff, and however innocent he may be in this particular, we cannot hold the defendant criminal for thus communicating (to the Secretary of the Treasury) "what the plaintiff has been so unfortunate as to give him (the defendant Thompson) probable cause for supposing to be true."

Upon this ruling and upon the other authorities herein cited, it seems to me clear that the letter of defendant to the Secretary of State, which the plaintiff (Thomas B. Van Buren), after the testimony of both parties to this action had been closed, offered as evidence in the case, and to the admission of which as evidence therein the defendant (Thomas H. Tripler) objected, was properly rejected at the trial by the undersigned as evidence in the case, inasmuch as the letter, upon all the facts in the case, comes within the rule of protected communications; and, if admissible, could only be received in chief as evidence of written defamation (which is not charged in the petition), as it contained nothing to rebut or impeach the testimony of the

defendant. The evidence upon the whole case shows that the plaintiff's acts which had come to the knowledge of the defendant, gave the defendant probable cause for believing all that the letter contains to be true as therein stated, and justifies the conclusion that the defendant did in fact write the letter to the Secretary of State in good faith upon probable cause and believing the statements therein to be true, and for the information only of the Secretary who had the power to enquire into and correct the wrong done to the Government, if upon enquiry he should find wrong to have been done by the plaintiff in the premises. It is proper to further state that there is no evidence that the defendant, when he wrote the letter, had any information whatever that the State Department had any knowledge of the purchase of the premises by the plaintiff, nor is there any evidence that at the time of the alleged speaking of the words in December last, the defendant had any information that the Department had authorized or approved the purchase so made by the plaintiff.

It appears from the testimony that, at the time of the alleged speaking of the words by the defendant in December last, the defendant had knowledge that the entire property had, for years previous to the sale thereof, in December, 1880, to the plaintiff, been held by the United States Government in its own right for Consular and jail purposes, and that the plaintiff had, in December, 1880, purchased the property, and had paid therefor two thousand five hundred and forty-seven (2,547) yen.

It was publicly known (and I deem it my duty to take notice of the fact), that at the date of this purchase in December, 1880, yen were selling as merchandise in Yokohama at one hundred and sixty-six or more yen for one hundred Mexican dollars. As the title deed certifies that the consideration of the sale was two thousand five hundred and forty-seven (2,547) yen, and acknowledges the receipt of two thousand five hundred and forty-seven yen, it is presumable that the purchase money was paid in yen, (especially as no testimony was given to the contrary). It results that the yen so paid for the premises were equal at the time of purchase to fifteen hundred and thirty-five (1,535) Mexican silver dollars.

It also appears that it came to the knowledge of the defendant, before December last, that the United States held this property subject to the conventions of 1864 and 1866, and that it could not be sold or held as private property for private use. It further appears in testimony that from and since the 1st January, 1881, plaintiff has been receiving from the United States Government as rental for said lot and buildings, then and still occupied by him for United States Consular and jail purposes, the sum of fifteen hundred and thirty-six and 40/100 (\$1,536.40) dollars annually, which sum it is presumed, in the absence of testimony to the contrary, is paid by the Government in gold, and which, at the current rate of exchange at Yokohama, is equal to sixteen hundred and ninety (\$1,690) Mexican silver dollars, thus reimbursing the plaintiff in one year the purchase-money so paid by him, and also the ground rent by him paid, one hundred and seventy-five and 40/100 Mexican silver dollars (\$175.40) annually, less (20) twenty dollars Mexican.

It has been hereinbefore shown that all the words proved to have been spoken by the defendant of and concerning the plaintiff, as laid in the petition, have been justified in defendant's answer, and the speaking thereof is in my opinion justified by the testimony and proved to be true for reasons hereinbefore stated, except the words, "He has swindled the Government of the United States," etc. These words last mentioned, have, in my opinion, by the preponderance of the evidence, been proved to have been spoken by defendant in December last of and concerning the plaintiff and the purchase so made by plaintiff of said property, and have been strictly proved as laid, and as the law requires. The defendant did not justify as to these words. I therefore find upon the evidence that the defendant is guilty of the charge last above mentioned and as laid in the petition.

The only question that remains is to consider the measure of damages under all the circumstances, and in the light of all the facts in the case, as proved. I hold the law to be that under the general issue the defendant may prove in mitigation of damages that he spoke the words under circumstances which induced him erroneously to make the charge complained of believing it to be true, and especially when the action of the plaintiff in the matter of which he spoke had been such as to induce the defendant to believe that the purchase made by the plaintiff of the property which was rightfully held by the United States Government was unlawful and a fraud on the Government.

Can it be said that the purchase by the plaintiff of this property for a mere nominal consideration, which the plaintiff made in December, 1880, and which at that time he had no right or color of

right to make, not having the consent of his own Government in the premises, and as it clearly appears the plaintiff could not rightfully acquire the same as his private property under the conventions of 1864 and 1866, and by reason of the rights therein of the United States Government—was not calculated to induce the defendant, who had knowledge of these circumstances, to believe that the said transaction, on the part of the plaintiff, was fraudulent as against the United States Government? It cannot be doubted in my opinion upon all the facts proved in the case, that although the defendant has not pleaded justification as to this charge, the fact that plaintiff was so unfortunate in this transaction as to induce the defendant to believe that he had wrongfully, unlawfully, and for his own gain, as an agent of the United States, defrauded the Government thereof in the purchase thus made by him, however innocent the plaintiff may be in this particular, must have great weight in determining the damages in the case.

It must be conceded that the plaintiff had, as shown by all the testimony, given probable cause to induce the defendant to believe that this accusation, made by him as charged, was true, and that the case is not such as to justify vindictive or exemplary damages. No evidence was given of special damages.

I therefore assess the plaintiff's damages in the premises at twenty (\$20) dollars, and do hereby adjudge and decree that the defendant, Thomas H. Tripler, pay to the plaintiff, Thomas B. Van Buren, said sum of twenty (\$20) dollars, his damages assessed as aforesaid, and I do further adjudge and decree that said defendant pay the costs of this suit.

(Signed) JOHN A. BINGHAM,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America in Japan.
United States Legation,
Tokei, Japan, May 5th, 1884.

IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two
Judges Assisting.—SATURDAY, May 10th, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into
the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Com-
pany's steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late
master of the steamship *Akitsuishima Maru*, by
his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yoko-
hama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of
the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo
Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appel-
lant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the
respondent.

Mr. Ramsay, resuming his address, said—Here I must quote from the translations of the minutes of the Court (page 3)—“The appellant states that he looked at the light for eight or nine minutes” (true, as it is evidence), “and saw it in the same direction as he expected the Siriya-saki Light, that is in the West. The chief mate stated, at the same time, that he also believed it to be the Siriya-saki Light, and the distance of the Light to be 10 to 15 miles; and that the third officer made the same reply.” This is true only as to the light, but inexplicably incorrect in regard to distance: see third officer's evidence, page 2. “What distance off?” “About four miles.” To Captain Frahm—“How did you estimate the light to be four or five miles off?” “By guess.” I would state, in the same manner as the master and chief officer. The master's report states 18 miles distant: the chief officer 10 to 15 miles, and the third officer four and four to five miles. From the Court's minutes (translation page 3, 24th line), can Mr. Rossetsu be considered to be in possession of his senses when he states—“That the three Judges altogether put on one side the evidences of the four respectful witnesses (viz.: Captain, chief officer, and third officer, three in number) and made out the judgment from the evidence of a mere seaman. It is too absurd altogether. I can only say his brain was enveloped in darkness equal to the imaginary darkness in which the *Akitsuishima Maru* was. Then he continues, “This is the chief objection to the said judgment.” This statement made by Mr. Rossetsu is a wilful perversion of the truth, and he is worthy of being rebuked for endeavouring to bring into this honourable Court of Appeal such an accusation against the Marine Court of Enquiry. Here I would state that the summing up and the judgment of the Marine Court of Enquiry was translated into the Japa-

nese language for the perusal and consideration of the officers of the Noshomusho, the head of the Department being H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, who, after due consideration, approved of the same and affixed his seal. In regard to the third reason given for the judgment, as stated by Mr. Rossetsu, “neglect of duty in leaving the bridge and deck when so uncertain of his position and distance from the land when the ship was steaming full speed towards it.” Mr. Rossetsu has stated that “if he could show that the appellant was justified in concluding that the light was Siriya-saki, and therefore he could go to rest without fear, this reason for the decision would fall through.” He (Mr. Rossetsu) has not endeavoured to prove this point as yet; consequently I cannot remark thereon, as I presume he is desirous of commenting on Captain Young's evidence as given on the 25th April, to prove the point above. At this point the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant refers to the reply to the petition of appeal: good. Mr. Rossetsu referred to the respondent's answer, which stated that no bearings had been taken by the compass (page 9, reply to Petition). Mr. Rossetsu states:—“But the evidence of the appellant and his officers went to show that bearings must have been taken, for they unanimously agreed that the light bore West.” On this point, what does the evidence state? (See master's evidence page 9). “Bearing not taken on account of funnel.” Nor were any bearings taken thereof either before or after the ship was on her course, and for the neglect of which by the master, the vessel was lost. Referring to the evidence of the chief officer, page 4. “The light disappeared, I judged, W. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S., distance about 12 miles.” The bearing I must here state was not taken by the compass, but arrived at by judging, i.e. guessing. Refer to page 7—cross-examination of master. “I ascertained the bearing by bridge compass.” By Captain Frahm—“that would be $4\frac{1}{2}$ points on port bow.” “How could you possibly take a correct bearing having a weather cloth between the compass and the object?” “I took the bearing as correctly as possible.” “How much is your bearing likely to be incorrect?” “I do not know.” Hence the bearing was only judged. Page 13, master's evidence:—“This screen would be about 6 points on each bow.” Page 12. “What height was compass screen amid-ships?” “It was attached to a pole compass in middle of bridge, about two feet on each side of the pole; it was 6 feet from bridge to deck, being about 2 feet above the compass.” This disposes of bearings of the light being taken by compass. Is any master of a ship justified in navigating his vessel entirely by a compass so situated as to render a correct bearing of a light or object being taken from right ahead to 6 points on each bow, a matter of impossibility? Certainly not; yet Johannes Frahm did, and result was the vessel being wrecked. Mr. Rossetsu referring to respondent's answer (page 1). “The appellant never attempted to ascertain his position at any time after losing sight of the land on the morning of the 9th October; that the vessel had not been navigated at all, but allowed to take her own course, and that everything had been done by guess,” is unquestionably true; for, firstly, refer to the log book; there is nothing to be found there to enable anyone to work out the position of the ship. Secondly, refer to the Master's evidence, page 8. “What use is a log-book?” “To show a record of the ship's proceedings.” (Which this does not.) “Who is responsible for the log-book being correctly kept?” “The Captain is, together with the chief officer.” Page 5. “How was ship's position ascertained at 5.30 p.m. on the 9th?” “By my own calculation and the log.” (Yet there is nothing recorded in the log.) Page 8. “How often was ship's dead reckoning worked up?” “I worked it up every day myself. I gave it to the chief officer every day at noon, for him to enter it in log book.” Here I would most emphatically state that it is a matter of impossibility for anyone to work up his ship's position by dead-reckoning. For the dead-reckoning is always ascertained from the course steered, distance run, leeway, and set of current, taken from the ship's log-book, and none of these points are filled in at all, excepting a few courses. Hence it was impracticable for the master to work up her position at any time, as he seldom, if ever, saw the log-book (p. 8). Page 14. “As you ignored the ship's log-book, what record have you of the ship's courses at all, or of her movements?” “None but my chart.” Here it must be admitted to be beyond dispute a fact that the master never worked up the ship's position at all by dead-reckoning, for he ignored the log-book, and had no record of ship's courses steered at all. Mr. Rossetsu referring to the respondent's answer also continues:—“But the Court must remember that for 40 hours previous to the catastrophe, neither sky nor land could be seen, therefore no observation could be taken; consequently the only way the captain could

judge of the ship's position was by estimating the speed of the ship, the leeway, and the courses steered.” This, I would remark is the correct method to adopt to lose a ship. In order to ensure her safety nothing on board of a ship must (in reference to navigation) be left to chance, which has been done in this case habitually. In regard to no observations for 40 hours previous to the catastrophe, viz., wrecked at Odonosawa 4.45 a.m. Oct. 10th, 1883, which would be at 12.45 p.m. of the 8th Oct., i.e., 12.45 p.m. 8th Oct., to 4.45 a.m. on the 10th of Oct., is 40 hours.

Refer to evidence to see if this assertion is borne out. Master's evidence page 4. “When was Miako Head bearing West?” “3.45 p.m. and 5 miles off last on 8th October.” This is one observation. Page 11. “Did you keep the N.N.W. course until land was sighted?” (this was on the morning of the 9th.) “Yes, until 6 o'clock. Then steered W.N.W. magnetic course.” This is evidently and plainly the second observation or bearing of the land $22\frac{1}{2}$ hours before the wreck occurred.

Consequently Mr. Rossetsu is again in error in his statement. It has been stated in the *Japan Mail* (and stated by Mr. Rossetsu to be correct to the Court, so that I need have no fear in accepting that as his statement) “That for 3 days previous” (to the catastrophe) “they had been unable to take an observation.” That would be 4.45 a.m. on the 7th of October. Now by the log-book and the master's evidence (page 4.) Kinkasan bore West, distant 3 miles at 4 a.m. Oct. 8th. So here are most distinctly set forth three observations within $48\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and two observations taken within 40 hours of the loss of the vessel, the last one being as previously stated $22\frac{1}{2}$ hours before she was lost, yet the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant would wish this most honourable Court to believe that no observations had been taken; it is absurd, and his statements are opposed to facts, and to the evidence taken before the Marine Court, copies and translations of which are in this Court's possession, I believe. The legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant states further: “Previous to 5.30 p.m. on the 9th of October, the weather had been so tempestuous that the Captain was unable to get to his cabin, where his charts and instruments were kept, but the weather slightly moderating at that time he was enabled to procure the chart, and after considering the foregoing points, judge of the ship's position.” Yes, but by guess work, having no record or anything to guide him, and disdaining to consult his officers. Again I must refer to the master's evidence as taken before the Marine Court of Enquiry. Page 5. “How long had you been on the deck?” “For 48 hours I had no rest at all; the greater part of the time I was on the bridge; left the bridge to consult the charts and barometer and to take my food.” Here is Mr. Rossetsu's statement entirely dispersed as to the Captain's inability to get to his cabin during the tempestuous weather: and in order to make the dispersion entirely complete so that he cannot have a leg to stand on, I here bring to the notice of the Court that the officers of the ship were enabled to keep their regular watches throughout; to do so, it is evident that they were enabled to get from their cabins to the bridge and back again. Mr. Rossetsu further stated “that the Captain thought he was in the Tsugar Straits, whereas the vessel was wrecked near a place called Odonosawa 15 miles South of Siriya-saki. This showed that the master was from 20 to 24 miles out of his reckoning. When, however, the dirty state of the weather is taken into consideration, and also the strong variable currents that exist on that coast, it was not surprising.” I would ask the Court to bear in mind that the position of the ship had been ascertained by bearings of the land, viz., twice on the 8th and once on the 9th of October, in the morning, $22\frac{1}{2}$ hours only, before the vessel was wrecked. It is peculiar that he should have been so much out in his reckoning as 20 to 24 miles, had it (the reckoning) been properly kept and checked, but not surprising truly, inasmuch as no reckoning was kept; hence the ship correctly ascertained her own position on the 10th, much to the master's surprise. At this point Mr. Rossetsu read an extract from the *Japan Gazette*, the pith of which was recorded in the translated minutes of the Court “that the steamer *Kiwa* had been carried away 40 miles in 12 hours by the current when she was going towards the Tsugar Straits, therefore it is nothing that the *Akitsuishima Maru* should have been 20 to 24 miles out of her position, when the darkness and stormy weather is taken into consideration.” Why will not the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant confine himself to statements of facts, which statements when made should bear the strictest investigation as to their truthfulness. Again have I to ask the Court to take most emphatic notice of my remarks on his statement, viz.:—That the *Kiwa* was not going towards the Tsugar Straits, and that she has never

done so; that when the *Khiva* experienced this current of 40 miles in 12 hours she was approaching Omae-saki (a point more than 500 miles distant from the bones of *Akitsushima*) and bound for the port of Yokohama, and not, as stated by the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant, for the Tsugar Straits. Are these erroneous statements made to mislead this Court of Appeal in order to frustrate justice being properly meted out? I trust not.

Mr. Ramsay here asked permission of the Court to hand in a document from Mr. J. Ricketts, the Agent of the Peninsular and Oriental S.N. Co., certifying that the steamship *Khiva* had never passed through the Straits of Tsugar, nor had she been bound there. This he wished to do to substantiate his statement about the current.

Mr. Rossetts objected on the ground that Mr. Ricketts should have appeared and given his evidence in person.

Mr. Ramsay explained that it would only prolong the proceedings, as Mr. Ricketts would simply confirm what he had written.

Mr. Rossetts withdrew his objection.

Mr. Ramsay, continuing his address, said in reference to the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company's instructions. Mr. Rossetts states:—"No mention had been made at the first hearing, and, therefore, the appellant did not have an opportunity of fully explaining, why he had not carried them out in their entirety; but Mr. Rossetts did not see what these Rules had to do with the decision of the Court, as they were not embodied in the laws of the country, but were only the Regulations of a private Company, by which the Court of Enquiry should not have been influenced." Master's evidence (page 3). "Is this the log-book of the *Akitsushima Maru*?" "Yes." Therefore the log-book was put in as evidence. Page 3. "Produce your deviation card?" "Card left on board ship. There is no space for it in the log-book." Will this Court refer to the log-book, it being, I believe in the possession of the Court. Now I would point out the fact that there is space for it on the inside of the cover. Page 3. "Hand in your night order-book?" "I have never kept a night order-book, I was always there myself." Page 4. "At noon on the 9th of October, what was the ship's position?" "Not worked up at all." These quotations are made from the evidence, so that the Court may see the reason for the Marine Court of Enquiry arriving at their decision. For it is said, at page 4 of summing up, "Here we would remark upon the irregular manner in which the navigation of the ship has been apparently habitually conducted. The log-book has been kept very irregularly, as it shows no record of speed per hour, error of compass, or barometrical readings; neither is there any account of ship's position at noon, bearings, and distance at noon. The Marine Court did not take into its consideration the master's neglect in disregarding his owners' instructions; it was outside the province of the Marine Court to do so."

The Court adjourned to the 16th instant at 9 a.m.

MONDAY, 12th May, 1884.

Captain Young, of the M.B.M. steamship *Taka-sago Maru*, appeared for the purpose of signing the testimony given by him on the 25th April, when the court allowed Mr. Uchiyama to put the following additional questions:—

Mr. Uchiyama—Are you acquainted with Johannes Frahm, the appellant?

Captain Young—Yes.

Mr. Uchiyama—Has he ever been with you?

Captain Young—Yes, about 7½ years ago he was with me on the *Genkai-maru* as first officer.

Mr. Uchiyama—Do you consider him a competent seaman?

Captain Young—Yes.

Mr. Uchiyama—What do you think of him as a master?

Captain Young—Perfectly able and sober.

Mr. Uchiyama—Do you consider him an energetic and careful man?

Captain Young—I do.

Mr. Uchiyama—From your knowledge of him, do you think he would have left the deck of the *Akitsushima-maru* if he had not felt confident that the light he saw was the Shiriya-saki light?

Captain Young—Certainly not.

Mr. Uchiyama—Is he a man likely to have done so from carelessness or laziness?

Captain Young—No.

Mr. Uchiyama—Considering that the *Akitsushima-maru*, after losing sight of the light ran for about 2 miles before striking, would not the master have had plenty of time to save the vessel, if the first officer had done his duty and at once called him after losing sight of the light?

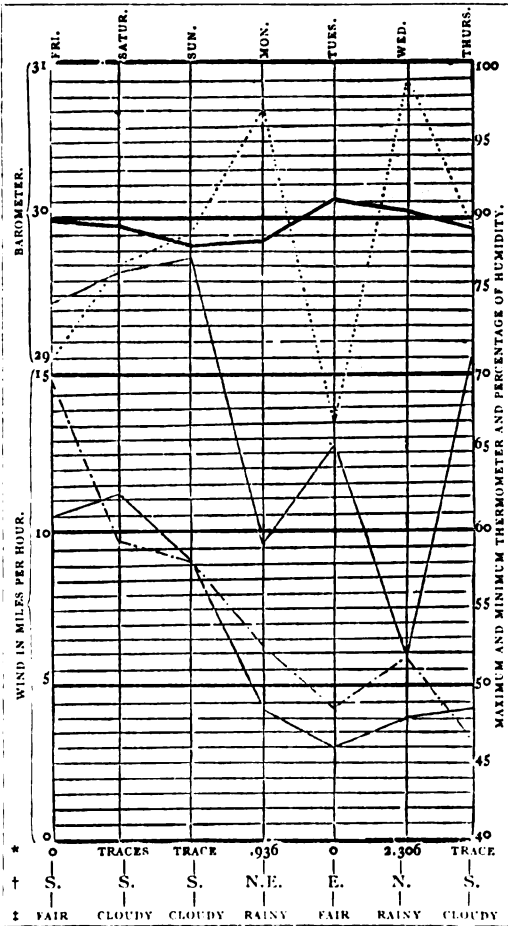
Captain Young—Yes, he would have had plenty of time.

The Court adjourned till 9 a.m. on the 17th inst.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 9TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 37.3 miles per hour on Friday, at 4 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.207 inches on Tuesday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.723 inches on Sunday, at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 77.5 on Sunday, and the lowest was 46.0 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 73.9 and 44.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 3.245 inches, against 1.262 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per O. & O. Co. To-day, May 17th.*
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, May 18th.†
From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, May 22nd.
Kobe }
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, June 2nd.‡
From Europe, }
via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, May 27th.

* *Arabic* left San Francisco on April 26th. † *Thibet* left Nagasaki on May 14th. The *Galley of Lorne* (with English mail) left Hongkong on May 10th. ‡ *City of Peking* left San Francisco on May 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, May 17th.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, May 18th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, May 20th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Thursday, May 22nd.
Nagasaki }
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, May 25th.
For America ... per P. M. Co. Friday, May 30th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, June 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 10th.

THE POSITION OF GENERAL GORDON.

Khartoum has been completely invested, and messengers are unable to reach it.

London, May 12th.

TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA.

The *Times* publishes a telegram announcing that a Treaty of Peace has been signed between France and China, which provides for a French protectorate of Tonquin and Annam, and stipulates that the provinces of Kwang-si, Kwangtung, and Yunnan shall be opened to trade. No indemnity is demanded.

London, May 16th.

PANIC IN WALL STREET.

There is a panic on the New York Stock Exchange, and several large failures are announced.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, 1st May.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE ON EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

All the Powers interested have declared their adherence to the proposal for a conference regarding the state of affairs in Egypt, but France makes it a condition that the discussion shall not be limited to the financial situation only.

Peking, 5th May.

THE EX-VICEROY OF NANKING.

An Imperial Decree has been issued in answer to a Memorial from the Grand Secretary T'so, announcing a great improvement in his eyesight and expressing his anxiety to resume the duties of his office without further delay. The Emperor looks upon the Grand Secretary as one of his most trustworthy and valuable servants, and is greatly relieved to hear of his recovery. T'so T'sung-t'ang is commanded to repair forthwith to Peking for audience.

[FROM "LE SAIGONNAIS."]

Paris, 23rd April.

A difference has arisen between France and Portugal with reference to Goree.

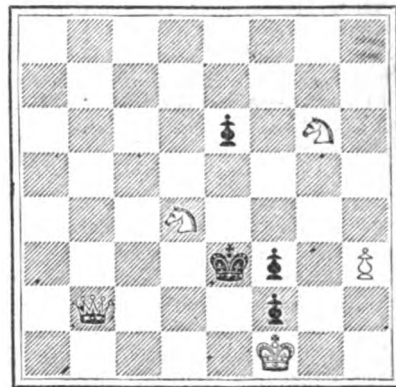
M. Patenôtre will embark on Sunday next.

CHESS.

By Mr. J. W. ABBOTT.

From the *Westminster Papers*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 10th May, 1884, by Mr. F. W. LORD.

White.

Black.

1.—B. to K. Kt. 4. 1.—B. takes P. at K. 5.

2.—R. to Q. 3. 2.—B. takes R.

3.—B. to K. 6, mate. if 2.—K. takes R.

3.—B. to K. 2, mate. if 2.—Any other move.

3.—Q. to Q. Kt. 3, mate. if 1.—B. to R. 4.

2.—B. takes Kt. 2.—Anything.

3.—B. to Q. R. 6, mate.

Correct answers received from "K. OMORI,"

"TESA," and "W.H.S."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 10th May.—Hakodate 8th and Oginohama 11th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hermann, German bark, 444, M. Traulsen, 11th May.—Takao 27th April, 11,000 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 13th May.—Kobe 11th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,497, J. Potter, 12th May.—Hongkong 2nd and Nagasaki 9th May, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Mosser, British steamer, 1,323, H. Longley, 12th May.—Hongkong 2nd and Nagasaki 9th May, 3,000 bags Sugar.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 12th May.—Hongkong 6th May, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 13th May.—Hongkong 6th May, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 13th April.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,148, Haines, 14th May.—London via Hongkong 6th May, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Sophie, Russian brig, 231, Sandwike, 15th May.—Nagasaki 1st May, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,935, Donaldson, 16th May.—Nagasaki 14th May, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 326, Okuma, 16th May.—Hakodate 13th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 16th May.—Shimizu 14th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 17th May.—Kobe 15th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Steedman, 17th May.—Niigata via Fushiki and Kobe 15th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Benarty, British steamer, 1,119, F. Le Boutillier, 10th May.—London via ports, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 11th May.—Hongkong Kobe and via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Pactolus, American ship, 1,145, W. D. Bromham, 12th May.—New York via Kobe, General.—Paul, Heinemann & Co.

Sattara, British bark, 991, Fletcher, 12th May.—London, Havre, and Hamburg, via Kobe, General.—H. MacArthur.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 14th May.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, Robert R. Searle, 16th May.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 68, Masuda, 16th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 16th May.—Shimizu, General.—Seiriusa.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 16th May.—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 16th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Okuma, 16th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Toyoshima, 16th May.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. John Duus and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 109 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. K. Nakauchi and child, Messrs. Wolff, Busch, Drummond, Marians, K. Ikeda, and H. Kawada in cabin; and 1 European and 29 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. J. L. Pereira, R. Oishi, C. Miyagawa, and Chow Pae Sang in cabin. For San Francisco: Dr. and Mrs. J. G. Kerr, Miss Kerr, Messrs. Fung Pak and Chung Lung in cabin; and 732 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Admiral Akamatsu, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. S. Brinkworth, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Miss F. Mitchell, Miss M. Mitchell, Dr. and Mrs. Bentley, Mrs. Fairfax, Mrs. Simms, Mrs. Toyna, Messrs. F. Brown, Foss, J. R. Elliott, Loomis, A. Boumann, Walber, J. F. Broadbent, Fukuda, Ekoshi, Sakurai, Yamagata, Ito, Nakano, and Ishikawa in cabin; and 1 Chinese 160 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Captain A. H. Morse and Long Ye You in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. J. Ambrose in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sukune Maru*, from Hakodate:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimizu:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Kobe:—5 Chinese and 80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Niigata via Fushiki and Kobe:—Messrs. Robertson, Bouet, and Lefevre in cabin; and 70 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Lieutenant and Mrs. T. H. James, 2 children, and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Legge, Mrs. J. P. Reid, child, European maid, and nurse, Major E. Moureal, Major Greenfield, Major Cumming, Mr. Caldecott and servant, Mr. Ah Cheong and servant, Messrs. Loureiro, Sinclair, C. W. Philipps, F. S. Goodison, S. Samuels, and Tien Suen in cabin; and 13 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—H. E. Sanjo, Mr. and Mrs. Shimadzu and family, Mrs. and Miss Shimadzu, Rev. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Namura, Mrs. A. Anderson, Mrs. Sato, Mrs. Kobayashi, Mrs. Namura, Mrs. Oda, Mrs. Fujisawa, Mrs. Midzuno, Miss Mailes, Miss C. B. Pritchard, Miss M. E. Brokan, Miss Takashima, Judge Imai, Judge Kojima, Judge Nishioka, Colonel Harada, Dr. F. Robertson, Messrs. A. D. Abraham, K. Takashima, Sekiguchi, Morimoto, Y. Tanaka, K. Otsubo, Matsuzaki, and Katsuda in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco and Europe:—Rev. A. C. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Humphreys, Dr. and Mrs. J. G. Kerr, Miss Kerr, Captain A. H. Morse, Messrs. L. B. Ellis, F. W. Degener, Böning, A. W. Billbrough, R. A. Weed, H. M. Smyth, J. Ambrose, Ling-y-you, Fung Pak, and Chung Lung in cabin; and 5 Europeans and 726 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—4,776 packages.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.				
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	1,143	110	1,253
Hiogo	—	345	903	1,248
Yokohama	1,717	6,336	5,787	13,840
Total	1,717	7,824	6,300	16,341

SILK.				
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	269	—	269
Shanghai	—	469	—	469
Yokohama	—	116	—	116
Total	—	854	—	854

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Hakodate on the 8th May, at 10.30 a.m. and arrived Oginohama on the 9th, at 2.15 p.m. Left Oginohama on the 10th, at 6.15 a.m. with light to moderate and foggy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 11th May, at 1.45 p.m.

The American steamers *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robert R. Searle, reports leaving Hongkong on the 6th May, at 3.30 p.m. with fine weather to Oo-sima thence to port strong breeze and heard sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th May, at 5.30 a.m. Passage, 6 days and 4 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 11th May, at 6 p.m. with strong N.N.W. winds and rain to Omai-saki; thence to port fresh S.E. to N.E. winds and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th May, at 11.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

General dullness has come over the Market of late, and buyers are disposed to limit their operation as much as possible.

COTTON YARN.—Nearly all demand has ceased, and though prices are quoted unchanged they are quite nominal and to effect sales lower rates would have to be taken.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—An enquiry for Grey Shirtings to arrive at rather higher prices is the only feature of note, and sales of all goods have been on a very small scale.

WOOLLENS.—Prices remain nominally as last quoted with very little demand except for special order for Mousseline de Laine.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	23.00 to 25.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week amount to 8,600 cases at \$1.70 for Devoe and \$1.64 for Stella brand. The Market remains weak. Deliveries have been 7,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 770,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.70
Comet	1.64
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

Stationary quotations, accumulating Stock, and small transactions are the only features in the Sugar Market that have to be reported.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.20 to 3.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated the 9th instant, since when there has been actually nothing done in this Market, and the Settlement list has been a veritable *tabula rasa* for eight days. There have been some arrivals from the interior of good *Filatures*, but none have been taken by foreign buyers, and the Stock-list is somewhat increased thereby.

Buyers have maintained a complete reserve, and sellers have been obliged to weaken considerably. Dealers opened the ball by asking exorbitant prices, but the crop news proved too good for them, and they finish by touting for offers—so far without success. Reports from the provinces speak well of the New crop in Japan: in some districts the worms have progressed beyond the third stage, and new *Cocoons* are looked for in Yamanashi Ken, by the end of May. Advices from the Tsatlee and Taysaam districts of North China have distinctly improved in tone, and there is every prospect there of a much larger crop than last year. The worms were expected to pass through the critical period between the 15th and 17th of the present month, and within a day or two we may learn that the crop in China is assured. Advices from Europe, where the rearing is advanced to about the same point as in Japan, report all well.

So far as we can make out, there has been no buying at all for the *City of Rio de Janeiro* which left port this day. One Japanese dealer, disgusted at not finding a purchaser, has sent forward his parcel of 17 bales, in hope of meeting with better luck on the other side, and the balance of the steamer's cargo consists of old purchases made a month ago, and held over one or two steamers. Enquiry for Europe does not exist, and it looks as if the trade must perforce stand still at least a week or two longer. We leave quotations unchanged, but all nominal, and it is difficult to predict at what point things will settle down until some actual business is done.

The P. & O. steamer *Kashgar*, which left for Hongkong via ports, on Sunday, the 11th, took no Raw Silk at all. The P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which sailed to-day, carried 116 bales for the States, 17 of them being sent forward as direct shipment. The Export now stands at 29,355 bales, against 26,780 bales at same date last year, and 18,963 bales on 16 May, 1882.

Hanks.—Holders, who have so persistently held their Silk off sale for so long, have at last consented to show their goods, and sample bales have traversed the Concession in various directions. Nothing has come of it; and the would-be sellers begin to realise that they have overstood the Market.

Filatures.—A few lots of really good silk have come down from the mills, but dealers have not succeeded in placing them. They commenced by asking extreme rates *Nihonmatsu*, \$730; *Tomiyoka*, \$720; *Tokosha*, \$710; but before the steamer left the owner of the first-named filature professed his willingness to take \$700; the *Tomiyoka* parcel was shipped off "direct"; while the holder of the *Tokosha* is left lamenting. Buyers refuse to make a reasonable bid, for even these favorite chops, until the "crop" question is decided.

Re-reels.—One parcel of *Stork* chop found its way into a foreign godown, but apparently in error, for the lot is reported to have gone out again before inspection. A few boxes "Five Girl" have come in, but no price has been mentioned on either side.

Kakeda.—About 100 piculs good Silk placed on the Market "for an offer;" but the owner will not at present listen to the low range of prices which buyers talk about.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom. \$525 to 535
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom. 510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 460 to 470
Filatures—Extra	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	635 to 645
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 16th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,194	13,543	9,459
America	9,522	9,058	6,099
England	2,639	4,179	3,405
Total	29,355	26,780	18,963

WASTE SILK.

Business in this department has much fallen off, buyers complaining of the poor assortment on offer, and Settlements for the week are not more than 30 piculs. The few purchases made have been all confined to one hong and comprised a mixed lot of *Oshu* sorts. *Filature* sorts are still enquired for, but nothing tempting is forthcoming. The Export is again reduced compared with recent years, the deficit in *Pierced Cocoons* being very marked.

The P. & O. steamer *Kashgar*, which sailed on 11th instant, had on board 36 bales all booked for France. The Export is now 22,985 piculs, against 23,831 piculs last year, and 24,080 piculs at same date in 1882. Stock is somewhat increased by arrivals of common grades, but the choice of decent Waste is very limited.

Pierced Cocoons.—A few piculs common *Tama* have come in, but without finding a purchaser.

Noshi-ito.—Nothing done beyond a small parcel Mixed *Noshi* at \$85.

Kibiso.—About 20 piculs changed hands on basis of \$117 for some inferior *Filature* and \$49 for a parcel of Common *Oshu*.

Sundries.—One small lot *Neri* (fil. Utsunomiya) settled at \$17, with *Tegara* at \$80, and *Kusuito* at \$60.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 16th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	20,784	20,630	19,917
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,201	4,103
Total	22,985	23,831	24,080

Exchange.—Quotations are reported as being irregular, some Bankers offering 3/9 for "Bank" others offering to do "Private" at same price. Rates are about as follows:—LONDON, 4m/s.,

Credits 3/9; Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have fluctuated slightly ("no Market" has been reported for several days), but close nominally at last week's quotation.

Estimated Silk Stock 16th May, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	550	Pierced Cocoons	13
Filature & Re-reels	260	Noshi-ito	152
Kakeda	130	Kibiso	350
Sendai & Hamatsuki	115	Mawata	—
Taysaam Kinds	10	Sundries	115
Total piculs	1,065	Total piculs	630

TEA.

Business now is in full swing, and purchases for the interval reach 9,470 piculs, as compared with 9,660 piculs at the corresponding date in 1883. Receipts have been specially heavy, the aggregate foots up to the large figure of 12,390 piculs, against 12,700 piculs at the same period last year. Prices are now about the same as they were in 1883 at the same date, although at the close the Market is weak, and it would be safe to say that the present quotations are a little lower than last season's at the same time. On the whole, we now consider the crop about equal to last season's at the same quotations. The general character for the class of Teas grading Choice and Choicest (in our judgment) is not so good in leaf as the preceding year, as some parcels show carelessness in their manipulation. The cup quality may be considered good. Fine and Finest are the best Tea yet produced for its value. The drawings and make are all entirely satisfactory for these grades of Teas. There have been several parcels of Tea purchased during the week as low as 22½ to 23 dollars of satisfactory liquor, but very undesirable in hand. The cargo of the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which sailed for San Francisco on the morning of 16th inst., took 898,311 lbs. of Tea, which is distributed as follows:—410,351 lbs., for New York; 337,722 lbs., for Chicago; 15,158 lbs., for Saint Paul; 9,276 lbs., for Detroit; 58,787 lbs., for California; and 67,012 lbs., for the Canadian Market. The following is a list of various grades of Teas settled in Yokohama during the week:—Good Medium, 1,275 piculs; Fine, 3,515 piculs; Finest, 3,330 piculs; Choice, 905 piculs; and Choicest, 445 piculs, making a total of 9,470 piculs settled. Settlements to date are now 12,890 piculs, against 11,484 piculs in the previous year. Total receipts are 17,105 piculs as compared with 15,111 piculs in the preceding year. Estimated Teas in Stock at this port are:—4,200 piculs, against 3,600 piculs in 1883. The steamships *Glenavon* and *Pembrokeshire* have been circulated for New York, via Suez Canal, and the usual ports, at 70 and 65 shillings respectively, with promised despatch by the end of this month, and they will be followed by the steamships *Mosser*, *Benvenue*, and *Claymore*, with quick despatch for the same destination. The Market closes weak, and following are the quotations now ruling:—

QUOTATIONS.

Good Medium	\$23 to 24
Fine	25 to 26
Finest	28 to 31
Choice	32 to 37
Choicest	39 & up'ds,

EXCHANGE.

A moderate amount of both Private and Bank Bills were placed for the mail and rates have been well maintained throughout the week, closing steady at the following quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	90
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91

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May 1st, 1883.

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No. 21, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, MAY 24TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 24TH, 1884.

MARRIAGE.

At No. 66, Bluff, Yokohama, Japan, May 19th, 1884, by the Rev. Nathan Brown, in the presence of General Thomas B. Van Buren, U.S. Consul-General, WILLIAM LANE MERRIMAN to Miss IRENE CARPENTER. St. Louis, Mo., and Napa City, Cal., papers please copy.

DEATH.

On the 19th inst., ALICE HARRIET EVA, wife of WILLIAM MONTAGUE HAMMETT KIRKWOOD, Esq., H.M. Crown Advocate in Japan, and daughter of the late Hugh Darby Owen, Esq., of Bettwys Hall, Montgomeryshire, and Prestbury Lodge, Gloucestershire.—(By Telegram).

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A TIGER, brought from Korea, is being exhibited in Tokiyo.

THE publication of the *Choya Shimbun* has been suspended.

A COURT of Compromise has been established in the Bonin Islands.

THE health of His Majesty the Emperor is nearly quite restored.

TOKIYO and Yokohama were visited by a heavy gale on the 18th instant.

THE Nobles College (*Gakushi-in*) has been made a Government institution.

Two shocks of earthquake were felt in Yokohama on the 19th instant.

THE Conference of local Police Inspectors, re-

cently held in Tokiyo, was brought to a close on the 17th instant.

THREE men have been arrested in Akita Prefecture for attempting to forge *Kinsatsu*.

AT the Foreign Exhibition of Boston eleven Japanese exhibitors received prizes.

A SLIGHT fall of snow took place in the district of Saku, Shinano province, on the 14th instant.

MR. TARO ANDO, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, has been appointed to the Consulate at Shanghai.

THE Yokohama Brokers have decided to establish an exchange in the Third Ward of Bentendori, with a capital of 17,000 *yen*.

IT is stated that preliminary arrangements have been completed for the construction of a railway between Shidzuoka and Shimidzu.

SOME of the Tokiyo journals comment, in very desponding terms, on the commercial depression prevailing throughout the country.

A BUREAU of Financial Supervision has been established in the Finance Department, to take entire charge of the national incomings.

THE total value of the goods exported from Japan to the port of Ninsen in Korea during 1883 is stated to have been 120,042 *yen*.

THE remainder of the students who were expelled from the Tokiyo University last year for insubordinate conduct have been readmitted.

THE idea of constructing a railway between Hachioji and Karuizawa, in the Prefecture of Kanagawa, has been abandoned in favour of a tramway.

A NEW steamer, the *Famashiro Maru*, built for the Union Steam Navigation Company (*Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha*), left London for Japan on the 19th instant.

A JAPANESE who shot an American woman under circumstances of great brutality in Ogden, U.T., on April 20th, was taken from jail and lynched a few hours afterwards. The woman died the following day.

THE site of the former police station at Sakai-cho, Yokohama, was put up for public sale on the 17th instant. The highest tender was 8,140 *yen*, and the lowest 3,750 *yen*.

A FIRE broke out on the morning of the 22nd instant, on the premises of Messrs. Strachan & Co., No. 63, but was extinguished before any serious damage was done.

WITH a view to a further reformation of the prison system in Japan, a general meeting of the chief jailers of the various prefectures is shortly to be held in the Capital.

A DISPUTE has occurred between the Prefect and the Local Assembly of Kagoshima Prefecture

with regard to financial matters. The difference has been submitted to the Council of State.

A REVIEW of the Imperial Body Guard and other troops will shortly take place on the plains of Narashino in Shimosa. Field Marshal His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa will be present.

A CLASS for special instruction in naval architecture has been opened in the Tokiyo University. The Science of Marine architecture has hitherto been taught chiefly at the Engineering College (*Kobu Dai Gakkō*).

IT is reported from Osaka that the first effect of the recently issued Regulations for the Control of Pawnbrokers, was to cause a general closing of pawnbrokers' shops throughout the city, and that some inconvenience was thereby entailed.

MESSRS. KAWASE AND OKURA have been appointed President and Manager, respectively, of the new Central Tea Industrial Association in Tokiyo. The Association has issued a number of temporary rules, the gist of which is that the objects of the scheme are to promote improved methods of manufacture, and to acquire and circulate information.

A TELEGRAM from London stating that depositors of the Oriental Bank will probably receive 17s. 6d. in the £ is believed to be erroneous, as, under the worst possible aspect of the Bank's affairs, its assets suffice not only to cover all its liabilities, but also to recoup the shareholders in great part. It is believed that the telegram alludes to the amount which will be paid over immediately, the remaining half crown to be paid when the Bank's assets are realized.

THE ceremony of bestowing prizes on the exhibitors at the Competitive Exhibition of Japanese Paintings in Tokiyo, took place last Tuesday (20th instant), in presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, and several Ministers of State. One gold, thirteen silver, and thirty-two copper medals, as well as 153 certificates of merit, were awarded. Among the recipients of certificates of merit was Mr. J. Conder, who exhibited under the name of Kiyoyei. H.E. General Saigo, in addressing the exhibitors, said that, while in point of special excellence the exhibition was inferior to that of last year, its general merits were superior. The recipient of the gold medal was Mr. Morisumi, an artist of Kiyoto.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Yokohama General Hospital was held on the afternoon of the 21st instant. The accounts showed a deficit, at the close of 1883, of \$1,594, against which there were, however, exceptional assets amounting to \$889.57, received during the course of the current year. The report of the Committee was of a discouraging nature. It showed that receipts were falling off, and that the task of supporting the Hospital during the current year promises to be very difficult. A Committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. Wilkin, Gay, Townley, W. B. Walter, Irwine, Des Pallières, Rickett, Schlippenbach, Fraser, and Reynaud.

NOTES.

THE course of events at Khartoum, and indeed throughout the Soudan, has been extremely difficult to follow, owing to the disjointed nature of the telegrams which contain our only information. It will be remembered that, on March 16th, Gordon considered the attitude of the rebels in his neighbourhood sufficiently threatening to demand some decisive action, and that he accordingly ordered a sortie which ended in his troops sustaining a severe defeat. He had every reason to expect a totally different result. The forces menacing the city numbered, according to his own estimate, only two thousand. They were, moreover, badly armed and without discipline. On the other hand, the troops engaged in the sortie were also two thousand strong. They consisted of Bashi Bazouks and drilled Soudanese, and they were supplied with the best modern weapons, Remingtons and bayonets. But neither arms, discipline, nor numbers had much to do with the result, as will be seen from the following account by *The Times*' correspondent:—"As our men drew near the rebels, the latter began to file away to the right of our line, disappearing behind the sandhills. This supposed retreat commenced at twenty minutes to ten. At half-past ten all had disappeared behind the sandhills. The enemy's rear was covered by about sixty Arabs, mounted on horses and camels. Our line still advanced, and the artillery fired two shells at the retiring rebels. Our horsemen having entered the woods at the foot of the sandhills, we saw to our astonishment the five principal officers of our force, who had been riding a little ahead, dash back, breaking through their own ranks. At that moment the rebel cavalry shot out at full gallop from behind the sandhills on our right. Their appearance was the signal for a disgraceful *sauve qui peut* on the part of our men, who broke up and rushed back without firing a shot. The sixty horsemen, who were only armed with lances and swords, dashed about cutting down the flying men. I saw one Arab lancer kill seven Egyptians in as many minutes. He then jumped off his horse to secure a rifle and ammunition, when a mounted Bashi-Bazouk officer cut him down. The rebel infantry now appeared and rushed about in all directions, hacking at the men disabled by the cavalry charge. This slaughter continued for nearly two miles, our men not stopping to fire a shot. Then the Arabs halted, and an officer rallied some of our troops, and they commenced a dropping but harmless fire at the enemy, who seemed content not to advance, but treated us with the greatest contempt, some riding quietly on camels in front of our muzzles. This continued till midday, some of our men dropping from stray bullets fired by the Arabs. The rebels then drew off to their old position, carrying a lot of rifles and cartridges and one mountain piece." In this disgraceful affair—a repetition of what had invariably happened whenever Egyptians fought against Arabs in the Soudan—the loss on the rebel side was only four; that of the Egyptians two hundred. The two black Pachas—Hassan and Said—who led the sortie, are supposed to have acted with preconceived treachery. "There is," *The Times* correspondent says, "no lack of evidence that when they galloped back Said Pacha rode towards a gun and slashed through the brain the sergeant in charge, who was in the act of laying the gun. At

the same time Hassan Pacha cut down two artillerymen." Subsequently the same authority writes:—"Surviving Soudanese say that the two Pachas charged into the square; the soldiers, recognizing them, opened their ranks, and through this gap the rebel horsemen, following closely behind, entered. This tallies with what I saw and with the report—a hundred times confirmed—of the Pachas cutting down the gunners. When the Pachas came to see General Gordon after the battle he offered them refreshment, which they refused. General Gordon's secretary, divining the reason, drank, and seeing this they helped themselves. Evidently they suspected that their treachery was discovered. Another suspicious fact is that the written orders were to attack before daybreak. They disobeyed these orders and attacked at ten o'clock. A night attack would have been successful." Gordon does not appear to have been much disconcerted by this mishap. He executed the two Pachas, and a week later we find him definitely abandoning the policy of conciliating the Soudanese, concentrating all available troops at Khartoum, mounting Krupp guns on lighters so as to shell the enemy's camp from the river, and declaring that all traitors found in the Egyptian ranks should be instantly shot. Meanwhile he received the Mahdi's rejection of the Sultanship of Kordofan, and an insulting message recommending him to become a Mohammedan. Simultaneously with the receipt of this news Admiral Hewett started (March 31st) for Abyssinia, to negotiate, if possible, the operation of Abyssinian troops in the Southern Soudan, while a survey of the Upper Nile was commenced with the view of ascertaining to what extent a gun-boat flotilla would be capable of acting upon the river. Just at this time, too, rumours began to be circulated to the effect that the resources of the Mahdi were exhausted, and that a rebellion against him was probable. In England the Opposition did not let the opportunity slip. Sir Stafford Northcote moved (April 3rd) that the honour of England was pledged to secure the safety of Gordon, but the Government succeeded in staving off any definite statement of policy. Two days after this debate, despatches reached London giving a very gloomy account of affairs at Khartoum. The partisans of the Mahdi were said to hold the entire command of the Nile between that place and Shendy, while from Sennaar an appeal for help had elicited a answer from Gordon that the best thing the Governor could do was to try and arrange a capitulation. As for Gordon himself, whether he looked, or did not look, for military assistance from England, there appears to have been no certainty, beyond Lord Hartington's statement that no application for such assistance had been received. To add to all this trouble, fresh dissensions now arose in the Egyptian Cabinet. Nubar Pacha had perpetual difficulties with his English colleagues, and the absence of any distinct declaration of policy on the part of the British Government helped to foster the discontent. At first it seemed as though the mixed administration could not possibly work any longer, but in the end a compromise was effected, the main feature in the arrangement being a limitation of the powers of Mr. Clifford Lloyd, Under Secretary of the Interior, with whom the obstruction had originated. Just at this time (April 10th) communications were restored with Khartoum—they had been inter-

rupted for some days—and a despatch from Gordon, dated March 30th, reached Cairo. From this it appeared that 250 mutinous Bashi Bazouks had been disarmed; that skirmishes had taken place, generally favorable to the Egyptians; that the town was well supplied with provisions, and that the rebels—whose number was estimated at 2,000—had received six guns from the Mahdi. Shortly after the receipt of this despatch, Colonel Coetlogan arrived at Cairo, and explained that Gordon would probably try to hold out until May, when the rising Nile would enable him to reach Sennaar. Colonel Coetlogan also declared that the sending of troops to Khartoum could only be effected at enormous sacrifices. He confirmed the previous rumours of the Mahdi's growing unpopularity, ascribing it to the heavy taxes the latter was obliged to levy and to the insufficiency of pay and supplies for his troops. On April 11th, news came that the rebels were besieging Shendy, and that a portion of the Berber troops had gone to the relief of that town. Shendy and Berber, it will be remembered, are places on the Nile below Khartoum. Did they fall into the hands of the enemy, the route to Korosko would be effectually blocked. The next intelligence was much more hopeful. Gordon, writing on April 8th, said that Saleh Pacha, who was coming down the Blue Nile with 500 horsemen and 57 boat-loads of grain, was safe and sound; that internal dissensions in Kordofan had compelled the Mahdi to abandon his expedition against Khartoum, and that there was no immediate cause for anxiety about the condition of affairs at Kassala and Sennaar, both of which places had been reported as in imminent danger. On the evening of the day (April 16th) when this news reached London, Sir William Harcourt, in a speech at Derby, took occasion to repeat the Government's disavowal of any intention of annexing Egypt. Twenty-four hours later, another despatch from Gordon transmitted a report that the Mahdi had twice been defeated with heavy loss by the Tegeba tribes, and that he was now as completely hemmed in as Gordon himself. After this, disquieting rumours were again circulated. The *Figaro* published a story that the garrison of Shendy, attempting to escape to Berber, had been attacked by the Arabs and massacred, 2,000 men and 500 women and children being the victims. A telegram from the *Standard's* correspondent at Cairo, dated April 22nd, also stated that Gordon had indignantly remonstrated with Sir Evelyn Baring at the manner in which he had been abandoned by the British Government, and declared his determination to cut himself entirely adrift from those who had deserted him. This news, it will be remembered, was sent eastward by Reuter, but it probably deserves no more credence than the many similar protests previously attributed to Gordon. At all events, the rumoured massacre of the Shendy garrison proved a gross exaggeration. Telegraphic information from Berber, dated April 25th, said that the loss of the refugees and soldiers was only slight. It appears, however, only too true that Shendy itself was in the possession of the rebels at the end of April—a circumstance which adds largely to the improbability of a successful retreat from Khartoum. Our continuous telegraphic news via America ends here; the last item being a declaration of Hussein Pacha, Governor of Berber, that he and the garrison of that place would die at the post of duty. This was dated at Berber, April 25th,

and three days later a Reuter's cablegram informed us that the evacuation of Berber commenced on the 28th of April, and that "the majority of the troops fraternized with the insurgents." If this be true, Hussein's bravado was a very empty business. At all events the situation, so far as latest telegrams explain it, is this:—Shendy and Berber, on the line of retreat from Khartoum by the Nile, are in the hands of the rebels; Khartoum itself "completely invested" (May 10th); and a motion is pending in the House of Commons, condemning the want of support to Gordon and the delay in rescuing him from his position. It is well to remember that communications with Khartoum have been interrupted frequently before, and that the fall of the town has been reported four times. We find it difficult to believe, too, that Berber has been evacuated without a struggle, more especially when we recall Gordon's last despatches, dated only ten days before the reported evacuation, in which the dissensions in El Mahdi's camp were described. The latest, however, is the Reuter's telegram dated London, May 18th, stating that refugees say Gordon is safe.

SENATOR MORGAN, of Alabama, has introduced a bill, prepared by the California Silk Culture Association, authorizing the establishment of a silk culture bureau in the Interior Department, and in connection with it presented a memorial from the same organization, all of which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Senator Morgan asked to have the memorial printed, as in one respect at least it was a remarkable document, and there being no objection, the request was granted. He read part of the memorial to show its extraordinary character, and commented at some length upon it. The portion read was a paragraph in which the California silk culturists expressly state that they do not want Congress to impose a duty on raw silk, because they believe with American brains and improved machinery a superior article can be produced in this country, and that they can compete with the foreign article without protection. Senator Morgan said that this frank statement was very different from the statement of the promoters of other industries, who ask protection from Congress before they start business, and in the last Congress Senator Morgan said he had offered an amendment to the Tariff Bill, imposing a ten per cent. ad valorem duty on raw silk, believing that industry ought to be encouraged. He now was certain that he was wrong. As this was the first infant industry which had petitioned Congress and not asked for protection, he begged the Committee to give the memorial early and favorable consideration. The memorial is the same as presented to the House by General Rosencrans, and is signed by Mrs. E. B. Baker, President, and Miss Sallie Heath, Secretary, both of San Francisco.—*Alta*.

THE Austrian method of sending condemned criminals out of the world is a little uncommon. The *Daily Telegraph* gives the following account of the execution of Sponga and his comrades, the murderers of Chief Justice Majlath:—

Sixty persons were allowed to witness the execution, which took place in a small court-yard inside the prison. Three posts, about eight feet high and four feet apart, were erected in the centre. At the top of each post was a small hook, and at the bottom a pulley. The three men were brought out at seven precisely, and placed each with his back against one of the posts. They were not blindfolded. Each of them was attended by a priest. In front of them the troops and spectators formed an irregular semicircle, while in the

centre stood the judges of the last Court of Appeal, in ordinary morning dress. Some little time was occupied by the reading of the sentence, a most unnecessary formality which had been gone through already in presence of the three criminals the previous day at the Court of Appeal. On a signal given by the Public Prosecutor the execution was then proceeded with.

Sponga, who was placed to the left, was the first to suffer the penalty of the law. Two steps were placed at the foot of the post, which the convict was bidden to mount, his hands being then pinioned to his left thigh. He looked pale, but kept his nerve and asked pardon of the Majlath family and of the authorities. A screen of wood was put between him and the two others, after which the chief executioner mounted a ladder, and taking out of his pocket a rope with a loop at both ends, passed it round the culprit's neck, and, securing a knot under the left ear, tightened it. Meanwhile one of the assistants tied his feet together with another rope, and passing it through the pulley kept the other end in his hand. The chief executioner then gave the signal, and with the aid of another assistant the convict was lifted by the rope attached to his neck about six inches and hung on the hook at the top of the post. The attendant holding the rope attached to his legs simultaneously pulled with force, while his chief placed his hands on the criminal's mouth and eyes. Death ensued in about two minutes, not, as some accounts state, in seventeen.

The execution of the others then took place in the same way. The man Pitely, who was the principal author of the crime, had a ruffianly countenance, beetle browsed and of sallow complexion. In his case death resulted in half a minute. The last of the three, by name Berecz, was a big, shambling fellow, with a Newgate slouch, an eagle nose and an Oriental cast of countenance. He lost his nerve and had so be supported to the stake. He kissed the crucifix and called upon the Almighty to curse his judges. The president of the Court of Appeal thereupon ordered the drums to play, so as to drown his voice. Death with him was instantaneous, but his face, unlike that of his accomplice, was fearfully distorted. The principal priest in attendance then knelt down, and the spectators, with uncovered heads, listened to a short prayer for the souls of the departed. Within fifteen minutes three doctors had successfully examined the bodies with stethoscopes, and declared life to be extinct. The bodies were left hanging half an hour, and then removed to a dissecting-room.

THE apparent increase of insanity in the United Kingdom during the past two decades has assumed startling dimensions. The following table is given by Mr. W. J. Corbet, in a recent essay on the subject:—

DATE.	NO. OF INSANE.	POPULATION.	RATIO OF INSANE PER 1,000.
1862.....	55,525 ...	29,197,737 ...	1.81
1872.....	77,013 ...	31,842,522 ...	2.41
1882.....	98,871 ...	34,788,814 ...	2.84

The English Lunacy Commissioners have always endeavoured to refer this increase to causes apart from any hypothesis of an actual growth of the malady in the Three Kingdoms. Their stock argument has been that the introduction of a new and humane system of State aid had, and still has, the effect of preventing any concealment of insanity, and of causing the asylums to be entered by persons who would otherwise have remained unnoticed or been looked after in a rough and ready fashion by their friends. The difficulty about this contention is that the improved system came into operation in 1849, and that there are as yet no symptoms of a stationary point being reached. Even supposing that thousands of lunatics were hidden away here and there throughout the country at the time when the Government came to their relief, thirty-seven years ought to have sufficed to correct all abuses of that nature. Nevertheless, the number of afflicted persons goes on growing. The Report of the Commissioners for 1883 shows, that in England alone the number added during that year was 1,923, whereas the annual average for the preceding decade had been only 1,643. Meanwhile the burden upon the funds of the country is becoming enormous. Seven millions sterling have been spent upon asylums, and the yearly outlay for the support of lunatics is £1,500,000. On the other hand, the contrast between things as they are now and as they were before 1849 is almost incredible. Since that

time "stately structures have been erected of noble architectural design and vast proportions, and furnished with every modern appliance for convenience, comfort, and even luxury. Amusements, theatricals, concerts, out-of-door and indoor occupation and exercise, games of all sorts, Turkish baths, everything in short that sympathy for human suffering could suggest, has been generously provided at an enormous and constantly increasing expenditure of public money." But before that time, "female as well as male patients were chained to the walls, covered only with a blanket formed into something like a gown. One man was kept confined in chains for fourteen years without the smallest interval of liberty. Stout iron rings were riveted round his arms, body and neck, the latter being made to slide upwards and downwards on a massive iron bar inserted in the wall." Seventeen or eighteen per cent. of the patients in asylums were "almost invariably in irons": they were allowed, in many cases only food, straw and fire, but no blankets or dress. Outside the asylums, the method often resorted to was thus described:—"When the man is out labouring in the fields for his bread, and the care of the woman of the house is scarcely sufficient for the attendance on the children, if a strong young man or woman becomes insane, the only way they have to manage is by making a hole in the floor of the cabin, not high enough to stand up in, with a crib over it to prevent the lunatic getting up. The hole is about five feet deep, and they give the wretched being food there, and there he dies." To appreciate the meaning of these accounts, it is necessary to remember that the horrors described took place within the memory of Englishmen still living. But whatever allowance may be made for the effects of altered systems in preventing concealment, or for the accuracy of improved statistical methods, it is impossible to escape the conviction that mental derangement is on the increase in the United Kingdom. The explanation of this is not less startling than the fact itself. Intemperance and irregularity of life are said to predominate largely over all other exciting causes, including, of course, hereditary transmission, which is only a vicarious effect of immoral habits. Something must doubtless be ascribed to the wearing speed at which the world now travels, but Mr. Corbet thinks that the grand *origo mali* is an increase of dissipation, drunkenness, and moral depravity, for which most unhappy state of affairs he holds Materialism and Free-thought mainly responsible.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Society, Professor Huxley, President, in the chair, Professor Elgar, of Glasgow University, read an important paper on the subject of the stability of ships, the main object of which was to exhibit the manner in which the stability of a ship varies with changes of load and draught of water such as merchant ships are liable to. The paper presented a method of constructing cross curves of stability for this purpose, and was illustrated by examples derived from prismatic bodies and from actual ships. The author demonstrated in a scientific manner the important proposition first enunciated by him in *The Times* of September 1st last—viz., that excessively light draught is dangerous in like manner with, and for the same reason as, excessively deep draught with its consequent low freeboard. Professor Elgar corroborated from his own experience the statement made by

Sir Edward Reed in *The Times* a few days ago respecting the multiplied losses of ships carrying homogeneous cargoes, in consequence of their insufficient stability. The President described the paper as of great practical as well as scientific interest, and conveyed the thanks of the Society to Professor Elgar for it. At the request of the President, Sir Edward Reed offered some observations upon the paper, which he greatly praised, and explained that while in France and elsewhere great progress was being made in the study of this branch of science, the most lively interest in it had also been aroused in this country by recent events, the paper which had just been read constituting a very considerable advance in what might be called the English mode of treating the subject. He strongly recommended the publication of the complete paper in the *Transactions* of the Royal Society.

In a lecture recently delivered by Mr. C. Pfoundes, F.R.G.S., on the "Art and Literature of Old Japan," there seems to have been unusually many points of interest. The lecture was given before the Nottingham Arts Society, which is well-known throughout the United Kingdom. Mr. Pfoundes said there were special reasons why the art and literature of Japan should be coupled together. Of the literature of Japan there was little or nothing known to the outside world, and even in Japan the foreign residents were generally unacquainted with the book-lore of the country. The Japanese standard authors were, however, nearly equal to English writers, and the amount of literature in Japan was enormous. In speaking of the art of Japan, the lecturer remarked that the Japanese were more painstaking than the English, and followed nature in every detail. In touching upon the pottery of the Japanese, the lecturer spoke in highly eulogistic terms of the various porcelains peculiar to this country. Mr. Pfoundes then gave some interesting information concerning the habits and customs of the Japanese, as well as the literature and art of the feudal days. The lecture was well received, and met with a hearty vote of thanks. There is a Japanese proverb which says "*Shiranu wa Hotoke*," or ignorance is bliss. We trust for Mr. Pfoundes' sake that his English audiences may long be able to regard him as a *Hotoke*.

On Wednesday, at half-past two o'clock, the yearly Graduation Ceremony took place in the Main Hall of the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokiyo, H.E. Sasaki Takatsura, Minister of Public Works, presiding, supported on the right by Mr. Takeda, the Director, on the left by Dr. Divers, Principal of the College, and the staff of Professors and Instructors. The seats on the platform reserved for distinguished visitors were occupied by Their Excellencies Fukuoka, Minister of Education, the Hon. F. R. Plunkett, British Minister, Mr. Davidow, Russian Minister, and by others of the foreign diplomatic corps. After a few words from the Director, Dr. Divers addressed the students at some length, expressing satisfaction with the work that had been done in the College during the past year. Students who had gone to Europe, he remarked, had not found that the education they had already received was inferior to that given in European Technical Schools. They felt that the institution in which they had been educated was quite abreast of the age, and that it put them

on an equal footing with any set of European students. The smaller number of graduates this year (twenty-two) was due to a special cause. In the year 1878, students were, for the first time, required to pay the expenses of their board, a measure which reduced very markedly, especially at first, the number of eligible candidates. To one thing he would refer as of special interest. A rule had been passed since last May, that only those who put in a certain number of attendances at Gymnastics would be eligible for prizes. This rule was framed in view of the great disinclination shown on the part of many students to take a sufficient amount of exercise. Cases of overwork resulting in death had been too frequent, and it was considered advisable to repress in every way an ambition that would gratify itself at the expense of bodily health and strength. Two students who would otherwise have been prizemen had been disqualified under this rule. Among the changes to be referred to in the College Staff were:—the retirement of Mr. Conder from active duty as Professor of Architecture, and his appointment as Honorary Professor of Architecture; the appointment of Mr. Shida Rinzaburo to the chair of Physics, and of Mr. Fujioka Ichisuke to that of Electrical Engineering; and the departure of Messrs. Oshima and Nobechi, instructors in Civil Engineering, to the United States of America, where they are now actively engaged in railway work. H.E. Sasaki then presented the diplomas to the graduates in turn, and thereafter the professors distributed the prizes in their respective departments. The whole ceremony occupied about an hour. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a good number of visitors were present in the body of the hall, and the galleries were also filled by a mixed audience. In the evening the Minister entertained the Staff of the College and the Graduates at a banquet in the magnificent hall of the College.

* * *

The following are the names of the Graduates and the marks they obtained:—

POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.—Kondo Motoki, Graduate in Mechanical Engineering.

GRADUATION.—TOTAL MARKS 320.

CIVIL ENGINEERING.—Kume Taminosuke, First-class Diploma, 240.2 marks; Yoshimoto Kamesaburo, First-class Diploma, 237.4 marks; Furukawa Sakajiro, Second-class Diploma, 127.2 marks; Ogawa Togo, Second-class Diploma, 110.9 marks.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.—Fukuta Mumanosuke, First-class Diploma, 213.5 marks; Sugitani Yasuichi, Second-class Diploma, 179.9 marks; Aoki Kio, Second-class Diploma, 137.7 marks.

TELEGRAPHY.—Aoki Daizaburo, Second-class Diploma, 141.6.

CHEMISTRY.—Shimose Masachika, First-class Diploma, 204.5 marks; Kawanami Torataro, Second-class Diploma, 138.9 marks; Shidzuki Iwaichiro, Second-class Diploma, 108.8 marks; Hosokawa Toshishige, Second-class Diploma, 107.5 marks.

MINING.—Ohara Junnosuke, First-class Diploma, 211.0 marks; Otsubo Ichiro, Second-class Diploma, 161.5 marks; Saito Seikichi, Second-class Diploma, 150.1 marks; Shimada Kenroku, Second-class Diploma, 140.8 marks; Mamiya Igajiro, Second-class Diploma, 132.9 marks; Abe Masayoshi, Second-class Diploma, 130.4 marks; Hidakaitaro, Second-class Diploma, 125.4 marks; Kasahara Washitaro, Second-class Diploma, 124.8 marks; Yamaguchi Shiro, Second-class Diploma, 110.8 marks.

ARCHITECTURE.—Yoshizawa Tomotaro, Certificate, 92.7 marks.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY, who abolished the flaying alive of Chinese criminals in Hongkong, finds congenial work in the Mauritius, where there appears to be ample room for remedial

measures bearing upon the cruel punishments which are inflicted for minor offences and breaches of prison discipline. The *Merchants' and Planters' Gazette*, referring to His Excellency's speech at the closing of the Legislative Session, says:—"Turning to our prisons, the Governor said that he has had some experience in other parts of the world in prison discipline but had never seen anything so objectionable as obtained here, where prisoners have had to endure cruel punishments both illegal and unjust. This condition of things, he averred, prevailed despite the protest of the local press and the wishes of the Downing-street authorities. Lord Kimberley, for instance, had put on record his regret that in 40 cases out of 59, flogging had been administered for insignificant prison offences. Another despatch had been received by the local government containing these words—'I notice the large number of stripes administered.' And now let us ask what was done in reference to such admonitions? Absolutely nothing, we fear, calculated to check the practice. Indeed, we have heard it alleged that members of prison committees knew nothing of such rebukes—knew nothing of even the views expressed by the Secretary of State. Then on whose shoulders rests the responsibility for making a State secret of such a matter? The government of the day, of course. It was Sir Edward Coke who declared that corporations could not commit treason, nor be outlawed nor excommunicated; for, said this learned man, they have no souls. The government of a Crown Colony is often very similar—many to blame; no one held to be responsible. Indeed, the gentlemen forming the prison commission inquiry, declared that the objectionable practices under reference were 'not contrary to the prison-laws,' although repugnant 'to the most elementary principles of justice.' The verdict of the gentlemen forming the commission is thus recorded:—'As regards the prisoner Seechurn, we have strong reasons to believe that the flogging he underwent on the 24th of July last in the gaol of Port Louis was, if not the direct cause of his death, at least its determining cause. The particulars of this deplorable case, as well as those of several others into which we have examined, will be given at full length in our final report which we are not yet in a position to submit.'" The *Gazette* concludes:—"We are glad to note that Sir John Pope Hennessy paid a well-merited compliment to the liberal policy of our Imperial Government in appointing a Mauritian to the post of Chief Justice of our Supreme Court." What would they say to this in Hongkong, where, when magistrates were scarce through death vacancies and other causes, Sir John nominated Mr. Ng Choy, a clever Chinese barrister, who had been called to the Bar just previously, to a seat on the Bench of the Police Court, temporarily and without any emolument, and the appointment raised a howl of derisive wrath amongst his enemies?

THE following from the Athenæum Club is too good not to be true. A well-known bishop—well, never mind what bishop, possibly one who had voted recently with the Sabbatarians in the House of Lords—found to his dismay on quitting the club that his umbrella had disappeared from the hall. "Dear me, how very unpleasant! I cannot find my umbrella; it must be lost." "Oh no, my lord," quoted a bystander, "not lost, but gone before."

ALL manner of athletic games are becoming very popular. The *yawara* or *jiu-jitsu*, a once favourite mode of wrestling, is coming rapidly into vogue, together with single-stick or quarter-staff. The common *sumo* is quite different from the *yawara*, as the former is chiefly an exhibition of physical strength and muscular power, while the latter depends rather on the agility and dexterity of the wrestler. In olden times, the *yawara* was a favourite pastime of the *samurai*, and was much practiced as conducive to muscular suppleness as well as a means of self-defence in contests at close quarters. In point of fact, the *yawara* has a good bit of the noble science of the P.R. in it, consisting as it does in a knowledge and display of rapid passes, half blows, half falls. Each disciple of the art is carefully taught the most vulnerable parts of the human body, and the manner in which to inflict or ward off fatal blows. An exhibition of this sort has been going on for some little time in the arena at Isezakicho. The combatants frequently throw one another in excellent style, some of the fallen ones measuring their length on the ground five or six feet distant from their rivals. That hard blows are given with downright good will was amply demonstrated the other day when one stalwart fellow was knocked completely senseless. Instead of attempting to bring him around by ordinary means, his fellow athletes kept on striking him in what appeared to be a rather heartless manner, but which was really intended to restore his senses. At last, the master of ceremonies brought back his consciousness by a prodigious thump in the small ribs, thereby proving his intimate knowledge of the anatomy of the human frame. The art known as *shime-ai*, "mutual strangling," is one of the favourite branches of the *yawara*, and consists in squeezing one another's gullets till one of the combatants is forced to relinquish his hold. On the whole, the *yawara* is well worth seeing.

ONE of the most praiseworthy features of the South Kensington Museum is the encouragement it gives to art students of all classes. This year an exhibition of the work of students in the various schools of art throughout the Kingdom will be held under the auspices of the Science and Art Department. The exhibits will consist of carvings in all materials, furniture, decorations, metal working of all kinds, jewellery, goldsmiths' work, pottery, glass, &c. In textiles the following will be included: Point, pillow, and machine-made lace, drawings and photographs of such as may have been executed; woven damask in linen and cotton, plain or in colours; silks, ribbons, trimmings, &c., including furniture and dress fabrics; mixed woven fabrics for dresses, shawls, scarfs, &c.; printed fabrics; carpets and tapestry, curtains, table-covers, &c. The name of the manufacturer, of the school of art, and of the student, will be published. The purpose of the exhibition is to show the improvement in quality, design and execution, that has been made in consequence of the establishment of art-schools.

THE opening of the new Social Club in the *Rokumei-kwan*, Tokiyo, took place on the 14th instant. A committee of organization, appointed in March, had drawn up rules and elected a nucleus of members in whose hands the Club was finally placed on the 14th. These members numbered 102, of whom 42 were

foreigners, including the Corps Diplomatique and the staff of the various Foreign Legations. The active members only, to the number of 75, of whom 32 were foreign, were present at the opening. The chair was taken at 3.30. p.m. by His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa, when the Governor of Tokiyo, Mr. Yoshikawa, who had acted as president of the Committee of Organization, spoke as follows:—

YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES and GENTLEMEN,—It seems proper to state briefly the circumstances which led to the establishment of the Tokiyo Club, and the duties which the Committee of Organization have had to perform preparatory to the opening of the institution to-day. The idea of establishing a Club in Tokiyo with a view to the promotion of social and friendly intercourse between Japanese and Foreigners, originally suggested itself to His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs. The *Rokumei-kwan*, being then on the verge of completion, appeared to His Excellency a suitable place for the purpose he had in view. Steps were accordingly taken with that object, and a Committee of Organization, consisting of Messrs. Nakai, Katsu Inouye, Nakamura, San-no-miya, Saito, and Stevens, was formed, over which I was asked to preside. Entirely sympathizing with the intention of His Excellency Inouye, I willingly acceded to the request, and after several meetings, general rules and bye-laws were drafted. Then, in the name of His Excellency Inouye, the Ministers of Departments and others were asked to select and nominate five gentlemen from each office to constitute the originators of the Club. Subsequently, the gentlemen thus nominated met the Committee, and after discussion, adopted the draft of the General Rules and Bye-laws. By the provisions of those Rules the President of the Club is to be a Prince of the Blood. It would of course have been proper, in the strict order of things, that the post of President should have been offered to one of their Imperial Highnesses by the members of the Club. But having regard to the exceptional circumstances inseparable from the inception of such a scheme, and with the view of avoiding unnecessary delay, I, in my capacity of Chairman of the Organization Committee, ventured to pray His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa to accept the office, and His Highness was graciously pleased to consent. Application for permission to lease the *Rokumei-kwan* was also made by me, for the same reasons, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and was granted on conditions which I have here by me, and which are open for the perusal of the members. And now, while expressing the great pleasure it gives me to be present at the first meeting of the Tokiyo Club under the Presidency of His Imperial Highness, it only remains for me to respectfully place my resignation of my functions in the hands of His Highness, and to beg that the Committee of Organization may be relieved.

His Imperial Highness, the President, then spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have accepted the Presidency of the Tokiyo Club with very great pleasure. I heartily sympathise with the motives which prompted the Minister for Foreign Affairs to take steps for the establishment of the Club, and I indulge the hope that the members will support Mr. Inouye's idea, and endeavour by every means in their power to promote that social and friendly intercourse which knows no distinction of race or class.

His Excellency Inouye then proposed that the Governor of Tokiyo, Mr. Yoshikawa, be nominated Vice-President of the Club, and the proposition having been duly seconded and put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. The members then proceeded to elect a Working Committee, and, a ballot having been taken, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected: viz., Messrs. Hayashi, Katsu Inouye, Nakamura, Saito, Major Tajima, Lieut.-Commander Kurōka, Baron Zedtwitz, the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench, Messrs. Stone and Malenda. After this, the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee of Organization, whose labours, he said, must have been very considerable. He felt persuaded that it was quite unnecessary for him to say anything in support of a vote which must commend itself to every one present, and which, he was assured, would be carried with unanimity. Mr. Yoshida seconded the proposal, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried by acclaim. Mr. Yoshikawa, the Vice-President, then rose and said:—

On behalf of the Committee of Organization, I thank Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, and gentlemen, for your kind expressions. Fully conscious as I am of my inability to discharge satisfactorily the functions

of Vice-President, the unanimity with which you have elected me to the post leaves me no choice but to accept it. I therefore waive my own feelings in deference to the wishes of the members, and I beg to assure you that however inadequate my efforts may prove, I shall spare no pains to prove myself worthy of the trust you have reposed in me.

This speech, and the others delivered in Japanese, were translated into English with remarkable accuracy and fluency by Mr. Saito, Private Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The President then declared the meeting dissolved and the Club opened.

SAYS the *Fiji Shimpō*:—An English gentleman, a resident in this country of many years' standing, recently received a letter from a friend at home,—a common experience enough, but for the fact that it contains these words:—"I suppose you have learned much of the condition of the country in which you have dwelt for so long a time, and I look forward with delight to hearing from you all about the many wonderful things you have seen. Please send me a photograph of the Japanese *negro*." The ignorance of foreigners with regard to the condition and people of Japan has often given us pain, but this is really too bad. Probably the writer thought we were *all* blackamoors. No wonder that extraterritoriality is so difficult to abolish.

TRULY, the lines of Japanese usurers are not cast in pleasant places. The *Mainichi Shimbun* records one of the most determined murders we have ever heard of, the victim of which was a notorious money-lender living at Isshiki-mura, Yurugi-gori, Sagami (Kanagawa Prefecture). It seems that this unfortunate usurer, Tsuyuki Usaburo, had made himself particularly obnoxious to the peasantry by the manner in which he pressed them for payment of their debts. Some time ago, a number of the malcontents formed a league with the intention of slaughtering every member of the Usaburo family. Fortunately the police got wind of the matter, and succeeded in foiling the plans of the conspirators. Despite this warning, Usaburo took no notice whatever of the matter, and went about as usual without taking the least precautions. However, he refused to advance any further sums to the villagers, and they, having no means to save themselves from starvation, chose rather to die by the law than from the pangs of a lingering death. On the 15th instant, eleven of the conspirators, hearing that Usaburo had gone on a visit to Oiso, followed him thither, each armed with a naked sword. They traced their victim to a house which they forcibly entered; and then literally hacked the unfortunate man to pieces, cutting off both legs and stabbing him in innumerable places. The adopted son of Usaburo, who was present at the time, shared the same fate. Immediately afterwards, the murderers went to the police station, and voluntarily gave themselves up. It is stated that the conspirators number two or three hundred in all, and that they were about to set fire to the dwelling of Usaburo, but were prevented by the police who proceeded to the spot so soon as the murder was reported.

No less than thirty representatives of the Tea Industrial Association, established according to the instructions of the Home Department, held meetings in the Yamashita Bazaar, Tokiyo, from the 2nd to the 14th instant. The principal resolutions passed may be epitomized as follows:—A Central Tea Corporation shall be established in Tokiyo, and shall undertake to facilitate communication between tea dealers all

over the country; this Corporation shall collect minute information on the foreign tea-market, and shall reply to all manner of questions submitted concerning the manufacture of Japanese tea; the Corporation shall, finally, do all in its power to stop the manufacture of spurious teas, and endeavor to put an end to all malpractices.—*Choya Shimbun*.

THOUGH the relations of the United States with Eastern Asia have lately attracted much attention and are likely to become more important every year, it may not be generally known that there is already a substantial colony of Japanese in the American Republic. According to the *New York Herald*, this small community is eminently respectable, and stands out in sharp contrast to the larger Chinese settlement. The Japanese, who are most numerous in New York, Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco, have gained the goodwill of their neighbours by intelligence, industry, sobriety, and a strict observance of the social duties. They follow avocations which, as a rule, are useful to the general community, being mostly merchants in tea, silk, porcelain, lacquer work, toys, and native articles. They have a native bank, with branches and a considerable capital, and their business is conducted chiefly on European or American principles. In New York City the Japanese have a club of their own; they can usually speak English well; and in dress, deportment, and habits they adapt themselves easily to the standards of their adopted country. It is noted as a sign of their disposition to make the best of their new surroundings that they take a lively interest in the politics, literature, social life, and commercial development of the United States. That such a colony, in constant communication with the home country, should have some influence on the progress of an enterprising people is natural enough. On the other hand, its existence opens up important possibilities in a complex civilisation like that of the United States, although limited by the fact that the labouring classes in Japan do not readily emigrate, probably because there is no such pressure of population with regard to employment as forces them into exile from a country to which they are said to be peculiarly attached. That the character of these classes would not be likely to arouse the animosity which has been shown against the Chinese is argued from the favourable reputation of the Japanese sailors who visit the American ports, and from the statement that no native of Japan has ever been charged with a criminal offence in the courts of the United States.—*Manchester Guardian*, April 1.

In the last number of the *Fortnightly Review* there is an imaginary conversation between an Englishman, an Irishman, and an American on the subject of "Assassination and Dynamite." The writer, Mr. W. Dillon, while denying that a majority of the Irish in America, much less of the Irish at home, are favourable to a policy such as that pursued at present by the Invincibles, nevertheless admits that "a very considerable number of Irishmen in America, who have never taken and have no thought of taking any part whatever in a dynamite campaign, will be found to excuse such a policy in conversation;" and that "even among these (and they are the majority) who cannot fairly be said to sympathise in any sense with dynamite doctrines, the prevalent feeling is one of indifference, or,

at most, of a somewhat languid disapproval." In the imaginary dialogue, the Irishman, as might be expected, lays much stress on the cruelties perpetrated by landlords, and confesses his inability to distinguish between the stabbing of a landlord and the murder that is done when "a poor fever-stricken woman is thrown out to die on the road-side;" thus frankly avowing himself a disciple of the doctrine that two wrongs make a right. He has also a good deal to say about the glamour that history has thrown over the memory of tyrannicides; about the difference between blowing up people of one's own country and sinking ships or burning towns that contain alien enemies, and about the tacit approval which England herself has always given to the opponents of despotism, whatever form their opposition took. The practical Englishman disposes of these and cognate arguments in a very simple fashion. He quietly reminds the Hibernian that his doctrines involve some very perplexing conclusions. For without attempting to defend England's attitude of apathy, if not of approval, towards conspirators against foreign governments, it is plain that if Ireland's right to regard England as a foreign oppressor and to shoot or shatter Englishmen be admitted, there will be few, if any, places in the world free from the horrors of civil tumult. Frenchmen in Alsace and Lorraine might murder every accessible German, and a band of Red Indian Invincibles might proceed to dispose of the members of the United States Administration. But, perhaps, the most convincing argument advanced by the Englishman is a reference to the effect this dynamite policy, if pursued with success, must have upon the future Government of Ireland herself. "If England," the hard-headed Saxon observes, "were to haul down her colours, surrender to dynamite, and leave Ireland free, you (in Ireland) would certainly have your extreme section, who would be for confiscating the property of the landlords, and, it may be, for establishing some form of socialism or communism. If this section failed to bring the body of the people to their views by argument, it would naturally occur to them that there was another way more effectual than argument. Experience had show that some hundred men could impose their will upon an entire nation by means of dynamite. Why should not they do likewise? And so you would exchange the tyranny of England, as you are pleased to call it, for something that would be a real and terrible tyranny—the tyranny of the few over the many, enforced by an organized system of intimidation and murder."

It is not generally known, says the *Whitehall Review*, that the late Duke of Albany was all his life subject to the fits one of which appears to have been the immediate cause of his death. This was the chief secret of that feeble health which always prevented him from taking much share in the many amusements in which his brothers excelled, and to which, with a curious irony of fate, he was especially attached. He was very fond of shooting, riding, and, indeed, all bodily exercises; but his physical strength did not allow him to gratify these tastes very much. In compensation, his mind was richly endowed, and he found his delight in the study and aims which made him one of the most cultured princes that England has ever known. One of the strongest ambitions of the late Duke was to earn distinction as a public speaker, and

to attain this end he always devoted the greatest care and thought to the preparation of his public speeches. It is inexpressibly melancholy to think that this honourable ambition, which would so surely have been realised—which, indeed, was in a measure already realised—is now among the noblest of the many noble memories that he has left behind.

COMMERCIAL depression is a favourite topic with the vernacular journals at present. The *Yiji Shimpō* and others have devoted much space to the discussion of the best remedy for this universal stagnation of trade, and, latterly, the *Bukka Shimpō* has had much to say on the same subject. The latter journal treats of the question in the light of a dangerous epidemic, which only "skilful financial physicians" can stay. The recent panic in Wall Street, says the *Bukka*, as well as the reported heavy failures in Europe and China, cannot fail to have a depressing influence on this country. The speculations in the American tea-market will certainly affect the sale of tea in this country; for, now that the market is so uncertain, even a brisk demand will not send up quotations. The banks of Japan are treading on perilous ground, and the late disastrous failure in the Capital proves the total instability of many corporations. Appearances are, and have been, deceptive; mercantile associations that seemed to do a lucrative business and enjoy an enviable notoriety in foreign countries are, in reality, in great pecuniary distress. The epidemic is spreading throughout the land, and matters look well-nigh hopeless. The disease is a most infectious one, and the stagnant condition of trade furthers its rank development. The sad scenes of a great panic may be at our very doors, and it needs wise heads and steady hands to avert the imminent crisis.

IN H.B.M Court for Japan, on Thursday, John Weser sued John Carroll, as part owner of the *Ada*, for \$50.00 and the tenth share of an otter skin. The case had been adjourned from the 11th January for Captain Hardy's evidence as to the skin in question. The defendant said that Captain Hardy, who was the managing owner of the *Ada*, had not been in Yokohama since that date; he had told him everything had been settled. Captain Hardy had made him a present of the skin, which he valued at about \$150.00. The plaintiff said that Captain Hardy had picked the skin out of the catch before sending it home and, according to the account sales of the other skins, he valued it at £33 or about \$170.00. His Honour remarked that the only point now in question was regarding the skin, and he did not see how Captain Hardy could make presents out of the catch. The case had been adjourned for five months, and he did not feel justified in making a further adjournment. He thought the only way would be for the defendant to pay the money and recover the amount from Captain Hardy on his return. He then gave judgment for plaintiff for \$65.00 and costs.

THE colonists of Victoria, if at first disappointed in their desire to have yet another peer, at their head, will find that in Sir Henry Brougham Loch, K.C.B., the Colonial Office has made an appointment which cannot fail to be popular. His departure from the Isle of Man, where he had so long reigned supreme, will be greatly regretted. Since the days when he quitted

"John Company" to enter the service of the Crown, Sir Henry Loch has rendered some most important services to the State, but none greater than those he rendered in China as the right-hand man of Lord Elgin, whose special missions he accompanied in 1857 and 1860, bringing home the treaty with Japan, signed at Yedo, in August 1858, and also Lord Elgin's despatches, including the ratification of the Treaty of June 1858, and the Convention which brought our last China war to a close.—*Whitehall Review*.

ALTHOUGH Christian Missionaries have expended large sums in founding their religion in this country, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, yet their converts have mostly belonged to the lower orders of the populace. We now hear that they will direct their energies towards proselytizing the upper classes, hoping thereby to have greater influence over the people at large. To this end, they intend holding intimate intercourse with leading politicians, whether in the Government or retired from service, and hope to reap golden opinions from the intellectual members of our community.

A HOME paper, referring to Dr. Dennys' invention, the company to work which has just been formed, says:—Fresh evidence is continually coming up as to the efficacy of the newly invented anti-fouling paint. The steamer *Ceylon*, which recently made a voyage round the world, was painted with one coat of Dennys' paint at Hongkong, in February 1882, and the report of her commander, made after a survey in August 1883, an interval of more than eighteen months, states that the paint remained "perfectly smooth, clean, and absolutely free from any marine growth." Surfaces protected by other paints have only lasted six weeks in the waters of the Straits of Malacca, which are well known to be as bad for fouling as any in the world. This new paint has stood tests of over twelve months in five different parts of Singapore Harbour, and has been found on inspection to be absolutely clean. For vessels, therefore, trading in tropical seas the discovery is invaluable.

GOVERNOR CRITTENDEN, who has often been accused lately of never doing any wise thing, has improved his reputation according to a story told by Patti to a *Post-Dispatch* reporter the other day. She was at the time describing the favorable reception of her singing of "Home, Sweet Home." She said:—"Now, every one seemed so pleased when I sang it that it made me feel good to see them. Were they not pleased? Such a funny thing happened in connection with—I'll tell you—your Governor—Crittenden I think his name was—yes, Governor Crittenden came to see me after that night, and what do you think he did? Well, he kissed me. He said:—'Mme. Patti, I may never see you again, and I cannot help it,' and before I knew it he threw his arms around me and was kissing me." The diva laughed heartily and merrily at the recollection of the incident. "Is that the privilege of Governors, only, madame? asked the susceptible reporter. "Now, it wouldn't do, you know, to have everybody washing my face, but an old gentleman, and a nice looking old gentleman—I think he was nice looking—but the truth is, he kissed me so quick I didn't have time to see, and especially when they do not give me time to object, what can I do?" The *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* proposes the impeachment of Governor Crittenden "not for kissing Patti (men who are not Gover-

nors would do that if they got a good chance), but for kissing and telling. "To kiss is human," adds the *G. D.*, "but to kiss and tell is diabolical." So far as the public in this part of the country has been informed, it was not Governor Crittenden who told, but Patti. But if it was really the Governor who first took the outside world into confidence about the transaction, we fully indorse the impeachment proposition.

HOWEVER variable may be the grade of intellect in different individuals, says the *Choya Shimbun*, it is certainly not fair for a few to pass lives of ease and luxury while the many about them live in penury and extreme distress. The aborigines of Saru and Shiraoi in the Hokkaido, who, until recently, passed quiet hard-working lives as fishermen and farmers, have been driven from their occupations in a wholesale manner. The ever-increasing immigrants, added to the employment of machinery and all sorts of industrial inventions, have completely outbid these poor fellows, who are at the verge of starvation. Many have been forced to enter into the service of the new comers, but even there misfortune follows them, for their hard taskmasters often refuse to pay their little pittances. They have no means of redress, and live at the mercy and charity of their employers. Nothing can be more woebegone and pitiable than their present condition, and it is high time that somebody did something in their behalf.

THE somewhat foolish young ladies and gentlemen who call themselves Esoteric Buddhists, and to whom literature means only the "Light of Asia," "Mr. Isaacs," and the writings of Mr. Sinnet, will not be very greatly pleased, says a home paper, by a passage in a recently published letter of Henri Martin's. Henri Martin is writing to a friend on questions of belief, and says, "If we are not agreed on all points, we are so at least, I believe, on this one, that the soul is an indefectible activity; and we leave the opposite hope to those lazy Buddhists." Indeed, it is high time that the foolish mania for Anglo-Buddhism should pass away like æstheticism and agnosticism. We can imagine how Dr. Johnson would have spoken if Boswell had informed him of some English friend of his who professed Buddhism. "Sir, no Englishman is a Buddhist. Your friend is not a Buddhist. Your friend is an ass."

SEVERAL extensive conflagrations are reported from the provinces. On the 19th instant, a fire broke out at Shichiken-cho, Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, destroying 549 houses, including the local Post Office, the bank, and several schools and ward-offices. Five persons were seriously injured and one killed. Another fire consumed 110 houses at Kashiwazaki, Niigata Prefecture, on the 18th instant. A third conflagration occurred at Akitagori, Akita Prefecture, in which an assaying house, three official residences, and 55 private dwellings were reduced to ashes.

ONE of the funniest criticisms I can remember on a dramatic hitch, says "ATLAS" in the *World*, was delivered in the Queen's Theatre in Dublin years ago. A very portly Mephistopheles in some *Faust* extravaganza had to "go home." The dramatic devil was, like Hamlet, "fat and scant of breath," and as he sank through a small circular trap—a sort of "converted vampire," to be technical—he stuck. The demons below tugged at his crimson legs in vain; the mortals

above tried to stuff him down: all useless. And then, over the delightful Dublin din that rose from the whole house, came a still small voice, "Well, boys, that's a comfort, anyway—hell's full!" Then they dropped the curtain.

THE weather report of Saturday at 10 a.m. gives notice of an area of low barometer in the Sea of Japan, with a general fall of pressure and rise of temperature. With a southerly wind, this was followed, as expected, by a stormy day at this port, and a heavy gale which lasted all night, culminating at two o'clock this morning in occasional gusts of wind that approached typhoon force. A heavy gale was experienced at Nagasaki; readings are reported much lower in the Inland Sea, and the depression has extended and deepened.

THE *Fiyu Shimbun* has evidently a *penchant* for monstrosities. Another "what is it" is reported from Onegaidzuka-mura, Kawabe-gori, Hiyogo Prefecture. The happy mother, yclept Nunota Ino, gave birth to an infant without arms or legs, shaped, so says the *Fiyu*, like a—Heaven preserve us—large bottle! Speculators are already in the field; none but capitalists need apply.

IN the U.S. Consulate-General on Monday, R. Coy, R. G. Groves, and Francis Berry were brought up on remand from the 17th instant, and charged before General van Buren with having assaulted Alexander Cameron. The complainant wished to withdraw the charge as he wanted to join his ship. His Honour, after reading the prisoners a severe lecture, discharged them.

AT the Boston Exhibition, which closed on January 12th, some \$24,000 or \$25,000 worth of Japanese exhibits were sold. Among those to whom prizes were awarded we note the following:—The Finance Department, Tokiyo Manufacturing Company, Bizen Porcelain Company, the Koransha, the Shippo Company, and Messrs. Haibara Naojiro, Namikawa Sobei, Marunaka, Tsubouchi, Saito, and Matsushima.

THE German bark *Erl Kœnig*, and the German brig *Minerva*, both from Takao, arrived here on Sunday, and report fine weather during the voyage till arriving on the coast of Japan, where strong gales and high seas were experienced. The *Minerva* sustained some damage to bulwarks and boats.

A FIRE broke out on Thursday morning about three o'clock on the premises of Messrs. Strachan and Co., No. 63, but was got under before any serious damage had been done. It is stated to have originated in the Chinese cook-house.

MR. TARO ANDO, for several years Consul at Hongkong, has been appointed to the Consulate at Shanghai. Mr. Ando was deservedly popular in his former post, and we congratulate him upon his promotion.

WE note the arrival of Sir George Phillippo, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Hongkong, who is on leave.

THE British bark *Sattara*, from this port on the 12th inst., arrived at Kobe after a passage of four days.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Tokio*, for this port, left Hongkong on the 21st May.

*HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE
ARISUGAWA'S NEW PALACE.*

THE residence of His Imperial Highness Prince ARISUGAWA, at Uragasumi-ga-seki, Tokiyo, is now nearly completed. His Imperial Highness is to be sincerely congratulated upon having adopted solid material and modern arrangements in his Palace. The word "foreign" can scarcely be applied to such structures, for since Japan has elected to shape her habits and institutions upon Western models, residences of this nature form an essential part of the national property. The styles adopted by European builders can all be traced back to a Turanian source, and so long as these styles are modified in this country to suit climatic necessities, room being, at the same time, allowed for the display of national art, we do not see why the results should be considered other than modern Japanese buildings.

The Palace is a two-storeyed edifice, in a modification of the so-called "Italian Renaissance" style. The south side, towards which the principal salons face, has a deep stone colonnade with a central flight of stone steps. The entrance façade has a wide carriage porch, above which is a central pediment filled with finely executed carvings. The cornice has but small projection and is without a parapet, matters which rob the style of some of its dignity, but which are to be regarded as necessary concessions to climatic considerations. Altogether, the effect of the building is at once stately and unostentatious. It must be pronounced incomparably the most successful architectural specimen Japan has acquired in recent times, and unless we are much mistaken, its features are sufficiently pleasing to wean some of the most stubborn of Japanese conservatives from their resolute faith in wooden structures.

The internal arrangement consists of a suite of rooms facing south and west, disposed around a large central hall with a grand staircase. Of these apartments the principal are reception, drawing, ball, and dining rooms. For exceptional occasions there has been provided, upon the north end of the façade, a special dining room of very ample dimensions, in addition to the ordinary state dining room. It is separated from the other rooms by a wide hall. Very noticeable is the delicate execution displayed in decorative features, such as marble chimney pieces, plastered cornices, and centre flowers, all of which are from the hands of Japanese plasterers and masons after original designs furnished by the architect. In the ball-room the plaster work of the walls and ceilings is truly admirable, on account both of its wonderful technique and of the graceful novelty and appropriateness of the designs. The decorations are raised in the form of white arabesques and frets upon a pale celadon coloured ground. In the centre

of the panels thus formed upon the walls, are medallions cast in plaster of Paris, representing the principal Japanese flowers arranged according to the four seasons. The pillar of the arched bay and the spandril over it are decorated in a similar way with musical instruments, masks, and ancient dancing gear. All these decorations, as well as the birds in the frieze above, are essentially Japanese both in motive and composition, yet so far from appearing of incongruous application to a *soi-disant* European building, their harmony is not less remarkable than their beauty and interest. The subjects, we understand, have all been executed by students trained in the manipulation of modern art materials at the Art School which formerly existed in the Department of Public Works. In justice to these most promising students, it ought to be stated that the school where they received their training was broken up, and its place taken by another institution designed for the encouragement of ancient art, before they had enjoyed an opportunity of applying their new knowledge to the decoration of any national work. It is difficult to escape the conviction that the Government erred greatly in this matter. Circumstances upon which we do not desire to dwell—circumstances apparently beyond the reach of Japan's control—made it seem advisable, if not necessary, to close the pictorial section of the Art School, though it had already given earnest of a success worthy of more persevering effort. But the sculptural section was a different affair. That might have been preserved from the complications which disturbed its sister sections, while it presented possibilities of a more appreciable nature; possibilities of which we are regretfully reminded by the excellent achievements of its pupils in the case under consideration. If it be admitted, as it is admitted even by the stoutest opponents of European imitation, that the future success of Japanese art is to be found in different motives, different ideas, and different sentiments from the ancient, it is not going very much farther to assert, that new materials and a new manipulation, more solid, permanent, and impressive, may also be employed. It was in this direction that the school of sculpture might have led, and was rapidly leading, Japanese students. Extensive patronage of artists in the decoration of new buildings is universally granted to be a necessity for the encouragement of decorative art, and since the leaders of thought in Japan have agreed that buildings of the old style are neither expedient nor suitable to the altered ideas of this country, we fail to see why oil, marble, and plaster should be tabooed as materials for artistic purposes. Certainly the results obtained at Prince ARISUGAWA'S new Palace will go far to expose the error of those officials who, in obedience to illogical advice, or impatiently yielding to the pressure of

unfortunate accidents, barred a route which promised to lead their countrymen to permanent and rapid success.

The furnishing of the building was entrusted to a young Japanese gentleman, Mr. KATAYAMA, some of whose selections, improperly exposed by a London dealer, and erroneously described as for the EMPEROR'S Palace, were severely criticised by the *Pall Mall Budget*. That the criticism was wholly unjust is proved now that the furniture is in its place. The carpets and curtains, those crucial tests of taste, are perfect in their tones, and present no glaring contrasts or unbecoming garishness. The same may be said of all the furniture. It is at once luxurious and handsome; comfort not being sacrificed to style or style to comfort.

We cannot close this brief notice without a reference to the methods which it is evidently in contemplation to pursue in laying out the grounds that surround the Palace. The miniature landscapes and delightful variety of scenery which constitute the charm and the peculiarity of Japanese gardening, are evidently to be produced exactly as though the building were in Japanese style. The effect is already excellent. We alluded on a previous occasion to the curiously mistaken notion that some incongruity exists between European edifices and Japanese gardens. Possibly the origin of this misconception is to be found in the fact that many of the so-called European buildings in the capital are wholly incapable of adapting themselves to any species of garden whatsoever. The only accessory that could become them is a good high screen. But with a worthy representative of Western architecture the case is quite different. Such a building presents no feature in any degree incongruous with Japanese landscape gardening, and it would be most unfortunate if the progressive enthusiasm of the Japanese led them to sacrifice to a mistaken notion one of the most admirable outcomes of the nation's æsthetic cults.

VAN BUREN v. TRIPLER.

A CORRESPONDENT, signing himself "Fairplay," takes exception to certain conclusions based by us upon the published evidence in the case of VAN BUREN v. TRIPLER. His letter, while apparently intended to be of a controversial character, nevertheless dismisses an important factor in the problem by two peremptory assertions; first, that "no part of either"—the Convention of 1864 or that of 1866—"has been violated" by the transfer of the United States Consular Buildings to General VAN BUREN, and secondly, that "the Conventions contain no provisions which bear in the slightest degree upon the issue in the late action." Grouped about these comprehensive denials are sundry ques-

tions and inferences, but the main contention of our correspondent is so distinctly asserted that we have no difficulty in separating it from its setting. It is this; that although the ground defined by the Conventions as a Consular Lot cannot, so long as those Conventions remain in force, be occupied by buildings destined for any other than public uses, the actual ownership of the buildings themselves is not at all limited by the Conventions. To this general proposition we assent, and our assent carries with it the admission that, *subject to the stipulated proviso*, a private person may own buildings upon the Consular Lot and may receive rent for them. Thus, if circumstances recommended the erection of a Portuguese Consulate on the Consular Lot, and if—to follow our correspondent's analogy—neither the Portuguese nor the Japanese Government was willing to undertake the business of building, it would, in our opinion, be strictly legal that a third party should contract for the building, should own it when completed, and should receive rent for it from the Portuguese Government. So far, therefore, as the Conventions are concerned, there is nothing which forbids the United States' Consul to become the proprietor, in his private capacity, of an edifice standing on the Consular Lot and used as an United States' Consulate, *provided* that—and the condition is vital—he is distinctly bound to apply the building to no other purpose. We are aware that there may be differences of opinion with regard to the method of securing this condition against abuse; but we desire to defer the consideration of that point for a moment. The question which presents itself here, in the logical sequence of ideas, is—when General VAN BUREN, “as a private citizen and at his own risk,” purchased the buildings standing upon lot No. 234, did he enter into any agreement to preserve them for Consular uses only? No trace of any such agreement is to be found in the documentary evidence submitted to the Ministerial Court. The title deed executed by the Governor of Kanagawa in General VAN BUREN'S favour does not set any limit to the purchaser's rights. By it the buildings in question were sold and transferred absolutely to General VAN BUREN without any condition whatsoever attached. Only in a letter previously written by him to the Governor of Kanagawa, we find the words, “I suppose it will be of course understood that the buildings are always to be occupied for Consular purposes.” Thus the Conventions were safeguarded by nothing more tangible than a *supposition* of an *understanding* voluntarily suggested by the purchaser himself.

It may, indeed, be urged that, as a transaction between the Kanagawa Prefecture and a private individual could not over-ride an international Convention, the conditions of the latter must necessarily have been understood as applying to the sale. But the obligations imposed by the Convention

of 1866 will not suffer such careless treatment. The eleventh article of that document distinctly defines “Consular residences and offices,” as the “special object” for which the grant of the land was made by the Japanese Government. To sell to any private person the right of occupying a portion of the land, without providing that the purposes of the occupation shall consist with the Convention, would be, in our opinion, a flagrant disregard of international agreement. To make this clear; suppose the case of a private individual applying to the Kanagawa Prefecture for permission to erect buildings on a portion of the Consular Lot, and even accompanying his application by a statement that the buildings should be used only for Consular purposes. Can it be pretended for a moment that the Prefect would be justified in entertaining such a proposal, unless he had the written assurance of some Consul that the buildings were to be so used, and the written guarantee of the applicant that they should be put to no other use? Nevertheless, we are asked to believe that this was done, and legally done, when the buildings on lot 234, together with the right of occupying the lot, were acquired by General VAN BUREN “as a private citizen and at his own risk.”

Our correspondent will pardon us if we say that it sounds like legal quibbling to separate, so completely as he separates, the ownership of a building from the uses to which it is put. Under ordinary circumstances, ownership includes the right to dispose of the thing owned according to the owner's convenience. If the law limits the purposes to which certain land shall be applied, it cannot be lawful to sell buildings occupying that land without providing that the manner of using them shall be within the limits.

But—it may further be urged—the purchaser in this case was himself a Consul; nay more, was actually occupying, and does still occupy, the buildings for Consular purposes. That is true. But did he buy them in his Consular capacity? If so, then, perhaps, the transaction did not require to be guaranteed by stipulations of the nature referred to above, since, according to the Convention, it rests with the Consuls, “to provide that the land shall be used for no other purposes than those indicated” in that document. The title deed, executed by the Prefect of Kanagawa, “sold and transferred the buildings to T. B. VAN BUREN, Esq., United States Consul General,” within whose competence it certainly lay, *ex officio*, to see that the transfer involved no breach of the Conventions, then or subsequently. This view, however, carries with it the hypothesis that the purchase was effected by General VAN BUREN in his official capacity—a hypothesis which, for our part, we cannot consent to entertain, for reasons that will immediately become apparent. Our correspondent, indeed, appears to entertain it, for he quotes, in

support of his argument, a provision of the United States Consular Regulations, thereby evidently implying that the transaction took place under those Regulations. If so, its details ought to have been consistent with them. Now the provision quoted says three things: first, that the selection of offices and the amount to be paid for office rent are entrusted to the Consular officer; secondly, that “the actual expense of rent, within the statutory limit of twenty per centum of the salary, is allowed him for that purpose;” and thirdly, that “all arrangements and obligations respecting the leasing of premises, the amount and terms of payment or otherwise, are made by the Consular officer, the Government assuming no responsibility therefor.” Does “Fairplay” desire to apply these provisions to the case under review? If so, we fear that he rather mars than mends the cause he undertakes to advocate. For the sum annually paid by the United States Government, both before and since the transfer of the property to the Consul-General, is \$1,536.40. This is not “the actual expense of rent,” as the Consul-General's statements in Court show; and certainly it considerably exceeds twenty per centum of his salary. Are we, then, to suppose that while the purchase was effected under the discretionary power conferred by these Regulations, their provisions were entirely ignored in the matter of rent? It is necessary to observe that the original arrangement with regard to the Consulate was not governed by the terms of the Consular Regulations. The original arrangement was that, in addition to the ground rent which was fixed by Convention, the United States' Government should pay ten per cent. of the cost of the buildings. Whether this payment exceeded or fell short of the limit named in the Regulations, does not appear to have been considered. Our correspondent denies that the buildings were “internationally contracted for,” but we fail to apprehend the force of his denial, seeing that the ground was set apart by international Convention, and that the buildings were constructed by the Government of Japan under agreement with the Government of the United States. One result of the agreement was that the latter Government paid nearly twice as much rent as the maximum laid down in the Consular Regulations, and it cannot, we presume, be disputed that, so soon as the Consul-General, acting under the Regulations, voluntarily assumed the obligations and responsibilities hitherto borne by his Government, he was bound forthwith to bring the charge for rent into conformity with those Regulations. But the charge for rent remained unchanged. We must therefore conclude that the Consular Regulations had nothing to do with the arrangement, and that the purchase was effected by General VAN BUREN not in his official, but in his private, capacity.

However disposed we may be to take "Fairplay's" view of the case, the evidence before us refuses to shape itself into any form other than one of the two following: namely, that the sale of the buildings was made to a United States' official acting under Regulations which he failed to observe; or, that the sale was illegal, because it not only transferred to a private citizen property in which the United States Government had an interest, without the previous consent of that Government, but also because the provisions of the Conventions were not protected in the transfer.

ADVICE NOT EASY TO FOLLOW.

INTELLIGENT Orientals, whether Chinese or Japanese, probably derive a great deal of diversion from the perusal of articles and essays in the local press at the various open ports. The advice given to Eastern countries by foreign writers so little tallies, in many instances, with the conduct the advisers themselves pursue, that the effect must be decidedly grotesque. This is notably the case with regard to military preparations. Japan, for example, is constantly accused of imprudence and folly because she spends money upon ships and forts. She is reminded that she has no aggressive enemies; that nature has made her position virtually impregnable, and that her wisest course would be to devote her whole energies to developing her commercial and industrial resources, leaving armaments to take care of themselves. Theoretically this is all very commendable. But the trouble of it is that Western States just as favorably circumstanced as Japan, and possessing a much larger experience of the reliance that can be placed either upon foreign forbearance or international law, take the best possible care to be prepared for the most remote contingencies. The fact is, that whatever progress the world makes in civilization, its confidence in bullets and bayonets remains unshaken. The conduct of every civilized Power endorses the old principle that to expect no safety is the only way to be safe. It is asking a little too much of any Eastern people that they should be wiser than we are ourselves. If we show plainly that we cannot trust each other, there is no apparent reason why they should trust us. The *Fiji Shimpō*, speaking recently of the Tonquin embroglio, said that, after all, France might ultimately prove herself China's benefactor by rousing her to some active consciousness of the great world beyond her borders, and teaching her, amongst other things, the necessity of better modes of self-defence. The *North China Daily News* moralizes upon these deductions, and after sneering a little at Japan for assuming of the rôle of mentor, goes itself and does likewise. The advice of the Tokiyo journal is described as by no

means good. Armaments and munitions of war, we are told, are not essential factors in advanced civilization, and China is said to be "in a tight place" to-day, not because she has been niggardly of her expenditure on war-vessels, firearms, and torpedoes, but because the money devoted to these purposes has been misapplied and wasted. After all, it comes pretty much to the same thing whether a nation refrains from appropriating its money in this way, or whether its appropriations are squandered. The upshot in either case is that effective armaments are not forthcoming. As for China, we may be tolerably sure that her present mood is not over well adapted to receive the advice tendered by our Shanghai contemporary. Peaceful reforms are all very well, she will think, but if her warlike reforms had been a little more substantial, her future repose would be better assured to-day. Up to the present, her integrity has been preserved wholly by her isolation. Now, for the first time in her history, she is to share her fool's paradise with a companion who regards her with the utmost contempt, and whose dreams of Eastern empire have become almost delirious. Decidedly this is a badly chosen time to reproach her with the "maladministration of her provinces, with wretched and disgraceful roads, with utterly wrong financial principles, and with a barbarous coinage." She may awake to the necessity of building railways and instituting a civil service whose members will be content to serve their country a little and not themselves altogether. But if these necessities come home to her torpid comprehension, it will be by the routes which the *Fiji Shimpō* indicates. There is supposed to be a particular point of endurance beyond which even the trampled worm declines to be an unprotected sufferer. China ought to have reached that point. If she has any pulses at all they should be beating pretty fast to-day. Her statesmen generally get the credit of seeing as far ahead as most people. But there is a science of retrospect as well as of prescience. The Cabinet at Peking will have to stop burning its records if it intends to have any more records to burn. It will have to look back a few years and measure the rate of that aggressive advance which has pushed France's borders to the very gates of China's Southern provinces. There is no apparent reason why that advance should be checked at the Northern confines of Tonquin, any more than it was checked at the Southern. In their present humour, the French respect nothing but strength capable of making itself felt. A year ago, they may have had doubts about the wisdom of recklessly testing the Middle Kingdom's powers of endurance. To-day they can have no misgivings whatsoever on the subject. China herself must appreciate this thoroughly. However elastic her code of national dignity, she cannot but feel that it has been stretched so far

as to make her an object of pity. People no longer wonder at her patience, but rather compassionate her helplessness. Sympathy, not contempt, is the sentiment awakened by the spectacle of a mighty Power so paralysed by the selfish fears of its rulers as to be at the mercy of every courageous depredator. No, in truth, this is not the time to preach peace. Eastern observers must be sensible of the three great shadows stealing silently and steadily on over every land not included within the pale of Christendom: the shadow of England, the shadow of Russia, and the shadow of France. Unsubstantial shadows they have hitherto been, so far as China and Japan are concerned; but that can be said no longer. France is at China's doors now, and whether she will keep out or no depends chiefly upon the degree of satisfaction she derives from the successes she has already obtained. If those successes seem sufficient to compensate her for what she lost actually in 1871 and potentially in 1882, she may remain quiet. If not, then she will scarcely hesitate to win further honours at the expense of a Power so ready to be brow-beaten. Unquestionably the *Fiji Shimpō* is right. If China rouses herself at all, the first business of her waking moments must be with the arts of war not of peace.

THE RECENT NEWSPAPER CONTROVERSY IN TOKIYO.

THE reputation of Japanese journalism will not gain much by the recent discussions of the Tokiyo press on the relative merits of German and English literature. Without desiring to disparage the writers' critical ability, we may be permitted to doubt whether their education fully qualifies them for the judicial functions they seem disposed to assume. At all events, since the question at issue is one which neither Germans nor Englishmen pretend to be competent to decide for themselves, we must decline to follow the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Hochi Shimbun* into the details of their very patient and very superficial essays. What strikes us as most remarkable is, not that the essayists should have engaged in an impracticable controversy, but that they should have fallen into the strange error of supposing the national mind to be at all concerned about such problems. There is not the remotest probability that the Japanese public are seriously bent upon altering their linguistic studies as a preliminary to the perusal of German literature. Between the frivolous speculations of a few essayists, and a determined impulse of national sentiment, there is a long interval. These ripples of literary excitement give us no trustworthy indication of the set of the general current. What is happening now in Japan happened a dozen years ago in England with less reason. The great achievements of Germany in the field of philosophical and

scientific research, supplemented by the unparalleled evidences she gave the world of her ability to unite theory and practice, naturally made her the cynosure of all eyes, and changed the indifference of European nations into a feeling of almost enthusiastic admiration. Englishmen, amongst others, began to grapple with her language and to borrow largely from her systems. It will never be known, though it may easily be conjectured, how many a foreign student devoted years to the mastery of her unmusical and little-used tongue, in the hope that it might be his lot to recognise and make public something of the secret of her success. Japan did not escape this contagion altogether. It would have been unfortunate for her if she had. But just now there is a special reason for the fancy she is suspected of betraying. Her statesmen have decided, and rightly we think, that if she is to have a Constitution modelled on Western lines, she can borrow most safely from the German polity, since in that polity there still survive many of the monarchical, not to say despotic, elements which the people of this country have long been accustomed to associate with governmental efficiency. In addition to this general character, there are other advantages—notably that of accessibility—which recommend German systems to Japanese reformers. Wisely or unwisely, however, the choice has been made after much deliberation, and that it should have been followed by results such as those discussed by our Tokiyo contemporaries, is perfectly natural. It is proper and reasonable that many Japanese students, recognising in Germany the source from which their country is to obtain the inspiration of her most important reform, should devote themselves to the study of the German language. Personal ambition, apart from any love of knowledge for its own sake, would suggest such a course. German statists have been engaged, it is true, to assist directly in the work of administrative reform, and their superintendence will enable Japan to dispense with much of the original research which she would otherwise have been obliged to undertake. The same may be said of the lengthy visit to Germany paid, during the past two years, by one of the leaders of Japanese progress. The practical experience acquired by His Excellency ITO and the members of his suite during that visit, is worth a dozen years' abstract study. None the less, the simple fact remains, that, after twenty years of gradual preparation, Japan is about to make the fundamental principles of German political institutions her next stepping-stone towards Western civilization. We believe ourselves that there will remain for her still another step to take; but that is matter of opinion. She has resolved that her great stride shall be *viâ* Germany, and it is inevitable that the impulse of this determination should make itself felt among her reading men.

It would be so anywhere. Patriotic Japanese must want to know what it is their country is about to assimilate: ambitious Japanese must discern paths to office and distinction in familiarity with the standards she has set herself. The literature of Germany and its relative merits have no place in the prospect; while the nature of the German language and the advisability of acquiring it for its own sake, or of substituting it for English in the syllabus of national education, are wholly irrelevant points. The plain facts are that Japan is going to borrow administrative models from Germany, and that those who take an interest in the work, or who hope to have a share in accomplishing it, are turning their attention towards the language and literature of Germany. There could be no greater error than to suppose that the movement implies any conflict between German and English as the foreign language of Japanese educational systems.

We should have deemed it scarcely worth while to note this distinction between practical reality and trivial speculation, did not the question present another, and a more interesting, aspect. It has been asserted that this recent leaning towards Germany is an indication of the fickleness and instability of purpose which some writers profess to regard as a trait of Japanese national character. We have our own doubts as to the sufficiency of the data that exist for a trustworthy analysis of Japanese national character. Even if our acquaintance with her were doubly intimate, it would still be necessary to remember that we observe her under conditions absolutely without precedent. Waiving the question of competence or incompetence, however, nothing within the range of our actual experience or observation seems to support this charge of mutability. During the past fifteen years, that is to say, during the whole period of our close association with her, Japan has followed the same path without change or wavering. If her progress has been too rapid to imply permanency, it has not been too rapid for the motives that impelled it, or for the circumstances that facilitated it. It is difficult, indeed, to suppose an *excess* of rapidity in such a matter. Had the Japanese been a barbarous people, living below any acknowledged standards of refinement and principle, their versatility in adapting themselves to a wholly different order of things might justly have been counted a symptom of levity. But they possessed a civilization in many respects of the highest type, an intelligence trained to appreciate the good, and an ambition too keen to make recognised inferiority endurable. Under these conditions, the impetuosity of their progress is neither inexplicable nor suspicious. It has, at all events, betrayed no sign of reaction during the course of fifteen years: indeed it had long ago carried the nation beyond the point where any sensible re-

gression was possible. But with regard to this recently developed taste for German systems, and its perfectly natural accompaniment—an extension of the study of the German language and literature among certain classes—it cannot, with any semblance of reason, be construed into an index of national inconstancy. The Government never adopted English models, or French models, or American models whereon to frame its polity. German models are its first choice. If their selection makes the language and literature of Germany fashionable in the eyes of those whom the choice actually or potentially affects, that result is simply what we might have expected. It would have happened anywhere.

AWAJI.

The Island of Awaji, situated at the Eastern entrance of the Inland Sea, can be easily reached by small native steamer from Ōsaka, four hours, and from Kōbe (Hiōgo), two hours to Kariya, which is the nearest port touched at. The steamers, after calling at Kariya, continue on to Shidzuki, 40 minutes, and to Sumoto, the capital, 40 minutes. Awaji may also be reached by sailing or rowing-boat from Akashi or Maiko-nohama near Kōbe, the distance across the strait at its narrowest part being only 28 *chō*, and the passage one which is constantly made.

The chief distances on the island are as follows:—

		RI.	CHŌ.	KEN.
East Coast	{ Kariya to Shidzuki ...	3.	10.	29
	{ Shidzuki to Sumoto ...	3.	13.	28½
	{ Sumoto to Yura	2.	17.	4
Southern Inland Road	{ Sumoto to Nakasuji ...	1.	28.	47½
	{ Nakasuji to Fukura ...	3.	27.	42½
or				
Straight across from Shidzuki to Fukura, without going round by Sumoto		4.	00.	37
Western Inland Road	{ Fukura to Koenami ...	2.	10.	37½
	{ Koenami to Minamidani ...	3.	22.	20
	{ Minamidani to Gunge..	3.	00.	48½
(or from Fukura to Gunge <i>viâ</i> Minato and Kawakami about a <i>ri</i> less.)				
West Coast	{ Gunge to Tsukue	3.	20.	40½
	{ Tsukue to Iwaya	2.	29.	11
	{ Iwaya* to Kariya	2.	19.	27½

DISTANCES BY SEA FROM AWAJI TO THE MAINLAND.

Iwaya to Akashi in Harima	1.	23.
Yura to Kada in Kishiu	2.	30.
Fukura to Muki in Awa (Island of Shikoku)	3.	02. 10

A trip to Awaji is much to be recommended during the spring and autumn or in mild winter weather, the climate being moderately warm, the scenery picturesque, and the roads fairly good. *Jinrikisha* can be obtained all along the East coast and on the Southern Inland Road, for 2 or 3 *ri* along the Western Inland Road, and also occasionally in other places. Where there are no *jinrikisha*, coolies can be hired to carry luggage. The best inns are those at Sumoto (Maruhachi), Fukura (Tobimatsu), and Gunge (Shinkuma). The others are rather poor, but every village offers accommodation of some sort. The tourist who wishes to explore the island thoroughly is recommended to land at Kariya, and make the round in the order described below. This will take three or four days, according as steamer hours, weather, &c., may fit in. Persons pressed for time can see the prettiest part of the scenery, which lies on

* Properly speaking Iwaya is at the North-eastern extremity of the island. But this division of the roads is practically the more convenient.

the East coast, by taking the steamer from Kōbe to Sumoto, and returning next morning.

HISTORY.—The island of Awaji is mentioned in the earliest Japanese legends as the first result of the marriage of the creator and creatrix Izanagi and Izanami, when they set about giving birth to the various islands of the Japanese archipelago. It is also related that in very ancient times the water for the Imperial Household was brought over from Awaji in boats; and the beauties of the harbour of Yura have been sung by poets from time immemorial. Coming down to historical days, the unfortunate Emperor Junnin was exiled here in A.D. 764, having been deposed by his predecessor the Empress Kōken, a sort of Japanese Messalina, who added to her other excesses a wild desire for the Imperial power, which was not properly hers, and who, having once abdicated in favour of Junnin, wished to re-ascend the throne. Junnin endeavoured to escape from Awaji, but died there in the following year, probably as a victim to assassination. During the Middle Ages, the lordship of the island and of different portions of it passed successively into the hands of several feudal chiefs, and finally of the Hachisuka family and of their dependants, the Inada. The whole island now forms part of the Prefecture of Hiyōgo. The Castle of Sumoto (which place has long been considered the capital) was constructed in the middle of the 16th century by Ataka Fuyuyasu, a scion of the Miyoshi family.

The scene as the steamer approaches Kariya is most picturesque,—delightful little coves and peaceful nooks, pine-trees on the strand, small valleys stretching up towards verdure-clad hills, and in the distance the hazy outline of Senzan, the highest mountain on the island, and of the high land beyond. This style of scenery, ever varied in its details, continues all along the East coast to Sumoto and Yura; and *jinrikisha* bowl one rapidly over the well kept road. It will generally be found best to spend the first night at Sumoto. Those having another day to spare may turn off inland shortly after leaving Shidzuki, and go to Sumoto *via* the top of Senzan. *Jinrikisha* can be engaged as far as Futatsu-ishi, 1 *ri* 24 *chō*; but it will probably be more satisfactory to walk the whole way,—taking some 6 hours. The country is everywhere pretty. The actual ascent is about a *ri* in length. Half way up is the temple of Kō-shin-ji, which commands a fine view in the direction of Kōbe. Thence to the top the path lies through a wood of cherry-trees, oaks, firs, etc., some of the firs presenting a very curious appearance, the soil having worn away from their roots, and left the latter poised high above the level of the surrounding ground. From the summit of Senzan itself there is but little view, owing to the trees which crown the mountain and which from most parts of the island give it a peculiar square-topped appearance. The temple on the summit is called Sen-kō-ji. It has a fine new solid gate and belfry, but the *hon-dō* or main edifice and the three-storeyed pagoda are old. Its foundation is said to date from the year 901, when a hunter named Chiūda having shot at and hit a stag (another version says a boar), discovered that it was in reality an image of the merciful divinity Kwannon which he had thus sacrilegiously injured. He thereupon assumed the garb of a Buddhist monk and the Buddhist name of Jakunin, and raised a shrine to Kwannon on the spot where the incident had occurred.

On the way down on the side towards Sumoto, that town comes in sight to the left, with Kishiu and the islets of the Ki Channel beyond it, while to the right are the mountains of Awa in Shikoku. From the base of Senzan to the Aiya waterfall, and thence to Sumoto, the path leads mostly across a fertile plain. Those not desirous of visiting the fall, which, though a pretty place for a picnic, is by no means extraordinary, can go straight to Sumoto from the base of Senzan, the distance being stated to be 50 *chō*.

The former castle of Sumoto no longer exists, and in its grounds a court-house and a prison have been erected. The production for which Sumoto is chiefly noted is a sort of marmalade made out of an excellent variety of orange resembling the Seville orange, and called *naruto-mikan*. It is sold in boxes with another sweetmeat, not pleasant to the European taste, composed of acorns, cinnamon, and sugar, and the two sweetmeats together are known by the name of *uki-hashhi*, i.e. "floating bridge," in allusion to the story of Izanagi and Izanami mentioned below. Another preserve special to Sumoto is the *biwa-no-oto*, or "sound of the lute," which is made of plums. Foreigners will perhaps be inclined to think that it stands to the palate in somewhat the same relation as Japanese music does to the ear. The interest on the Southern Inland Road leading from Sumoto to Fukura is mainly archaeological. There is a curious mound called Onogoro-jima, i.e. the Island of Onogoro, at a short distance from the village of Yagi or Yōgi, where the path to it diverges to the right from the main road, and soon leads to a dry river-bed where it is necessary to alight from the *jinrikisha*. A very early Japanese tradition, preserved in the "*Ko-ji-ki*," tells us that the creator and creatrix Izanagi and Izanami, when they were about to set to work to produce the Japanese archipelago, "stood upon the Floating Bridge of Heaven, pushed down the jewelled spear and stirred with it, whereupon, when they had stirred the brine till it went curdle-curdle, and drew the spear up, the brine that dripped down from the end of the spear was piled up and became an island. This is the Island of Onogoro." Several islets on the coast of Awaji contend for the honour of being this first-fruit of creation, and this inland claimant may well, by the ignorant country-people, be supposed to have been once itself an island, standing up as it does prominently from the surrounding rice-field flats. In reality there would seem to be little doubt as to its being the funeral mound of some very ancient prince, all memory of whom has passed away. There is a small shrine on it dedicated to Izanagi and Izanami, temporarily replacing a larger one blown down in 1882, and at the southern end of it a stone called the *sekirei-ishi* or "wagtail stone," with reference to a detail of the creation legend for which Vol. III, Part I, Appendix pp. 69-70 of the "Transactions of the Asiatic Society" may be consulted. A hole has been scooped out on the western side of the mound by women who mix fragments of the earth with water, and drink it as a charm to ensure easy delivery. Almost within a stone's throw is a clump of reeds called *ashi-wara-koku*. *Ashi-wara-no-kuni*, i.e. the Land of Reed-Plains, is an ancient name for Japan. But the country-people, mistaking *ashi*, "a reed," for *ashi*, "the foot," have invented a story to the effect that this is the spot on which Izanami first set foot when he came down to earth. The tourist is not recommended to go out of his way to see this very unremarkable clump of reeds. After visiting Onogoro-jima, the *jinrikisha* are rejoined, and the hamlets of Ōyemami and Koyemami passed through. The latter is marked by two or three very fine pine-trees. The pine-trees of the whole island, however, are those which form an avenue lining the main road for a distance of 50 *chō* just at this part of the journey. In order to enjoy the sight of them it is worth while turning into the main road as soon as the avenue is seen to the left.

By this time the mountains have drawn in a good deal, and we arrive at the village of Igano, where, at the establishments of two men called Mimpei and Sampei, the potteries for which Awaji is noted are carried on. Strangers can easily gain admittance and inspect the manufacture of this scarcely beautiful ware. It is made in red, white, two shades of blue, but chiefly in yellow and in green.

The next object of interest on the road is the funeral mound of the unfortunate Emperor Junnin, already mentioned. Being 202 *ken* in length and 72 in breadth, while the whole is surrounded by a moat and covered with a dense grove full of singing-birds, this mound forms a very prominent object in the scene. It is commonly known as *Tennō no Mori*, i.e. "the Emperor's Grove." It is not permitted to climb upon it or upon that of Junnin's mother, Tayema Fujin, which lies 8 or 10 *chō* away from it in a south-westerly direction.

After leaving these mounds, a *jinrikisha* ride of about half-an-hour brings us to the little seaport town of Fukura, where it will probably be best to spend the second night. The lion of the place is the violent rush of water through the Naruto Channel, which separates the islands of Awaji and Shikoku and connects the Inland Sea and the Pacific Ocean. It is a truly grand sight, especially at spring-tides, when no junk can attempt the passage; and it should certainly not be missed. Boats are furnished at a reasonable charge by the proprietor of the inn at Fukura, and the expedition, which takes from four to six hours, is attended by no danger, passengers being rowed or sailed out under the shelter of the coast to within easy view of the strait, and being able to see the whole panorama either from the boat or from some rocks on which it is usual to land. The best time of all is said to be the 3rd day of the 3rd moon, Old Style (some time at the end of March or in the first half of April), when the people of the neighbouring districts on both sides of the channel take a holiday and go out in boats to see the rush of the briny torrent. The breadth of the channel is estimated at 18 *chō*; but some rocks in the middle divide it into two unequal parts, called respectively Ō-Naruto and Ko-Naruto, i.e. the Greater and the Lesser Naruto. The Greater Naruto being on the Shikoku side, that side would probably afford an even finer sight than is to be obtained from Awaji. Looking from the boat, if on the Awaji side, the province of Awa in the Island of Shikoku is seen in front; to the right of it stretches the long line of Shōdzu-shima, well known for its granite quarries; while further right, in the extreme distance, are the mountains of Harima on the mainland, the little island of Yejima sticking up in front of them like a cocked-hat. The rocks on the Awaji side are tilted up at a considerable angle, and are here and there lined with pine-trees which give them an appearance somewhat resembling that of a *kake-mono* in the Chinese style. For soft winning beauty, however, neither this nor any part of the Western Coast, excepting towards the north, is comparable to the Eastern Coast of the island. On the way back the boatmen may suggest landing at Kemuri-shima and at Susaki, the two islets in Fukura Harbour; but it is hardly worth while to do so. Kemuri-shima is the high thickly wooded islet, Susaki the low sandy one. At the summit of the former is an insignificant shrine dedicated to Kwannon.

On leaving Fukura it is best to take *Kuruma* to Minato, a distance said to be $2\frac{1}{2}$ *ri* of 50 *chō* each, but more probably $2\frac{1}{2}$ ordinary *ri* of 36 *chō*. The first part of the road leads near the Mound of the Emperor Junnin, but turns off to the left, skirting the Western side of the valley. The prettiest part of the ride,—for *jinrikisha* can be taken,—is along the embankment of a small river flowing some feet above the level of the surrounding plain, over which a fine view is commanded, with Mount Senzan marked by a clump of trees on its summit and the mountains of Harima in the extreme distance. The *jinrikisha* must be exchanged for coolies at the dirty village of Minato, remarkable only for a temple dedicated to Kwannon and resembling a small fortified castle. Hence it is possible either to walk along under the shadow of the pine-trees by the beach (locally famous under the name of Kei no Matsu-bara), or else to strike inland. A *ri* is saved by adopting the latter alternative, and the whole distance over the hills from Minato to Kawakami can be done by a fair walker in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The views are of the coast of Harima, of Shōdzu-shima, and of the mountains of Awa behind Shōdzu-shima.

The village of Kawakami is also known as Tenjin, from the name of a temple,—formerly a very fine one,—which it contains. There is fair accommodation at the Tamaya if it is too late to push on further. Hence to Gunge is a 3 *ri* walk. Before reaching Gunge, it may be worth the while of those who wish to see the largest Shintō temple on the island to turn aside a few *chō* from the main road to visit what is called Ichi-no-Miya, or “the First Temple,” in the village of Taga. The Government has spent money on the place, and the buildings have recently been renovated in the style of “Pure Shintō.” The deity worshipped is Izanagi. The third night will probably best be spent at Gunge. From Gunge onwards, the whole way to Iwaya and Kariya, the road leads by the sea. Insignificant at first, the view gradually gains in beauty. The path mounts; little promontories stretch out into the sea; pine-trees extend their fantastically contorted shapes toward the waves; to the left lies Shōdzu-shima, and ahead and to the right the already often mentioned but ever varying outline of the blue mountains of Harima, and in the faint distance the snow-capped Tamba range. After the hamlet of Murotsu, the screen of hills forming the backbone of Awaji itself folds back a little from the strand, giving the green upland glimpses of field and valley which make the Eastern side of the island so charming.

From Tsukuye sailing boats are frequently to be found starting for Akashi on the mainland, the fare at present being 10 *sen* per head in a boat calculated to hold a dozen or twenty people. In fine weather, this is a very pleasant way of concluding the journey, the passage averaging a couple of hours, and the views being delightful. The whole horizon is alive with the white sails of junks going up and down the Inland Sea. Those to whom a sea journey is pleasant only in proportion to its shortness will do best to cross to Maiko-no-hama from Matsuo, a hamlet at the northern extremity of the island, not far from the lighthouse.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

VAN BUREN v. TRIPLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”

SIR,—Your editorial comments in your weekly issue of the 17th inst., upon the judgment of the U.S. Minister in the case of Van Buren against Tripler, strike me as being so unfair to General Van Buren that, as an impartial observer and one who knows something of the merits of the case, I feel in duty bound to remove, so far as possible, the wrong impression they may have made. In the first place, I find that you have no hesitation in pronouncing the action of General Van Buren in the purchase of the buildings used as a U.S. Consulate as a violation of law, but I fail to find a reference to the particular provision of law which you affirm has been so violated. The same absence of reference is observable in the judgment.

In the next place a general mention of the “Conventions of 1864 and 1866” is made in both papers, and we are informed in a perfunctory way that those Conventions have been violated in the transaction between the Kencho and the purchaser of the buildings. What particular provision of either has been thus broken, however, is not pointed out, and this for the very good reason that no part of either has been violated.

The position you take up is even more assertive than that of the judgment. You say, the buildings “Could not possibly have been sold to a private person as movable chattels because their removal would have deprived the United States of a Consulate internationally contracted for; neither could they be sold to a private person as fixed property because they stood upon ground internationally set apart for public use only.” To the first assertion I have to say that it has nowhere been shown, neither do I think it can be, that the buildings referred to were ever “internationally contracted for”; but if so, I think I am safe in saying that nothing in that contract compelled the Japanese authorities to keep them on the lot for all time, or the United States on the other side, to continue to pay rent all the time they should be kept there. By giving timely notice there is, in my opinion, not the slightest doubt that the Japanese Government could, while the buildings were its property, have removed them at its will. The lot would still have remained a lot for the use of the United States as a Consular lot, or in the event of its non-use as such by the United States ceasing to pay rent for it, it would then have become a lot for “public uses,” it being on the block dedicated to such uses.

As to your second proposition, it appears to me utterly illogical. Why cannot a “private person” be the owner of the buildings and receive the rent, because they stand upon “ground set apart for public uses?” What has the ownership to do with the “use”? I cannot understand of what importance the ownership is, or can be, to any person except the owner himself. Suppose when the Kencho authorities erected the buildings they had contracted with a builder and agreed that he should own the buildings and receive the rent, do you mean to say they could not lawfully have done so? If you do so assert, show me the legal, or even the logical, prohibition. Suppose, again, that the Japanese Government had refused to put up the buildings at all and the United States Government declined to do so, it being against its policy to own property abroad, and under such circumstances the United States Consul or any third party had put them up at his own expense and received the rent, would that have been an improper or unlawful act? If so, why? The buildings of the Russian Consulate were erected by a third party and are owned by him. Is this improper or unlawful?

Please do not refer me vaguely to the Conventions. The Conventions contain no provisions that bear in the slightest degree upon the issue in the late action. The only prohibition in either of them is against using the buildings upon the Consular or public lots for other than Consular or public purposes, and the only penalty for a breach of this provision is that the Japanese Government may re-enter upon the lot misused. The Conventions speak of deeds of these lots, but I question if deeds have ever been given for any of them. However that may be, it does not affect the position I assume. As to who may erect the buildings, who may own them, who may receive the rents, who may remove them, the Conventions make no mention. If they do either directly or inferentially, have the kindness to point out the words.

On examination of the United States Consular Regulations, I find the following provision as to the rental of offices:—“The selection of office rooms and the amount to be paid for office rent are entrusted to the Consular officer. The actual expense of rent within the statutory limit of twenty per centum of the salary, is allowed him for that purpose, but all arrangements and obligations respecting the leasing of premises, the amount and terms of payment or otherwise are made by the Consular officer, and the Government assumes no responsibility therefor.”

General Van Buren acted throughout distinctly within his rights; there was, in my opinion, and in that I believe of every one else acquainted with the law and facts of the case, nothing whatever improper or unlawful in his purchase of these buildings, and he is most distinctly their lawful owner.

I am, sir, your obedient Servant,

FAIRPLAY.

Yokohama, May 19th 1884.

AN EXPLANATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”

SIR,—I am sorry to waste your space in making explanations, but you will no doubt allow me to correct a misapprehension which may arise out of the *Japan Herald's* Editorial note of the 16th inst., in which, with the taste characteristic of that paper, I am accused of prevarication and Jesuitical disingenuousness. A note in the *Herald* of the 7th of April gave publicity to a rumour that Tokio Missionaries were taking concerted steps to obtain exceptional facilities for purposes of propagandism. A few days later, I denied the rumour emphatically. I here reiterate the denial with equal emphasis, and declare the rumour with all its implied contents an entire misapprehension.

The *Japan Herald*, by confusing two entirely different things, namely, the general question of Treaty Revision and the probable results of the same for special interests, fabricates against me charges which, while in thorough keeping with their setting, may be left to the judgment of men who can distinguish between disinterestedness and selfishness.

The *Japan Herald* also credits me with the authorship of an Editorial in the *Mail* which I never saw or heard of until it appeared in print. Yours, &c.,

A TOKIO MISSIONARY.

Tokio, May 20th, 1884.

[The article referred to was written by the editor of the *Japan Mail*.—Ed. J.M.]

NOTIFICATION NO. 32 OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that a Revenue Bureau has been established in this Department, in accordance with Notification No. 45 of the Council of State, said Notification providing for the organization of the *Shiusei-kwan*, or Superintendent Revenue Office. The Bureaux of Inland Revenue and Customs Revenue and all the branches of the former are herewith abolished.

MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

May 20th, 1884.

THE OSAKA CONFERENCE.*

The Report of the proceedings of the Osaka Conference contains 468 closely printed pages. The information given in this volume, in that it comes direct from the Missionaries themselves, is thoroughly trustworthy, and may be looked upon as a full account of the condition and prospects of Protestant Missions in this country, as they appear to those who are actually engaged in the work of Propagandism. The Report bears the marks of having been drawn up with the greatest care. Some of the papers are full of valuable suggestions, offered by men who have made the subjects they were asked to treat their special study.

After a sermon by the Rev. J. H. Ballagh, we are furnished with a long historical account of Protestant Missions in Japan, which includes a short sketch of the founding and progress of the various missions, now flourishing in this country. The information given in the earlier part of this history has been drawn from sources which are not easily accessible, and a number of facts have been collected and arranged which were known but to a few, and which, were it not for this Report, might have been lost sight of altogether. The period embraced extends from 1859 to 1883. We are informed that the following Missionaries were, among Protestants, the first to reach this country:—Rev. J. Liggins, Rev. C. M. Williams (now Bishop), Dr. Hepburn, Rev. S. R. Brown, Dr. Simmons, and the Rev. G. F. Verbeck. These all arrived in Japan in 1859.

The first day of the Conference was wholly occupied in listening to the sermon and the History of Protestant Missions. On the second day, the subject chosen by the Committee was "The Special obstacles to the Reception of the Gospel in Japan." It seems to us to be at least an unfortunate feature of these essays that they should have treated of Buddhism, Chinese literature, and modern European literature as so many obstacles to the progress of Christianity. To any unbiassed mind it is evident that the influence of Buddhism, as well as that of Chinese and foreign literature, has been far more helpful than hurtful to those Japanese who have already accepted Christianity. One is inclined to ask whether the fruits of Christianity in a country like this, where all these preparatory influences have been at work, do not compare favourably with those produced in countries like Africa or New Zealand. Christian Missionaries come here and find a number of moral and religious terms well known and tolerably well understood. They find that the idea of future life, the idea of moral responsibility, the idea of a God,—in fact all the great essential ideas of morality and religion are quite familiar to the native mind. Numbers of Christian precepts have been taught for centuries: the importance of self-denial, self-sacrifice, benevolence, justice, obedience to lawful authority, and a long list of other domestic and social virtues have been excellently inculcated, and, in a fair number of instances, admirably illustrated in the lives of the ancestors of the men and women whom the Missionaries have come to instruct; and the question that suggests itself—is it the right way to begin propagating a new creed by laying so much stress on the points of difference between what, it is hoped, will be superseded, and that which it is believed has power and capacity sufficient to enable it to embrace within itself and bring to their consummation all forms of religion and morality? One is constrained to ask how can the Japanese be expected to do any thing but hold by what they have till they find something better. And would not the time spent in trying to prove a negative, viz., that Buddhism is not a religion worthy of their confidence, be much better spent in bringing into prominence those well known and indisputably excellent characteristics of Christianity

still wholly unfamiliar to so many of the Japanese.

To Dr. Gordon's three charges, first that the Buddhist has no adequate conception of God, 2nd that he has no adequate view of Sin, and 3rd that he knows of no salvation except by his own exertions, an intelligent Buddhist convert, if he did not make out a "tu quoque" case, as he probably would,—since a Christian would find it hard to prove either that his conception of God is adequate or his view of Sin all that it ought to be, or that his own exertions have not an immense deal to do with his salvation,—an intelligent Buddhist, we say, would be sure to reply, "even supposing that what you say about the nature of the theoretical Buddhism taught in this country is correct, you cannot deny that the power of Buddhism as a civilizing, controlling, and regenerating influence has been something very considerable. Were an impartial history of the reforms it has worked amongst our people to be written, it would show results of which you Christians would be proud and over which you would rejoice as much as we. Why, then, in a day like this when the burning question is religion or no religion—when the danger is, not that men will change one formula for another or one moral teacher for another, but that they will drift away into that worst of all kinds of scepticism, where not only all creeds but all moral standards are dispensed with and inclination becomes the sole guide of life—why, at such a time, do you seek to overthrow the good and the bad together, and to discredit a force which is really working in the same field with you, though under a different standard? It need scarcely be remarked that Dr. Gordon's reference to the immoral lives of Buddhists proves nothing against Buddhism. No religion can fairly be held responsible for conduct which is in direct opposition to its teaching.

We have the same fault to find with Mr. Waddell's paper. It professes to treat of Chinese literature as an anti-Christian influence, but actually discusses Confucianism alone as such. The charges brought against the Chinese classics are too numerous to be reproduced and criticized one by one in this short review. It is sufficient to say that they all rest on two fatal assumptions. The first is that the Chinese writers claim a kind of infallibility in teaching. They are spoken of as though, like Shaka, or Mahomet, or Christ, they had looked upon themselves as the founders of a religion, whereas they claim no such authority. The second assumption Mr. Waddell makes is, that on all the points he adduces for comparison with the teaching of Confucianism, the Christian Church has drawn up a set of dogmas, which, being absolutely true, are therefore ultimate and incapable of any alteration or development whatever; and that the descendants of the authors of these dogmas have nothing to do but place implicit confidence in the decisions reached by their ancestors. 'The test of truth,' the relation of 'the Natural to the Supernatural,' 'the nature of the Divine Being,' 'the origin of man,' 'the nature of man' and 'his future destiny' are spoken of by Mr. Waddell as though they were questions which have been settled for all time. He seems to deny that any aspects of these questions have been illustrated and explained by the Chinese sages in a way which, on the whole, is more of a help than a hindrance to the teaching of Christianity.

Of the three papers which treat of the obstacles to the progress of Christianity, the last, on Modern Anti-Christian literature, is in our opinion, by far the best; and it is so, perhaps, because the author did not tie himself down to the line of argument suggested by the words in which the subject for the day was expressed. Dr. Green's paper is, on the whole, a fair statement of the real amount of opposition to Christianity afforded by modern European and native literatures. Many of the works he mentions are distinctly anti-Christian and written by men who intended them to bear that character. There is nothing either bigoted or narrow in the way Dr. Green deals with the

subject allotted to him, and the antidotes suggested by him are well worthy the consideration of all who are engaged in Missionary Work.

The paper which followed the three already alluded to was by Dr. Maclay on "Missionary Itinerating." The reverend gentleman belonging, as he does, to a denomination which has given special attention to this subject, was able to write a paper displaying a minute acquaintance with the difficulties that have to be encountered by the Missionary Itinerant in this country. He gives some valuable hints as to the best mode of propagating Christianity outside treaty limits.

This paper naturally led to a lengthy discussion bearing on the present passport system. Some missionaries maintained that it was absolutely wrong to preach Christianity out of treaty limits under existing regulations. Others said that they felt no such scruples of conscience in the matter, and argued that if the preaching of Christianity in the interior were in opposition to the wishes of those who grant passports, it was for them to say so. On the principle that those who make laws are the best judges of their intent and bearing, so the silence of the Japanese authorities on this subject might be taken as an indication that preaching in the interior, if not in accordance with the letter of the conditions on which passports are granted, is also not in opposition to their spirit.

Two papers by native pastors, with reference to the special obstacles to the progress of Christianity, were read on the evening of the second day.

The first of these by the Rev. T. Matsuyama, was a re-echo of the papers noticed above.

The second, by the Rev. J. I. Ise, was far more practical and to the point—making it clear that the greatest opposing influences are not such as are produced by presumably deficient systems of morals or by so called "false religions," but are such as are found in all times and all places alike. Bigotry, temporizing, sophism and especially the shortcomings of Christians themselves. These are the great obstacles to the spread of Christianity. On the third day, several papers were read on 'Education.' Among these, that by the Rev. T. S. Tyng is the most elaborate and thoughtful. It deals, after a very thorough fashion, with a number of questions bearing upon educational work, considered as a Missionary Agency.

Two papers on the education of women were contributed by lady Missionaries.

The first of these is theoretical and the second practical, so that, in a certain measure, the one is a complement to the other.

The self support of the native Church was discussed on the fourth day, and the way in which foreign money ought to be employed was a question that elicited a variety of opinions. The two papers prepared by Messrs. Leavitt and Meacham were in direct opposition to each other. The former strongly condemning the use of foreign money in any case whatever, and the latter arguing that, though the entire self-support of the Native Churches is the ultimate goal to be reached, to refuse to use any foreign money from the beginning would be to act in an unnecessarily strict manner, and that such a course, if generally pursued, would tend to retard the progress of the Native Church. The papers read by Mr. Knox, as well by Rev. T. Sawayama and Rev. T. Kanamori, all presented different aspects of the question, and helped to make the discussion of this subject as thorough as its importance demanded.

After the discussion on the subject of the day was closed, a paper was read bearing on the best mode of studying Japanese. This was presented in the form of a Report of a Tokiyo Committee, who were asked to recommend a course of study for the benefit of newly arrived Missionaries. We cannot say that the Report reveals any indications that those who drew it up possessed any very special knowledge of the subject they undertook to treat. Perhaps, as is often the case when Committees prepare documents, one man's wisdom was counter-

* Proceedings of the General Conference of Protestant Missionaries held at Osaka, April, 1883. R. Meiklejohn & Co., Yokohama.

acted by another man's folly. The order in which the books to be studied are to be taken up seems to be unintelligible; e.g. the study of the newspapers (the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is mentioned), which involves a knowledge of the Chinese character, is recommended to be undertaken before the easy Kana New Testament is examined. The Report contains little that is not familiar to all who have studied Japanese for a few years, and omits mentioning altogether some very important points connected with the study of both the written and colloquial languages.

The subject discussed on the fifth day of the Conference, was Medical Missions. The first paper read was Dr. Palm's, entitled 'The position of Medical Missions.' It is characterized throughout by liberal sentiments and enlightened views. Medical Missions,' says its author 'strike at that kind of piety which consists in despising or neglecting the body, and by practically exemplifying that man is to glorify God in his body and in his spirit, which are his. They are also the corrective to the narrowing tendency of that kind of Evangelism which preaches as if the chief end of man was to save his soul.' The author gives it as his opinion that 'Japan is not a field for which medical Missions are specially adapted,' for the simple reason that she is not in special need of Medical assistance. "Government" he says, "is doing so much in this direction, that it seems to me that our Missionary Societies would act more wisely in sending the few well equipped Medical Missionaries at their service—few, that is, in comparison with the wants of the world—to India, and Africa, to places where the people are destitute of surgical and medical assistance."

The remarks of other medical men, which were made during the discussion, entirely corresponded with this opinion. Dr. Berry, however, thought that the work of training medical students should, in the future, be looked upon as the special function of Medical Missionaries in Japan.

Papers read by Dr. Berry and Dr. Taylor were not on the special subject for the day. The first, that of Dr. Berry, bears the title of 'Missionary Health, Vacations, and Furloughs.' The second was on the Effect of Missionary Work on the Worker. These two papers are second to none in point of interest, and they both bear marks of being the fruits of painstaking research. They are both illustrated by elaborate tables of statistics, in which the most minute matters of detail are tabulated, and compared. Dr. Berry's paper and the accompanying chart should be in the hands of all health seekers in this country.

The only two remaining essays which need be noticed in this review were prepared and read by two of the Senior Missionaries. The first was on 'The Preparation of a Christian Literature' by Dr. Nathan Brown. This paper contains some valuable suggestions, but it also contains a regular tirade against the study of Chinese. Young Missionaries who wish to escape the trouble of mastering such a difficult language will doubtless hail this verdict with delight. The author quotes Dr. Verbeck as being on his side in this matter, and, we are afraid, the statement is correct. The words culled from the 'Chrysanthemum' as Dr. Verbeck's, appear scarcely worthy to be regarded as a serious discussion of the question, nevertheless, in the light of advice given to Young Missionaries by an advanced student, they are, in our opinion, unfortunate and dangerous. The opinions expressed by Dr. Nathan Brown were criticized by Mr. Denning who, among other things, said it had always seemed surprising to him that so few Missionaries had devoted themselves to the study of Chinese. "The number of men who had taken up the study earnestly might be counted on one's fingers. Some said that the Chinese language would pass away and hence there is no use in studying it. If this were brought about, he ventured to think that it would not be in his life time, and he would not lose the opportunity of reaching

thousands of intelligent men of this generation, because he entertained a faint hope that, in thirty or forty years' time, some radical change in the language of this country would be accomplished. Our duty to the present generation was plain, viz., to make ourselves masters of the language in which all their first class books are written. To posterity should we leave the work of studying the language of the future."

Dr. Hepburn, in his paper on "The Principles of translation into Japanese," advocated the literal translation of the scriptures, and thought the version known as the 'Yokohama translation,' on the whole, a satisfactory rendering of the original. He condemned those Chinese versions which simply aim at giving the sense of the original, and said that they are not to be regarded as the Word of God. Messrs. Green, Tyng, Denning and J. J. Gulick opposed Dr. Hepburn's views, whilst Messrs. Waddell and Maclay supported them.

Papers entitled—'Should the number of Foreign Missionaries be increased?' by the Rev. C. F. Warren; 'Preaching to the Heathen: Its matter and methods,' by the Rev. Walter Denning; 'On Sunday Schools: How best to conduct them,' by the Rev. Julius Soper, brought the conference to a close. Want of space compels us to pass them without special notice, but we may say that the views expressed in Mr. Denning's essay commend themselves as a liberal and intelligent definition of the methods of far-sighted propagandism.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The Annual General Meeting of the above institution was held on Wednesday afternoon (by kind permission) in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, to receive the report of the Committee and other business. The following gentlemen were present: General J. B. Van Buren (in the Chair), A. J. Wilkin (Hon. Sec.), J. Rickett, A. O. Gay, W. B. Walter, F. Townley, C. H. Dallas, J. M. des Pallières, J. R. Morse, J. P. Reid, J. A. Fraser, O. Keil, T. Walsh, J. Reynaud, T. Rose.

The CHAIRMAN said that a meeting of this character, however largely attended, did not seem perfect without the presence of Sir Harry Parkes. He felt happy to fill the position of Chairman and proposed that the report of the committee be read. He regretted to say that the report did not show by any means a prosperous state of affairs. There was one peculiar feature about it, one that was extremely gratifying; that was that the ladies had with their accustomed generosity come forward and given their assistance to aid this philanthropic enterprise. If it had not been for their assistance the Hospital would have had to be closed. The appeal for the Hospital was a very strong one. This institution or a similar one could not be done without in Yokohama. He knew that the various calls upon the pockets of the members of the community were numerous, but on looking into them, they were for pleasure. Poverty and disease had to be dealt with practically, and these were calls which must be met. He knew how cheerfully these calls had been met previously and hoped they might be so now. It was to be regretted that some disparaging remarks had been made about the management of the Hospital. It was for those who had made them to come forward at this meeting and state what was wrong, that the matter might be discussed. A suggestion had been made that by getting permission from the Governments who had Hospitals, to allow poor people of other nationalities to be treated in them the General Hospital might be done away with. He would make no comments on this suggestion, but could only say that it was absolutely necessary to keep the Hospital running for the current year and even if the trustees elected now, thought that some arrangement would be better, still as the negotiations would take time, it could not be closed this year. He thought that an institution of this kind should

not be allowed to rest on the support of the ladies and a few of the community. He was of opinion that a permanent fund might be raised. Of course every one knew that if an epidemic occurred there would be no difficulty in raising funds, but they ought to have a permanent fund for the maintenance of the Hospital under ordinary circumstances. It was not his opinion only, but that of several other persons with whom he had conversed, that this could be done. The usual method when money was wanted was to go to certain charitable people who were sure to subscribe, and to no one else. He had been told by several that no one had visited them to solicit subscriptions, and people generally did not come forward until asked. There were plenty of people in Yokohama with fixed salaries, and he believed that if they were properly approached, they would give a small monthly subscription, no matter how small. Many persons would give one dollar a month who could not afford a donation of ten dollars. From these subscriptions a permanent fund could be made, whether enough to defray expenses he could not say, but he thought it would go some way towards it. He then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting.

Mr. WILKIN read the minutes of the last General Meeting, which were approved. He then read the report of the Committee for 1883.

Mr. DALLAS read the accounts for 1883.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The committee herewith submit their report, and a statement of Accounts for the year 1883, accompanied by the report of the surgeons.

The position of the institution has been a source of increasing anxiety to your committee: the number of paying patients shows a further heavy decrease, and meanwhile establishment expenses continue, and there are certain items of expenditure which must remain about the same, whether the number of patients be small or great.

The patient list shows that the number treated was only 86 as against 137 in the year 1882, and the number of days was 2,559 as against 3,880 in the year 1882. As a consequence, the cost per head per diem has risen to \$2.71½ against 2.06 in 1882.

Of the above, there were charity patients 17 against 19 in 1882, and days 697 against 561 in 1882. About 100 prescriptions were also dispensed gratuitously.

What would have become of the unfortunate individuals thus treated and assisted without the Hospital, it is hard to say: indeed not only for them, but as much for those who do pay, there can be no question but that the Hospital is an absolute necessity.

As already intimated, however, the financial position is for your committee an exceedingly unpleasant one, and the Hon. Treasurer has of late been without the funds requisite to meet the liabilities of the institution by about \$1,000.

The committee have sought in vain for some method by which the whole establishment might be placed on a footing more in accordance with the present requirements of the place. The buildings and the scale of the whole compound are far too large for the altered circumstances of the present time, but it seems impossible to adapt them to these altered circumstances without first incurring a heavy outlay.

In November, the committee felt it incumbent upon them to put before the medical officers a statement of the position, accompanied with a representation to the effect that it was impossible to continue to pay them the same rate of salary as heretofore. And in reply the medical officers kindly proffered to accept a reduced fee of \$25 each per month, commencing with this year, until the exchequer was in a better position, excepting in the case of the prevalence of any epidemic.

A reduction was at the same time arranged in the accountant's fee.

In accordance with what passed at the last annual meeting, a gratuity of \$250 was tendered in May to Dr. Mère.

The services of this gentleman during the past year again demand the best acknowledgments of the committee.

The subscription list unfortunately shows a considerable falling off, notably in respect to the Latin portion of the community, but the committee have the pleasure to acknowledge sundry handsome contributions which have been especially acceptable:—viz., The sum of frs. 1,000 has been received from the French Government through J. Jouslain, Esq., the French Consul. The large sum of \$659.40 in January of this year, being half nett proceeds of the Ladies Charity Ball, through Mrs. Hannen.—\$230.17, being full nett receipts of the first, and one-third nett receipts of the second, of two performances given by the French Amateurs through D. Fitz-Henry, Esq.

The Loftus Troupe also gave a benefit for the hospital, and have recently forwarded \$60 as the result thereof.

Your committee concurred, in February last, in an application to the Kenrei, made by N. J. Hannen Esq., for the widening and levelling of the road on the eastern side of the Hospital, on condition that a reduction in ground rent should be made, equivalent to the area, say about 36 tubsoes, taken off the compound, and that the Hospital should be put to no expense.

It should be added that some expenditure for repairs to the buildings and fences is absolutely necessary.

The committee have now to tender their resignation, but they would, in conclusion, make an urgent appeal to the community to provide the funds necessary to relieve the Hospital from debt and to maintain it during the current year.

For the committee.

A. J. WILKIN.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL FROM JANUARY, 1ST TO DECEMBER, 31ST 1883, WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

	1ST CLASS.	2ND CLASS.	3RD CLASS.	4TH CLASS.	CHA- RITY.	TOTAL.
Remained from 1882.....	0	0	5	0	0	5
Admitted during 1883.....	4	16	40	4	17	81
	4	16	45	4	17	86
Number of days of 1st Class.....						11 days.
Number of days of 2nd Class.....						200 days.
Number of days of 3rd Class.....						1,612 days.
Number of days of 4th Class.....						39 days.
Number of days of Charity Class.....						697 days.
Total						2,559 days.

NATIONALITY OF PATIENTS TREATED.

British and British East and West Indies	30
Belgians	2
Chinese	2
Danes	2
Dutch	1
French	10
German	2
Greeks	1
Japanese	5
Norwegians and Swedes	1
Russians	7
Spanish	3
United States	15
Total	81

Memo.—About 100 prescriptions have been dispensed gratuitously to out-door patients, either poor residents or discharged charity patients.

J. LEE THOMPSON, Steward.

January 6th, 1884.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1883.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand 1st January, 1883	\$ 185.83
Cash collected from patients	4,662.23
Cash received as donations.....	2,201.60
Total receipts	\$7,049.66

Balance:—	
Amount due to creditors as per memo.....	\$1,777.67
Less Cash at H. & S. B. C.	183.55
	\$1,594.12
	\$8,643.78

EXPENDITURE.

Cash paid creditors from 1882.....	\$1,630.07
Establishment expenses:—	
Repairs to buildings, &c.	\$ 67.04
Ground rent	176.70
Fire insurance	86.40
Furniture, &c.	36.59
Wages, stewards and natives.....	2,415.76
Fuel and Lighting	382.89
Petties	83.38
	3,248.76

Medical expenses:—	
Surgeons	1,450.00
Medicines, &c.	287.99
	1,737.99

Victualling expenses:—	
Butcher	380.26
Baker	215.23
Marketing	333.40
Stores	267.88
Milk	224.00
Wines, beer, spirits, &c.	222.49
	1,653.16

Office expenses:—	
Accountant	340.00
Stationery	33.80
	373.80
	\$8,643.78

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, 22nd April, 1884.

Hon. Treasurer.

Dependencies, 1st January, 1884.	
Amount due to creditors	\$1,777.67
Cash in hand	\$183.55
Do. to collect from patients (exclusive of \$299.75 considered doubtful).....	580.25
	763.80
Deficit.....	\$1,013.87

The CHAIRMAN asked whether any gentleman had any remarks to offer about the report and accounts.

Mr. W. B. WALTER said there was one item in the receipts which showed a considerable falling off, and although it might be inconvenient to the Hospital, still the public would congratulate themselves upon it. That was the reduction in the number of patients. He thought that this reduction arose from the absence of any epidemic during last year and also that fewer men-of-war had visited the port. He would suggest that if the compound and buildings were too large for present requirements, that steps be taken to reduce them. As the compound was adjoining the Convent, he thought that the new Committee might make some mutual arrangement with the Convent authorities to take over part of the ground, of course reimbursing the Hospital for it. Regarding the deficit, it appeared that during the year they had received \$1,000 more than they could have expected from the regular sources. He had heard that at present there was great delay in admitting patients; this arose from persons having to write to the Committee, after getting a Doctor's certificate, for an order for admission. It appeared to him that it should be sufficient if a subscriber or any respectable member of the community wrote direct to the officer in charge, and if necessary enquiries could be made afterwards. He was also given to

understand that the charge for native patients in the 3rd class was \$1.00 per day, whereas at the Noge Hospital it was 55 to 60 sen. It seemed to him that it would be better to take them in at a reduced rate rather than let the place lie idle. Foreigners would rather send their employes to the General Hospital, and even if it only covered expenses it would be better than having the place empty. As to the complaints about the items of expenditure, he had heard nothing about them, but hoped that if there were any that some one would bring them forward that they might be discussed. He thought that the ground-rent was very heavy, and would suggest that an application be made to the Government to reduce it. He believed that if the missionaries were to interest themselves in the Hospital they might bring a good many Japanese patients, which would increase the income.

Mr. WILKIN said that some two years ago application had been made to the Government for the reduction of the ground-rent and it had been refused. The ground was held under such conditions that it could not be used for any other purpose, half of it being in the name of the Netherlands Trading Co. The difficulty was that previously, when there were a good many patients, the wards were spread about over the compound, and they could not give up any portion without going to great expense in replacing them on a smaller scale. Of course if they wished, the Kencho would take the ground back, but they would give nothing for it. The falling off in the number of patients, which was principally in the Russians and Chinese, he attributed to the absence of Russian men-of-war and to the fact that the Chinese now had a Hospital of their own. It had been agreed to that if they had sufficient Japanese patients the charge would be reduced to 75 cents per day, giving them Japanese food. The food would cost 30 cents a day, then there was milk and beef tea, etc., and with the extra labour and attendance it was doubtful whether 75 cents would pay. The reduction could only be made on philanthropic grounds. As to the admission of patients, all accidents were admitted at once. It had been found necessary to get a Doctor's certificate, as a cholera patient had been taken in; it was also necessary to get the sanction of the committee as they had to be guaranteed from loss.

Mr. W. B. WALTER said, in regard to the reduction of ground-rent, it appeared to him that there was a large piece of ground now used as a garden, which might be handed over the Convent. As to the admission of patients, there ought to be no delay. He had heard of people finding difficulty in getting hold of a committee man and a Doctor.

Mr. WILKIN said they would have to surrender the ground to the Kencho, who would not agree to any transfer as it was granted for a special purpose.

Mr. TOWNLEY thought the only saving would be in ground rent.

Mr. WILKIN said that would only amount to 50 or 60 dollars a year.

Mr. GAY said that to remove the buildings and put them up again would cost from 800 to 1,000 dollars. The ground was simply lent to them, and they could not follow Mr. Walter's suggestion. It would be an ungracious thing to ask the Kencho to allow them to transfer ground lent to them. The question had been discussed by the Committee repeatedly, and they saw no way out of it.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that Mr. Walter had reiterated his wish that if there were any complaints they should be brought before the meeting. Complaints had come to him from various sources. One was that the Accountant's salary might be saved. Another that the nurses' salaries were too high, whilst the Doctors say that a great deal of their time is taken up through the incompetency of the nurses. Again, some say that the Doctors should give their services free. But he did not see why a Doctor, who gives a great deal of his time and his skill and experience, should not be paid. If those

who sat still had to pay in proportion to the loss of time that the Doctors sustain they would find it out. He thought the Committee might give some explanations on these points so that the public might understand them.

Mr. WILKIN said that some years ago a commission was appointed to look into some abuses, and it was decided that it would be wise to employ an accountant. At one time the accounts were kept in his office, and the work was not light. They had a very good and reliable steward now, but he did not think it advisable to do away with the accountant. (Mr. Wilkin then read a list of the staff and their salaries). He thought that if things remained in the same state as at present they might discharge one or two of the Japanese servants. He was not prepared to say that the Doctors should not be paid. This was a different place to others, where a Doctor got a reputation from his Hospital practice. The pittance paid them was very small, being altogether only \$600 a year.

Mr. WALTER said it seemed to him that matters were not so bad after all; there was \$230.17 and \$659.40 which had not been put into the accounts. As to the closing of the Hospital, if it was no longer required it would be better to get rid of it and, with the returns, found a ward in another Hospital. He did not think that desirable, as the next year might not be so healthy, and if in the next 10 or 20 years the population increased they might be sorry that they had done so.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the German Hospital had no authority to receive any but German paying patients. The only thing would be to induce the Governments of the three nationalities to allow anyone who could pay to be admitted, and of course with the fund realized from the sale, everyone could pay. At all events, it would be necessary to run the Hospital for this year.

Mr. DALLAS thought it might interest the meeting to hear the expenses for the first three months of this year. The ordinary expenses were \$1,700, the ground rent and insurance, which both fell due in this quarter, brought the total up to \$1898.10. The amount received from patients was \$909.90, showing a deficit of \$988.20, which had to be made up from charity.

Mr. TOWNLEY calculated that the community would have to find \$7,000 during the present year. Part of that would come from the patients, but the rest must be found somehow.

The CHAIRMAN said there being no objection, the report would be accepted and filed. The next thing was to elect a committee.

Mr. RICKETT proposed, and Mr. FRASER seconded, that the late Committee be re-elected, and, if necessary, enlarge their number, as they have the power add to their number.

Mr. GAY proposed that on this occasion the Committee be ballotted for.

Mr. W. B. WALTER seconded the amendment, which was carried.

The following gentlemen were then elected:—Messrs. Wilkin, Gay, Townley, W. B. Walter, Irwine, Des Pallières, Rickett, Schlippenbach, Fraser, and Reynaud.

General VAN BUREN declined to serve, as he was in ill-health and should be away from Yokohama most of the summer.

Mr. GAY proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was seconded by Mr. WILKIN and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN thanked them for their kindness, and said he had no further remarks to add to what he had said at the opening of the meeting. He hoped things looked brighter now so many well-known gentlemen had been elected to the committee. He would remind them of his suggestion that every one in Yokohama should be called upon to subscribe.

The meeting then adjourned.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CONSTITUTION AND JUDICIARY:

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

In every country there are three distinct legislative powers: the Legislature proper, the Executive, and the Judiciary. The affairs of the Legislature are conducted by the National Assembly, and those of the Executive are managed by the officers actually engaged in the Government; while judicial matters are adjusted by independent judges. This is the universal organisation of a civilized government. The public is doubtless well aware that the powers as well as the functions of these three administrations must necessarily differ in accordance with the nature of the constitution and the system of government adopted by different nationalities. Yet it is generally believed that the judicial section alone is organized in every country on the same principle, and invested with the same power, despite the difference of governmental systems or constitutions. Such a misconception may have arisen from the fact that, although our scientific men have constantly directed their energies toward investigating the advantages or disadvantages connected with legislative and executive organizations, they have not attempted to attract the attention of the public by making elaborate comments upon the nature of the judiciary. Briefly, and as a matter of fact, the judicial functions go no farther than deciding upon both civil and criminal cases in conformity with established law. Affairs which require the management of judicial officers are, therefore, of a comparatively simple nature. The advantages or disadvantages that may follow upon the manner of their adjustment have no apparent connection with the constitution or system of government, exactly contrary to the case with the executive and legislative bodies. Yet it would be a great error to under-rate the operations of the judiciary, nor is it reasonable to assert that its power, however indirectly it may be exercised, cannot affect the administration of a country.

Despite the simplicity of the judicial functions, a reckless limitation of the power of judicial officers can scarcely fail to be productive of disastrous results. The utmost attention should be given to the relations between the judiciary and the constitution. A country must be possessed of a constitution in order to define its system of government and to limit the various administrative powers; it must establish a code of laws, both civil and criminal, to protect the welfare and rights of its people. The constitution and the code of laws must be so arranged as to coöperate with one another; yet, as the regulations relating to the judiciary are likely to be framed at different periods, it is not altogether improbable that some of them may be incompatible with the spirit of the constitution. In this case, what course should judicial officers pursue in applying the laws? The constitution is, beyond all question, the basis on which all the laws of a country rest, and must therefore be rated higher than ordinary codes. If the judicial officers in question desire to adhere closely to the constitution in discharging their functions, they must regard all ordinary statutes as comparatively invalid. Their legitimate duty seems to lie simply in carrying out such laws as are already established, without criticising their propriety or impropriety, advantages or disadvantages. To doubt the efficiency of the laws, or to question whether they are not contrary to the spirit of the constitution, is to encroach, apparently upon the functions of the legislative officials. Is it, then, advisable that judicial regulations should be conscientiously observed despite their incompatibility with the constitution? Then must the constitution virtually come under the control of ordinary codes, and the object of maintaining it as the basis of all laws will

be lost sight of. If so, the country cannot profit by the possession of a constitution. A glance at the condition of foreign countries shows that in cases such as those to which we have just alluded the judicial authorities are called upon to conform to the constitution, and, at the same time, to exercise their discretion in subordinating the ordinary codes to it. Dr. Storey, writing on this subject, says that there are two important reasons for establishing the central power of the judiciary in a country: namely, to enforce the authority of the government, and to define the limits of such authority, as well as the power of the law itself. The function of explaining the laws presupposes investigation as to whether they correspond with the spirit of the constitution or not, and implies a right to denounce them as invalid or inapplicable when they fail to agree with the constitution. As the constitution is the first code of a nation, judicial officers are under an absolute obligation to observe it in preference to all other laws, especially those which may conflict with its purport. Otherwise, the power of the legislature and the executive may, possibly increase to an indefinite extent. Hamilton, too, wrote that the legislative body perform the task of compiling the laws, but that they are not to be allowed to act as judges for determining whether such laws are compatible with the constitution or not. The courts of justice must stand between the people and the legislature, so as to be instrumental in enabling the latter to exercise its authority within proper limits. It is, therefore, within the functions of these courts to undertake the definition and limitation of the law. Judicial officers ought to regard the constitution as the foundation of a country, and, acting in strict accordance with it, must exercise the codes so as not to conflict with it. From the above statements we may infer that the judicial officers in America consider it expedient to denounce as invalid all such laws as are incompatible with the true import of the constitution, even though they are framed by the legislature. In England, however, whatever laws are framed by Parliament must be obeyed. When we consider why her system of administration differs so widely from that of America, we perceive, in accordance with the statements of learned men, that as the Parliament of England does not only frame the laws, but also has a right to revise them, the judicial officers have no right to pass criticisms upon the statutes of the country. But in America, the constitution is compiled by the people themselves, while the legislature is only invested with power to organise the laws; and the judicial officers are therefore called upon to attach greater importance to the constitution, which embodies the sentiments of the people, than to all other codes which may emanate from any one particular section of the Government. It seems, however, that such assertions are not wholly justifiable. The English have never attempted to deny that the constitution is the grand basis of their administration; and, if this be true, there is no reason why Parliament should enact inferior laws with the express intention of modifying a superior constitution. In case revision is deemed necessary, steps are taken to open the subject, and to carry on formal discussion for that purpose. To enforce any law incompatible with the constitution, simply from the belief that it is the outcome of the desire of the Parliament to reform the constitution, is directly opposed to the *raison d'être* of a legislature. The difference of the systems of administration, in the cases of England and America, is not wholly to be ascribed to the unlimited power of the former's Parliament. The maintenance of a different system in England must simply have originated in the belief that she can promote her national interests more effectually in this manner than by adopting the American policy.

A part of the value of a constitution lies in its immutable nature; it is not so easily changed after it is once established. The advantages that the people may derive from ordinary codes are chiefly due to the fact that they can frequently revise them as

they see fit. If, when these two kinds of laws, the one alterable and the other unalterable, conflict with each other, the judicial officers should choose to enforce the latter kind as the more trustworthy, the constitution would eventually lose its inexorable character. The legitimate functions of the judiciary are confined to carrying out the laws which are already established, and occasions may often occur when the nature of its decisions give evidence of indirect modifications of the law. Yet, if, by extending its authority, we allow it openly to criticise the nature of the laws, it may probably be enabled to oppose the power of the legislature, and thus create the germ of a serious political agitation. It is, beyond all question, extremely difficult to define the relations between the constitution and the judiciary. The advantages or disadvantages attendant upon the limitation of judicial authority are therefore as serious as those which the executive and legislature may produce in society by confounding their functions. It is to be hoped that our thinking men will consider this subject with all due earnestness.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN ENGLAND.

(Translated from the *Meiji Nippo*.)

English reformers are different in character from those of our country, and the Conservative Party is dissimilar to ours. Yet, whenever the Reform Party gain the ascendancy in Parliament, our thinking men do not hesitate to declare that the general course of events in this world of ours tends towards reform; whereas a loss of prestige on the part of the Conservatives in England is, they assert, a conclusive proof that every nation on the globe is ready to do away with old-style administration. These opinions are nothing but the outcome of a party's desire to increase its own influence by deceiving the general public into a false conception of the political parties in England. The rise of reform and the fall of conservatism in Parliament are nothing but results brought about by every-day events. How can they, then, be made to have a universal significance? In England there are events peculiar to the country, and that same rule holds good in Japan. The rise and fall, the prosperity and decline, of political parties in England cannot affect the interests of our people. A glance at the actual state of affairs in England will show that political changes are consummated with striking rapidity.

When Lord Beaconsfield, that most able Minister, took active part in the Cabinet, he met with a rival in Mr. Gladstone, although the latter was unable to oppose him successfully. Outside of England, D'Israeli was confronted by Gortschakoff in Russia, and Bismarck in Germany, both of whom were renowned for their talents. But these two statesmen found it impossible to rest in peace so long as the name of D'Israeli rang in their ears. His fame had spread all over the world, and the influence of the Conservative Party had been felt throughout England. We have heard that, prior to his great success in the Cabinet, it rarely happened that the leader of a political party openly attacked the members of an opposite party outside Parliament. But, after D'Israeli had obtained great political power in the Cabinet, the influence of the Conservatives increased like the light of the morning sun, and they adopted the policy of extending the national prestige over all the countries of the globe. All attempts at opposition were ineffectual. Meanwhile, the Liberal party failed to attract the attention of the people, and its leader, Mr. Gladstone, perceiving that it would be impossible to restore the influence of his party by ordinary schemes, devoted his energies to criticising the policy of his opponents in public places, outside the precincts of Parliament, and not simply in the form of election orations. Ever since that time, the delivery of political addresses by the leaders of a political party, without reference

to place, has become a matter of ordinary occurrence. These proceedings no longer excite surprise, and this anomaly is the direct result of the predominance of the Conservative over the Liberal party. From these circumstances it may plainly be seen that the Conservatives of England had, at one time, remarkable influence. But the policy of foreign aggression adopted by Mr. D'Israeli rendered it necessary to impose a heavy tax upon the people,—so heavy that they finally found themselves unable to bear it. The consequence was a gradual decline in the influence of the Conservative Party, and even their able leader became unable to maintain his position. At last, he was obliged to give way before the harangues directed against him in Parliament, and the Cabinet came under the control of the Liberals in 1880, five years ago.

Thus, the Liberal party having triumphed over the Conservatives, Mr. Gladstone attained the end for which he had striven so many years, and was made Prime Minister. At that time, the influence of the Liberals had increased with as great rapidity as when the Conservatives first held the Cabinet. The growth of the power of the former was faster than the rising of the morning sun. In the House of Commons there were 236 Conservatives as against 354 partisans of the Liberal party, the majority being largely in favour of the latter. Moreover, the great leader of the Conservative party had resigned office and died shortly afterwards. The death of this statesman did not fail to weaken the influence of the Conservatives still further, while the prestige of the Liberals Party proportionately increased. It is true that the death of Beaconsfield was sincerely regretted even by his opponents, for they had lost their greatest and wisest statesman. Yet, the fact that they have been able to maintain the influence of their party up to the present day must be directly ascribed to his decease. When an insurrection broke out in Egypt, the year before last, under the leadership of Arabi, the Government of England dispatched a formidable force for the purpose of quelling the rebels. The Conservatives thereupon lost no time in severely criticising the policy of their opponents, urging that the proceedings of the latter did not agree with the principles they professed, and that the policy of foreign interference laid at their door. But the Conservatives were not able to carry out their plans on account of their numerical weakness, while the triumphant return of the English army after the complete repression of the revolt in Egypt consolidated the power of the Government to such an extent that the people were led to suppose that the Conservatives would never again be in the ascendant.

The Liberal party in England has truly enjoyed a period of overwhelming influence, and yet it has shown symptoms of decline in the last twelve months. This may be due to the fact that Parliament refused last year to pass the bills submitted by the Government for the revision of taxation and taking of oaths. Various journals in England have asserted that the time is ripe for the introduction of alterations in the Cabinet, and the Conservatives have taken decisive advantage of these circumstances. In the House of Commons, there are at present 242 Conservatives against 332 adherents of reform. These numbers show that the Conservatives have increased by twenty-nine votes since the time when the Cabinet came into the hands of their opponents. The Conservatives are thus gradually growing in power. The recent Soudan affair may be instrumental in augmenting the influence of their party; and on the 12th of February last, Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords, and Sir Stafford Northcote in the House of Commons, raised a motion attributing the disturbance in the Soudan to the mismanagement of the Government. Lord Salisbury's motion was accepted, but Northcote's motion was rejected by a very small majority. The adoption of the one, and the rejection of the other, only for the want of a few more supporters, plainly shows that the Government party has no

longer any great amount of influence in Parliament. The bills lately submitted to Parliament for the extension of the right of suffrage, have been vehemently discussed by both Conservatives and Reformers; the one party hailing them with the utmost enthusiasm, and the other endeavouring to reject them with equal energy. They have passed the House the first and second readings, and although we are unable to conjecture the result of the third reading, it is not altogether unlikely that the Conservative party will again come into office. In short, the influence of the present Cabinet is on the wane. Such rapid changes in the course of political events are indeed wonderful and worthy of earnest consideration.

IN THE TOKIYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—SATURDAY, May 17th, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsuishima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

On the opening of the Court, Mr. Ramsay handed in a diagram showing to what extent the screen obstructed the taking of bearings by the bridge compass.

Mr. Ramsay resuming his argument said:—"But the extracts made from that book, and mentioned in the reply to the appeal, are to prove to the Court that the master had not navigated his vessel to insure her safety, but had ignored the most ordinary and simple rules of navigation, and by doing so he caused the loss of the vessel." These quotations are also to prove to the Court that the owners of the vessel had taken every precaution to ensure the safe navigation of the ship, and by not regarding them he, the master, Johannes Frahm, caused her loss. On the 10th instant I perceived (and doubtless it was to all perceivable) how greatly Mr. Rossetsu was taken aback by my quotation from the *Japan Daily Mail*, viz.—"That no observation had been taken for 3 days." He politely drew my attention to the fact that it was not mentioned in the *Japan Gazette*, but I showed him that it was in the *Japan Daily Mail*. Here I must apologize to the Court for not giving precedence to its minutes in reference thereto. The reason I did not do so is obvious, viz., that Mr. Rossetsu only had before him the *Japan Gazette*, and to which he made frequent reference. Now, fearing he might repudiate the correctness of the report as it appears in the *Japan Daily Mail*, I will now quote from the minutes of the Court page 5, "The respondent has made several quotations from the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company's regulations in his reply, especially the one respecting the log book." These Mr. Rossetsu states are of little importance and unworthy of notice. "When a man meets with such stormy weather as this for 3 days, and such that the seas were breaking on board, that no one could enter his room," etc. These remarks have been previously refuted. At that time (on the 10th instant) I disproved the erroneous statement that no observations had been taken (see page 14 of my statement). Now I am compelled, alas! to cauterize the wound then inflicted, by now disproving the statement regarding the seas breaking on board and preventing any one entering his cabin. From October 10th at 4.45 a.m. to October 7th 4.45 a.m. would be three days. Now what was the weather during that interval of time? Refer to log book. "Sunday October 7th 8 p.m. Wind N.N.E. wind and sea moderating. Midnight, fresh N.N.E. wind, sea moderating. October 8th, 4 a.m., Fresh N.E. by E. wind and cloudy weather, sea moderate, Kinakan W. 3 miles. 8 a.m. same wind and weather. Noon: same weather, wind hauling more Easterly, set trysail, p.m. Increasing wind and sea, Wind East. 3.45 p.m. Miyako Head, West, 5 miles off last, 5.15 in all sails, 6.30 in all awnings. Wind East and increasing to a gale." (This is the first record of the wind being heavy, i.e., of a gale) "8 p.m., Helm hard a-port, ship not coming to the wind. Heavy gale, strong squalls, high sea, wind

at S.E." There is no record of leeway or speed throughout, consequently, as from statements made by master, I assume leeway to be 4 points; the ship would be heading N.N.E. + 4 points leeway, she would make a N.N.W. course (safe course). "October 8th, midnight, same weather. October 9th, 0.30 a.m., moderating a little, clearing up; off relieving tackles. Wind S. by W. ship's course E.N.E. 2 a.m. course N.N.W. wind S. by W." No distance by log. The ship now was under control. "4 a.m. course N.N.W. wind S. by W." No distance stated. "Fresh breeze and clear weather" (what about the darkness so that no one could see more than 12 or 18 feet ahead?) "Moderate high sea. 5 a.m. course N.W. Began to blow hard in heavy squalls." 6 a.m., Saw the land bearing W.N.W. course then W.N.W." ship was then manageable. Evidently could see a great many miles off, if only could see 12 or 18 feet it must have been the master's intention to run his ship on shore, as the land bore W.N.W. at 6 a.m., and at that hour he steered W.N.W. But such was not his intention, consequently the land was far distant. "8 a.m. heavy S.W. gale" (wind being off the land) "clear weather. Moderate rough sea, taking heavy sprays over fore and aft" (not seas tumbling on board, as Mr. Rossetsu would lead this Honourable Court to believe, so as to prevent entrance to cabins). "9 a.m. helm hard a starboard, relieving tackles on. Increasing gale from S.W. Noon, blowing a typhoon, clear weather, ship labouring heavily and shipping seas over." (First record of seas coming on board). "Wind S.W. heading N.N.W." No distance at noon and no position. "4 a.m. continued heavy gale from West" (wind still off the land), "making 4 points leeway, 5.30 p.m. wind West, on starboard tack. Not lying well to the sea now. Shipping quantities of seawater, 8 p.m. continued gale, wind N.W." No distance. "9 p.m. wind N.W. moderating, sea going down. Midnight moderate fresh wind and clear weather. 10th October. a.m. course N.N.W. 4 a.m. light N.W. wind and hazy weather." Now I have entirely and most completely disposed of Mr. Rossetsu's unjust statement. "That for 3 days seas had been breaking on board so that no one could enter his room." Regarding the trim: on the Court's records page 6. Mr. Rossetsu states "the respondent says that the ship was not in trim when she left the port of Yokohama, so that the appellant neglected his duty in not having her in trim." Mr. Rossetsu has stated to this Court, and has affixed his seal to his statements so that they are now unalterable, viz.,—"At the time she left Yokohama, her draft forward was 6 feet, and aft it was from 8 to 10 feet which is the proper trim for her." The master stated distinctly that the vessel was "forward 10 ft. 4 in. and aft 17 ft. 2 in." (page 10 master's evidence). Consequently Mr. Rossetsu's statement is in error. Forward 4 ft. 4 in. and aft 9 ft. 2 in. and 7 ft. 2 in. If Mr. Rossetsu's statement is correct, the master's was wrong and he (the master) did not speak the truth and nothing but the truth, in the Marine Court, as he was cautioned to do. But he did speak the truth, consequently it is the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant who has not made a correct statement in regard to this matter. For the information of the Court I will here give the dimensions of the *Akitsuishima Maru*, viz.:—length 308 feet, breadth 32 ft. 9 in., depth 24 ft.

Mr. Ramsay then handed to the Court a plan of the *Akitsuishima Maru*, showing the internal arrangements, including the position of the ballast tanks, and also the trim in which she was in when she left Yokohama.

Mr. Ramsay then continued—Now I here state it would have been impossible for this vessel to stand upon the draft mentioned and subsequently affirmed to by Mr. Rossetsu in affixing his seal. It is incomprehensible why Mr. Rossetsu has made so many erroneous statements to this Court, statements which are opposed to the evidence. Consequently he has compelled me to enter fully upon the case at issue in the interests solely of the respondent. Mr. Rossetsu's remarks on the respondent's statements regarding the fourth paragraph of the Petition of Appeal (see pages 5-6 reply to petition), are absurd and opposed to facts; for it is evident to any one with the slightest ideas of navigation, that after the first bearing had been correctly taken by the compass, and allowing an interval of time to elapse, and closely watching the light during that interval, then to have taken a second bearing would not have given the master the name of the light, but would have assuredly told him he was in most dangerous proximity to the land, and that the light seen was not the Shiriya-saki Light. He, the appellant, never even took one bearing, still less a second; owing to the neglect of which he caused the loss of the vessel. No prudent man would thus have acted, but would have taken his bearings correctly, and never would have guessed

at them. Nor would any prudent man after encountering such tempestuous weather as the *Akitsu-shima Maru* experienced (only for a few hours, from 9 a.m. to midnight) have accepted the light as that of Shiriya-saki after watching it only for 8 or 9 minutes, viz., from 4 a.m. to 9 minutes past 4. But Johannes Frahm then left the deck, 16 minutes after which the light, disappeared; and 20 minutes after the disappearance of the light, the poor unfortunate *Akitsu-shima* found a correct position for herself at Odonosawa: for which the master must be held responsible. Mr. Rossettsu states further. "The appellant in his evidence in the former Court said that he could trust the mate up to 3 or 4 miles off the shore, or danger. "In this case" (continues Mr. Rossettsu) "the ship was 12 miles from the shore." The master in his report stated 18 miles, the chief officer in his evidence 10 to 15 miles, the 3rd officer 4 to 5 miles. How was it possible for the vessel to be 12 miles off? Mr. Rossettsu further states, "We have to consider a fact concerning this subject (i.e. of the mate). The captain was not allowed to get his mate but the company appointed him without consultation." Every large Steamship Company appoint their own officers without consulting the captain; but the captain has the privilege to ask for another officer in the room of the one with whom he is dissatisfied. Here do I hold in my hand a list of chief officers who have been appointed to the *Akitsu-shima Maru*. Since the time Captain Frahm took command of her, 4½ years ago, to the time of her loss there were no less than 16 men appointed within a period of 3½ years. The last one was Mr. Werner, who was chief officer at the time of the wreck. He was, I have every reason to believe, especially applied for by Captain Frahm in October, 1882.

In support of this Mr. Ramsay asked permission to hand in a letter from the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company and also one from Mr. Werner.

Mr. Rossettsu objected to Mr. Werner's letter on the ground that he ought to be called to acknowledge his signature, in which case, he would desire to examine him.

Mr. Ramsay said he did not wish to unnecessarily prolong the proceedings, and would withdraw Mr. Werner's letter. Mr. Ramsay continued:—In the 17th paragraph of the Petition of Appeal, Mr. Rossettsu remarks, "the Captain thought him (the chief officer) an unworthy person to consult with." Then he said, first, "the Captain may act without any other person's opinion if he thinks proper." Undoubtedly he can; but by so doing we know that the result was the loss of the ship. No prudent man would thus act; but would consult with his officers as to the ship's position when under similar circumstances, i.e., having encountered such tempestuous weather, and thus he would ensure the safety of his vessel. Mr. Rossettsu, "Secondly, no fault can be attributed to the Captain, if he does not consult with the chief officer; for the mate said (according to evidence) that he never reckoned the longitude and latitude; and to the question, whether he had a sextant, he replied that he had not had a sextant for 3 years: and he replied to the question of the log book, that he could not write neat enough to make correct entries in the log book. Such being the character of the mate, it is very plain that he is not a person worthy of his position. As it is, I have a great objection to blame the appellant, as the respondent does, for his neglect to consult with such an officer." The statements here made by Mr. Rossettsu are incorrect and tend to prejudice the future prospects of Mr. Werner. He certainly did contribute, I am grieved to say, to the loss of the ship, and for which he has been sufficiently censured, by having his certificate suspended for 6 months, but why Mr. Rossettsu should seek to show to the whole mercantile marine community of this empire that Mr. Werner was unfit for his position I know not, for I verily believe that he is perfectly and truly competent to perform his duties as chief officer, providing he sails with a master of different calibre to that of Johannes Frahm. Now, here again has Mr. Rossettsu fallen into error in his statements, viz., with regard to the log book, "that he could not write neat enough to make correct entries in the log book." This is a perversion of recorded facts; refer to chief officer's evidence and therein no such statement can be found. But Mr. Rossettsu's remarks refer to the third officer, not to the chief (see third officer's evidence, page 1, in answer to query of the marine court, viz., "Have you entered the courses steered correctly in the rough log book?" "The chief officer always filled it in for me, as I cannot write English very well.") Now why Mr. Rossettsu should seek to disparage the character of the chief officer so as to strengthen the cause of the appellant, is to myself incomprehensible. The chief officer, holding a chief mate's certificate of competency, granted by the Noshomusho, is assuredly sufficient proof

that he was competent to discharge the duties of that office; the second officer, Mr. Hans Moldt, held a certificate of competency as master, granted by the Noshomusho, he, also, the master did not consult; and as the master, Johannes Frahm, so utterly ignored the competency of his officers, he must be held responsible for the loss of the vessel, as before handing over charge he did not point out on the chart the supposed position of the ship; but with imprudent and incomprehensible haste, left the deck and ship in charge of his chief officer, he never having taken any bearing of the light before so doing, but simply gazed at it for 8 or 9 minutes. And now he would fain make everyone believe that the loss of the vessel was caused through the neglect of duty by his chief officer, and also owing to the false light, which light he did not attempt to verify as that of Shiriya-saki. (Records of Court.) "In conclusion" says Mr. Rossettsu, "I shall make two principal objections to the said judgment, viz.:—1st. That the ship was lost by the existence of Shiriya-saki light where it ought not to be." Was ever such an absurd objection, does he think the light had the power of transporting itself to another part of the coast? Yet he (the legal adviser of the attorney for the appellant) has solemnly sworn to this statement being correct, on the 22nd of April, 17th year of Meiji. Second objection. "The chief officer, a person appointed by the company, neglected to call the captain when he was required to do so." Why so? Because, I can only assume, that he, the chief officer, observed the master so entirely ignoring his responsibilities in regard to the safe navigation of the ship, that he (the chief officer) thought he might also disregard the master's instructions to call him, for a space of 20 minutes or more: result, the master neglected his duties, inasmuch as he never attempted to verify the light or his position by bearings, and consequently he lost the ship through his neglect of duty. Here I pause only for Mr. Rossettsu to comment on Captain Young's evidence, as given before this most Honourable Court on the 25th of April, and on the 12th instant, before proceeding any further with my remarks. I trust I have the sanction of the Court to do so. Now I would most distinctly state that my remarks have not been made in a spirit of vindictiveness, but only to vindicate, i.e., to justify, the procedure taken by the Noshomusho in this case.

Mr. Uchiyama here rose and remarked that Mr. Ramsay's statements regarding the record of the Court, which mentioned that he had stated that the ship was lost by the existence of Shiriya-saki light where it ought not to be, were childish. It was absurd to imagine that he (Mr. Uchiyama) could have said that the light had walked down the coast and taken up another position. What he had said was that the vessel was lost by the existence of the false light where Shiriya-saki was expected to be. Mr. Ramsay must have known that it was a simple clerical error made by the Secretary when writing down the substance of his (Mr. Uchiyama's) opening address.

The Court then adjourned till the 21st instant at 9 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, 21st May,

On resuming, Mr. Uchiyama said that before replying to the statements made by the attorney for the respondent he wished to make a few observations regarding the evidence given by Captain Young, of the *Takasago Maru*. He said he would not at present argue on the evidence in detail, as it was his intention to refer to it frequently in rebutting the statements made by Mr. Ramsay; his remarks with regard to the same would therefore be of a general character. Captain Young was a gentleman well known in Japan, and there could be no denial of the fact that he had given his testimony, to be best of his knowledge, in an impartial manner. The brunt of his evidence, counsel contended, was decidedly in favour of his client, and clearly supported the points he wished to prove. Nevertheless, Captain Young, like every one else, was human, and therefore his answers to some of the questions put to him by the respondent could not possibly be received in evidence; and he contended that some of the questions were such that had Captain Young had time for consideration, he certainly would have refused to answer. He referred, for instance, to the questions put to him by Mr. Ramsay as to "what he would have done if he had been placed under the same circumstances as the appellant," &c. With regard to answers given on this point, the Court, he was sure, would agree with him when he said that Captain Young, although involuntarily, must have been prejudiced when replying thereto. In support of this contention, he would state the following three grounds:—First, it was impossible (as he had already remarked when objecting to the questions put by Mr. Ramsay) for any human being to be able to say what he would

have done under circumstances that had passed, unless he had been present and undergone the same experience. Captain Young's answers must therefore have been purely supposititious and not fit to be received in evidence. As an instance, he would mention to the Court that a few months ago armed robbers broke into his (Mr. Uchiyama's) house. He (Mr. Uchiyama) discharged his revolver twice at them, thoroughly in earnest and with the most intense desire to hit them, but he was sorry to say that he took very bad aim, and the bullet only grazed the hilt of one of the robber's swords. Now, was there any one in Court who could truly and without any doubt stand up and say "what he would have done under the circumstances." His second reason for maintaining that Captain Young's answer must have been prejudiced, was that Captain Young already knew the result of what had been done, namely, the stranding of the *Akitsu-shima Maru*; and his third reason was that, being still in the employ of the company that owned the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company, he would naturally be guarded in any statement he might make as to "what he would have done under the circumstances," &c., because no one, after the happening of an accident, would be willing to admit that he would have acted in exactly the same way as the captain of the unlucky ship. Mr. Uchiyama therefore contended that the respondent's questions as to what Captain Young would have done under the circumstances, and the answers thereto, must fall to the ground since the witness could really not say what he would have done under the circumstances. In continuing, counsel said that if Captain Young's evidence was dismantled of the supposititious answers, he would ask what remained? Why, that the appellant, Johannes Frahm, was a competent, energetic, and sober seaman, a good master, and one who would not have put the ship in any danger through carelessness or laziness, and that if he had not been fully convinced that the light he saw was really the Shiriya-saki light he certainly would not have left the bridge to go below; that the light seen closely resembled the Shiriya-saki light and might easily have been taken for it; and that if the first officer had done his duty and called the captain, there would have been plenty of time to save the ship. The evidence of Captain Young, therefore, Mr. Uchiyama maintained, gave the appellant three strong and impregnable points, while it gave nothing whatever to the respondent.

For the present he would not further comment on the evidence of Captain Young, but would refer to it at times, in connection with his argument. With regard to Mr. Ramsay's statements, he would only touch on the most important points, a rather difficult matter considering that he was at a loss to discover any bearing that title, and make the proceedings as short as possible, so as not to rob the Court of its valuable time. He was there, however, to do justice to his client, and as the opposing party had gone into voluminous and unnecessary details he must, to some extent, ask the forbearance of the honourable Court. He would commence with the remarks made by Mr. Ramsay on the 28th April. In reference to the first grievance of the appellant, "that the Court of inquiry was not properly constituted," the respondent remarked "that it was not the custom for judges learned in law to preside invariably," &c., at the same time presenting a list which he said "contained cases in which harbour-masters, captains, commanders, &c., were the presidents, that is, men not learned in the law." This assertion of Mr. Ramsay alone showed that he was entirely unfit to take charge of such a Court, as he (counsel) would prove. In support of this opinion, and to show how such a Court should be constituted, he would refer the Court to the *Merchant Shipping Act, 17 and 18 Vict. c. 104, section 241*, which read as follows:—

If the Board of Trade or any local marine board has reason to believe that any master or mate is from incompetency or misconduct unfit to discharge his duties, the Board of Trade may either institute an investigation or may direct the local marine board at or nearest to the place at which it may be convenient for the parties and witnesses to attend to institute the same, and thereupon such persons as the Board of Trade may appoint for the purpose, or, as the case may be, the local marine board, shall, with the assistance of a local stipendiary magistrate (if any), and if there is no such magistrate of a competent legal assistant to be appointed by the Board of Trade, conduct the investigation, and may summon the master or mate to appear, and shall give him full opportunity of making a defence either in person or otherwise, and shall for the purpose of such investigation have all the powers given by the first part of this Act to inspectors appointed by the Board of Trade and may make such order with respect to the costs of such investigation as they may deem just; and shall on the conclusion of the investigation make a report upon the case to the Board of Trade; and in cases where there is no local marine board before which the parties and witnesses can conveniently attend or where such local marine board is unwilling to institute the investigation, the Board of Trade may direct the same to be instituted before two justices or a stipendiary magistrate.

In following Mr. Ramsay's remarks regarding harbour masters, &c., he (Mr. Ramsay) had said they were not learned judges. How had he proved that statement? Where did the list that he had presented to the Court show that the presiding gentlemen were not learned in law? He (counsel) would give an example showing thoroughly that Mr. Ramsay was mistaken. He referred to the Harbour Master of Hongkong, and to show his title he would hand to the Court a copy of the *Hongkong Directory*. What did it say? "H. G. Thomsett, R.N., harbour master, marine magistrate," &c. How, therefore, was Mr. Ramsay to prove that the harbour masters, lieutenants, commanders, &c., mentioned by him, were not men learned in the law? He, Mr. Uchiyama, would go further and quote an entirely new case, a case which could not be said to be out of date. It was reported in the *London Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* of the 4th April, 1884 (handed into Court.) This was an enquiry, Mr. Uchiyama said, into the loss of the *Rose*, better known as the *Daphne*, and was a case very similar to the present. It was his intention to again refer to it further on, but in the meantime he wished only to say that the president of that Court was simply styled in the report, "Mr. Rothery, wreck commissioner." Now if Mr. Ramsay had seen this report he would most likely have also quoted Mr. Rothery as being a "wreck commissioner," and therefore a man not learned in law, but luckily everybody well knew that Mr. Rothery was a Queen's Counsel, a man who not only knew law but a great deal of it. These cases, Mr. Uchiyama maintained, sufficiently showed the shallow ground on which the attorney for the respondent based his arguments as to the construction of marine Courts of enquiry. Continuing, counsel said he would shortly refer to the respondent's statement of the 5th May. The respondent, referring to the appellant's second grievance, "that the decision of the first Court had been given in opposition, and without regard to the evidence produced" merely said that it was absurd, and that the evidence was taken into consideration. He said he would show how that was done. Speaking of lee-way, every witness had stated that, even if other vessels might not make so much, the *Akitsushima Maru* would, under the circumstances, make 4 points lee-way. What did the Court do with all this evidence? It merely threw it aside, and the president, Mr. Ramsay, took upon himself to say that, although the evidence was to the effect that the vessel did make that amount of lee-way, he did not believe it. Referring to the evidence given as to the false light, every one of the witnesses testified to it, but what does the Court do? Takes no notice whatever. Is that not in direct opposition to the evidence? Third grievance:—That the evidence in the Court below tended to show that the appellant was misled by a light of the same description and colour as the Shiriya-saki light which, on being first seen, bore in the exact direction it was expected to be seen, and that in spite of this evidence being adduced, and in spite of the appellant's request that Captain Young, the master of the *Takasago Maru*, and his chief officer, who had also seen the false light and stated that owing to its appearance it might well, under the circumstances, have been mistaken for the Shiriya-saki light, they were not called, thus depriving the appellant of the opportunity of justifying his actions. Regarding his (Mr. Uchiyama's) statement that the appellant in the Court below requested Captain Young and his officers on watch when the false light was seen, to be summoned to give evidence regarding the light, Mr. Ramsay said that no such request had been made. His words were "there is no such record on the minutes of the Court. Had the master preferred any such request, most certainly the Court would have adjourned until those gentlemen had appeared to give evidence." Now, who took down the record in the lower court? Mr. Ramsay. Counsel remarked that he did not wish to say that Mr. Ramsay was telling an untruth, but he appeared to have a very short memory, and therefore to show that the record of the Marine Court of Enquiry was incomplete, he would quote from the newspapers, a proceeding that throughout the trial Mr. Ramsay had been very fond of doing, but which he (Mr. Uchiyama) was not partial to; but which in the present instance became a necessity. The first paper he would hand into Court was the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 17th November, 1883, which on page 703, at the end of the first day's proceedings, stated as follows:—

Captain Frahm asked the court whether it would kindly request the attendance of the captain and officers in charge of the deck of the *Takasago Maru*, who saw the same light as that referred to subsequently to the wreck of the *Akitsushima Maru*. The court, after promising to consider the matter, adjourned till 9 a.m. next morning.

To corroborate this evidence, Mr. Uchiyama said he would also hand in a copy of the *Japan Gazette*, which contained the following:—

Captain Frahm here asked the president if, in case the Court should consider his statement regarding the light required corroborating, he would kindly request the directors of the M.B.M.S.S. Co. to order the captain or officers who saw the light to attend and give evidence.

The president said he would take the matter into consideration.

The court was then adjourned till 9 a.m. 13th.

Continuing, he said that, so as not to give Mr. Ramsay a chance of saying that the evidence on this point was still incomplete, he would like to call, if the Court did not object, Mr. Eyton, who was in Court, and who had reported the proceedings of the Marine Court of Enquiry for the *Japan Gazette*.

Mr. Ramsay objected to Mr. Eyton giving evidence, on the ground that there was no mention on the records of the Marine Court of Enquiry of Captain Frahm having made the request, and further, that the gentleman who had reported for the *Japan Daily Mail* was not present.

Mr. Uchiyama said Mr. Ramsay's remarks showed the arbitrary manner in which he not only wished to conduct the present case, but also the way in which he had evidently managed the other, as, although he knew very well that the gentleman who reported for the *Mail* was dead he wished to call him from his grave. He (Mr. Uchiyama) would have no objection to Mr. Ramsay calling the editor or manager of the paper if he desired.

The Court ruled that as the witness was to testify to facts that he had personally seen and heard, it would allow him to be called.

Mr. Ramsay then asked to be allowed to see the copy of the *Mail*, after reading which he withdrew his objection.

Mr. J. L. O. Eyton to Mr. Uchiyama—I am the reporter for the *Japan Gazette*. I was present at the Marine Court of Enquiry held on the 12th, 13th and 14th of November last, in the case of the *Akitsushima Maru*. Mr. Ramsay took down the record on behalf of the Court. I distinctly remember Captain Frahm requesting the Court, at the close of the first day's proceedings, to call Captain Young and his officer, to give evidence on his behalf regarding the false light. I heard Mr. Ramsay say, in reply, that the Court would consider the matter.

In continuing, Mr. Uchiyama said that, after hearing this evidence, Mr. Ramsay had no leg to stand on. Referring to Mr. Ramsay's statement in which he said that he (Mr. Uchiyama) had reminded the Court that "when the disaster occurred the weather was not so calm as at present (April 16th), a hurricane had been blowing, even during the day-time it was so dark that one could not see 2 or 3 ken ahead," &c., he would state that the words "when the disaster occurred" were not spoken by him, and not mentioned in the records of the Court, and he begged the Court to refer to them. This was done, and the words mentioned by Mr. Ramsay were not found. Mr. Uchiyama then said his remarks did not refer to the time of the disaster, but to the 9th of October, the previous day, therefore he (the counsel) had made no statements contrary to those of his client or the log book. Referring to Mr. Ramsay's remarks on the 10th instant, in which he stated that the light could not have been 12 miles off, as stated by Mr. Uchiyama, since the evidence on that point was contradictory, the master saying about 18 miles, the first officer from 10 to 15, and the third officer from 4 to 5 miles, the appellant's counsel contended that as the statements of the captain and chief mate were very similar they must be taken in preference to that of the third officer, who differed so widely. However, he would mention that in making his statement he had taken the average of the three witnesses, which was between 11 and 12 miles. But, even supposing the estimate of the third officer to have been correct, the course laid down by the master was a proper one. This was fully upheld by the evidence given by Captain Young, who said that had the light been the Shiriya-saki light, the course would have been a proper one, and would have taken the vessel clear of all danger, even although the vessel had been but 5 or 6 miles off it.

The Court adjourned till 9 a.m. on the 24th instant, when Mr. Uchiyama will conclude his address.

It has been discovered that, in some districts, the same postage stamps are used several times in succession, as two or three washings will readily remove the black obliterations of the Post Office.

We understand that the *Kwasoku* intend holding a meeting in order to prevent the frequent occurrence of bankruptcies among members of their class.

Mr. Tarui Tokichi, a well-known Communist residing in Nagasaki, is engaged in publishing several works on Socialism. The authorities are said to have privately instructed the police to ascertain if he intends distributing these publications among the public, as this would tend to disturb the national tranquillity.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

NEW RACE PONIES.

The steamship *Glenavon*, Captain Donaldson, which arrived here on the 16th instant from Shanghai, brought over a batch of a dozen China ponies for the Nippon Race Club. About half the number ran as griffins at the recent Shanghai meeting, with the result that most of them will be able to start as maidens at the Autumn meeting here. In the three days' racing at Shanghai Spring only two of the lot were winners, Isis and D.D., the former winning the Taotai's Cup and the latter the Roadster's Stakes. Two others were among the placed ponies, Samurai, second in the Jockey Cup, and Huntsman second in the Kiangsu Plate, and others were winners on the "off day." The ponies were landed here in capital condition, and were drawn for in the afternoon at Mr. Jaffray's yard, and came "out of the hat" in the following order:—

HUNTSMAN (white) 13.0—Ran second to Nectar in the Kiangsu Plate, mile and three-quarters, carrying 10st. 12lb.; race won in 3.51½; fastest time on record at Shanghai, same distance, done by Prejudice, Spring Meeting, 1882, 3.50. Started in the Race Club Cup, three-quarters; and Yangtsze Stakes, two miles; not placed.

ISIS (grey) 13.1—Won the Taotai's Cup, one mile, carrying 12st. in a field of six; time, 2.10½. Started in the Shanghai Derby, mile and a half; and the Chau-Shang-Kuik Cup, one mile; not placed.

MODERATO (dun) 13.1—Started in the Jockey Cup and Shanghai Stakes, once round; and the Yangtsze Stakes, two miles; not placed.

PROMISSORY NOTE (black) 13.0—Started in the Roadster's Plate, once round; not placed.

ALLEGRETTO (grey) 13.1—Started in the Tsatlee Cup, one mile; the Manchu Stakes, mile and a quarter; and the Cathay Cup, mile and a half; not placed.

SOOTHSAYER (grey) 13.0—Started in the Griffins' Plate, three-quarters; Manchu Stakes, mile and a quarter; and Concordia Cup, mile and a half; not placed.

PIZZICATO (dun) 13.1—Started in the Kiangsu Plate, mile and three-quarters; and Consolation Cup, once round; not placed.

CACHUCHA (skewbald) 13.1—Started in the Griffins' Plate, three-quarters; Manchu Stakes, mile and a quarter; and Shanghai Derby, mile and a half; not placed.

JESSAMINE (grey) 12.3—Started in the Spring Cup, three-quarters; Great Northern Plate, seven furlongs; Criterion Stakes, one mile; Shanghai Stakes, once round; and Cathay Cup, mile and a half; not placed.

OLD BAILEY (grey) 13.2—Started in the Manchu Stakes, mile and a quarter; and Cathay Cup and Concordia Cup, mile and a half; not placed.

D.D. (grey) 13.1—Won the Roadster's Plate, once round, in a field of ten, carrying 10st. 12lb.; time, 2.48½.

SAMURAI (grey) 13.0—Ran second in the Jockey Cup, once round, carrying 11st., beating six others; time for the first mile, 2.9. Started in the Griffins' Plate, three-quarters; Manchu Stakes, mile and a quarter; and Concordia Cup, mile and a half; not placed.

Allegro, winner of races in Hongkong and of the Great Northern Plate at Shanghai Spring, and stated to be amongst this lot of ponies, remains in Mr. Bill's stable in Shanghai.

A dispute has arisen between the *Kenrei* and Local Assembly of Kagoshima Prefecture with regard to the financial administration of the prefecture. A petition has been forwarded by the latter to the *Sanji-in*.

A treasury will shortly be built for the *Nippon Ginko*, at an estimated expenditure of 60,000 yen.

The ceremony of conferring prizes on the exhibitors at the Exhibition of Paintings at Ueno, will come off on the 20th instant. The Princes of the Blood, will be present.

Mr. Nagai, Assistant Secretary of the Home Department, has been ordered to attend the Medical Congress at Denmark, and also to investigate the sanitary systems of France and Germany on his way home.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 18th.

THE SAFETY OF GENERAL GORDON.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House, stated that refugees report General Gordon safe.

THE PANIC IN WALL STREET.

The panic in New York is subsiding. Fisk and Hatch have suspended payment.

London, May 19th, 5 p.m.

Mid. Uplands Cotton, 6½d. Yarns, price very firm. Shirtings, price very firm. Silk, 3d. per lb. lower and dull.

London, May 20th.

THE NEW SHIPPING BILL.

Mr. Chamberlain has introduced the new Shipping Bill.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

The Premier, in reply to a question in the House, said that the Government will adhere to the original basis of the Conference.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, 6th May.

THE OPPOSITION MOTION ON THE SOUDAN QUESTION.

The debate on Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's resolution has been fixed by the Premier to take place on the 12th instant.

Peking, 7th May.

The Viceroy of Chihli has been invested with full powers to conduct final negotiations with the French, and the aspect of affairs at present is pacific.

Hsü Ching-ch'êng, a scholar of high literary attainments, formerly nominated to Japan, is Imperially appointed Ambassador to France, in the place of Marquis Tsêng, whose post is to be temporarily filled by Li Fêng-pao, Chinese Ambassador at Berlin. Ma Kien-chung is also to proceed to France as Vice-Minister.

8th May.

Li Hung-chang has memorialised the Empress, strongly urging the necessity of making peace with France. On receipt of the Memorial, the Empress called together the Prince of Ch'un, Prince Po (the son of San-ko-lin-sin), Têng Ch'êng-hsiu, Liu En-pu, and others—twenty-eight in all—to deliberate upon the subject. Their decision was unanimous in condemnation of the proposal of the Viceroy.

Peking, 8th May.

The following appointments were gazetted this morning:—

Wu Ta-ch'êng, to assist in the duties of Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports.

Chên Pao-chên, to assist in the duties of Superintendent of Trade for the Southern Ports.

Chang P'ei-lun, to assist in the coast defence of Fukien. All these officers are accorded the right of direct address to the Throne.

A SPLIT IN THE OPPOSITION.

London, 9th May.

There is an open breach between the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord Randolph Churchill, the latter wishing to reorganize the Conservative Party on a popular representative basis.

THE ORIENTAL BANK.

The Oriental Bank depositors will probably receive 17s. 6d. in the pound.

10th May.

The solution of the Oriental Bank difficulty is maturing. A scheme is in preparation to form a new Bank and Estate Company in order to take over the property in Ceylon and Mauritius.

TROUBLE IN ZULULAND.

There has been a rising in Zululand. The British Resident has been attacked, and has asked for assistance.

London, 10th May.

THE BREACH HEALED.

The political difference between Lord Randolph Churchill and the Marquis of Salisbury has been arranged substantially in accordance with the views of the former.

T'ung-chou, 11th May, 11.30 a.m.

THE EMPRESS AND LI HUNG-CHANG.

The Empress has replied to the Memorial of Li Hung-chang, thoroughly approving of the views therein expressed. Her Majesty only urges him to have due regard to the *prestige* of China, and to ward off all dangers or calamities from the State.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 13th May.

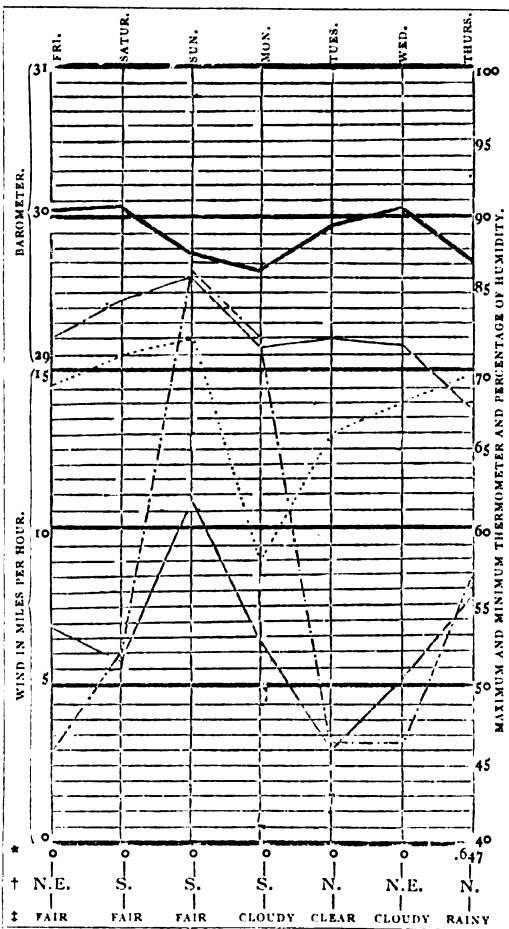
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

In the House of Commons, in the debate on Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's resolution, Mr. Gladstone said that the Government, in undertaking the rescue of General Gordon, could not, without consideration, overlook the fact that an expedition might involve much loss of life and a heavy expenditure of money, but that nevertheless all possible means would be employed for his protection.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 16TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 45.0 miles per hour on Monday, at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.127 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.479 inches on Monday, at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 76.0 on Sunday, and the lowest was 46.0 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 78.8 and 48.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.647 inches, against 0.266 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe,	via Hongkong. per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, May 27th.*
From Hongkong. per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, May 27th.†
From Shanghai,	Nagasaki, & Kobe	per M. B. Co. Thursday, May 29th.
From America ...	per P. M. Co.	Monday, June 2nd.‡
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co.		Monday, June 2nd.

* *Menzaleh* (with French mail) left Hongkong on May 20th.
† *City of Tokio* left Hongkong on May 21st. ‡ *City of Peking* left San Francisco on May 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via	Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, May 24th.
For Hakodate ...	per M. B. Co.		Monday, May 26th.
For Shanghai,	Kobe, and Nagasaki ...	per M. B. Co.	Thursday, May 29th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.		Friday, May 30th.
For Europe, via	Hongkong ...	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, June 1st.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.		Sunday, June 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), *yen* 3.38; First-class, *yen* 2.00; Third-class, *yen* 1.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

EXCHANGE.

In anticipation of lower rates Settlements during the week have been small, but to date quotations have been firmly maintained.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 % prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	90
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91

On the 22nd instant, a gentleman was robbed of a gold watch, worth 300 *yen*, in passing through the Shimbashi station.

Mr. Rudolf's lectures on the police system in Prussia have been printed in pamphlet form by the Metropolitan Police Bureau. Mr. Rudolf began his addresses on the 16th of last month, and they have, and will continue to be printed as soon as delivered. These pamphlets are for private circulation only, and will not be sold to the public.

In the old feudal days, the eight provinces to the east of Hakone were noted for their military strength, but, now-a-days, the inhabitants are more sluggish and inactive than those of any other provinces. Many enterprising persons intend holding a mass meeting in the capital, with a view to instilling a more enterprising spirit into these degenerate descendants of the warriors of olden times.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,348, Pomeroy, 17th May,—London via Hongkong 10th May, Mails and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 17th May,—Hakodate 14th and Oginohama 16th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 18th May,—San Francisco 26th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Claymore, British steamer, 1,667, Gulland, 18th May,—Nagasaki 15th May, Coals.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Earl Koenig, German bark, 456, A. Nauseh, 18th May,—Kobe 16th May, 11,200 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 18th May,—Kobe 16th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 18th May,—Takao 2nd May, 6,700 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, Adair, 18th May,—Kobe 15th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 1,717, D. Davies, 18th May,—Nagasaki 15th May, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 19th May,—Kobe 16th May, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 19th May,—Hongkong 10th May via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 20th May,—Yokkaichi 18th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sakai Maru, Japanese steamer, 151, Nakayama, 20th May,—Shimidzu 19th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 21st May,—Yokkaichi 18th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 21st May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,243, J. Thomas, 23rd May,—London via Hongkong 15th May, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Okuma, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi 21st May, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 23rd May,—Shimidzu 21st May, General.—Seishinsha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 23rd May,—Shimidzu 21st May, General.—Seiriusha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Toyoshima, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi 21st May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi 21st May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsakai Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Shiroka, 23rd May,—Sagara 21st May, General.—Fukudasha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 23rd May,—Shimidzu 20th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 23rd May,—Kobe 21st May, General.—Seiriusha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 23rd May,—Hakodate 20th and Oginohama 22nd May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 23rd May,—Yakitsu 22nd May, General.—Handasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 23rd May,—Toba 21st May, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583 Du Temple, 18th May,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 18th May,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 326, Okuma, 18th May,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,996, Steedman, 19th May,—Niigata, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 19th May,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Essex, American corvette (6), Commander A. H. McCormick, 20th May,—Kobe.

Hermann, German bark, 465, M. Traulsen, 20th May,—Newchwang, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 20th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 802, J. Adair, 20th May,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 21st May,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Marie, German bark, 465, M. Ipland, 21st May,—Guam, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 10th May,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,148, Haines, 21st May,—Havre Hamburg and London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 21st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Lucia, British bark, 640, C. Crowley, 22nd May,—Newchwang, Ballast.—H. MacArthur.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 22nd May,—Yakitsu, General.—Handasha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 22nd May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 22nd May,—Yokosuka Docks, Ballast.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Dzukay Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 23rd May,—Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisen Kwaisha.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,348, Pomroy, 23rd May,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Okuma, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Minoura, 23rd May,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 23rd May,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Toyoshima, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 23rd May,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu M. S.S. Bishi Co.

Tsakai Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Shiroka, 23rd May,—Sagara, General.—Fukudasha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 23rd May,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hokodate:—Messrs. Fukunaga, Kasano, and Hashiguchi in cabin; and 59 Japanese in steerage. From Oginohama: Messrs. Miyoshi, Yagami, and Iijima in cabin; and 53 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. H. Page and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. Amsden, Mr. and Mrs. John O'Dell, Miss J. Carpenter, Messrs. J. Ziegler, Jos. H. Lyon, J. H. Jewett, E. Dun, Amos Marshall, Ichiro Murata, B. Nanjo, Shigeta, and Ewata in cabin. For Nagasaki: Judge Flandran and Judge W. Wilkins in cabin. For Shanghai: Messrs. E. A. Brigg and J. Calder in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Lindsay and 2 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain James, Mr. Jensen and 12 Japanese in cabin; and 159 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Hon. and Mrs. Lanstart, Mr. and Mrs. Coughtrie, Mrs. and Miss Domoney, Mrs. Gale, Mrs. Thurburne, Miss Daniells, Sir George Phillippo, Lieut. Brownlow, Mr. Prior and servant, Messrs. MacIver, Lyall, Mitford, Boskenery, Wallace, Graham, Schlichter, MacHette, Denny, Christian, and Sue Lung-wain in cabin; and 1 European, 25 Japanese, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—66 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakai Maru*, from Shimidzu:—4 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—74 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Count and Countess Noidanscaiff,

family and servant, Governor Matsumoto, Dr. Baelz, Messrs. Wm. Thompson, P. Grillo, Garberoghi, M. Mariani, Ando, Shiba, and Goto in cabin; Mr. Harter's European servant and Mr. Wallace's European servant in 2nd class; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 90 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Shimidzu:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—36 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—63 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsakai Maru*, from Sagara:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shimidzu:—21 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—33 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama.—Mr. Kano in cabin; and 103 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Yakitsu:—8 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Toba:—8 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Lohmann, Messrs. R. Sanders, Steinacker, Smolik, F. MacFarlane, K. Nagai, S. Tejiwo, J. Murai, K. Majima, and G. Mayekawa in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, for Hachinohe:—Mr. K. Yokoyama in cabin; and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. and Mrs. Hasegawa, Messrs. M. Horibe, C. Soku, S. Horibe, N. Soku, M. Tsukiyama, Y. Okada, and S. Maruoka in cabin; and 59 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. H. Yogo and 1 Russian in cabin; and 55 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Lindsay and 2 children, and Mr. and Mrs. John Odell in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Sugiura and son, Miss Cobden, Dr. Harris, Captain Fukui and 3 officers, Messrs. J. D. Carroll, H. Gribble, J. Ralder, J. Ziegler, H. MacArthur, P. C. Julbert, C. J. Strome, W. E. Drummon, G. Sale, Mayeda, Nanjo, Itakura, Fujisaki, Obano, and Sato in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 20 bales.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Sugar, 4,582; Yarn, 946; Sundries, 2,524.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$224,000.00

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 14th May, at 10 a.m. with moderate S.E. winds high sea, and rainy and foggy weather to Cape Okiori; thence fresh S.W. breeze and clear weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 15th, at 0.30 p.m., and left on the 16th, at 6 a.m. with fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 17th May, at 10.35 a.m.

The British steamer *Arabic*, Captain Pearne, reports leaving San Francisco on the 26th April, at noon with fine weather and smooth water throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 18th May, at 3.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Breconshire*, Captain J. Thomas, from Hongkong, reports having experienced strong wind and heavy head sea up to the 18th May; thence strong N.W. gale and high beam sea to the 20th, 21st, and 23rd; thence hard gale and high mountainous confused sea to Sagami.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 20th May, at 10.30 a.m. with strong S.W. winds accompanied by hail and rain squalls to Siroya Saki; thence same winds and fine weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 21st, at 12.30 p.m., and left on the 22nd, at 6 a.m. with light northerly wind and cloudy weather which at noon increased to a fresh gale with much rain to Inuboye; thence to port light northerly wind and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd May at 11.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Dealers report all the country Markets inactive in consequence of the attention required by the crops as usual at this season of the year.

COTTON YARN.—A few small sales of Bombays have been reported at a slight reduction, but for English spinnings there has been hardly any enquiry, and quotations are nominal, the firmer tone of the Manchester Market having meantime strengthened holders.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—The business in all articles has been extremely small without any change in prices.

WOOLLENS.—Considerable sales of Mousselines have been reported, but there has not been much done otherwise.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	23.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

No addition by fresh arrivals has been made to the Stock of 770,000 cases reported last week, but deliveries have been moderate at late rates, and the market is not strong at the close, quotations remaining unaltered.

	PER CASE.
Devoc	\$1.70
Comet	1.64
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

Except for Formosas, which have declined, prices remain unaltered, although all kinds show a downward tendency. Sales continue small, a few thousand bags Formosa Brown having changed hands at the quotation given below. Stocks are heavy.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	2.75 to 2.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 16th instant, since which date there has again been nothing done, and the Settlement list is once more a total blank. Arrivals have come in to some extent, chiefly *Filature* and *Kakeda* sorts; the Stock now standing at 1,140 piculs.

The situation remains much as last advised, but more intensified. Buyers hold persistently aloof, and are strengthened in their position by the continued good news anent the crops in this and other

countries. Advices from home side show declining Markets there; in Europe prices wilt under the influence of favorable weather for the new *récolte*, while in New York the recent financial troubles have more or less affected the views of purchasers there. Crop reports all round are good. In Japan all goes well; the worms have safely passed the fourth stage in some of the lowland provinces, and cocoons are expected towards the end of the month, with hand-musters of New Hanks by the 10th of June. Advices from Italy report all well there; and the latest news from Shanghai informs us that in spite of threatened *pebrine* there will be about 60,000 bales available for Export during the season 1884-1885. All these things combined make dealers very anxious, and some of them show a marked desire to realise. In some cases they have reduced their asking prices considerably; in others they simply ask for offers, but, so far, without eliciting any response.

There would appear to have been no buying at all for the last French mail steamer: the native dealer mentioned last week (as having sent 17 bales to New York) again appears as chief shipper, sending the fine size of his *Filature* to Lyons. We have reduced some quotations and withdrawn others, but with actual business in hand could undoubtedly purchase at lower rates.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which left this port for Hongkong direct on Sunday, the 18th inst., carried 20 bales for France (17 being on Japanese account). The Export to date now stands at 29,375 bales, against 26,973 bales last year, and 19,713 bales at same date in 1882.

Hanks.—Nothing to report; the parcels in Yokohama are held in strong hands, and dealers refuse to sell at very low prices, asserting their willingness to wait the final result of the crops both here and in Europe. We have withdrawn quotations in this class, it not being likely that business will result before the new staple arrives.

Filatures.—Some further supplies have come in, but no sales have been effected. Some holders are getting very uneasy, and, while reducing their asking prices considerably, profess their willingness to report still lower offers. *Nihonmatsu* now asks \$680, *Tokosha* \$660, and others in proportion.

Re-reels.—No fresh arrivals of any consequence: there are a few bales of *Stork*, *Tortoise*, and *Five Girl* chops, but they fail to attract attention.

Kakedas.—Stock increased by some few piculs: buyers talk of low prices, but holders do not press their goods, although they profess themselves anxious to sell at a reasonable figure.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3½	Nominal
Filatures—Extra	\$670 to 680
Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 620
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	615 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 23rd May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,214	13,736	9,993
America	9,522	9,053	6,271
England	2,639	4,179	3,449
Total	29,375	26,973	19,713

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more done in this department, and Settlements reach the moderate total of 150 piculs. Buyers again enquire for certain descriptions which do not now exist; and prices for anything decent are well maintained. The Export falls off; demand from home Markets is reported to be good, and consumption increasing; so that native dealers are firm in their demands, and generally succeed in getting what they ask.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which sailed on the 18th instant, carried 92 bales for Europe. These shipments bring the Total Export up to 23,291 piculs, against 24,057 piculs last year, and 24,714 piculs at same date in 1882. Arrivals have been on a fair scale for the time of year, and the Stock is now 650 piculs.

Noshi-ito.—About 40 piculs have found buyers on the basis of \$85 for Ordinary *Foshu* Assorted. A few bales *Tomiyoka* Filature are on the market; but the price asked is beyond the ideas of purchasers altogether. There are enquiries for Medium *Filatures*, but none to be found.

Kibiso.—Settlements are returned as 90 piculs, embracing *Oshiu* at \$108½; *Koshu*, \$85; *Foshu*, \$33 and \$28. A few *Filatures* done on the basis of \$117½ for second quality.

Mawata.—Unexpectedly, about 90 piculs have come in from the interior. These have not been sampled as yet, but are understood to be worth about \$170.

Sundries.—Nothing done except in *Neri*; of this 20 piculs have been settled at from \$11 to \$14 uncleaned.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshiu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 23rd May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	21,090	20,856	20,476
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,201	4,238
	23,291	24,057	24,714

Exchange.—Quotations are reported much the same as last week, but generally irregular; with an appearance only of strength. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits and Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have declined to 109½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock, 23rd May, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	550		Pierced Cocoons	13
Filature & Re-reels	320		Noshi-ito	127
Kakeda	160		Kibiso	320
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100		Mawata	90
Taysam Kinds	10		Sundries	100
Total piculs	1,140		Total piculs	650

TEA.

There has been an increasing activity in our Tea Market within the last five days, and purchases, since our last Market Report are reported as 13,780 piculs, the great bulk being Teas grading Fine and Finest kinds. During the first two days of the interval there was a tendency to lower prices for parcels with no specially attractive quality, but in consequence of large purchases on the 19th instant, a firmer Market for all descriptions has resulted, and our previous quotations for all grades are repeated and fully maintained up to the 22nd instant. Since that time receipts have been more liberal and the Market has now become easier. The total settlements as given below will show how active the Market has been during the interval now under review. Receipts from the country during the six days of the past week were only 12,150 piculs as compared with 14,101 piculs during the preceding year in 1883. On the 17th inst., we had Tea in Stock estimated at 5,500 piculs, and on the 21st inst. only 1,500 piculs, against 4,300 piculs in 1883. Last Thursday receipts from the country (most of which were kept back on account of inclement weather) were 5,300 piculs, and in consequence of these heavy arrivals, we have now a Stock on hand of 6,300 piculs as compared with 3,600 piculs at the corresponding week last year. The following is a list of various grades of Tea settled in Yokohama, during the past week:—Medium, 440 piculs; Good Medium, 3,080 piculs; Fine, 4,200 piculs; Finest, 3,765 piculs; Choice, 1,835 piculs; and Choicest, 400 piculs, making in all settled for the week 13,780 piculs purchased. The next Pacific Mail steamer, which is advertised to leave for San Francisco on the 30th inst., will take Tea at 4 cents. per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada. The freight to San Francisco will be the same. The Market closes steady, and following are the quotations now ruling:—

QUOTATIONS.

Medium	\$18 to 20
Good Medium	22 to 23
Fine	24 to 26
Finest	27 to 30
Choice	32 to 36
Choicest	39 & up'ds.

E. P. & W. BALDWIN,

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For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—
Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.
Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

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May 1st, 1883.

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YOKOHAMA, MAY 31ST, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 31ST, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AN Accountants' School has been established in the War Department.

It has been decided to carry the Nakasendo railway from Ogaki to Yokkaichi.

THE railway between Sekigahara and Ogaki was opened for traffic on the 25th instant.

THE Conferences on Treaty Revision will commence at the Foreign Office, Tokiyo, in a few days.

A SCHEME for illuminating the streets of Kiyoto with electric light, at an estimated cost of 50,000 yen, is nearly matured.

THE draft of the new Commercial Code is said to have been completed, and submitted to the *Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku* for revision.

RECENT statistics show that the total number of temples in Tokiyo is 3,325, of which 234 are Shinto and the remainder Buddhist.

MR. SHIODA, formerly Assistant Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office, has been appointed an attaché of the *Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku*.

WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant, being the anniver-

sary of the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress, various celebrations took place at the Palace.

THE Financial estimates for the fiscal year 1884-5 make the revenue 75,982,969 yen, being an increase of 376,910 yen as compared with last year.

SEVERAL prominent Japanese residents of Yokohama have decided to establish a branch of the Central Private Sanitary Association at that place.

A MEMORIAL addressed by the British Missionaries of Tokiyo and Yokohama to H.B.M. Minister on the subject of treaty revision has been published.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Council of State making it illegal to catch seals or sea-otters throughout the Hokkaido without special permission.

A SILVER mine has been discovered near the village of Tsugido, in the province of Yamato, and a copper mine, near the village of Hanagi in Bitchiu.

MR. GEORGE DOMONEY, a well known store-keeper of Yokohama and Kobe, committed suicide at the former place on the morning of the 27th instant.

APPLICATIONS for the second issue of railway bonds are said to be coming in rapidly. Nearly three millions (yen) have been taken up in Tokiyo, and the amount subscribed in the provinces is reported to be four millions.

A PHILANTHROPIC association, called the *Kiyofu-kwai*, has been organized in Kiyoto, and will commence operations by providing employment for indigent criminals on their release from prison, and support for deformed children.

THE shareholders of the Tokiyo Rice Exchange, having suffered some losses owing to injudicious transactions in public loan-bonds, have elected a new board of directors consisting of Messrs. Shibusawa, Yonekura, Okura, Masuda, and Hayashi.

IT is stated that the Korean Government has established a hospital for the treatment of patients in Western fashion at Tong-nai Fu, and that the dispensary will be under the superintendence of a Dutch employé of the Japanese Hospital at Nagasaki.

A NOTIFICATION of the Council of State sanctions the issue of convertible bank-notes by the Bank of Japan. The notes are to be of seven dimensions, viz., one yen, five yen, ten yen, twenty yen, fifty yen, 100 yen, and 200 yen, and are to be exchangeable for specie at the Bank of Japan or any of its branches.

H.E. HOSOKAWA, President of the *Genro-in*, two members of the same body, six members of the *Sanji-in*, and Mr. Terashima, an attaché of the *Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku*, have been appointed a Committee for the compilation of the regulations concerning companies, corporations, and the like. Ten members of the *Sanji-in* have been appointed a Committee for the compilation of the Commercial Code.

NOTES.

UNDER the very sensational heading of "A Japanese murdered by an American Mob," the *Fiyu Shimbun* reverts to the recent unfortunate episode at Ogden, U.T., in very strong terms. "The *San Francisco Bulletin*," says the *Fiyu*, "reports the murderous uprising of an American mob at Ogden, on the 20th of April. It seems that a Japanese who had been in the employ of a restaurant in that city got into a dispute with the proprietress of the house, and, in a fit of uncontrollable fury, shot four times at the woman. He was immediately arrested and imprisoned, but—without any semblance of a trial, and without waiting for a sentence—a mob broke into the jail where he was incarcerated and hanged him at once. What will our countrymen say to this? In Europe and America, as well as in our own country, it follows as a matter of course that persons undergoing a preliminary judicial examination—regardless of the nature of the crime they may have committed—are not, nor can they be, regarded as criminals until they are sentenced by competent tribunals. Such suspects are not at all to be confounded with actual convicts. Yet did American citizens not only unlawfully break into a jail in which a Japanese suspect was incarcerated, but forcibly hanged him in open defiance of the law. We cannot call this deed by any name other than that of deliberate murder. Had such an event taken place in this country, there is no telling how the severe representations of the British or American Governments would have embarrassed our Courts. Think only of the sequel to the murder of Richardson at Namamugi. The ruffianly deed of one single man involved the Japanese Government in a situation of the gravest responsibility. For what the mob did at Ogden the United States must be responsible, and our Government ought not to delay in taking up the matter. Japanese subjects resident in the United States are under the direct protection of that Government. Did not Japan send an expedition of 3,000 men to that island of savages, Formosa, simply in order to chastise the insular barbarians for having killed certain seamen from Riukiu? Intelligent human beings dare not take life with impunity. The present instance calls for a far stronger remonstrance than did the Taiwan affair, inasmuch as the people of the American Republic boastingly call themselves the most civilized nation of the globe. Thirty-five million Japanese look towards the proceedings of their Government with the keenest interest." We recognize in this paragraph the unfortunate outcome of a somewhat violent criticism which the Ogden episode evoked, a few days ago, from one of our local contemporaries. While no law can defend the action of the mob at Ogden, the *Fiyu Shimbun* is utterly at fault in drawing a parallel between this event and the memorable Richardson murder. In the latter case, the life of a peaceful, unoffending man was taken, while the present instance offers an example of speedy retribution for a horrible crime. Both a

undeniably illegal, but surely the hanging of the Japanese at Ogden was attended with extenuating circumstances. The *Yiyu* has evidently overlooked the fact that the woman shot died the next morning from her wounds. As an interesting fact, we are permitted to mention that two legal gentlemen who have just passed through Yokohama, were in Ogden the day after the Japanese had been lynched. They heard a full and clear statement of the case, and are of the opinion that the murder was of the most cold-blooded and horrible description. The Japanese had been for some time in the service of the restaurant, and seems to have been a sturdy and stubborn fellow. For some reason or other he was discharged, and this led him to resolve to revenge himself. Entering the room of the proprietress of the establishment, he fired five shots at her, all of which took effect. At first she attempted to run for help, but the murderer followed and brought her to the ground. The shots attracted the attention of the passers-by, the police were called in, and the Japanese arrested without much trouble. And now it would be well to remember that Ogden is an out-of-the-way place in a thinly populated district, where only a few years ago the Vigilantes, a sort of mounted constabulary, were the sole dispensers of law and justice. In the very heart of the region where even horse-stealing, until recently, was a capital offence, a murder of a most aggravated type was committed. In the days of 1848-58, "Judge Lynch's" law was the sole standard of justice; prisons there were not; desperadoes abounded. There was often a mere farce of judicial investigation in case of crime, and still oftener no investigation at all when the crime was of a serious description. Immediate execution, either by hanging or the ubiquitous revolver, was almost the sole punishment in the legal code. Happily these are things of the past, although certain of the south-western States still preserve their pristine contempt for anything approaching a civilized Court. The spirit of those days has by no means died out, despite forcible modifications. There can be no possible question but that, had the murderer in this case been an American, an Englishman, or of any other nationality, exactly the same fate would have befallen him. That he was a Japanese had absolutely nothing to do with the actions of the mob; and this is a point which cannot be too much emphasized. Nothing can possibly do away with the illegality of the deed, but it was vastly different from the Richardson episode. Justice too often miscarries in the United States, and the citizens of the Republic are doubly disposed to take matters into their own hands for this reason, especially "out West." The great Cincinnati riots were but the outcome of a flagrant miscarriage of the law. Rough men have rough codes, but they frequently touch the truth, for all that. In the Western States, the population outside of the immediate urban districts may very justly be designated "rough," and their legal instincts, or rather their discrimination between right and wrong, have a touch of the prehistoric nature. A wrong is not the worse settled, in their judgment, for being attended to at once. That the *Yiyu Shimbun*, or any other representative of the vernacular press, should express indignation at the Ogden affair is but natural, but it is more than unwise to stir up the public by illogical deductions and faulty parallels. The question rests solely in hands other than those of the

public at large, and it is to be hoped that the regrettable occurrence will not lead to a diplomatic controversy.

PROFESSOR M. KONDO, the well known scholar, has compiled a dictionary of the Japanese language, which is now in process of publication. It will be issued in five volumes, containing in all 1,400 pages. Judging by the specimen page which now lies before us, the dictionary promises to prove an important auxiliary to the labours of the *Kana no Tomo*, a society formed, as our readers will doubtless remember, for the purpose of gradually abolishing Chinese ideographs from every-day use in Japan, and substituting for them the simple Japanese syllabary. The dictionary may be said to be wholly in phonetic spelling, for though the corresponding Chinese character is given under each word, the explanations, the words themselves, and the occasional rules of syntax are entirely in *Kana*. The work is to be called "*Kotoba no Sono*," or the garden of language. It will be published by subscription, the number of subscribers being limited to 700 and the price being two *yen*. The prospectus directs intending subscribers to forward, before the last day of this month (May), a sum of one *yen* to the office of the publishers, Messrs. Midzuhaya, Nihon-bashi, Honcho, Sancho, and to pay the remaining *yen* in five monthly instalments of 20 *sen* each during the following months. The money may, of course, be sent in one sum if convenient. It is difficult to judge the merits of such a work from two or three specimen pages, more especially as those forwarded for examination are not well selected for the purpose. Mr. Kondo's name, however, is sufficient guarantee that the dictionary will take high literary rank, and we do not doubt that it will prove most valuable as a means of facilitating the study of Japanese. Something of the sort was much needed. Hitherto we have had no pure *Kana* dictionary, but only books giving the Japanese sounds and meanings of Chinese ideographs, or *vice versa*; and the result has been that the mass of the people have been virtually without a serviceable lexicon of any sort. We regard it as in the last degree improbable that Mr. Kondo's venture will lack support, though it is more than likely that a great many persons will be disappointed in their attempt to obtain a copy of the first edition.

ACCORDING to a recent contribution to the French Academy of Sciences by M. Grandidier, the existing maps of Madagascar are very erroneous. The island really consists, as shown by the author's explorations, of two distinct parts; the eastern region, which is occupied by a massive mountain chain, and the western region, which is flat. The mountain chain covers three-fifths of the island, and rises rapidly to a height of 1,500 metres, and presents on the top the aspect of a sea of mountains with narrow glens between and the beds of dried-up lakes. The middle plateaux of the island shown by the charts has no existence. After traversing these highlands for forty leagues or so, the traveller abruptly descends into the western plain. The watercourses take their rise much nearer the eastern than the western coasts of the island. A band of forest country several leagues wide completely encircles the island near the coasts like a belt, leaving herbaceous plants and groves of woodland to cover the space between it and the sea. Another belt of timber runs parallel to

this. The region of highland country inclosed by this forest tract, that is to say, about two-thirds of the surface of the island, is denuded of trees, and covered only with thick grass; the plains on the west and south are strewn with clumps of trees. The general belief that immense forests completely clothe the island of Madagascar is therefore very wide of the truth. —*Engineering*.

PARTICULARS have reached us, says the *Yiyu Shimbun*, of recent outrages at Kanragori, Gumma Prefecture. It appears that, on the 15th instant, a gang of gamblers who infested Miyogi-yama made a raid on a small village at the base of the mountain. They entered nearly all of the houses in the village, and carried away all the rifles, spears, swords, and other weapons they could find. Towards midnight, a band of some 200 desperadoes fired on the village of Kambara, and then fled up the mountain. Early next morning they broke into the residence of one Okamura, at the village of Nibu, discharged their guns at random, despite the remonstrances of a few constables, and afterward set fire to the house. Having done this, they retired uttering loud shouts. The police force of the nearest stations soon reached Miyogi-yama and captured four of the ring-leaders, whereupon the mob dispersed. It is supposed that the severity of the local usurers had much to do with the outbreak, for no less than thirty villages had vainly petitioned the Court to stand between them and a notorious money-lender named Okabe. Many of the residents in the vicinity have since been declared bankrupt.

THE development of silk manufacture as a domestic industry in Switzerland has been marked, and accounts for the persistent efforts making in Tennessee, Kansas, California, Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and other States of the Union to develop a similar industry here. A recent report says that not less than 60,000 persons are engaged in the industry in Switzerland, "and most of them in their own homes." Two years ago statistics showed that Zurich alone had 33,000 looms, of which 3,000 were power looms. At Basle the ribbon industry occupies 6,300 looms, with 12,000 workmen. About 10,000 of the looms working for Zurich are in other cantons. The total silk production of Switzerland is valued at about \$17,000,000. Less than one-third of the product comes to the United States. —*Bradstreet's*.

THE Government, as will be seen by Notification No. 16 of the Council of State, has at last prohibited the hunting of seals and otters throughout the Hokkaido. This step had long been expected. The only pity is that it was not taken long ago, while there were still some seals and otters to preserve. The result of all these years of inveterate and unrestrained poaching is that the animals have been completely driven away from many of their favourite haunts. It will be interesting to observe what measures the authorities propose to adopt for the enforcement of their prohibition. They have a difficult task before them if they intend to employ gunboats to police the northern coast against the fleet of swift little schooners whose owners have long been carrying on their plundering trade with impunity, and will now regard a Japanese proclamation with the most supreme indifference. Probably the best plan the Government could

pursue would be to farm out the whole district, and let the farmers adopt their own precautions. Under any circumstances there will be no little difficulty in preserving the fisheries, and unless the Government intends to be more resolute and spirited about this matter than it has hitherto showed itself in every case where foreigners were concerned, the Notification of the Council of State had better not have been published at all.

THE change in the Nakasendo Railway scheme, as announced by Notification No. 17 of the Council of State, is important, in that it appears to indicate a resolve, on the part of the Government, to refrain from granting any more railway concessions to private persons. It is known that a line from Ogaki to Yokkaichi was projected, some time ago, by an association of local capitalists. Such a road would, beyond all question, have proved highly profitable, and the difficulties of construction are very trifling. Rumour said that the necessary funds were forthcoming, and that the concession had been applied for, but whether or no the project had been carried so far, it is now evident that the Government means to keep this branch of the main line, and probably all the other branches too, in its own hands, so far at any rate as the construction is concerned. Foreign experts, almost without exception, are known to have counselled that plan, and there can be no doubt that it presents many advantages.

MR. HENRY GEORGE, says a London paper, in the observations he made at the farewell "ovation" given to him by his admirers in the metropolis, said that "the two most absurd things which had struck him in England were the gates near the Euston terminus, maintained by the Duke of Bedford, as he believed, for the purpose of making people lose their trains, and that gilded cage in the House of Commons in which ladies were kept." It must be admitted that as regards the private gates and bars in the metropolis and the accommodation for ladies in the House of Commons, there is some room for improvement; and it is probable that before many years have passed arrangements will be made for placing these matters upon a more comfortable footing. It is, however, on the whole satisfactory, and to the credit of this country, that before leaving it after a highly critical visit, Mr. George should thus place on record the fact that he has been able to find no greater absurdities in it than the gates near the Euston Station and the ladies' gallery in the House of Commons. If these are our principal grievances, there is not much ground for grumbling, and the evils complained of may probably be remedied by less drastic methods than those involved in a land nationalization scheme.

At the conclusion of a lecture recently delivered in the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, by the Rev. C. S. Eby, the lecturer, told his audience that among other consequences of a course of lectures concluded a year before in the same place, he had received a number of letters from Japanese students asking him how the international policy of Christian nations could be reconciled with the moral principles which he and his fellow-teachers preached; principles of which the whole spirit was professedly contained in the maxims, "Love your neighbour as yourself, and do unto others as you would they should do unto you." Mr. Eby said that, while desirous to avoid, as

far as possible, any incursion into the domain of politics, he felt that to evade these questions would be at once unfair to the cause he represented, and discourteous to his enquirers, who, as thinking men, had a valid title to compare the results of the morality they were asked to accept with the precepts it inculcated. He proposed, therefore, to state briefly, and with whatever measure of impartiality he could command, the aspects of this international problem as they present themselves with reference to Japan's case especially. Taking up the subject in the sequence of his lecture, the speaker then continued as follows:—

And now, such being the fundamental principles of Christianity, principles which aim at uniting man to man, family to family, people to rulers, nation to nation, by bonds of love and mutual help—it is a proper question to ask, do these principles actuate any class of people? do they lie at the basis of political law? do they guide international intercourse? The answer cannot be given in simple, "yes," or "no." You see, Christianity is not a body of political or international laws, but works through individual hearts and lives. As individuals increase who are inspired by the Christ-like spirit, society will become guided by these principles; gradually they will mould the laws of the land, and last of all will become the basis of international intercourse. Now there are myriads of people whose lives are guided by these principles; in many places society is guided by them, but not perfectly, because of so many individuals who are otherwise minded. There are some nations whose laws are very much assimilated to these principles, but there is not yet a perfectly Christian nation in the world. The whole thing must work up gradually like leaven until the mass is leavened.

It would take a long lecture to explain the facts which show how Christianity has already wrought as a moulding social and political factor in the world's development, while as yet that development is imperfect. I will give to-day only one or two instances, to show. 1. That so-called Christian nations are not yet really Christian. 2. That they are, nevertheless, elevated by Christian principle, which is leading them to still higher developments. One of my critics, for instance, tells me that Spain is the most Christian country, and that she forbade all books nearly but the Bible. Now the fact is that Spain, for many years, has borne the name Christian, but it is a strange mistake which says that the Bible was the only book free in the land. The truth is that for centuries, and until a very few years ago, the Bible was the book above all others that was absolutely forbidden in Spain. It was forbidden in Spain just as it was forbidden in Japan, and people who were found to have a Bible in Spain were treated by persecution, imprisonment, and death, precisely as in Japan. Now we cannot call Spain a Christian country during those years. Again, my critic refers to England's conquest of India, 100 or 80 years ago. A great many mistakes are made about the facts of that conquest, and whether it was right or not I am not going to discuss. But I want to remind you of one thing, that when England took charge of India, for a long time no Christian missionary was allowed to come to the land. The native religions were sustained, the only object was gain; and hence, while Christianity was kept out, you cannot surely charge the acts of those men to Christianity. It was the protest of Christianity that improved the Government of England in India and turned the conquest of selfishness and of politics into civilization and blessing for India, for no intelligent Indian would now wish to go back to what his country was before England came. Thus, you see, no nation has yet become wholly Christian.

But now let me give you an instance or two of cases where Christian principle has completely conquered the claims of selfishness in a nation. Your newspapers generally take it for granted that foreigners can be treated with only from the standpoint of self-interest and not from that of justice. But you are greatly mistaken, because your intercourse has been mostly with merchants whose great aim is of course to make money, but who do not represent the foreign people as a whole. Now for the illustration. When the continent of America was discovered, there were rich fields to be cultivated, rich mines to be worked, but no people to do the work. The American Indians were too weak and were insufficient. So the Europeans, who had opened America, imported strong negroes from Africa and made them slaves. For a long time the slave trade went on; millions of men were removed from Africa to the mines and fields of North and South America. No one thought it wrong for many years. At last the Christian Church, growing more like Christ, claimed the black man of England, denouncing the trade in men and women as sin. England was gaining hundreds of millions from it, but in obedience to the new conscience rising in the nation, she threw away the profit, and stopped the trade; other nations followed her example, and they placed men-of-war on the shores of Africa to prevent purely selfish men from carrying on the trade.

Nor was that all. As soon as the trade was stopped, the Christian conscience began to tell them that it was wrong to hold the slaves as property: the black men who were held as cattle must be made free men and brothers, and in response to this cry of England's better conscience, the Government paid \$75,000,000 to buy the slaves to set them free: not an act of selfish gain, but simply as a moral duty. Since then, every man of every race under the British flag is free. Other nations followed again. And in the great civil war of 25 years ago, in the United States of America, the vital inspiration of all the North was that it was an opportunity to kill slavery in the great Republic. They poured out the blood of a million men and untold treasure to set free slaves whose price was estimated at \$2,000,000,000.

Again, you tell me of England's supporting the trade in opium. But you must remember that Christian England is fighting by pen and platform, spending tens of thousands of money every year to put a stop to it. And its death is

only a question of time. England's conscience will soon make it cease. And now as regards treaty making and international intercourse with Japan. I am sure, since I tell you that I sympathize with Japan in this matter, you will listen to me quietly when I say a word or two to show that your greatest weapon to obtain what you desire is a little patience. I want to show you some of the difficulties in the way—difficulties which I believe, however, can be overcome. First of all, let me remind you that all your talk about international justice, etc., is entirely of Christian origin. What was there in the East of international law before foreigners came? China claimed all the nations of the Earth as tributaries, and I read in one of your Japanese books that the only use of the stars is to guide the ships of all the nations of the Earth, who if they knew their duty would bring tribute to the Emperor of Japan as the proper Lord of the whole earth. In the old times of the Roman Empire "might was right," and international intercourse meant conquest. If it had not been for the influence of Christianity in the West, which has become so strong within the last 200 years, all the East, China and Japan, would to-day be mere conquered provinces of some powerful European nation. Such was old international intercourse. But Christianity has taken the war of conquest mostly away, so that when a nation, as France in Annam, seeks a pretext to extend her territories by war, the rest of the world say "shame!" But the selfishness of men has not been cured, and instead of conquests of war, men to-day make conquests of commerce. They make treaties so as to gain as much money as possible. Against this you protest in Japan; against this the Christian world protests; and by patient protest and argument the right will gain the day and commerce will also become Christian, on the principle of reciprocal benefit.

And now just one word about exterritoriality.

As you find it necessary to-day to have exterritoriality in Korea, you all allow that it was also needed in Japan when Japan was first opened. The question simply is, if we look at it from a point of justice, have the circumstances in Japan so changed that exterritoriality may be wholly or partially removed? If so, Christian justice demands the removal. And I believe when England as a nation is shown the facts which make a just claim, England will not hesitate to accede to every just demand. Let me tell you a thing or two about England.

(1) What England does she does thoroughly. You know that England is the only nation which has law courts, consulates, &c., sufficient to carry out fully the stipulations in the treaty.

(2) England is conservative at home, does not make changes quickly, but when sure that a change is wise, she makes the reform once and for ever; no going back with her; and so in Japan, she is only waiting to look at every side to be sure which is right, and then what she does will be well done.

(3) Japan has given the world a problem to solve that is quite new in the world's history. No nation has ever changed so quickly. Remember, 25 years is a very small fraction of time in the history of a nation; other nations have taken centuries to do what you have done in decades. Of course you have had advantages which no others had. But the usual fate of nations that have changed so rapidly is extinction or decay. I do not think that is to be the experience of Japan, but the whole world asks, "Can Japan have become so permanently fixed in the modes of civilization as to have exterritoriality removed from foreign freemen? Many say it is impossible. It is not wonderful that England especially—whose interests in the East are equal to those of all other nations put together—should hesitate a little and ask for proofs. The hesitation of England arises, not from Christianity, but from caution. The present Government of England has shown in Afghanistan, in Africa, and elsewhere, that it wishes to act on the golden rule of national justice. And I believe England will soon satisfy the Japanese that that is her policy here.

Much depends on the young men of Japan. Even if England should give everything your Government desires, as I trust she may; that will not make Japan a great and civilized nation. Japan of ten years from now will be what you, the young men of to-day make it. If you grow in intellectual and moral and spiritual strength, Japan will grow stronger and better as the years go on. If you trust to commerce and intellect alone, to the neglect of moral and spiritual development, you will destroy both yourselves and your nation, which God forbid!

THE *Nation* says:—The riot in Cincinnati has, at all events, had the effect of stimulating the work of reforming the criminal procedure. The monstrous rule which enables the prisoner to exclude from his jury any one who has read about his crime in the newspapers, and has formed an opinion about it, has been abolished. The prisoner's twenty-three peremptory challenges have also been cut down to six, and the State's increased from two to four. In other words, the rights of the community in the prosecution of crime begin to be recognized. A blow should also be struck at technical objections. Most failures of justice occur through these. Judges ought not to be compelled to order new trials on points which the full bench does not consider to have any bearing on the merits of the case. The rapidity with which "goelism," whether practised by mobs or individuals, affects manners, was curiously illustrated by the performances of a man in Cincinnati on Monday week, who tried in vain to catch a street car after dark. Failing to overtake it or

to attract the attention of the conductor, he took out his revolver, and fired two shots at it. He probably reasoned somewhat in this way:—"The management of these car companies has long been intolerable. They run too few cars, and their conductors are negligent and insolent. This fellow is not looking out for passengers as he ought to be, or he would have seen me. Complaining of him at the office, even if I knew his number, would do no good, for they are all thieves together. The courts, too, are corrupt and sluggish. I must therefore revoke the powers which I have delegated to the officials of this State and city for my protection, and must stop this car in the natural way in which cars were stopped by primeval man before states were founded." So bang, bang went his pistol. It is a pity, almost, that he should have been arrested before the conductor and the passengers had dissolved *their* connection with the State, and begun to pepper him in self-defence.

Among other interesting items in the Korean correspondence of the *Fiji Shimpō* we note the following:—The Japanese Legation was removed to the residence of Fu-Yeiko on the 22nd of last April. It is a truly a magnificent edifice, covering an extensive tract of land, and second only to the King's Palace. On the 28th of last month, the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* had a very pleasant interview with the King, and was treated with signal courtesy. As a special favour, Mr. Shimamura received permission to inspect the Palace Gardens,—a privilege never before granted to any foreign ambassador, not even to the representative of China. The present King of Korea is a most assiduous student, and held to be a wise politician. He employs his whole time in serious occupations, and has the name of a just ruler. The six Japanese military students are making remarkably rapid progress in the Korean language. Two volumes, on the calendar and physical geography of the Hermit Kingdom, have been published by Mr. Takai and others, all residents of long standing and thoroughly familiar with Korean and Chinese literature. Since official bribery has become so common an occurrence, the Government has done all in its power to punish the acceptors of bribes. The usual method is to deprive the offender of all official rank and emoluments, and to scourge him well. The Governor of Chung-chhōng-do and another high official have already smarted under the rod. The Government will shortly commence the coinage of new specie, under the supervision of Mr. von Möllendorff. This gentleman will spend the summer months in China, in order to avoid the heat of Sōul; but rumour hints that his departure will be for good and that he intends resigning, as the late Ministerial changes and the rapid decline (?) of Li Hung-chang's popularity have made Mr. von Möllendorff's situation more irksome and unpleasant than ever.

THE *New York World* of the 19th ult., says:—The Newspaper Copyright bill was reported adversely in the Senate yesterday by Mr. Sherman, from the Library Committee. Nevertheless the bill was ordered to be placed on the calendar by a vote of the Senate. The news thieves who live by stealing the property of their neighbors will rejoice at the adverse report of the committee. It seems to promise that they will be enabled to continue their dishonest busi-

ness without the fear of the punishment awarded to other robbers. We do not know by what process of reasoning the committee concluded that the property a man has bought and paid for is not his own but may be appropriated by others. This is what their report means. It is not pretended that there can be property in news which is common to all. But a person might as well intercept, open and steal the contents of a telegraphic despatch containing news addressed to some other individual as steal the matter out of the owner's paper before the latter has had the advantage of his own publication. We wish we could hope that the Senate would yet pass the bill.

THE Italian papers are full of the praises of the new histrionic star, Sra. Leonora Duse-Checchi. From all accounts this talented young actress—she is but twenty-four years old—has taken the most critical audiences in Italy completely by storm. Up to the present, the Italian stage has been ruled by such famous actresses as Marini, Pezzana, and Tessero; but Sra. Checchi has signally triumphed over all rivals. Dumas' "Princess of Bagdad," with Pezzana and Tessero in the leading rôles was a dismal failure a few months ago; but the new *diva* has achieved most remarkable success in the same piece before almost the same audience. In Victorien Sardou's "Divorçons," "Dora," "Fedora," and in Dumas' well-known "Femme de Claude" Sra. Duse-Checchi has exhibited marvelous histrionic talent, and earned the title of the "Sarah Bernhardt of Italy." The great *artiste* is the only daughter of a strolling actor of little or no fame, and passed her early years in misery and want. Gifted with remarkable powers, she has also remarkable peculiarities, for she never appears on the stage without having three long pins thrust through her hair,—somewhat after the fashion of the Japanese—and is said to be morbidly superstitious. With all this, she appears to be extremely nervous and ever doubtful of her own successes, although her recent triumphs have more than established her claim to the first rank among actresses.

IF, as recent telegrams indicate, M. de Lesseps's opponents are determined to worry him, even in the law courts if they are not successful otherwise, the distinguished Frenchman may find his own countrymen more troublesome than his English customers. However, the board of directors are wisely following a firm policy in deciding, as they have, to definitely abolish at once all the special pilotage dues. If M. de Lesseps can propitiate his customers he need not fear a few noisy shareholders who exhibit a fondness for law. The opposition which is coming to a head again in regard to his other canal may have a more disturbing effect on M. de Lesseps, for it appears that negotiations are proceeding for the right to construct the Nicaragua Canal. The Suez Canal may have its internal troubles, but it has no competitor nor any likelihood of one, but on the Isthmus of Panama M. de Lesseps, for a blessing, has no *pouvoir exclusif*. Is it possible that a factious majority of smaller shipowners are giving trouble for the mere sake of making themselves heard? Something of the kind was talked of when MM. de Lesseps were here arranging terms of working the Suez Canal, and now the organ of the ship-owning class protests against deputing more than four or five owners to meet Mr. Chamberlain

at the proposed conference, lest their "little peculiar standpoints" will be put forward so much and so numerous as to give their arch-enemy a handle against the shipowning class as a whole. They are solidly against the new bill, but when it comes to suggestions for its alteration opinions vary widely.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A JAPANESE named Itakura died in Yokohama on the 27th instant from eating a poisonous fish. This fish, known popularly as the *fugu*, is sold privately to a considerable extent, and the price demanded is exorbitantly high. Several deaths occur annually from eating *fugu*, which is a favourite dish with Japanese gourmands. It seems that the poisonous qualities of the fish vary greatly with the season of the year, although certain parts are held to be always fatal. A similar, if not the same, fish is well-known along the Southern coast of China, and greatly feared by the natives, who believe that its appearance in their nets is a sure sign of ill-luck. The fish is known in Siam and India, and is found in most of the warm Eastern seas.

THE vernacular journals teem with correspondence from Korea, most of which, however, is of very little interest. The fact remains that the Hermit Kingdom is in well-nigh desperate commercial straits, and that the Government is totally unable to contrive a remedy for the present distress. The growing popularity of the Japanese is said to be a thorn in the flesh of the Chinese authorities, who seek, by fair means or foul, to impress the Koreans with their own overwhelming superiority. The Chinese troops in Sōul keep night and day at their target practice, and an uneasy feeling is abroad that they will take advantage of the small number of Japanese soldiers in the Legation. The year before last, the Japanese guard at the Legation numbered 500 men, but it has since been reduced to only one hundred and twenty. The *Shun-pao* of the fifth of last month had a paragraph headed "Recent Affairs in Korea," strongly condemning the present inclination towards Western civilization. "Ever since last November," says the *Shun-pao*, "has the Korean Government been under the influence of the Japanese. It has been publishing, evidently prompted by Japan, an official gazette once every ten days at the Printing Bureau, of which institution Kim Mansik, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, is the President. This journal eulogizes Western civilization and expresses contempt for China, while it cannot speak too highly of the Japanese. The Chinese in Korea are very indignant at all this." Although this cannot harm the Japanese to any great extent, it certainly proves that the Chinese bear them no over-great goodwill,—at least, so far as Korean affairs are concerned. Sham pictures have been posted on convenient walls in Sōul caricaturing the Japanese in the employ of the Korean Government.

ONE of the most popular of our London doctors, both in his profession and in society, is by nature exceedingly enthusiastic. Some little time ago he was much pleased with a certain aerated water, and by his assiduous recommendations of it to his patients and friends he secured for it quite a little celebrity, which it certainly justly deserved. The doctor acted solely in the interests of science and of humanity generally, and of course expected no recognition of his services from the company whom he

had so ably assisted. To his surprise, however, there came one morning a letter from the company full of the most effusive thanks. His recommendation had done them so much good, every one was patronising their beverage, and they "ventured to send him a hundred—". Here the page came to an end. "This will never do," thought the doctor before turning the leaf; "it is very kind of them, but of course I cannot accept anything." Here he turned the page, and found that the completed sentence did not run quite as he expected. The company "ventured to send him a hundred more circulars for distribution among his friends."—*Whitehall Review*.

THE following circular, signed by the local agents of the P. and O., the Messageries Maritimes, the "Blue Funnel" "Glen," "Castle," "Shire," and "Ben" lines of steamers, has been issued to the Shanghai shippers:—"Dear Sir,—To those exporters who confine their shipments of tea and general cargo from China to Europe (not including the Mediterranean and Black Sea ports) to the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s, O. S. S. Co.'s, Glen, Castle, Shire, and Ben Lines, and to the steamers *Oopack* and *Ningchow*, we shall be happy to allow a rebate of 5 per cent. on the freight charged. Exporters claiming the returns will be required to sign a declaration that they have not made, nor been interested in, any shipments of tea or general cargo to Europe (excepting the ports above-named) by other than the said lines. Shipments by the steamships *Albany*, *Pathan*, and *Ghazee* on their present voyages from Hankow will not prejudice claims for returns. Each Line to be responsible for its own returns only, which will be payable half yearly, commencing 30th October next. Shipments by an outside steamer at any of the ports in China, or at Hongkong, will exclude the firm making such shipments from participation in the return during the whole six-monthly period within which they have been made, even although its other branches may have given entire support to the above lines. The foregoing agreement on our part to be in force from present date till the 30th April, 1886."

THE London *Spectator* has an excellent article on the recent riots in Cincinnati. It describes the method of "squaring" a jury by bribing one of their number, who can then be either sentimental or conscientious. If, by some ingenuity, the Counsel for the defence can succeed in showing that "the victim had affronted or wronged some woman connected with the murderer," his rôle is easy, for his fellow-jurors are only too ready to sympathise with the alleged excuse. Failing this, or any other specious trick of evidence, the juror who has received a consideration can always plead a conscientious objection to capital punishment, when "he is held by his fellows to be a fanatic rather than a perjurer," and the twelve just judges agree to bring in a verdict of manslaughter. Doubtless the good folks of Cincinnati thought that some hocus-pocus of this sort had been going on, but it is difficult for outsiders to see how the *Spectator's* theory of bribery comes in,—involving, as it does, a large preliminary payment to a crack criminal lawyer,—considering that the offenders whose cases were the proximate cause of the disturbance were a precocious office-boy who confessed to having murdered his employer, and a negro who killed a whole family in order to sell their corpses as subjects for dissection. At all events, justice had seri-

ously miscarried; and the people of the United States, remarkably law-abiding as the masses have hitherto proved themselves, are evidently resolved to show their teeth if gross abuses disfigure their judicial systems. The *Spectator* gives an interesting table, showing that "Murder is the cause of death":—

In England.....	to 237	.....	per 10,000,000
In Belgium.....	to 240	.....	per 10,000,000
In France.....	to 265	.....	per 10,000,000
In Scandinavia.....	to 266	.....	per 10,000,000
In Germany.....	to 279	.....	per 10,000,000
In Ireland.....	to 294	.....	per 10,000,000
In Austria.....	to 310	.....	per 10,000,000
In Russia.....	to 323	.....	per 10,000,000
In Italy.....	to 504	.....	per 10,000,000
In Spain.....	to 533	.....	per 10,000,000
In the United States.....	to 820	.....	per 10,000,000

The *Spectator* concludes its article thus:—"Rioting is a bad thing, but it is difficult to despair of a community in which the working-classes will take up arms to secure sterner and more exact justice, and die before soldiers' rifles, under the inspiration of the cry that murderers shall be hanged. There must be something in such a people unfavourable to crime, and we will not despair yet of seeing the law made a terror to evil-doers, even though the evil-doers have money on their side. In Cincinnati, at all events, the people have become conscious of the great truth that the temptation of democracy is money-getting, and they may act on their new knowledge, and make bribery what it ought to be,—high treason against the State."

SPEAKING of German trade in Cochin China, the *Annales de l'Extrême Orient* has the following:—"One can justly state that French Cochin China is almost totally unknown in France. The reports of the German Consul at Saigon, as well as the blue book recently published by the Minister for the Colonies, more than amply prove this statement. The imports, although principally in the hands of British and Belgian merchants, are mostly of German manufacture. The German Consular report states, for instance, that the export of rice—which is destined to play no unimportant rôle in the future—is entirely under Chinese management; but it is certain, nevertheless, that Bremen vessels carry the rice out of the country to its chief destination, Russia. German ships have far more to do with French Cochin China than the whole merchant-fleet of France, and it is high time that this matter should receive the earnest attention of the authorities. The annual export of rice alone averages ten thousand bags."

THE Commercial School of Yokohama, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, was established in March, 1882, and is a most important institution as far as the education of the sons and employés of the local traders is concerned. Until a short time ago, it was attended by large numbers of students; but since the publication of the Conscription Regulations the School has ceased to be of such great attraction. The founders of the establishment are now about to apply to the Government for permission to make it an official institution.

AMONG the passengers by the last French mail steamer from Yokohama, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, were three Japanese police officials who are bound for Marseilles; they are Messrs. Y. Sonoda, Chief of the Police Cabinet of the Prefecture of Tokio; Mr. Ogawa, Chief Adjutant of the Second Division of Police of that prefecture, and S. Sugimoto, Chief Adjutant of

the First Division. These officers are on their way, under instructions from the Japanese Government, to France and England, to study the method and working of the police forces of those countries, with a view of re-organising the Japanese police force. Yesterday morning these officers, accompanied by Mr. G. Hirabe, of the Japanese Consulate, went over the Central Station, and Chief Inspector Horspool, explained to them the arrangements of the force. In the afternoon a visit was paid to the Gaol, where Mr. Falconer, the Acting Superintendent, showed them everything that was to be seen, and gave every explanation.

A MODERN writer, in expatiating upon the American custom of placing one's feet on some convenient mantel-piece or window-sill considerably above the level of the rest of the body, says that it embodies "that perfect ease which is the concomitant of so graceful a position, that utter disregard of things sublunary, and that subjective selfishness which is so often to be found in the best of characters." *Experto crede*.

THE Derby of 1884 has resulted in an unusual occurrence, a dead heat between St. Gatien and Harvester, Queen Adelaide third. The latest quotations received here would be seven weeks before the race, and in these days of post-betting there is not much done by the pencilers so long before the race. The three placed horses, however, were amongst the few animals backed so early as the Craven week, when Queen Adelaide, with the pride of place, was quoted at 10 to 1, whilst 100 to 7 could be had about Harvester, and St. Gatien found supporters at 1,000 to 25. Although the latter appears to be something of a "dark horse," it is not at all likely that he started anywhere in the "forties," but it will be some time before we shall be enlightened on that point.

ACCORDING to the *Kwampo*, the appointment of Hu King-ch'ing, Imperial Reader at the Hanlin College, as Minister to France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, and Austria, is confirmed by an Imperial Decree dated the 4th day, 4th month, 10 year of Kwang-hsü (April 29th, 1884). Hu King-ch'ing is promoted to the second rank of nobility. Li Fong-pao will represent the new Minister until his arrival. The *Peking Gazette* of the 4th instant announces that the Court places great confidence in T'so T'sung-tang, who has proved faithful and loyal. Some time ago his resignation of the Governorship of the two Kiang was accepted on account of his suffering from an eye-complaint, but now that he is restored to health he will be required to repair to Court.

A CORRESPONDENT of *St. James's Gazette* writes:—"The following statistics, which I gather from a recent issue of an American journal may perhaps prove interesting when considered in connection with the riots in Cincinnati. During the year 1883 there were 1,517 murders reported in the United States. In the same year there were only 93 legal executions, though there were 118 lynchings. Of course bare statistics are often fallacious; but the fact is significant that only one person out of every eighteen of those who kill a fellow-creature meets with the death which, by American law as by English, is laid down as the legal punishment for the offence. The fact that executions by the mob exceed by 25 per cent. those by law is still more significant: show-

ing that it is not only at Cincinnati that the public take the law into their own hands. Another piece of statistics may be worth quoting. In 1882 there were 1,206 reported murders; in 1883, 1,517. Does not this appear to show the criminal classes in America are becoming reckless through impunity?"

DESPITE of all successes in Tonquin, the Ferry-Waldeck-Rousseau Cabinet is far from having an easy life. Paris is quiet enough, and the Republican Party is largely in the majority; but in Anzin, Arrondissement Valenciennes, there are disturbances which may possibly have a disastrous effect throughout France: disturbances which menace the peace of no less than 32,000 inhabitants. Ever since 1717, Anzin, a well-known mining district, has been under the management of one rich, influential Company, superintended, in its turn, by six all powerful directors. In 1810, this Company had completely bought up all the land around Anzin. The present directors recently ordered the miners in the employ of the Company to keep all tunnels, shafts, subterranean roads, etc., of the mines in perfect condition, to assist in cleaning out all passages choked up by accumulated debris, and to bear full responsibility in managing all the underground machinery and other matter. All this was to be done without increase in wages. The very natural answer to this arbitrary demand was a widespread strike, in which even the *bourgeois* and a large portion of the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts took part. Yet this has failed to disturb the tranquillity of the six potentates; indeed, they seem rather pleased with the strike than not, and appear to have no objection to letting matters run on as they are for some time to come. It seems that there have been certain secret associations among the miners which the Company has ever viewed with distrust, the dissolution of which will be demanded before the terms of a peace can be concluded. Besides this, the strike offers a fitting opportunity to get rid of some oldish miners who would shortly have come in for well-earned pensions. The matter has already been brought before the Chamber, but there is no possibility of interfering from the simple reason that the Mining Company is well-nigh autocratic. The articles of the sale of the land to the Company in 1810 completely exclude any forcible attempt to set matters to rights. And what complicates the difficulty is the fact that the six directorial despots are known to be Monarchists, while the working-classes of Anzin are Republicans as a matter of course. The fear of Royalist intrigues has reached an acute stage in the Chamber, and it is only too evident that the partisans of the Princes have a stronghold in Anzin.

THE wonderful sunsets of last autumn and winter still remain an unexplained phenomenon. The supposition that they were caused by volcanic matter carried into the upper strata of the atmosphere after the terrible outbreak at Krakatoa, has been considered untenable, inasmuch as the particles could not, under any conceivable circumstances, have spread over such an immense area in so short a time. A similar fate has befallen the hypothesis of the earth's passage through clouds of meteoric dust. That, too, is impossible, for the simple reason that the phenomenon continued for months, and that such an immense accumulation of cosmic matter is out of the question. Another theory

has now been propounded by Mr. R. J. Ellery, of the Melbourne Observatory. It is that the atmospheric shudder, caused by the Krakatoa earthquake, though conveyed rapidly through the higher and more tenuous regions of the atmosphere, affected the lower strata sensibly in its passage, and so altered their mechanical structure that light, transmitted through them, underwent unusual and remarkable changes. It is known that, at the time of the eruption, barometric pressure was spasmodically affected all over the world, so that the universality of the phenomenon presents no difficulties under this hypothesis, and the same may be said of its duration.

It is probable that the Conferences on Treaty Revision will commence at the end of next week, that is to say, about the 6th or 7th proximo. Some delay is said to have been caused by the fact that the majority of the Foreign Representatives had not received their instructions. In fact Her Majesty's Minister is supposed to be the only one of the whole number who was ready to proceed to business two months ago—a point which deserves to be noted, as Great Britain has hitherto enjoyed the reputation of being the chief obstructionist. Of course the probable results of the Conference are beyond the legitimate range of newspaper speculation, but we are disposed to think that most of the difficulties have been successfully disposed of, and that the whole affair will be brought to a conclusion without any considerable loss of time.

A CORRESPONDENT has called our attention to the fact that by speaking of the annual rent at present paid by the United States Government for the buildings of the Kanagawa Consulate as nearly twice the maximum sum specified in the Consular Regulations, an erroneous impression is conveyed, inasmuch as that rent includes a special appropriation of \$600 for the jail. We note the correction for what it is worth, but at the same time observe that it goes to emphasize our previous statement; namely, that whatever may be said of the Consulate itself, the jail certainly was held under conditions which forbade its transfer either to a private individual or to an irresponsible official without the previous consent of the Department of State.

MUCH consternation continues at Mandalay. Small-pox has broken out in city and palace. The Queen's second daughter has died from it. Great scarcity of food is reported. Dacoities are rife. An extensive dacoity was committed in Mandalay itself by thirty men, who got away with Rs. 8,000 of plunder. The troops sent against the Shans are dying from fever and starvation, and deserting. The Kachyens are retaliating for the merciless slaughter of defenceless women and children by indiscriminately butchering all whom they come across. The butchery reported is awful. The Kachyens have mustered in great force again, and driven all the Burmese troops into Bhamo.

THE Central Ohio Butter and Egg Packers' Association is grieved, nay, it is indignant. A short time ago, it made the startling discovery that half the eggs sent into New York during a certain season of the year came from Europe, and this dreadful discovery was speedily followed by a demand for the rectification of the customs' tariff. By a strange oversight in the tariff—for who would have expected eggs from Europe?—

eggs actually come free. The Association with the long name indignantly denounces this unwarrantable oversight, speaks somewhat heatedly of the "infernal activity of the pauper hens of Europe," and calls upon Congress to protect at once this important "home industry." "The United States," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "are suffering already from the hostility of European Governments to the American pig (*Sus familiaris*), and that the European hen should beat the American hen is a thing not to be borne. With Indian wheat at 32s. a quarter and eggs coming from Europe, American farmers will soon be complaining of agricultural depression. Really, the world seems upside down."

M. FERRY, the French Premier, and Vice-Admiral Peyron, Minister of Marine, attended the sitting of the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the 9th ult., charged to examine and report upon the Madagascar Credits. The Premier informed the Committee that in pursuance of instructions, Admiral Miot, in addition to Tamatave and Majunga, already occupied, will install the French forces at other points on the north-west coast over which the protectorate now extends. The object of this occupation is to affirm by force the rights which France holds under existing treaties, and for its accomplishment it will only be necessary to increase the present number of troops to a limited extent by means of reinforcements to be sent from the garrison of Réunion and from the Colonial Militia. The Minister of Marine gave particulars of the expenditure attendant upon the maintenance of a naval division in the Indian Ocean, and stated that a credit for covering the cost of executing the contemplated operations would be submitted to the Chamber on its reassembling after the Easter recess.

WITH regard to the proposed canal between Osaka and Lake Biwa, says the *Jiyu Shimbun*, Mr. Tanabe, an attaché of the Finance Department, reports that the canal, if completed, will not entail such losses upon Shiga Prefecture as the inhabitants are disposed to believe; but that, as the land through which the canal is to pass is very swampy and full of marshes, its bed will have to be made entirely of bricks, at a cost not less than 120,000 yen. The authorities are reported to be much concerned about this statement, as the work of cutting the canal is, in itself a most expensive matter. The complaints forwarded by the people of Osaka and Shiga are, however, proved to be unfounded.

THE Russian annexation of Merv, writes a correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette*, has aroused immense excitement in India. The native press is said to be very wroth at the expected despatch of English soldiers to Southern Afghanistan. The *Patrica*, the most prominent Calcutta newspaper, says:—"No Indian will be willing to give a single farthing towards an Imperial garrison in Afghanistan. The neighbourhood of the Russians is no misfortune to us, but a blessing. It will teach our rulers to be just towards us, which at present they are not. At present the English Government ignore the fact that bonds of friendship can only be established on a basis of mutual esteem, and we are still treated as belonging to an inferior race. Friendship on our part is therefore out of the question. We hope that the approach of the Russians and

more frequent intercourse with other European races will change all this; therefore, we are opposed to all measures which tend to maintain a native Power between India and Russian Asia. We want to let our Government know that we long for the neighbourhood of Russia. If it does not suit England, let the mother country, with its soldiers and finances, keep Russia away; but let her not ask us to sacrifice either men or money."

ACCORDING to several American commercial journals, the import of manufactured silk into New York this year started fairly well, the total receipts up to the end of February being considerably in excess of last year. Still the amount of silk is not nearly so large as it was, 1883 showing a decrease of over one million dollars. The following table, compiled by the Silk Association of America, proves that the receipts up to the end of February, 1884, were slightly larger than those during the like period in 1883; nearly 25 per cent. less than those in 1882; 20 per cent. less than in 1881; and 25 per cent. less than in 1880:—

1884.....	\$3,153,778
1883.....	\$3,020,149
1882.....	\$4,253,948
1881.....	\$3,863,579
1880.....	\$4,844,995

WE regret to have to record the suicide on Tuesday morning of an old resident in Japan, Mr. George Domoney, the well-known storekeeper of Yokohama and Hiogo, having cut his throat at the Water-street establishment. Mr. Domoney, who recently came up from Hiogo, is said to have been much disturbed by losses in business recently discovered, and this is stated to have unhinged his mind and to have been the cause of the unfortunate occurrence. The deceased was found on that morning, shortly after four o'clock, not quite dead, but with the jugular and windpipe severed, and death occurred a few minutes after. An inquest was held in the afternoon, before Russell Robertson, Esq., H.B.M. Consul and Coroner, and Messrs. C. H. Dallas, F. O. Eustace, and R. A. Wylie, jurors. After hearing the medical testimony of Dr. Eldridge and Dr. Wheeler, and the evidence of several witnesses, the Coroner summed up, and the jury returned the following verdict:—"That George Domoney died at No. 17, Yokohama, between the hours of 3.30 and 4.30 a.m. on the 27th May, 1884, from hemorrhage resulting from a wound in the throat, inflicted by his own hand in a moment of temporary insanity."

A RECENT census gives the total number of inhabitants in the Capital at 1,191,601. This population is divided among the different wards as follows:—Kojimachi, 45,980; Kanda, 105,473; Nihonbashi, 91,092; Kiyobashi, 92,878; Shiba, 86,228; Azabu, 39,956; Akasaka, 23,883; Yotsuya, 23,373; Ushigome, 36,218; Hongo, 49,973; Koishikawa, 32,743; Shitaya, 58,563; Asakusa, 95,457; Honjo, 69,991; Fukagawa, 48,319; Yehara-gori, 78,837; Higashi-tama-gori, 43,753; Kita Toyoshima-gori, 70,930; Minami Adachi-gori, 34,569; Minami Katsushika-gori, 63,486.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

So rare are favorable reports from Korea than we are disposed to give the following correspondence of the *Fiyu Shimbun* special prominence:—It is stated that all the commercial firms established by the Government are in a thriving condition. The English Language School, established under the supervision of the

Commercial Bureau, is attended by a large number of students, many of whom are conversant with Japanese. The present superintendent is an Englishman. The graduates of the School will be sent all over the Kingdom in order to teach the people Western science and civilization.

IN the Chancery Division Dr. Ager, the publisher of a book of words for telegraphic messages, applied to Mr. Justice Kay for an injunction to stay the P. and O. Company from publishing these words. The defendants had purchased for the sum of five guineas a copy of Dr. Ager's work, and they had printed and issued to their agents and servants a number of books marked "private," which contained the same words, or substantially the same words, as those in Dr. Ager's code, but with explanations in the margin showing the particular meanings which the defendants attached to the words. The defendants argued that as their book was given away to their own agents or correspondents only there had been no infringement of copyright. His lordship held that the case was made out, and granted the injunction.—*L. & C. Express*.

THE Nagasaki correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* speaks in very gloomy terms of the financial depression prevalent, and seems to think that the place is worse off than any other of the five ports. Most of the foreign firms, he writes, have been closed owing to the fearful stagnation of trade, and the number of foreign residents is rapidly diminishing. Only one establishment does any business worth mentioning. In the Japanese town, small *articles de luxe*, of which there is a large quantity on hand, find no sale at even half their original value.

IN the third ward of Shirokane, Shiba, Mr. Suda, a well known horticulturist of Tokiyo, keeps a silk-worm nursery to which the people of the capital generally look for indications of the season's crop. This year the eggs raised were obtained from Shinshiu, and Mr. Suda reports that the condition of the worms is very encouraging. The most advanced have already entered their third stage, and will probably enter their fourth by the end of this month. Their proprietor prophesies that the silk crop this year will be exceptionally good throughout the country.

THE Shanghai papers to hand by last mail give particulars of the prosecution, on a charge of fraud, of Mr. Benjamin, the well-known speculator. The published report of the proceedings shows that the accused is alleged to have misappropriated 10,000 cases of kerosene hypothecated to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The godown keeper is said to have absconded, but it has been stated that he did not leave Shanghai at all, and that the detectives are confident they will be able to produce him.

THE Ladies' Purse, presented by the Japanese ladies of Tokiyo, which was originally intended to be an item in the programme at the late Toyama Meeting of the Union Race Club, but was held over till the opening of the new course round Lake Shinobadzu, at Uyeno, to give *éclat* to that event, will be a valuable prize, no less than *yen* 800 having been already subscribed.

THE U.S. frigate *Trenton* arrived at Nagasaki from Hongkong at noon on Saturday last, having on board the Korean Embassy which recently

visited the United States. We believe she leaves for Coréa on Tuesday next, and after disembarking the Ambassador and his *suite*, she will return here again. It is reported that Admiral Davis is shortly expected from Hongkong, in order to meet the *Trenton* on her return from Coréa, when he will hoist his flag on board of her.—*Rising Sun*, May 24.

THE *Kana-no-Kwai*, an Association for the universal employment of the Japanese syllabary, has hitherto been divided into three factions, much to the dissatisfaction of certain members, who feared that the Association would have to be dissolved. Happily, the three parties have now amalgamated, and publications of the Association will be issued jointly. New rules are to be framed without loss of time.

FOR "victims of connubiality," these two cases deserve the palm. An elderly lady (aged 72) of Yechigo recently celebrated her *seventy-eighth* marriage ceremony; while a farmer, hight Magoyemon, living in the same happy prefecture, has just led his sixty-eighth blushing bride to the altar. We can imagine the gleeful smiles of the family undertaker.

THE Fire-god has been signally successful in the last few days. On the 23rd instant, 300 houses were destroyed at Oyama-mura, Nishitagawagori, Yamagata Prefecture. On the following day, a fire broke out at Nekota-mura which soon spread to the village of Jiuzen. Over 130 houses, including two monasteries, were reduced to ashes.

THE renowned MSS. in the collection at Seville, Spain, popularly known as the "Indian Archives," have just been thoroughly catalogued and put in order. Among other invaluable documents, one was found containing a list of the names of all those who took part in Columbus' first voyage of discovery.

A PASSENGER by the *City of Tokio* was robbed on board that vessel just before her departure yesterday of a small valise containing money and valuables to a considerable amount. He unfortunately exposed its contents in taking out some dollars to make a payment, and shortly after the robbery took place.

WE note that one or two German journals have been giving considerable space to the description of the University of Tokiyo and the manner in which the students apply themselves to Western arts and sciences. The increasing taste for the German language and literature is dwelt upon with decided satisfaction.

THE Financial Estimates for the 17th fiscal year have been published by Notification 54 of the Council of State. Both revenue and expenditure are put at 75,982,969 *yen*; being 376,910 *yen* in excess as compared with the previous year.—*Kwampo*.

THE *Fiyu Shimbun* states that a telegram has been received in the Capital to the effect that H.I.H. Yamashina-no-Miya sustained a slight injury while alighting from a railway car in New York.

THE Manager at this Port of the Oriental Bank Corporation has received the following intimation:—"New Oriental Bank progressing satisfactorily—strong support promised—will telegraph shortly."

A JOURNAL THAT WILL NOT SEE.

AMONG those who have undertaken to discuss the subject of extra-territoriality in Japan, there is not one more distinguished for obdurate obtuseness and persistent misstatements than the *Hongkong Daily Press*. It is not very apparent why that journal should interest itself in the matter at all, except in so far as the foreign communities in China were once inspired by a not unnatural, though wholly groundless, apprehension that any concessions made to Japan might be converted into a precedent for corresponding demands on the part of the Peking Government. This idea has long since been exploded. It could only be entertained on the supposition that the circumstances of the two empires had continued the same ever since the commencement of their foreign relations, and to dispel such a supposition the most rudimentary acquaintance with the facts of the case was alone needed. But since our Colonial contemporary is evidently relieved from the incubus of this nightmare, it was not extravagant to hope that he would have brought to bear upon the subject a mind sufficiently undisturbed to apprehend its outlines, at least, with some semblance of accuracy. So long as any admission of Japan's claims carried with it the agitating contingency that Englishmen in China might be subjected to the action of brutal and demoralizing codes, one could not but sympathise in part with the emotion of the *Hongkong* critic and even with its somewhat eccentric consequences. The coolest judgments are often warped by selfish caloric. Now that these immediate fears are removed, however, we really have a right to expect some approach to accuracy and fairness, instead of a ponderous contribution to the history of errors and absurdities. Why will not writers who are either too incompetent or too careless to master the very elements of this subject—why will not they be good enough to let it alone? What possible benefit can they obtain for themselves or confer upon the public by ventilating statements which do not even approach the truth, and devising arguments which can only have the effect of obscuring the issue? The *Daily Press* has been assured repeatedly and in the most explicit terms, during the course of the past three years, that the Japanese Government has never asked for the immediate abolition of extraterritoriality. It has been similarly assured, in direct reply to reiterated misstatements, that such a step has never been advocated in these columns. Did its editor take the trouble to read our articles before interpreting them, not only would he have failed to discover a single passage warranting that construction, but he would also have found many passages plainly setting forth the impossibility and inexpediency of any drastic or sudden measure such as he accuses us of recommending. It would be quite as correct

to assert that he himself advises the rendition of the island of Victoria to China, as it is to pretend that the *Japan Mail* advocates, or has ever advocated, the complete and immediate submission of foreigners to Japanese jurisdiction. Yet he now calmly comes forward with an announcement that we "argue as though the abolition of extra-territoriality were an event that ought to take place at once, instead of at some date in the not very immediate future." What recourse is there against such flagrant misrepresentation? In the intercourse of every-day life, it is generally possible to terminate a discussion by simply declining to pursue it with an opponent who persists in distorting one's contentions until they bear no resemblance to the original. But the *Daily Press* will not be content with such significant silence. Lacking a real adversary, it sets up dummies for itself, and knocks them down with an assiduity that would be admirable were it not so profitless. Nor does the farce stop there. Our Colonial contemporary would persuade his readers not only that he is tilting with a real foe, but even that the combat is forced upon him. "Some time ago, we were drawn," he says, "into a discussion on this same subject." That is really a pretty fancy. In future, men who slander their neighbours and are called to account for the crime, will be able to complain that they are "drawn into a discussion." For our own part, we can assure the *Daily Press* that we shall never think of discussing Japanese subjects with it again. Indeed, the only object we ever had in view was to correct the extravagant absurdities ascribed to ourselves. If at any time we entertained a doubt of the fruitlessness of engaging in controversy with one who manufactures his opponent's propositions as well as his own arguments, we should be effectually deterred by our contemporary's last display of logic. A writer who cannot avoid contradicting himself half a dozen times per column, will scarcely be suspected of ability to follow the sequence of another's ideas. He commences his last essay by announcing that the statesmen of Japan will not ask for any radical change immediately, but that "they look forward to the time when it will be possible." He next announces that "the Japanese view of the case finds its expression in the *Japan Mail*;" and he then goes on to accuse the *Mail* of advocating the immediate abolition of extraterritoriality. Thus we are at once the exponent of the Japanese view and the advocate of a wholly different view. A still more startling proposition follows. It is that the inherent right of every independent State to subject every one with its borders to the operation of its laws, "falls to the ground and need not be further discussed," so far as Japan is concerned, because she herself ignores that right in Korea's case; because her request to have it partially recognised in

her own is based on the progress she has made in the last twenty years; and because it is still ignored with acknowledged propriety in China's case. It would be equally logical to say that a man forfeits the right to be heard in his own defence because he cannot exercise it satisfactorily until he has learned the language of his accuser. We do not think that Earl GRANVILLE'S definition of a free nation's "inherent rights" will be much affected by the inability of the *Daily Press* to distinguish between the expediency of exercising a right and the fact of its existence. Even this, however, is less obviously absurd than our contemporary's endorsement, in one breath, of the statement that "nothing practical has been done by Japan," and his admission, in the next, that she promulgated excellent criminal codes more than three years ago; that "the world has looked on with wonder and approving sympathy while she has been rapidly travelling along the road of progress," and that "every year brings nearer the time when she will be entitled to claim the abolition of all invidious distinctions between herself and Western nations." Is it absolutely impossible for the *Hongkong Daily Press*—since it will persist in drawing itself into these discussions—to appreciate the simple facts of the case; namely, that Japan does not pretend to be ready for the complete abolition of extraterritoriality, but only asks for a slight modification of it, commensurate, in some sort, with the progress she has made; and, above all, such a modification as will permit the removal of commercial restrictions which are gradually becoming unendurably irksome to both foreigners and Japanese? If our Colonial contemporary is incapable of comprehending these simple bases of argument, then we may be permitted to hope that he will altogether avoid drawing himself into the discussion hereafter. If ever silence was golden, it is when speech consists only of perversions and misinterpretations.

ENGLISHMEN AS THEY ARE REPRESENTED.

IT is in many respects fortunate that the English Missionaries of Tokiyo and Yokohama have consented, and obtained consent, to publish the Memorial addressed by them two months ago to Her Majesty's Representative in Japan. Did no other consideration recommend this course, the reason advanced by our correspondent in forwarding the Memorial would be quite sufficient. If ever a cause was discredited and disgraced by the fashion of its advocacy, the cause of the Yokohama Conservatives is in that plight to-day. The reluctance of foreigners to forego the protection of their own laws is a perfectly natural sentiment; a sentiment in many respects praiseworthy, and certainly deserving of the utmost respect. To set forth that sentiment in such a way that its justice,

as well as the danger of ignoring, it should have been fully recognised, was a task demanding no high qualities of rhetoric nor any subtlety of logic. But it was, at the same time, a task which, before everything, required to be performed in such a way as to give the least possible salience to the selfish aspects of its incentive, and the least possible offence to the legitimate susceptibilities of those who, from motives at least equally admirable, laboured to obtain a corresponding recognition of their own rights. The Conservative champions, however, completely misapprehending their rôle, have succeeded in associating it with everything that is intolerant, arbitrary, and unfair. Were the cause they advocate judged by the aspects under which they have persistently presented it to the public, it must long ago have been buried under the obloquy of their prejudice and injustice. From first to last their one device, iterated and re-iterated with a reckless monotony that resembles the babbling of anility, has been to brand every semblance of opposition with the stigma of venality; to assure the world, in terms of almost eager distinctness, that being themselves incapable of obeying any impulse save that of selfish greed, they are necessarily incapable of interpreting otherwise any action or aspiration of their neighbours. The most venomous insects in the lowest orders of creation are endowed with this peculiar instinct that, in their blind fury, they will sting themselves to death rather than remain inoffensive. Precisely analogous to their mood is the desperation of men who do not hesitate to expose their own depravity in the hope that its shadow may fall, however obliquely, on their opponents. It has been most unfortunate for the Conservatives that their cause found such championship: most unfortunate, too, for all foreigners in Japan, because, whatever may be the measure of the discernment and goodwill of the Japanese, it is impossible that this incessant shower of mud can have left Western character entirely unsoiled in their eyes. In a greater or less degree they must have learned to regard the foreign Conservative mood as the outcome of nothing worthier than race prejudice: a mood bred of insolent conceit; so illiberal that it sees an object of suspicion and dislike in everything Oriental; so partial that it distorts into wholesale disabilities the most trivial failings; and so invidious that it depreciates into fitful fancies evidences of the most earnest and patient pursuit of reform. We have been recently told, by men whose opportunities of judging are exceptional, that the mischief is as yet only skin deep, and that its traces may easily be removed by judicious treatment. But that it does exist, there can be no doubt. The Memorial which we publish to-day describes it, in very plain terms, as "a feeling of bitterness towards foreigners" which is gradually springing up, and it is certain that, unless we mean to deal with it

as the custom of the Occident has hitherto dealt with everything inconvenient in the Orient, we must extend to it some degree of appreciative consideration. Happily for the reputation of foreigners and for the growth of a better order of things, one of our local contemporaries has recently perceived the wisdom of discussing these questions in a fair and sympathetic spirit. Without failing to set forth, in moderate but firm language, the legitimate and proper reluctance of foreigners to surrender privileges which they have long been accustomed to regard as essential to the peace of their every-day existence and to the security of their properties, that journal has also shown that it recognises the merits of the Japanese case, the incongruity of existing conditions, and the mutual advantages to be secured by a discreet advance to meet the inevitable. For this unquestionable service to the cause of its nationals; for this well-advised effort to prove that the basis of foreign Conservatism is prudence and discretion, not pure selfishness and blind suspicion, our contemporary's reward has been a gross accusation of venal treachery. The Missionaries have been scarcely less fortunate. No sooner did they raise their voice in the cause of justice and liberality, than they, too, were charged with seeking to promote their own ends at the expense of their countrymen. Nay more, one of their number was deliberately accused of "Jesuitical disingenuousness" because he denied that they were seeking to obtain any *special* privileges for themselves, whereas their accuser *suspected* that their action was motivated by a desire to obtain *equal privileges for all alike*. It is plain that in this Settlement no reputation is safe from foul calumny. By some effort of depraved ingenuity, the characters of the most upright and honorable men are vilified and begrimed. The Memorial of the British Missionaries is now before the public, who can see for themselves that it does not contain anything resembling, however remotely, a request for extended privileges, still less for exceptional privileges; that it is simply an expression of opinion prompted by unselfish obedience to the dictates of justice, and that its signatories are at least as solicitous on behalf of the privileges their countrymen enjoy, as they are sensible of the dangers, disadvantages, and unfairness of attempting to make those privileges permanent. It is not to be supposed, for a moment, that the motives of the Missionaries will suffer anything in their countrymen's eyes by the invidious accusations preferred against them; nor is it necessary, we trust, to disclaim any idea of defending them against such traducers. But indifference may be carried beyond the limits of prudence. The same unsightly virulence which has poisoned the Conservative cause and hidden its legitimate aspects under a cloud of slander and resentment, now seeks to discredit the Missionaries in the eyes of the

Japanese nation by attributing to them the intriguing and unscrupulous propensities which disgraced the Jesuit propagandists of the middle ages, and laid the foundation of Japan's hostility to foreign intercourse. Is any phase of Western character to escape this gross misrepresentation? Must foreigners be always depicted as merchants careless of everything but gain; as politicians influenced wholly by selfish prejudice; as religious teachers who proselytize by unpatriotic cunning, and as men impervious to the impulses of generosity and justice? Will it be wonderful if the Japanese people ultimately consent to accept as unerring the repulsive character which foreign Conservatism unceasingly receives at the hands of its self-constituted champions?

A CANARD.

IN its issue of the 10th instant, the *Echo du Japon* published a story of which the following is an epitome:—The Belgian Minister, having had in his service for two years a trustworthy Japanese, named SASAKI MATSUGORO, whom he employed as a watchman at the Legation, deemed it wise that the man should carry an arm, and for that purpose sent him to purchase a revolver. The Minister knew that in 1872 a regulation had been issued forbidding Japanese subjects to purchase fire-arms from foreigners without observing certain conditions, "but he believed that as a foreigner, and above all as a diplomatic agent, he could cause to be purchased, at a foreigner's, a revolver which he intended for his servant." He, nevertheless, desired SASAKI to report the possession of the arm to the proper authorities. SASAKI did so; whereupon his revolver was confiscated, and he himself fined 50 *sen*, though he offered in evidence a receipt, in order, from the shop where the weapon was bought, and a written statement of the Belgian Minister's authorizing the purchase.

These are simple facts. The *Echo du Japon*, having premised that "the independent press of Yokohama has often drawn its readers' attention to the inconveniences which Japanese jurisdiction would entail for foreigners," and having observed that, "to give a revolver to a Japanese in such a fashion that the possession of the arm shall be regular and legal, is not an easy matter even for a diplomatic agent, from the moment the local authorities conceive the fantasy of opposing the proceeding," concludes with the following comments:—"In all civilized countries there are laws and regulations relating to prohibited arms, but the possession of an arm is no-where interdicted. We know, moreover, many Japanese who possess fire-arms, notably those who are sportsmen. Many of them have received these arms as a gift. How is that SASAKI MATSUGORO, because he is in the service of a Legation, is treated in an exceptional

fashion? By the assistance of their laws and their regulations, the Japanese authorities can condemn some according to their will and fancy, and give immunities to others. If that goes on, Japan, in a few years, will possess a curious monument of jurisprudence."

The singularly inconsequential nature of these comments must immediately strike the reader. We are told, first, that the Belgian Minister, knowing the law, nevertheless thought that, as a foreigner and a diplomatic agent, he might authorize a Japanese to violate its provisions: next, that he endeavoured to give a revolver to his servant in a "regular and legal" way; next, that the servant was treated exceptionally because he belonged to a Legation; next, that the Japanese authorities condemn and acquit according to their own fancy; and finally, that they thus indulge their fancy by the aid of laws and regulations. This patchwork of contradictions and incongruities is in excellent keeping with the notion that a foreign Representative, desiring to arm his watchman with a pistol, could devise no better method of procedure than to send the man to buy a revolver, on his own account, at FARSARI'S shop, and afterwards to report the fact at the office of the local government. If the Belgian Minister thought it expedient that his watchman should be armed, what was simpler than to give the man an order upon some foreign store for a revolver, and then direct him to carry the weapon when on duty? There would then have been no necessity to consult the Japanese authorities at all.

We note these points, not for the purpose of controverting our contemporary's statements, but to show the recklessly indiscriminate nature of the stories trumped up by a section of the local foreign press with the object of discrediting Japanese administration. There can be no mistake about the bias in this case. Apart from the obvious inconsistency of the items of the story, its extreme improbability, and the writer's confused criticism, now of the law, now of its administration—apart from all these, the following phrase alone would be enough to betray his animus; "this is what happens nearly always to those who desire to satisfy the Japanese authorities." It is no tenough for him to have discovered, as he imagines, an instance where the law was purposely perverted to the prejudice of a foreigner. He goes on to invest that single instance with a typical character, and bids his readers believe, not only that there is a definite disposition to treat them with injustice on the part of Japanese officialdom, but that their very efforts to conciliate will only expose them to additional insult.

We confess that, having regard to the names with which it is associated, we had hoped to avoid the necessity of commenting on this ridiculous *canard*. But as a

considerable time has elapsed since its publication and as it still remains uncontradicted, we deem it advisable to place the truth before our readers.

In January, 1872, a law was promulgated, forbidding any Japanese subject to become the possessor of a fire-arm without giving notice to the local authorities and observing certain formalities. This law was supplemented, six months later, by a Notification, providing that Japanese traders, desiring to purchase arms or munitions of war from foreign merchants in the open ports, must apply for official sanction and follow a prescribed course. Whether good or bad in themselves, these regulations were presumably dictated by considerations with which foreigners have no concern. A short time ago, it was brought to the notice of the Kanagawa Police that the man SASAKI MATSUGORO was secretly possessed of a pistol. The information was given under a provision (embodied in Notification No. 282 of 1872) by which a reward is promised to any person who brings such irregularities to the notice of the officials. Cited before the Magistrate, SASAKI had no excuse to offer, nor anything to show except the receipt of the foreign merchant from whom he had obtained the weapon. He said nothing whatsoever about being in the employ of the Belgian Minister. If he is attached to that Legation, the indispensable formality of registering his name at the Foreign Office has never been observed. Under these circumstances, the Magistrate could only comply with the law. The pistol was confiscated, and SASAKI was fined fifty *sen*. To this day the police declare that they have no knowledge of the man's employment by the Belgian Representative, or of the latter's alleged connection with the purchase of the revolver.

It would scarcely be worth while to speculate by what process these simple facts were twisted into the curious tale related by the *Echo du Japon*. Such trivialities do not deserve discussion for their own sake. But this community may just as well know the sort of fictions which are publicly advanced, from time to time, as valid evidence of the incompetence or partiality of Japanese administration. We do not profess any implicit faith in the excellence of Japanese systems. It would be strange if they did not still retain traces of old-fashioned defects. But we find no stronger testimony in their favour than the detractions of the *Echo du Japon*, and other similar snappers-up of baseless trifles. During the current year, three charges have been preferred against the police, of which this history of our French contemporary is the third. The two others were put forward as proofs that judicial torture still exists in this country. They were, first, that two constables had been imprisoned and fined for beating a prostitute; and secondly, that a foreigner, whose cook had been incar-

cerated for gambling, learned, on enquiry at the police station, that the man's case could be disposed of at once if, by confessing his fault, he obviated the necessity of procuring further evidence. Those who have not followed the vagaries of the local press may find it an interesting problem to divine how these occurrences were construed into examples of judicial torture. MARTIAL says there is nothing more contemptible than a bald man who pretends to have hair. He had probably never encountered a journalist who, under the pretence of exposing abuses, disregards the first principles of honesty and justice.

THE U.S. CONSUL AT SHANGHAI.

THE resignation of his post of Consul-General at Shanghai by Mr. O. N. DENNY, an official who deservedly earned great popularity in that Settlement, appears to have been due to one of those circumstances which have brought so much discredit on the American Civil Service. Mr. DENNY's resignation runs as follows:—

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,
Shanghai, Oct. 6, 1883.

TO THE PRESIDENT,—I respectfully tender my resignation as Consul-general to China on account of the partial and illegal instructions of the Hon. Secretary of State relative to the occupation and rental of consular premises at Shanghai. With great respect, I am, Mr. President, your obedient Servant,
O. N. DENNY.

In forwarding a copy of this laconic and very out-spoken document to the Secretary of State, the Consul-General refers that official to a despatch previously addressed by him (Mr. DENNY) to the Third Assistant Secretary, Washington. The despatch is long and somewhat difficult to unravel. According to the United States Consular Regulations, a Consul is required to make all the arrangements for leasing a Consulate at his own discretion, receiving from the Government an allowance for rent not exceeding one fifth of his salary. This provision does not, however, seem to extend to the jail and court-house. For such buildings, when required, a separate appropriation, of virtually indefinite amount, is made; and we may reasonably assume that the Consul does not accept any personal responsibility in connection with them. This being so, considerable latitude evidently exists. A dishonest official can easily contrive that the special appropriation for these buildings shall cover the rent of the Consulate also, so that the regulated allowance for the latter shall be an "unearned increment" to his salary. We believe that, to guard against abuses of this nature, the Regulations require either that the Consul's residence shall be wholly separate from the offices, or that, if attached, a portion of the latter's rent shall be paid by him. But this provision also must be difficult to carry out. At all events, we gather from Mr. DENNY's despatch that his predecessor, Mr. G. F. SEWARD, when entering upon the duties of his office in Shanghai, contracted for the erection of

Consular premises, including a residence, under a ten years' lease at an annual rental of \$3,523.80, the whole of which sum was charged to the Government on account of the jail and offices alone. Whether these buildings originally belonged to Mr. SEWARD or no, does not distinctly appear; but that they are now his property may be inferred from Mr. DENNY's statement that by their continued occupation as Consular premises, Mr. SEWARD is enabled to "pocket \$1,123.80, annually, more than offices and a jail would cost" elsewhere in the Settlement. When Mr. DENNY came to Shanghai, he found that these buildings, for which the Government was paying an annual rent of \$3,523.80, *plus*, we presume, an allowance amounting to one-fifth of the Consul's salary, were not worth altogether more than \$2,000, according to expert testimony. It seems, however, that this might have been condoned had not Mr. SEWARD, having himself lived rent-free at the Consulate, demanded an additional \$1,200 per annum from his successor for the portion of the buildings used as a residence, thus bringing the total rent of the premises to \$4,723.80. At this point Mr. DENNY objected. Regarding the whole thing as a gross job, he telegraphed to Washington that if Mr. SEWARD's demand were insisted on, he should have to transfer the Consulate to other and cheaper quarters. At first the Department of State supported him, though with some show of reluctance. But he presently received a telegram from Mr. SEWARD, who was still in China, asking him to defer any decisive step until they met: when it was arranged that Mr. DENNY should continue to occupy the premises at the old rate pending the result of a personal application of Mr. SEWARD to the Secretary of State. What the exact purpose of this application was, we cannot tell, but at any rate it appears to have been unsuccessful. Subsequently, however, Mr. SEWARD took a different course. He procured from one of the Under-Secretaries of State a "violent instruction" directing Mr. DENNY to continue to use the buildings as a Consulate. Against this Mr. DENNY appealed directly to the Secretary of State, and—to use his own words—"exposed the fraud which Mr. SEWARD was trying to perpetrate." After this he heard no more of the latter's pretensions until the winter of 1882, when, during a visit to Washington and in the sequel of certain occurrences at the Department of State, he resolved "to break the grip which Mr. SEWARD seemed yet to have upon a Consulate which, while in it, he never lost an opportunity to dishonour." Returning to Shanghai, he contracted for new and more commodious buildings in a better situation, at a rental of \$2,400 per annum for the offices and jail and \$1,000 for the residence—thus saving the Government a clear \$1,123.80 yearly. But when the plans and specifications of these premises were forwarded to Washington, the then

Secretary of State, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, caused Mr. DENNY to be informed that no other arrangement than that already existing would be allowed, so long as Mr. SEWARD's lease of the former premises remained unexpired. Under these circumstances, Mr. DENNY resigned his appointment.

Looking at this matter by the light of the facts set forth in the Consul-General's despatch, the action of the Department of State is very difficult to appreciate. It is easy to understand that the Government may have been justly unwilling, if indeed they had any right, to leave Mr. SEWARD saddled with the unexpired lease of a Court-house and jail in Shanghai. Even though the buildings belonged to that official himself, and were erected at his own risk, he may have been able to satisfy the Department that, at the time they were erected, equally advantageous terms could not have been obtained under any other arrangement, and that, were the premises vacated before the expiration of the original lease, he would personally suffer for having assumed a risk on the Government's account quite as much as on his own. But that any similar consideration should apply to the residence is inexplicable. The Regulations explicitly exonerate the Government from all responsibility in this respect. The Secretary of State appears to have constituted himself, in some sort, Mr. SEWARD's agent. He did not hesitate to take into consideration the fact that the residence could not conveniently be let to an outsider so long as the rest of the premises remained in Consular occupation, and to decide for that reason, that the Consul-General should continue to use the buildings as before. Even to this Mr. DENNY was willing to assent if the rent of the residence had been reduced to a reasonable figure, but Mr. SEWARD's influence appears to have carried everything before it. He was able to persuade the Department to *order* his successor to become his tenant, and we cannot wonder that Mr. DENNY rebelled against such treatment. There is something decidedly farcical about a disavowal of responsibility on the part of a Government which does not hesitate to assume responsibility when the pecuniary interests of a favorite are at stake. It may transpire, of course, that Mr. DENNY's version is partial, but the facts, as he states them, are perplexing.

THE SOUDAN.

THE telegram of the 22nd inst. announces the solution of Her Majesty's Government to send an expedition of ten thousand men, in the autumn, to GORDON'S relief, unless he has escaped before then. The *Pall Mall Gazette* is the authority for the rumour, which, after all, may be simply a forecast of what the Government will be compelled to do should not a satisfactory solu-

tion of the Soudan problem have been obtained in the interim. By "autumn" may be understood October. Before that time it would be virtually impossible for English troops to cross the burning deserts. The terrible effects of the heat upon General GRAHAM'S forces after the battle of Tamanieb settled this question, if, indeed, any doubt had previously existed. It is known that, at the end of March, great pressure was brought to bear upon the Cabinet, to induce them to despatch a cavalry expedition from Suakim to Berber. Then also, the *Pall Mall Gazette* was the foremost advocate of this course. General STEPHENSON, however, the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in Egypt, strongly advised the Government not to think of sending English soldiers even as far as the First Cataract (Assouan) during the hot season, and his advice was approved by all the authorities consulted. Any attempt of the sort could only have ended in disaster. This difficulty made the situation doubly painful, since it placed GORDON practically beyond the reach of aid during a period of five months. Meanwhile, what the Government could do, it did. English officers can go where English soldiers cannot, and accordingly Captain CHERMSIDE was sent to try and open the route from Suakim to Berber by negotiations. He carried with him £10,000 to distribute among the friendly tribes. To what extent his mission was successful the telegrams have not informed us. Another important step taken was to order a survey of the Nile, with a view to ascertaining the feasibility of sending a flotilla of gunboats up the river. The last news which reached us of this operation was dated March 29th, when Captain MOLYNEAUX and his assistants were said to be making good progress with the work. There is no doubt that a military expedition to Khartoum would be one of the most difficult undertakings ever contemplated by English troops. Berber is the key of the situation. Once there, it is easy to reach Khartoum by steamer. But the trouble is to get to Berber. There are two routes: one, up the Nile; the other, *via* Suakim and Sinkat. The former is a steamer route as far as Korosko. From that point southward, however, the Nile makes an immense bend, and its navigation is obstructed by a number of rapids, so that, instead of following its course, caravans prefer to strike across the desert (of At-moor) by a road which meets the Nile again at Aboo Hammed. This stretch of desert path is 250 miles long; it includes a distance of 100 miles, throughout which water can be obtained at one place only, and even then it is too brackish to be drinkable by man. The other route is, therefore, considered the more available; though from Suakim to Berber, a distance of 288 miles, it may be said to traverse a continual succession of deserts. Those who remember the events of the Abyssinian Expedi-

tion, will understand the meaning of moving an English army across such a country. General WOOD, shortly after the annihilation of HICKS' force, estimated that fifteen thousand Anglo-Indian troops would be required to crush the Mahdi, and that the cost of the campaign would be twenty millions sterling. Subsequent events have not been of a nature to convict that estimate of exaggeration. If our latest telegrams are trustworthy, Berber is in the hands of the rebels. Its loss will add incalculably to the difficulty of relieving Khartoum, since it is the point at which both the routes from northern Egypt converge. On the other hand, it will be observed that the sending of this expedition is to be contingent upon GORDON'S movements, and GORDON'S movements depending, as they do, on "what he chooses himself and what God, in his good providence, directs," are a somewhat shifty basis of forecast. According to latest reports, he proposed to remain at Khartoum till May, when the rising of the Nile would enable him to carry the garrison off without difficulty. But we are now at the end of May, and no intelligence of any attempt to evacuate the place has reached us. In the meanwhile, Shendy and Berber having been occupied—it is said—by the rebels, the line of retreat is intercepted. If this be really the case, GORDON will probably have to maintain himself as best he can until the expedition, now projected, reaches him six months hence. When he was consulted with regard to the advisability of sending a British force to relieve Tokar, he said that the announcement of such an intention would probably do as much good as its execution. If he was right then, his words ought to have even more meaning now, after the crushing defeats of OSMAN DIGNA. There is always a hope, too, that dissensions among the rebels themselves may arrest their progress. It is difficult to believe in the complete fusion of such heterogeneous elements as the numerous tribes throughout the Soudan. But if neither the prospects of encountering an English army, nor divisions in the hostile camp, open a route of retreat from Khartoum, England may be doomed to six months' suspense while GORDON and his rabble garrison stand at bay against an enemy constantly growing in strength and resolution. Whatever may be the value of the MAHDI'S authority now, its influence was certainly paramount a month ago. On the 15th of April, there was published in London a letter of his, circulated throughout the Soudan some time previously, in which he commanded the tribes to push forward the siege of Khartoum, and to blockade all the roads. So well were these instructions obeyed that *The Times* correspondent, writing from that city on April 7th, said:—"The town is now the centre of an enormous rebel camp. Our Krupp ammunition is rather short. The situation is critical. The rebels have

frustrated an attempt to send a steamer to Berber. General GORDON will probably be driven to retreat by Central Africa." Khartoum, however, has excellent defensive capabilities. It stands on the west bank of the Blue Nile, about a mile above the latter's junction with the White Nile. Lying thus within the angle formed by the two streams, it is protected on the south by a parapet and ditch which passes from bank to bank of the rivers, forming with them a right-angled triangle whose apex is their junction. The site of the town being a little lower than flood level, two dikes, from 15 to 20 feet high, have been constructed to protect it. When at their lowest point the streams are from six hundred to eight hundred yards wide, but when in flood their width increases largely. The river frontage of the town is about one and a half miles; its depth inwards from the river, about a mile. Above and below it, along the banks, are small plantations and gardens, but with the exception of these the country round is quite barren. With General GORDON in command, such a place could hold out a long while. But it would seem that for the first time in his life GORDON has found, in the Egyptians, soldiers who are absolutely incapable of fighting. It is therefore, almost extravagant to hope that he can defend the town until October. One thing is apparently certain: namely, that he has failed to come to any understanding with the MAHDI, and that being the case, whether he succeeds in retreating from Khartoum or no, the Government is pledged to relieve the place. The policy announced by Earl GRANVILLE two months ago was, that the Red Sea littoral, from Kosseir to Ansley Bay (South of Massowah) should become an English dependency; that the frontier of Egypt proper should not extend beyond Assouan; that ZOBEL PACHA, or some other ally of the MAHDI, should be appointed Viceroy at Khartoum, under an engagement to maintain the trade routes between that place, Berber, Korosko, and Suakim, and that the MAHDI should be named Sultan of Kordofan, with sovereignty over the regions of the White Nile, Darfour, and Bahr Gazelle. But the MAHDI evidently declines to become a party to these arrangements, and England must, therefore, either change her policy in deference to his wishes, or compel him to be tractable. GORDON'S retreat will not solve the problem, if he leaves behind him a defiant enemy; but, on the other hand, a stout resistance on GORDON'S part, and the certain prospect of English armed intervention, may so augment the MAHDI'S reported loss of popularity and prestige that he will be incapable of maintaining an aggressive attitude. The fates were not kind when they devised such a problem for the Liberal Cabinet.

REVIEW.

The Eastern Pioneer of Western Civilization, and the Recognition her Efforts receive. By the Rev. C. S. EBY, B.A., Tokiyo.

THE force of example is not without influence upon writers of history. It is much less trouble to follow the track indicated by a predecessor's researches, than to re-group the facts he deals with and remodel the inferences they suggest. For this reason, perhaps, since no other is immediately apparent, the story of Japan's early and later relations with the outer world has generally been told in a manner that does little credit to her liberality or ingenuousness. Thus, to take an example, it has frequently been asserted that her treaty-making period was disfigured by duplicity: that she deceived the foreign diplomatists as to her polity, and barred their path with obstacles which would never have existed but for her own contrivance. Heusken's diary, only recently given to the world, shows how erroneous are these impressions. It shows that from first to last the statements of the Japanese were accurate and open; that they concealed nothing of the true condition of their Government or their own sentiments, and that had their candour been reciprocated, most, if not all, the subsequent troubles might have been avoided. The author of the pamphlet now before us happily declines to accept any of the ready-made verdicts recorded by others upon these subjects. He prefers to be instructed by the facts themselves. This alone gives his essay much interest, and that interest is heightened by the circumstances which impelled him to enter upon the task of research. Having, in the spring of 1883, designed and carried to completion a scheme of public lectures connected with the work of Christian propagandism, he found himself, at their close, placed in a somewhat awkward dilemma. For the men who listened to these lectures were shrewd enough to see that the principles preached did not accord with the practice of Christian nations, and that the discrepancy was especially notable in the attitude assumed by European States towards Japan. "Why," they asked, "why do Governments professing a faith of which, as you tell us, the fundamental doctrines are charity, justice, and brotherly love, ignore these doctrines in their treatment of Japan, by refusing to admit our nation to terms of equal fellowship with theirs, or to accord us any measure of the trust to which all men are entitled until they have proved themselves unworthy of it?" Questions of this nature were embodied in letters and sent to Mr. Eby, who, on his side, saw that to avoid replying would be both unworthy and dangerous. Hence his investigations, and hence the pamphlet now before us, in which are stated, graphically and concisely, the conclusions he reached and the data they are based on. As an Englishman, he does not hesitate to state frankly whatever errors his country's policy presents to his eyes, nor will English readers of his essay value it the less for this candour. There is sweet too, as well as bitter. The author thus describes the sequel of his researches:—

The result on my own mind is that I rise from the study with a higher opinion than I ever had of Great Britain and her foreign diplomacy. Not that I hold her faultless or her Representatives infallible, but, taking it all in all, I would not exchange England's record in Japan for that of any nation in treaty relation with this country, and my personal esteem for her late Representative Sir Harry S. Parkes, has been supplemented by a new admiration for his rare talents as a fearlessly honest and straightforward diplomat. For

many reasons I should regret exceedingly to have written a word that would tend to wound one whom I esteem and honour so highly. Both Sir Harry and the noble-hearted Lady Parkes (whose lamented death cast a gloom over many here), have left behind them in unnumbered hearts and homes, of both foreigners and Japanese, a cherished memory, fresh and fragrant with gratitude for deeds which characterize, not the diplomacy of politics, but that of Christian sympathy—deeds which have lightened the sorrows and enhanced the joys of many, by timely but unostentatious beneficence. The records of my own life in Japan in its occasional contact with the British Legation, of sympathy and care in a time of peculiar affliction and bereavement, of a wreath over a grave in the land of the stranger, of liberal support in efforts to do good to the Japanese people, furnish but one short chapter in the unwritten volume of these quiet deeds of goodness. In all my intercourse with the Japanese, and in making special inquiries on the subject of this paper, I have yet to meet the first person *who knew* Sir Harry, and had an ill-tempered word to say of him. The execration which has been, and still is, heaped upon his name by young Japanese, arises solely from his political conservatism, which Japan will judge less harshly when looked at in the light of riper history.

The verdict recorded in these words will certainly be endorsed by history. Those who knew Sir Harry Parkes find difficulty in separating the record of his public services from the untiring benevolence and staunch integrity of his private life. Here, however, it is sufficient to note that his name is intimately associated with all the best phases of Japanese progress. It was not only that he helped to initiate, but that he never tired of watching and assisting, the reforms which have gone far to win for Japan the respect and confidence of Western Powers. Yet the performance of these very functions was not without injurious influence on his political conduct. In his eyes the Japanese remained, from first to last, always the same children he had seen grow up and in whose education he had taken so large a share. He never could believe that it was time to take them out of their swaddling clothes and treat them with something of the consideration due to persons coming of age. In the future, after the indignation this usage naturally created shall have given place to calmer reflection, the Japanese will recognise that he was their benefactor throughout. But it is not while the pressure of obdurate discipline is still fresh that men's moods are most discerning. Unfortunately, too, the harsher elements of Sir Harry Parkes' policy were rendered doubly unsightly by the undisguised malevolence and rancour of writers who thought it wise to vindicate his prudence by blackening the character of everything Japanese. Thus openly referred to a basis of distrust and dislike, his exacting attitude showed few redeeming features to Japanese eyes, and we cannot wonder that while those who knew him and appreciated his motives had nothing but respect and esteem for his qualities, Young Japan, less familiar with the good he had wrought and less dependent on foreign assistance, remembers him only as a statesman who resolutely opposed the consummation of the people's most earnest aspirations. In the pamphlet before us, all this is evidently appreciated, and the author's conclusions are largely strengthened by his discrimination. At the outset he wisely observes that "in order to have sufficient data from which to deal with the question of international intercourse, especially in the phases now agitating Japan and the Treaty Powers, it is a matter of great importance to get at the root of human nature as exhibited here, to get an idea of the essentials of the national character with which we deal." To effect this the writer goes back to the days of Japan's first contact with foreign nations. He shows that "the necessary conditions for true civilization had been planted as far back as the days of Iyeyasu,"

and that the estrangement and isolation which followed the country's first experience of foreign intercourse were the outcome, not of any innate incivility or moroseness on Japan's part, but of the repellant features that intercourse itself presented. Amongst other evidence adduced in support of this view, the first treaty between Japan and England, in 1613, is quoted in full, and we cannot refrain from transcribing it here, as a specimen of the simple, straightforward and liberal spirit which the negotiators of those times brought to bear upon their work. The document is in the form of a Royal Warrant rather than a treaty, and runs as follows:—

1. We give free license to the subjects of Great Britain, viz., Sir Thomas Smith, governor, and the company of the East Indian merchants and adventurers, forever to come safely into any of our ports of our Empire of Japan, with their ships and their merchandize, without any hindrance to them or their goods; and to abide, buy, sell, and barter, according to their own manner with all nations; to tarry here as long as they think good, and to depart at their pleasure.

2. We grant unto them freedom of custom for all such merchandizes as either now they have brought, or hereafter shall from hence transport to any foreign port; and do authorize those ships that hereafter shall arrive and come from England to proceed to present sale of their commodities, without further coming or sending up to our Court.

3. If any of their ships shall be in danger of shipwreck, we will our subjects not only to assist them, but that such part of ship and goods as shall be saved be returned to their captain or cape merchant, or their assigns. And that they shall or may build one house or more for themselves in any part of our Empire where they shall think fittest, and at their departure to make sale thereof at their pleasure.

4. If any of the English merchants or others shall depart this life within our dominions, the goods of the deceased shall remain at the dispose of the cape merchant; and that all offences committed by them shall be punished by the said cape merchant according to his discretion, and our laws to take no hold of their persons or goods.

5. We will that ye our subjects trading with them for any of their commodities, pay them for the same according to agreement, without delay or return their wares again unto them.

6. For such commodities as they have now brought, or shall hereafter bring, fitting for our service and proper use, we will that no arrest be made thereof; but that the price be made with the cape merchants, according as they may sell to others, and present payment upon the delivery of the goods.

7. If in discovery of other countries for trade, and return of their ships, they shall need men or victuals, we will that ye, our subjects, furnish them for their money as their need shall require.

8. And that without other passport, they shall and may set out upon the discovery of Jesso or other part in or about our Empire.

This document was accompanied by the following letter, which does equal credit to its writer's head and heart:—

TO THE KING OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Your Majesty's kind letter sent me by your servant, Captain John Saris (who is the first that I have known to arrive in any port of my dominions) I heartily embrace, being not a little glad to understand of your great wisdom and power, as having three plentiful and mighty kingdoms under your powerful command. I acknowledge your Majesty's great bounty in sending me so undeserved a present of rare things, such as my land affordeth not, neither have I ever before seen, which I receive not as from a stranger, but as from your Majesty, whom I esteem as myself. Desiring the continuance of friendship with your highness, and that it may stand with your good liking to send your subjects to any part or port of my dominions, where they shall be most heartily welcome,—applauding much their worthiness in the admirable knowledge of navigation, having with much facility discovered a country so remote, being no whit amazed with the distance of so mighty a gulf, nor greatness of such infinite clouds and storms, from prosecuting honourable enterprises of discoveries and merchandizing,—wherein they shall find me to further them according to their desires. I return unto your Majesty a small token of my love (by your said subject) desiring you to accept thereof, as from him that much rejoiceth in your friendship. And whereas your Majesty's subjects have desired certain privileges for trade, and settling of a factory in my dominions, I have not only granted what they demand, but have confirmed the same unto them, and under my broad seal for the better establishing thereof.

From my Castle in Suruga, the fourth day of the ninth month, in the eighteenth year of our Dairi, according to our computation. The highest Commander in this Kingdom of Japan.

MINA-MOTO-NO (IYEFASU.)

It will be observed that Iyeyasu does not sign

himself King, Regent, or Prince, but only "the highest commander in this Kingdom of Japan," the same character in which his successors, nearly two and half centuries later, re-opened intercourse with the outer world, and which they have so often been wrongly charged with concealing or misrepresenting. It will further be observed that absolutely unrestricted privileges of trade, travel and residence were granted to Englishmen in Japan—privileges which might have continued uninterrupted until this day, but for the intrigues, dissensions, and short-sighted greed of the new settlers. Not the least interesting point in the warrant is the clause relating to jurisdiction. The power of inflicting punishment for offences committed by English residents was left to the Cape (chief) Merchant, and the persons and property of the traders were to be exempt from processes of Japanese law. This arrangement, impracticable as we of later times know it to be, was evidently dictated simply by considerations of convenience. People thought less in those days of the rights of the subject than of the ease of the ruler. Moreover, Iyeyasu, since he retained the power of revoking these privileges at any moment—a power which he afterwards exercised in part—could afford to sanction arrangements of a tentative nature. We can imagine how a ruler of his stamp would have acted in presence of the farcical complications and disabilities which a medley of seventeen jurisdictions has brought about in these civilized times. But, indeed, Iyeyasu was too enlightened a ruler for the age in which he lived. The broad foundations of international amity which he sought to lay, served only for the erection of an unsightly edifice of treachery, plotting, and fraud. Japan withdrew her proffered hand of friendship, and retired once more into a seclusion from which so little tempted her to emerge. We thus arrive at the "second period" treated by Mr. Eby; namely, the period of treaty making. Into the details of this we need not follow him. They have already been sufficiently discussed, though seldom in a spirit so impartial and moderate as he displays. It is impossible, indeed, to hide the overwhelming influence which self-interest exercised upon the conduct of Western nations towards Japan. They worked for themselves, not for her, and from first to last their practice conformed to the doctrine, "the end justifies the means." But in effect they had no choice. The first step involved others, which, though indefensible when considered severally, were necessitated by their antecedents and condoned by their consequences. Western civilization is essentially militant. It advances by a series of aggressive steps, but then—it advances, conferring solid benefit on all in its path. But Western civilization must in the end be true to its own principles. Otherwise it assumes a barbarous aspect. We cannot force our intercourse upon a nation under the plea that seclusion is savage, and then set limits to that intercourse under the plea that it is not convenient to ourselves to extend it. The very same suspicion and distrust which formerly induced Japan to hold aloof from European nations, are now at the root of the latter's refusal to associate with her on equal terms. Seldom, if ever, in the lifetime of a generation has any story of international relations been disfigured by such an exact reversal of positions. Yet it cannot be denied that there is much excuse for the apparent illiberality of Japan's treaty friends in this matter.

The conditions which now prevent the complete opening of the country were once necessary for the protection of foreign life and property, and prudence forbade that they should be lightly altered. The time, however, is fully ripe for an initiatory change. As Mr. Eby justly says, "the people cannot look upon these conditions but as a perpetual reminder of their inferiority, a galling proclamation of barbarism, not to object to which would show a servile spirit that does not characterize Japan;" while, at the same time, they justly rebel against being condemned to a state of semi-seclusion fatal to their material progress and disgraceful to their intelligence. Of the nature of the proposals the Government has made with a view to moving out of this narrow groove, Mr. Eby gives the following account, "obtained from sources which he knows to be trustworthy":—

1. At first, neither a complete removal of extraterritoriality, nor a complete opening of the country to every right for foreigners. This in the interest of both foreigner and native.

2. That for a definite period, say for five, eight, or ten years, as fixed by treaty with the Powers, the jurisdiction of Japanese courts over foreigners shall extend only to misdemeanours and delicts, leaving "crimes" as at present.

During that time the country shall be open to foreigners for travel and trade, but not for permanent residence, nor for the holding of property, excepting in such places as now have settlements, which settlements would be so enlarged as to take in the whole of the City or Prefecture, in which such settlement exists, for permanent residence and for the holding of property, but such property should be held under Japanese property law.

3. That even in misdemeanours and delicts, in all cases where foreigners come under Japanese jurisdiction, there shall be foreign judges and magistrates appointed, foreign lawyers allowed, so that the real decision shall still be in hands of foreign judges.

4. Where commercial codes, civil codes, marriage laws, &c., do not yet exist in Japan, or are not yet remodelled according to Western principles, the principles of foreign laws shall be applied and administered by the foreign judges before mentioned; thus leaving the foreigner in as good a position as at present, and if this applies to the plaintiff also, in a better condition.

5. That when the Japanese codes shall be completed on Western principles, and the modes of procedure shall have become assimilated to those of the West and normal in their working, the jurisdiction of the Courts of Japan shall extend to all cases; the assistance of foreign judges still being retained if the Powers think necessary, for a further period, with the prospects, of perhaps, not engaging new ones, but of allowing those already appointed to serve out a lifetime, in the hope that native judges will then be fit to have full control of the judiciary.

6. That police laws, press laws, right of religions, &c., being matters of detail, shall as rapidly as possible be assimilated to the usages of Western law, but where these are still imperfect, the foreigner still to be under his own national usage.

7. Foreigners shall have special rights of appeal, and of course always, as in all lands, the protection of their own Consuls and Ministers in case of hardship.

These proposals appear to us to be rightly stated, with the exception of the fourth and sixth, which, in the form here given, look somewhat impracticable. The position taken by the Japanese Government, so far as we know, is—that while with regard to civil law, commercial law, marriage law, etc., the present Japanese statutes, pending their codification, should be applicable, the Government would guarantee that their application should not conflict with the principles upon which similar laws are framed in Europe; and would undertake, for the better carrying out of this guarantee, to employ European judges, who, sitting with Japanese judges, but in the majority, should virtually govern all decisions in cases where foreigners were concerned. It would, of course, be impossible to promise adherence to the forms and processes of different European systems: the principles alone are all that any country can be expected to observe, and these would be amply and easily guarded by the assistance of foreign Judges. We note this point because, though Mr. Eby is doubtless sensible

of its importance, his language leaves something to be desired in point of clearness. As for the Japanese proposals which he first has been the means of making public, we scarcely think that any comment of ours is necessary. Mr. Eby discusses them very fully, and to those that take an interest in a question so important to all foreigners living in Japan, we strongly recommend his analysis. We conclude this notice of a valuable contribution to the solution of a difficult problem with one or two extracts, which may be taken as fairly representing missionary opinion on the subject.

As soon as extraterritoriality ceases to be necessary, it becomes a nuisance to foreigners as well as an injury to the land. At the time of its inception it was an unpleasant necessity with negative advantages in preventing greater unpleasantnesses; but now, the necessity having passed away, the unpleasantness of the situation becomes a source of positive evil. To be just, we must look at these results from a Japanese standpoint. The removal of extraterritoriality means to Japan to-day the opening of her country to the perfection of modern civilization. The retention of extraterritoriality means the retention of fetters which stay her feet, close her country, prevent her progress, her entrance into the comity of nations. Over against these national interests we place the fears, the suspicions, of a handful of foreigners. Cannot their lives and their property be secured without putting a nation into fetters?

The rulers of this nation, the thinking people of this land, believe that a crisis has come. The nation cannot go back. If we do not give way, a new national evil is apprehended. And those of us who know enough of the language of the people to have conversed with them widely on the subject can well appreciate the apprehension. Those of us who have heard the *Hatamoto* and *Samurai* tell tales of the olden times, when they, two-sworded, sped through the land thirsting for foreign blood, as of some old strange dream; who have watched the unfolding spirit of the student and the press; who have chatted by the wayside with packhorse boys and plodding peasants in paddy-fields, and on these subjects, know full well the shallowness of the assertion that this agitation is confined to a few, is but the outcome of advice of unprincipled foreigners, as has been stated by two Yokohama merchants of long experience in, but with little knowledge of, Japan. These matters are matters of a nation's earnest discussion, away into hidden hamlets and mountain fastnesses. Everywhere the school has gone, the press has gone, national questions have gone, and a spirit of umbrage has gone.

We cannot refrain from earnestly protesting against a policy that would treat Japan as China must be treated while opposed to Western civilization, or Corea, now newly opened to the West. We believe that Japan's spirit and progress and pledges are such as entitle her to some place among civilized nations. She ought not to be condemned to a sort of isolation, rejected from the comity of Oriental nations as having abandoned all that the Orient held dear, rejected from the comity of Western nations as not yet having reached the height—not of the average Western nation—but as not yet being equal fully to the ripest and the best. We believe that the time has come when further continuance of this present state of affairs will not only be a material and social loss for the Japanese nation, but will give rise to a national moral and political wrong, that will cast a lasting stigma upon England's policy in the Orient and hinder the progress of not only the Eastern Pioneer of Western Civilization, but, indirectly, that of all the peoples of the Far East.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

FLATTENED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—This is sad—likewise instructive. Each breeze which sweeps across the Bay "brings to our ears the clash of resounding arms." What may be termed the underlying theme of the Yokohama journalistic concert is that old Kilkeny refrain, "Aitch! thought there was one cat too many." Governed by this general principle, the particular melodies may be anything or everything, no matter what, provided only there is no cessation in the music. Now the lurid glare of battle centres about the Ogden lynching case. Perhaps your amicable and estimable contemporaries are qualified to pronounce an immediate and conclu-

sive judgment upon everything American—perhaps they even know where Ogden is; be that as it may, there can at least be no doubt of the earnest vigour with which they have thrown themselves into the strife. We outsiders are not so much concerned with the merits of the dispute as with its results. These afford an illustration of the contact of ponderous substances travelling rapidly through space in opposite directions. One of your A. and E. C. aforesaid has, in the euphemistic language of the day, "sat down" upon the other, and now the places which knew the victim will know him no more—at least in his original shape. Even the verdict "didn't know it was loaded" will not suffice to unflatten the flattened. All that can be said is, that the *Gazette* should have known better than to deliberately get under *Herald* rhetoric. How could anything mortal be expected to survive this, for example:—

"This crime,—for crime it is, as much as any of the murders which it is intended to revenge,—though some elements of excuse are occasionally urged—has, of late, especially, been alarmingly frequent in the United States, and is,—at the present moment,—one of the greatest blots on American civilization," &c., &c. Unquestionably,—for this statement,—as anyone can see by reading it,—though some perverse individuals may doubt the fact, and offer some particles of reason in support,—has all the elements of probability to recommend it,—and may be, for the time being,—at least for the present moment,—regarded as settling the whole matter,—notwithstanding the howl which may be raised,—and doubtless will be,—by those purchased individuals, whose advocacy of anything is always just ground for suspicion to those who are in a position to weigh their motives exactly,—and to estimate at their true worth those ebullitions of uncalled for and lachrymose sympathy.

"If so, why not? Wherefore, stand by!"

When the echoes of the fray reach far off Ogden, the journalist who directs the destinies of that portion of the globe, while perhaps he may not be able to grasp all the subtleties of the logical lucidity which led to the catastrophe I have noted, will doubtless be fully able to understand the result. His comment upon the fate of the *Herald*, couched in the weird pithiness of the West, will probably be, "Mashed Dictionary."

Yours respectfully,

Tokio, May 23rd, 1884.

X.

MEMORIAL TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The comments which have been made respecting the action of Tokiyo missionaries regarding the question of Treaty Revision render it advisable that the whole of the facts should be published. I am happy to say that "considerations of official etiquette" do not stand in the way, but full authority having been granted, I take pleasure in transmitting to you the only document prepared and presented by Tokiyo missionaries on this subject.

It may not be amiss to review at the same time, the steps which led to this, and only this, action. During the latter part of the past year, the moderate demands and the guarantees proposed by the Japanese Government, with a view to the gradual abolition of extraterritoriality, began to attract attention, and became a topic of conversation among the missionaries. The general feeling was in favour of making all possible concessions to Japanese wishes, seeing that we are in Japan, and that, theoretically at least, her rule ought to be complete within her own territories. The matter was brought up in the Council of the Evangelical Alliance, by a somewhat enthusiastic member, who proposed a united petition to the diplomatic corps on the subject. A committee was appointed to make inquiries and see what was the best course to pursue. The result was that the feeling in favour of the Japanese proposals was strengthened, but at the same time it also transpired

that people of one nationality could not well address the Minister or Ministers of other nations. The question of making a public statement, such as that of our Osaka brethren, did not occur to us, and the Council of the Evangelical Alliance simply left the matter in the hands of the missionaries of the different nationalities. The missionaries hailing from the United States, felt that their Minister and their nation were already committed on the right side of the question, so that there was no need of any special presentation on their part. The British missionaries felt that Her Majesty's Representative, who was about to arrive in Japan after an absence of eight years, would no doubt be glad of every expression of opinion that would aid him in obtaining an understanding of the views held by various foreigners in the country. With the object of furnishing this information regarding the views of British missionaries on the subject of Treaty Revision, a meeting was called, and a deputation appointed to wait upon His Excellency. The deputation expressed the sense of the meeting in the following document, which, although not intended for the public, contains nothing to prohibit its publication, and certainly will need to be very much twisted to be construed into a request for special privileges for missionaries,—a thought which never entered the minds of these concerned.

I am, &c.,

A TOKIYO MISSIONARY.

Tokio, 24th May, 1884.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE HON. F. R. PLUNKETT,

HER MAJESTY'S ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTER PLENIPO-
TENTIARY IN JAPAN.

SIR,—As much discussion has, of late, taken place in the newspapers, and also in private circles, in regard to the desire expressed by the Japanese for some modification of the extra-territorial clauses of the treaties between Japan and the Foreign Powers, and as the question is one that affects the interests of every British subject who expects to live for any length of time in this country, a meeting of British Missionaries, residing in Tokio and Yokohama, was called in order to elicit their views in regard to the subject. The meeting was held on Saturday, 22nd inst., at No. 18, Tsukiji. There were present the Rev. Messrs. Waddell, White, Hopper, Lindsay, Davidson, Eby, and MacDonald, and Mr. J. A. Thomson, of the National Bible Society of Scotland. (These gentlemen represented five British Societies.)

It was felt that the immediate and entire abolition of extra-territoriality would be premature, but the meeting was unanimous in the opinion that the progress that Japan has made should be recognized, and that some modification of existing conditions should take place. The question, at once, arose as to the extent to which modifications could be made without sacrificing the interests of foreigners concerned.

We had learned, from various sources, of proposals which were said to have been made by the Japanese, or which they were willing to make, viz., that the treaties should be modified so as to give foreigners the right to travel (without passport) through the country and to trade, without the right of residence. Nevertheless that a larger area than at present, in which foreigners could reside and hold property, would be conceded—that in all minor cases, misdemeanors, delicts, foreigners should come directly under Japanese law, but that such law should be administered by foreign judges—that in all cases in which Japanese law might yet be imperfect, foreign precedent should be followed—that every case in which a foreigner would be concerned, requiring adjudication before the Courts, the hearing and decision thereof should rest with a foreign judge, or judges: such judges to be nominated by the Foreign Powers, but appointed to office, and paid by the Japanese Government—that this arrangement should continue for a definite term of years, say 5, 8, or 10, with the understanding that if it worked satisfactorily, this plan of partial

jurisdiction should, on ample guarantees being made to the Foreign Powers, give place to an arrangement involving the entire abolition of extra-territoriality.

The meeting was of the unanimous opinion that a workable plan on the line of these proposals could be formed, that the rights of foreigners could be conserved, and the wishes of the Japanese met, inasmuch as it would give them partial jurisdiction, and although it placed them on trial, it would afford the hope that at a fixed time in the future extraterritoriality would be abolished, and they would be able to exercise the rights of an independent nation. A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Waddell and MacDonald, was appointed to present these views to His Excellency the British Minister.

We desire to assure Your Excellency that we do not undervalue the privileges which we enjoy as British subjects, and if it were a matter of choice merely, we should prefer to remain entirely under British jurisdiction. But we cannot ignore the claims which the Japanese urge, and if some modifications could be made that would meet their wishes, and at the same time guard our rights, we feel that our preferences should be waived.

In our opinion the time seems to be ripe for a change of this kind. We are aware that any modification of existing conditions may imply inconvenience to individuals in adjusting their affairs to the altered circumstances; even loss, in some cases, might be sustained (e.g. the opening of Tokio, would diminish the value of property in Tsukiji); but we feel that considerations of this kind, which relate only to the individual, should not be allowed to check the aspirations and retard the progress of a whole nation. Every movement of the world in the way of progress has impinged uncomfortably somewhere, but nevertheless, it is desirable that the world should move.

This question, moreover, has not come suddenly upon us. Every one who knows anything of the spirit of the Japanese people, and who has noted the progress that the nation has made, must have been convinced that the abolition of extra-territoriality was a destiny unshunnable, only a question of time, and in taking up his residence in this empire, it must have been with the conviction that the present state of things could not be perpetuated.

It has been suggested that the desire for modifications in regard to the extra-territorial clauses is but a patriotic sentiment, limited to a few; but we have reason to believe that it prevails much more widely than we might thus be led to suppose, and furthermore, that a feeling of bitterness towards foreigners is springing up with it, in consequence of what the Japanese conceive to be their rights as a nation being withheld.

Believing that the time is ripe for some modification of extraterritoriality, we venture to express the hope that Your Excellency, in concert with the Representatives of the other Foreign Powers, may be able to devise some plan by which the desire of the Japanese may be met, and at the same time, the rights and liberties of foreigners secured.

We have the honour to remain, yours with respect,

(Signed) HUGH WADDELL.

(Signed) D. MACDONALD.

Deputation appointed by the Meeting
of British Missionaries.

Of all Christian missionaries in Kobe, Osaka, and Kiyoto, the American pastors appear most active, and have converted a considerable number of Japanese. It is said that steps are being taken in America to raise a fund for the furtherance of their efforts. Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu called on a certain missionary in Kobe on the eve of his departure for America, and had a long conversation with the latter on subjects connected with Christianity. It is generally believed that Mr. Mutsu's foreign tour has much to do with religious affairs. —*Fiji Shimpō*.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Chamber of Commerce, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, May 21st, Dr. Divers in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Tokiyo Meeting, having been published in both the daily and weekly editions of the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

In the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, the RECORDING SECRETARY for Tokiyo intimated the election of the Hon. F. R. Plunkett as a member of the Society.

Dr. WHITNEY then read a paper entitled "Notes on Medical Progress in Japan."

In considering the history of Medical Progress in Japan, the writer of this paper divides the subject into five portions, corresponding to five important periods of Japanese Medical History. In the first period, embracing the mythological age, the treatment of disease, it appears, consisted in the use of charms and the employment of the simplest remedies, which it is said was originated by *Ó na muchi no mikoto*, the Great-name-possessing Deity. The second period covers nearly nine hundred years from the middle of the second century B.C., during which time Chinese and Korean medicine was introduced, as well as Buddhism and various useful arts. The third begins with the establishment of the University, which occurred toward the close of the eighth century, and extends to the middle of the sixteenth century. The University and Medical Department, it seems, were thoroughly organized, and, although the latter was not a part of the University proper, yet its students received, if we may judge from the account of the seven years' course of study then pursued, a thorough and systematic training in Chinese medicine, and enjoyed equal rank and privileges with the students of the University. Chinese medicine, as then taught, was embodied in works consisting chiefly of numerous dissertations and philosophical deductions based upon incorrect notions as to the anatomy of the human frame and the relation of its various viscera with one another and with the different phenomena of nature. The fourth period from the middle of the sixteenth century and the appearance of the Portuguese in Japan to the Restoration in 1867, embraces the most important portion of the medical history of the country, during which occurred the revival of both the Japanese and Chinese schools, and the introduction of Western medicine and its subsequent adoption at the Court of the Shōgun in the appointment of a physician educated in Western science to the position of physician to the Court. Western medicine, it seems, played no unimportant part as a factor in the temporary success of the Portuguese missionaries, who, accompanied by two physicians, were sent out by Philip II. of Spain and Portugal to teach Christianity to the Japanese. These physicians were received and cordially welcomed by Nobunaga, who granted them among other privileges the use of some 7,500 acres of public lands on the slopes of Ibukiyama, in the province of Omi, for the purpose of cultivating medicinal plants. Later, a Charity Hospital, conducted by foreign and native physicians, was established, which added much to the influence of the priests and the religion they taught. After reviewing the theories of several of the most important schools of medicine of the seventeenth century, the paper gives in detail some of the circumstances attendant upon the translation into Japanese of a Dutch work upon Anatomy by Mayeno Riyotaku and Sugita Gempaku, which translation was published by Sugita in about the year 1775, and was the first work of the kind published in Japanese. The patient, persistent, and successful efforts of Sugita and his co-workers, who, actuated solely by the desire of benefitting their fellow-beings, laid the foundation of a school of Western Medicine, entitles them to a foremost place in the grateful remembrance of their country,

and also to a place among the benefactors of their race. The principal events following the introduction of Western Medicine were: the introduction of vaccination into Yezo in 1824, from Russia, by a Japanese fisherman; and at Nagasaki, in 1848, by Dr. Monike, a Dutch subject, the establishment of an "Institution of Vaccination" at Yedo in 1858, and of a Medical School at Nagasaki in the year preceding. During the fifth period, which begins with the first year of Meiji (1867), a number of hospitals and medical schools had been established under foreign direction, and the medical Department of the University of Tokio thoroughly organized. The medical and sanitary laws of the empire, of which a brief account is given in the paper, show the determination of the Government to establish a high standard of medical education by the thoroughness of the examinations, and also to protect the lives of the people by the enforcement of wise regulations regarding public health. Candidates for licenses to practice medicine are required to have pursued their medical studies for a period of at least three years before being eligible for final examination, and apothecaries, dentists, and midwives are also required to follow a fixed course of study, and pass satisfactory examinations before being licensed to practice. Vaccination is compulsory. Medical examination of prostitutes is regularly made in the chief cities and towns of the empire, and suitable provision is made for the free treatment of the sick. The paper concludes with further brief references to medical affairs of the present day, including Hospitals and Colléges, the Army and Navy Bureaux, the Medical literature of the present time, Medical mission work, and a mention of the most prominent Japanese physicians and surgeons of the day, as well as of such foreign medical men as have taken prominent places in medical teaching or practice in Japan.

The CHAIRMAN, in thanking the author in the name of the Society for his valuable historical paper, drew attention to the comparative freedom from superstitious rites in the ancient Japanese treatment of disease. In the subsequent development of the art, the great event undoubtedly was the translation by Sugita and his co-workers of the Dutch book on anatomy. Since then the progress had been simply determined by the rapidity with which Japan had assimilated Western ideas. The present system by which the Government controls, by means of its licence laws and well-ordered laboratories, the sale of drugs and medicines, was highly commendable.

Dr. WHITNEY subsequently mentioned the very perfect control which the Government exercised over the sale of opium—which was, so far as he knew, quite unique amongst the legislative measures of civilized nations. All the opium sold in Japan was retailed by the Government to the druggists, who were obliged to give twice a year a full account of their sales. Also, the purchaser had to present a written certificate signed by a licensed doctor or dealer in drugs.

The meeting then adjourned.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE TARIFF QUESTION.

(Translated from the *Keizai Zasshi*.)

It has been universally believed for some time past that the Government is carrying on negotiations to the effect that foreigners should be permitted to reside and trade in the interior of the country, and that Mixed Courts are to be established in which suits affecting both Japanese and foreigners will be tried. As a compensation for these privileges, it is said that our authorities intend raising the tariff duties to an average of 10 per cent. We have already expatiated on the

undeniable advantages of mixed residence, and have frequently expressed our hope that the Government would carry out its plan without loss of time. Mixed residence is earnestly desired by all classes of foreigners, and the right to permit it rests entirely with us; but we must use the power conferred by this right carefully, and extraterritoriality must be abolished as an off-set to whatever concessions we make. It were, indeed, a shortsighted and fatal policy, should we give up the sole privilege we can still grant to aliens before they have renounced the present extraterritorial system. For, so soon as foreigners pitch their tents in the interior, intercourse between them and our countrymen would become free and more intimate, and appeals to the law would undoubtedly be of more frequent occurrence in consequence. And, in this case, were Foreign Governments to have great influence in and over the Mixed Courts established by our authorities, the position would be almost unbearable. And moreover, although we are not certain whether the Government will grant foreigners the right of acquiring land, yet, if this be done, taxes will have to be levied on the land in their possession. Nor is this the only tax to be levied upon foreigners, so soon as they have settled in the interior. Should, therefore, any one fail to pay the legal tax, the Government would be forced to request the Mixed Courts to interfere in the matter. How irksome and trying such a course would be needs no demonstration. We do not share the apprehension entertained by some political critics that, should foreigners be permitted to acquire land in the interior, more than half of our arable territory would pass into their hands. There is a limit even to the resources of aliens, and the fact that they held landed property would not go for much. Yet it would be in the highest degree impolitic were we to concede all these rights to foreigners before they, on their part, had abolished extraterritorial malpractices. It would be decidedly more to our liking could we sanction mixed residence without any hope or desire for compensation on the part of foreigners; but so long as matters stand as they now do, we must perforce indemnify ourselves for every privilege granted to aliens.

Some controversialists argue that, because all manner of taxable productions are already overburdened with imposts, the land-tax, in especial, should by no means be increased; and that if Foreign Governments express their willingness to accede to a higher tariff, mixed residence should be at once sanctioned, without attempting to do away with extraterritoriality. There could be no falser argument. The right of jurisdiction is the first and most important object to be restored to this country, and though the right of a tariff is not to be left out of consideration, its full possession is only a matter of secondary importance, and not the one great pinnacle of our desires. Should we not be able to obtain both simultaneously, we must rather give up the tariff than forego our judicial rights. Why should the Customs' duties not be increased? As we have pointed out again and again, the plan best calculated to maintain the future well-being of this country is to make Japan the centre of Oriental commerce. Free trade is a great factor in the attainment of this end, but if it proves impracticable for the moment, there is no way but to lessen our Customs' duties as much as possible. The restoration of the right of determining the tariff forms no part of this country's weal.

England was the first to adopt free trade, and the result of its working more than amply testifies the grand benefits of the system. America, still adheres to its protectionist groove, but the dawn of free trade already reddens her political horizon. The best example of the blessings of free trade is offered by the Australian Colonies. New South Wales and Victoria were both infant colonies a short time ago, and alike in all points, except that in the former free trade flourished, and that a protectionist system existed in the latter. Questions

having reference to social matters are, unlike scientific affairs, often of a difficult and puzzling nature, and this difficulty is frequently experienced in comparing the respective merits of different trade systems. The fact that these two Australian colonies worked each on a different system of trade, though alike in all other respects, attracted the attentive interest of the political economists in Europe and America. Let us look at the results. In 1880, New South Wales had 2,500 manufactures, employing 3.7 per cent. of the population; the Customs' revenue of this same year had increased from £850,000 in 1870 to £1,300,000; finally, the total exports and imports in 1870 amounted to £19,000,000, against £29,000,000 in 1880. The case was different with Victoria. Despite the much larger population, the percentage of individuals employed in manufactures was only 2.3 in 1880; the Customs' revenue had not materially increased since 1870; and the census, deposits in the local saving-banks, statistics of marriages, etc., all went to prove that the progress of Victoria was far slower than that of New South Wales. The *London Economist* asserted that the number of people employed in Victorian manufactures was far too small in comparison with those engaged in other pursuits. The manufactures of Victoria, though under the protection of the administration, have drawn no profit from this protection. And what is more noteworthy, the Customs' revenue of New South Wales, where free trade obtains and duties are light, have been and are steadily increasing; while in Victoria, where high duties are levied on imports and exports, the revenue shows no material increase. This, however, need not be a matter for surprise; for the experience of every country proves that heavy duties depress commerce and impede the advance of international intercourse. Turning to our original theme, we may fairly conclude, that these facts postulate a decrease rather than an increase in our tariff, and they show, also, that the contentions of those who would alter the tariff in connection with treaty revision are a mere waste of words.

The decisions of our Cabinet are unknown to the outer world, and we, as laymen and private individuals, have no means of ascertaining what principles underlie the negotiations carried on between this Government and Foreign Powers. And so we can but devoutly trust that the Government will not pursue the policy with which it is popularly accredited. Whatever steps may be taken as to jurisdiction, it is of the first importance that the Customs' duties be left as they are, or, better still, materially decreased. Our country, if it would rank with the strong nations of the world, must use the weapon of commerce with caution and deliberation; and, would we see our people and manufactures flourishing, we must base our national commerce on the grand rock of free trade.

THE MARUYA GINKO AND THE ORIENTAL BANK.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

That the Maruya Ginko in Tokiyo, and a branch of the Oriental Bank in Yokohama have, one after the other, suspended payment is one of the most remarkable events that have lately occurred in our commercial community. The Oriental Bank has its head office in London, with branches in India, China, and Japan, and is well known the world over. We were lately informed that the Bank referred to had failed to realize satisfactory profits, and that the strict nature of its organization and the difficulty of obtaining official sanction for certain projects had, in some respects, deterred it from issuing notes and from continuing business on the unlimited liability plan. We also heard that a proposal was recently made to convert the Bank into a limited liability company, but that after the proposal had been fully discussed in Parliament, it was unfortunately

rejected at the third reading. Had this proposal taken a form applicable to Banks in general, it might have passed through Parliament, but its rejection seems to have been grounded on the assertion that if a special privilege were granted exclusively to the Oriental Bank, this precedent would affect the organization of other Banks. The directors of the Oriental Bank, too, appear to have anticipated that their proposal would not pass through Parliament without alteration, but they had no idea that it would be entirely rejected. Since they thus failed to obtain sanction for their proposed reforms, they forthwith determined to dissolve their corporation, to re-organize a Bank of limited liability under the same style, in conformity with the regulations for the formation of commercial companies, so that the creditors as well as shareholders of the Bank would reap equal advantage. In this spirit, all payments were suspended. It is, therefore, evident that the steps taken by the Oriental Bank in Yokohama are due to the instructions received from its chief office. Later telegrams announce that measures are being taken to persuade capitalists to become shareholders in the new Oriental Bank, Limited; and although we do not know what will be the limit of the Bank's liability, there can be no doubt that the new institution will sooner or later be established. Again, the suspension of the Oriental Bank was not due to bankruptcy, but is simply ascribable to the fact that the directors desire to carry out measures for liquidation. Accordingly, we are inclined to believe that no loss is likely to ensue for any of the creditors of the Bank. Yet, the sudden stoppage of such a large concern, whether on account of bankruptcy or the adoption of measures for liquidation, is certain to affect the transactions of commercial communities to a considerable extent, and London merchants may have suffered more or less. Nevertheless, any unpleasant consequences of this suspension do not appear to have been felt in Yokohama. Although our Government has entrusted its foreign remittances to the Oriental Bank in Yokohama, it appears that the balance of payments in favour of the Government does not exceed six *yen*, and that as its foreign loan and interest had just been paid by the Bank, the amount due by it on account of its deposits will be only 200,000 *yen* or 150,000 *yen*. With regard to these deposits, it must be remembered that when our Government some years ago issued silver *yen* for circulation in Eastern ports, it invested a sum of five hundred thousand *yen* each in the Oriental and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, and that, therefore, a certain amount still remains due from the former Bank. As regards the deposits of foreigners, too, the amount seems to be less than we supposed, although we cannot tell precisely what it is. The amount due to the First, Second and Mitsui Banks together does not exceed ten thousand *yen*, and although it appears that a certain company has to receive a deposit of sixty thousand *yen*, the grand total to be paid to the Japanese will be less than two hundred thousand *yen*. And so, the suspension of the Oriental Bank, though it has some peculiar aspects, it is not likely to seriously affect the welfare of either foreign or native merchants.

On the other hand, the suspension of the Maruya Ginko in Tokiyo threatens to bring about formidable results. The relation it bears to its creditors is as close and intimate as that of the Oriental Bank is free and unhindered. The Maruya Bank is a private institution with a capital of 150,000 *yen*. Whether its capital was paid out or what amount it holds as a reserve fund, we do not know; yet it seems certain that its capital and reserve fund together do not, as the public justly supposes, nearly approximate double the amount of its nominal capital. Rumours are current that, although the Bank had to receive the sum of 550,000 *yen*, it had to pay out 650,000 *yen*, and that on account of this deficiency, it was unable to continue doing business, and was finally obliged to suspend payment. No-

thing can be stranger than these rumours. Unless the Bank has unexpectedly sustained considerable losses, it is impossible that its debts should exceed the amounts due to it. The Bank might have looked upon all the doubtful loans it had contracted as so much loss. Had its accounts been settled in this way, the amount of its debts might have become greater than the monies due to it. Nevertheless, that its accounts had reached something like 600,000 *yen*, while it possesses a capital of 150,000 *yen* only, is a conclusive proof of the activity with which it carried on business. In regard to the classification of its accounts, we are informed that as its organization partook of the nature of a Savings Bank, the principal portion of the monies entrusted to its care consisted of the educational funds of scholars, and of deposits made by officers, physicians, literati, and other prominent members of society. If this be true, it is plain that the depositors will be the immediate sufferers, no matter whether the suspension of the Bank may have arisen from complete failure or merely from a temporary ill wind. Should the creditors agree to grant sufficient delay for liquidation, the shareholders of the Bank will be able to hold a conference to settle its accounts and to pay, if necessary, their own monies for its debts, so that no loss may be entailed upon the creditors. But if the creditors refuse to grant such delay, it may possibly happen that, as the Bank is a private institution of unlimited liability, some of its shareholders who are under the obligation of paying the Bank's debts will be required, if solvent, to pay several tens of thousands of *yen*, even though they hold only one or two shares. This was the case with a certain English gentleman, who, holding but one single share in the Glasgow Bank, was obliged to pay upwards of 1,200,000 *yen* out of his private purse when the concern became bankrupt. Thus the failure of the Maruya Bank is likely to produce serious results.

We hope in behalf of the Bank, its shareholders, its creditors, and society at large, that no results of a disastrous nature will ensue. We have lately heard that the Bank has entrusted the adjustment of its affairs to a certain prominent person in the capital, who possesses a high reputation for virtue and talent. It may, therefore, be supposed that some judicious scheme will be devised for the benefit of shareholders and creditors, so as to avert total bankruptcy, if possible, and, if not, to dissolve the institution by paying off the debts by composition. Honesty and his good reputation will certainly enable the liquidator to attain his end without any serious difficulty. Properly speaking, a bank owes its maintenance to public credit, and therefore its inability to resume business after suspension does not end there, but the consequences of such inability seriously affect society at large. We earnestly hope that both the Maruya and Oriental Banks will not be dissolved.

THE PROFLIGACY OF JAPANESE WOMAN.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Profligacy is the source of great evils. It ruins a family as well as a nation. This is only too well proved by the history of every nation, ancient and modern, foreign and domestic. Legends, romances, and poetry show the inevitable consequences of licentiousness. The horrible nature of such evils is well familiar to all men. Although we do not desire to comment upon this great curse in detail, yet we cannot help saying that the conduct of our women tends to impair the national reputation. That ancient sage Sorai says in one of his works:—"Profligacy is not considered a shameful act, and its abuses have reached an extreme limit." This statement may well be applied to the social condition of to-day. If we do not take some energetic steps towards amelioration, this corruption will so greatly increase that our

national honour will be jeopardized. It seems that our nation has already gained more or less notoriety for social corruption. We dare no longer remain indifferent to such a state of affairs.

Even though the dissolute conduct of our women is highly reprehensible, some persons might still be disposed to silently ignore it were it confined to districts where foreigners could not easily penetrate. But indifference becomes impossible when we perceive that our women are disposed to emigrate to Yokohama, Hiogo, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, and many other localities where foreigners are settled, and that there they pursue their profligate trade without any sense of shame,—nay, even with a certain pride. Yet even this wide-spread prostitution might be tolerated; but it is a shameful fact that Japanese women have gone to foreign countries across the wide ocean, and have made themselves notorious for extreme licentiousness. Our patriotism forbids us to keep silence any longer, however much we dislike to approach the subject. The whole matter is unspeakably sad. Europe and America are separated from us by broad oceans, and a journey to those continents is not easily undertaken even by men. There may not be many women who have gone thither as prostitutes, but in some ports of Korea, China, and Russia, where there are small congregations of Japanese settlers, there are already many profligate females. It is true that Korea enjoys a lower degree of civilization than Japan, and is therefore inferior to the latter in point of customs and manners, as well as in the national constitution; yet it cannot be denied that, so far as their women are concerned, the former is not far behind us. Even the prostitutes and *geisha* of Korea do not behave themselves in an unbecoming manner, but endeavour to attend upon distinguished visitors with grave composure. It is said, however, that since Japanese harlots went over there and set the example of open prostitution, the native females have been astonished at the growing popularity of these women, and endeavoured to compete with them by lowering the price of their wicked deeds. All shame upon our women of low birth, so licentious and contemptible that they have not only managed to corrupt the customs of this people, as well as to demoralize our youth, but have also gone to Korea, and, taking advantage of the intellectual superiority of our nation, have induced her women to follow their example. That Chinese are immodest and libidinous is a fact well known to all, and so disgusting is their conduct that many hold one and all in extreme contempt. We have lately heard that the behaviour of Japanese women in Shanghai and other Chinese ports is even worse than that of the Chinese themselves, and that the native residents of these ports point a scornful finger at them. Alas! the licentious conduct of our women is more than sufficient to ruin our national "honour." But these ignorant and villainous women have not contented themselves with prostitution in their native land, and, plying their foul trade in trans-Pacific countries, have aroused the contempt of the Chinese against us. Who would not sorrow over such a horrible state of affairs; those, especially, who prize the reputation of our people? The latest correspondence received from Vladivostock says that the Japanese settlers in that port number 400, of whom three-fifths are males and two-fifths females. We were surprised at this great number of women, but in the latter part of the letter we found the following statement:—"The women are chiefly prostitutes, and mistresses of foreigners, while a few only are married to Manchurians. Most of the men keep houses of ill-fame; some are employed as waiters in these dens, and others as servants of foreigners. The females leave their houses both day and night, jest coarsely in the public thoroughfares, and talk with intoxicated sailors and natives in a most noisy and impertinent manner. It is too disgraceful a sight to be borne with patience. There are women who wear tawdry apparel and keep their hair undressed, women with

demoniac faces distorted with vice who infest the wine-shops and go about partially nude: these are prostitutes bought by Manchurians from their masters. The poor women who, scantily dressed, take foreign children in *jinrikishas* to the public gardens and through the streets, are the wives of Japanese settlers and the mistresses of foreigners. Those who stand by the road side at night, and pull the sleeves of passers by, are Japanese women who lead the most wicked and fearful lives. As this is the actual state of affairs, the profligacy of Japanese women forms a constant topic of conversation among the residents of Vladivostock. They are vituperated, despised, and denounced to such an extent that we can hardly keep our patience. Europeans have even intimated that the shameless women of Japan seem to be the chief articles for export, and they have refrained from making acquaintance with Japanese women, whether of high or low class, as they despise them all without discrimination." Is it not truly astonishing that Japanese females of low birth should have so dreadfully lowered our national honour and prestige?

Although these shameless women have not yet undertaken to ply their trade outside of Russia, Korea, and China, they will probably extend their nefarious enterprise to Europe and America. Above all, as San Francisco is not far distant from our country, and is the home of a large number of Orientals, that port is most likely to be attacked by bands of Japanese prostitutes, and if these harlots once reach America, encourage prostitution, and serve to demoralize the citizens, the Republican Government will not remain indifferent to such abuses, but will speedily publish a number of regulations to prevent the influx of Japanese women of ill-fame, just as it forbade Chinese immigration. That Chinese were forbidden to immigrate to America is a disgrace to the Empire, and if a similar step is taken against our female immigrants we shall feel extremely humiliated. And even though Japanese women of ill fame were not prohibited from immigrating to America, how would that country speak of us? Our country's fair name and honor would suffer terribly. The Japanese prostitutes in Russia, Korea, and China are already numerous enough to cast opprobrium on this country, and how much more would this be the case should they ply their evil trade in America or Europe? The situation is one of the greatest delicacy and danger. We regret it deeply, and have endeavoured to show that even the actions of shameless women can endanger our national prestige. It is to be hoped that those who take an interest in the welfare of this land will direct their utmost attention to these facts. As regards the methods of doing away with the existing abuses, we shall express our opinions at some future time; but, for the present, we earnestly request the public to give the matter their grave consideration.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE FRANCO-CHINA DIFFICULTY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

On the afternoon of the 12th instant we received a telegram announcing the amicable solution of complications between France and China. The telegram in question is said to have been received by a certain trustworthy commercial company in Tokiyo from its branch office in Shanghai, and to have been despatched from that port at 3.30 p.m. Accordingly, we are disposed to think that it is worthy to be believed to a certain extent, if not in its entirety. We published it in our issue of the 13th instant. But as the telegram referred to gave but the simple announcement that the *difficulties between France and China were settled*, we were, at the moment, unable to ascertain the nature of the treaty concluded. According to another telegram from London, dated 12th inst., and received in the capital on the 13th, it seems that the *two countries have signed a treaty of peace which pro-*

vides that the French protectorate in Tonquin and Annam is to be acknowledged; that the provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan are to be opened to trade, and that France will renounce all claim to an indemnity. A third telegram, received on the 14th instant, states that Captain Fournier, having received special instructions from the Cabinet of his country, opened negotiations with Li Hung-chang, and signed the following treaty at Tientsin:—

Art. 1.—The Chinese Government shall open up Yunnan and the neighbouring provinces to French trade.

Art. 2.—The Chinese Government shall recognize the right of France to protect Annam and Tonquin.

Art. 3.—The frontiers of Tonquin are to be settled by natural boundaries.

Art. 4.—A commercial treaty between France and China shall be signed as soon as possible, and the latter country shall grant the former such terms as become a friendly Power.

Art. 5.—The Chinese troops must be withdrawn from Tonquin.

Art. 6.—The French Government shall renounce all claim to a pecuniary indemnity.

The above stipulations are said to have been signed at the Viceroy Li's residence, on Sunday, the 11th instant.

This treaty enables France not only to take possession of the whole of Tonquin and Annam, but also to oust China permanently out of her claimed suzerainty over these two provinces. The Middle Kingdom must withdraw her troops from these provinces and abandon all relations with them. The French are no longer to meet with opposition in carrying on trade relations with Yunnan and the neighbouring provinces. The enthusiasm displayed by the French in occupying Tonquin has evidently arisen from their desire to establish trade with Yunnan, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi, and they have now more than fully obtained their desire. But, on the other hand, all that China has gained in the contest is nothing but her own indemnity, which she is not forced to pay the French. In other words, she has barely escaped with her life. The Annam and Tonquin affair has remained unsettled for more than a year, and, during that time, things have been in so critical a condition that the least false step on either side would have led to a war. It appears that, as a rule, the diplomatic policy of the Chinese Government results in botching matters whenever complications with other nations reach a crisis. We always found it difficult to persuade ourselves that the recent embroglio with France would lead to war. Yet the resolute demands of the Marquis Tseng, and the active measures taken by the Chinese for the defence of their littoral, and the like, induced us for a moment to suppose that China had this time resolved to forcibly resist France's claims. These warlike preparations were carried on by both nations, and it was often doubtful whether such complications could end without bloodshed.

We also supposed that even though terms of peace were offered China, she would not accept them at once. It is most surprising that she should have so quietly complied with the demands of France. The French have succeeded admirably in occupying Tonquin, and forcing China to believe that they held the country as a hostage for her good behaviour. Their success can only be ascribed to the fact that they had a marvellously correct opinion of the policy of the Chinese Government.

The resolute action of the Marquis Tseng at Paris may have arisen from a spirit of bravado, and it is not to be wondered at that the Chinese troops despatched to the west of Bac-ninh were hopelessly routed. Nevertheless, when the party of Prince Kung were replaced about a month ago by the Ministers of the two Princes Ch'un and Li, we declared that, in spite of ministerial changes, the two parties referred to were not separated from each other by reason of their policy, but that they were rather disposed to offer mutual resistance for the sake of political power. To regard them, therefore, as two distinct parties—the one advocating war and the other, peace—would not have been thoroughly correct. But although we believed that the warlike tendencies of Ch'un and Li were not so deep-rooted as many were inclined to suppose, we never dreamed of their being really in favour of peace. We thought it extremely strange that the Viceroy Li Hung-chang was still permitted to maintain his prominent position, and that he did not share the fate of other Ministers. But now we understand that the new Cabinet in Peking has advocated peace from the outset. Although we do not know how matters came to so sudden a standstill, yet the people of China and all other nations are to be congratulated upon the amicable

solution of these complications. The information we have received announces that Li Hung-chang was accredited by the Peking Government with full power to carry on peaceful negotiations, and that he communicated his desire to Captain Fournier at Tientsin. Captain Fournier reported the matter to the Cabinet at Paris, and, after receiving special instructions, opened negotiations with Li Hung-chang and concluded a treaty in three days. Therefore, the negotiations in question appear to have opened on the 7th or 8th instant. It is extremely difficult to become familiar with the actual condition of the Chinese Government. Nor is it an exaggeration to state that its policy is so changeable that its real nature is indeterminable. If the Chinese had really anticipated disadvantageous results from a war with France, why did they not long ago abandon their vain claims to the suzerainty of Tonquin and Annam? Why did they not accept the propositions advanced by France, divide those provinces, and settle their boundaries amicably? If they had entered into negotiations at the outset, they might have been able to conclude a treaty much better than the one they have just signed. We cannot but regret that they have lost all opportunity to maintain their prestige. It may be justly supposed that in enforcing the present treaty many points will arise which will necessitate further negotiations, and that the results will materially affect the policy of China as well as that of Western and Eastern nations. Although the peaceable conclusion of the difficulties between France and China may be beneficial to the latter country, yet we cannot help regretting that the Middle Kingdom should have had many of its rights wrested away by France—losses for which there is no compensation and nothing to show.

THE REVISION OF THE STAMP REGULATIONS.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

It was in February of the 6th year of Meiji (1873) that our Government published the Stamp Regulations by Notification No. 56 of the Privy Council. These Regulations were subsequently revised in several Notifications until they were entirely abolished by Notification No. 81 of the Privy Council, issued on the 29th July, 1874. New Regulations were then published, and have been in force up to the present time. On the 1st of this month, however, another ordinance was promulgated over the signatures of the First Minister of State, H.E. Sanjo Saneyoshi, and the Minister of Finance, H.E. Matsukata Masayoshi, with the Imperial sanction. This ordinance is to come into force on the 1st July of this year. To be brief, the new ordinance is a revision of the previous regulations, with which the public are well acquainted. As the ordinance in question, like the postal regulations, bears a relation to most public transactions, it must be carefully perused and kept constantly in mind, so that the people do not lose their rights nor offend against the law. It is scarcely necessary to say anything about the nature of the old and new regulations, as a careful comparison will clearly show whatever differences there may be in point of severity or lenity. A good knowledge of the new ordinance will suffice for the present; neither shall we take the trouble to compare the two systems, in order to point out the facilities afforded by the new regulations. According to the old system, all documents, with the exception of those in which it was not necessary to mention the amount of money, were to be made out on ruled paper known as *Kaishi*, so long as the sum concerned did not exceed ten *yen*. It was not necessary to affix stamps to such documents. Debentures for more than ten *yen* needed a one *sen* stamp, and every further ten *yen* involved an additional duty of one *sen*, no matter how large the amount. The new Ordinance requires the attachment of a one *sen* stamp to debentures for more than one *yen*; but for sums up to four thousand *yen* the stamp duty does not exceed one *yen*. Although the rate of duty may, in some respects, be neutralized in the two systems, according to the amount of money specified, *the new ordinance appears, on the whole, to have more or less lowered the stamp duty*. What we regard as a great boon, is the total abolition of the use of *Kaishi* in ordinary debentures. According to existing rules, we are not only compelled to use ruled paper, but also to affix stamps to our debentures; and therefore we have a double trouble, and, in reality, a double stamp duty. Debentures for ten *yen* are actually subject to a duty of *sen* 1.7. Experience shows that merchants who conduct business on a large scale are frequently embarrassed by reason of the present system, to be abrogated, happily, on the 1st July next. After the abolition of the present

system, *Hanshi*, *Minogami*, *Hankiri*, or any other kind of paper may be used in debentures, according to choice; and the waste of paper by reason of bad writing or copying will no longer entail loss upon the writer. These circumstances, together with the reduction of the stamp duty, will not fail to promote the public good.

Although it seems convenient to make exclusive use of *Kaishi* without stamps, yet it will be rather difficult to find suitable paper for various contracts or debentures; especially as the number of words to be written is not fixed. Indeed, it may be quite convenient in business transactions to employ *Kaishi* for bills of exchange, promissory notes, and money orders on security, all of which documents require but a definite number of words, such as a statement of the amount of money, the date, and names of the persons concerned. The present revision of the regulations extends also to the papers to be used for such purposes. For instance, thin dark paper worth four *sen* is to be used in bills of exchange bearing a value of *yen* 150; and light bluish paper worth fifty *sen* for promissory notes with a face value of *yen* 5,000. In both cases no stamps are needed, and immense facilities are thus afforded.

Yet some are inclined to assert that all the documents made out in contravention of both old and new regulations will not be accepted in courts of justice, and that the possessors of such documents will be required to resign the rights or claims to which they are entitled. It is said, however, that this will not be the case, so long as proper corroborative evidence can be produced. As for ourselves, we would assert that, since the new Stamp Regulations have only to do with the collection of taxes and are not based on the so-called law of testimony, they have no reference to any such law. But there are two questions that may arouse suspicion. One of these relates to Article IV. of the new regulations which provides that if the ledgers or debentures to which stamps should be affixed are not stamped in accordance with Article V. they will not be accepted in civil courts. . . . If the notes or bills which do not require the attachment of stamps are made out on other than the appropriate legal paper, in contravention of the Regulations, and if fines are paid in accordance with Article XIX., will they be received in civil courts? This is a question which demands solution. If they are to be taken in the courts, the efficiency of the new regulations will be impaired. Are they, then, not to be accepted? We do not find any provisions which distinctly forbid their acceptance. How are they to be dealt with? Some are disposed to think that, as the use of notes or bills is generally encouraged by the laws of the country, the fact of their having been drawn up in contravention of the Regulations is not likely to injure their validity. We do not wish to express an opinion on the subject, and would rather leave it to the judgment of the public. The other question also relates to Article IV., which forbids the acceptance of bills or notes in civil courts, if they are drawn up in violation of the rules. But how are we to be dealt with in the matter of *oral contracts*? For instance: a person who prepares a debenture for a thousand *yen* will not only be liable to punishment if he neglects to affix a stamp to it to the value of thirty-eight *sen*, but he will actually lose all legal claim to the debt. If, however, he lends that sum under the security of a trustworthy person without receiving a debenture for it, he will not only save himself from falling into the clutches of the law, but he can also request the court to accept his document whenever he desires to sue the debtor. He will by no means forfeit his rights if he can produce corroborative evidence in support of his claim. Although it is true that the absence of a debenture may sometimes lead to the suppression of evidence, yet there is no reason to assert that *oral contracts* will not hold good in a court of justice. Now, if the court is to accept oral contracts and reject unstamped debentures, the question naturally arises whether such a proceeding would not savour of illegality. How our Government will solve the problem we are unable to predict; and we simply refer to it so that our thinking men may give it their earnest consideration. Article XIV. of the present Regulations, which provides that persons who, having discovered offences committed against the ordinance, and informed the proper authorities of the fact, shall receive half the amount of the fines exacted from the offender—has been withdrawn from the new Regulations, and this may have arisen from the idea that those who willfully impeach others in order to show their own honesty are not worthy of a reward. Many other alterations have been made, but it is unnecessary to dwell upon them any further. And before we lay aside our pen, we would state our conviction that the alterations in question are destined to lessen the trouble of the people, and are a decided improvement upon the old regulations.

NOTIFICATIONS.

NOTIFICATION No. 16 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby prohibited to hunt seals and otters throughout the Hokkaido. Persons violating this prohibition will be dealt with according to the provisions of Article CCCLXXIII. 1 of the Criminal Code. The catch shall be confiscated, and the price of any seals or otters sold shall be exacted from the sellers.

N.B.—This prohibition does not extend to those who have received special permission from the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

By Imperial Decree.

PRINCE TARUHITO,
Second Minister of State.
SAIGO YORIMICHI,
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

May 23rd, 1884.

NOTIFICATION No. 17 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

The words "and from Ogaki to Yokkaichi, Ise, Miye Prefecture" shall be inserted after the words "along the Nakasendo" in Article I. 2 of the Nakasendo Railway Bonds Regulations, published by Notification No. 4 of December, 1883.

By Imperial Decree,

PRINCE TARUHITO, Second Minister of State.
MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI, Minister of Finance.

May 22nd, 1884.

NEW CONVERTIBLE BANK-NOTES.

NOTIFICATION No. 18 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

Convertible Bank-Notes Regulations have been established in accordance with the following articles, and will be enforced on and after the 1st July, 1884.

By Imperial Decree,

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI, Minister of Finance.
PRINCE TARUHITO, Second Minister of State.

May 26th, 1884.

N.B.—Notification No. 100 issued in September of the 7th year of Meiji (1874) will be abolished after one year from the date of this Notification.

CONVERTIBLE BANK-NOTES REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—Convertible bank-notes shall be issued by the Nippon Ginko, in accordance with Article XIV. of the same Bank. These bank-notes shall be exchangeable for silver coins.

Art. II.—The Nippon Ginko shall provide the silver fund equivalent to the amount of notes issued, and appropriate it to their exchange.

Art. III.—The convertible bank-notes shall be of seven denominations:—1 *yen*, 5 *yen*, 10 *yen*, 20 *yen*, 50 *yen*, 100 *yen*, and 200 *yen*. The amount of each issue shall be determined by the Minister of Finance.

Art. IV.—The convertible bank-notes can be used in the payment of taxes and customs' duties, as well as in all other transactions.

Art. V.—The convertible bank-notes shall be manufactured by the Nippon Ginko according to a pattern indicated by the Minister of Finance, and the Bank shall report to the Minister of Finance the amount of notes manufactured.

Art. VI.—The Nippon Ginko and its branch offices shall cash these convertible bank-notes upon presentation during business hours.

Art. VII.—When gold or silver coin is presented for exchange with the bank-notes, the exchange shall be made without charge.

Art. VIII.—The Nippon Ginko shall keep a daily register and a monthly account with respect to the issue of the convertible bank-notes, and shall report on them to the Minister of Finance.

Art. IX.—The Minister of Finance shall instruct the Government inspectors to the Nippon Ginko to specially superintend all matters in connection with the issue of convertible bank-notes. These supervisors may at any time inspect the amount of cash on hand, as well as all the books of the Bank.

1 Article 373 of the Criminal Code reads as follows:—Those who shall have stolen from forests or quarries, wood, bamboos, stones, minerals, or any other products; or who shall have stolen from rivers, pools, lakes, or seas, products maintained or improved by another person, shall be punished with imprisonment with labour for a period of from one month to one year.

2 Art. 1 of the Nakasendo Railway Bonds Regulations states that the funds "shall be applied to the construction, and employed as the working capital, of a Railway along the Nakasendo, between Takasaki in the province of Kodsuke, Gunma Ken, and Ogaki, in the province of Mino, Gifu Ken." Yokkaichi is a town on the Tokaido, 3 1/2 *ri* distant from Kuwana, the chief town of Ise province. The two great routes—the Tokaido and the Nakasendo—one following the south-eastern coast and the other passing through the central provinces, approach each other closest between Yokkaichi and Ogaki, where they are barely 25 *ri* apart as the crow flies.

Art. X.—Convertible bank-notes, when torn or otherwise damaged, shall be exchanged for new notes.

Art. XI.—The Minister of Finance shall establish definite rules with regard to the manufacture of the convertible bank-notes, their redemption, and the manner of exchanging damaged notes.

Art. XII.—The counterfeiting or disfigurement of convertible bank-notes shall be dealt with in accordance with the Articles of the Criminal Code referring to the counterfeiting of paper currency.

IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL
(KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—SATURDAY, May 24th, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsuishima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

Mr. Ramsay objected to Mr. Uchiyama handing to the Court a written statement of his argument delivered at the last sitting, stating that the proper way would have been for him to have handed it in on that occasion so that the court interpreter could follow him and check it. Mr. Uchiyama replied that Mr. Ramsay was under a wrong impression. The documents were copies of the extract from the law book, reports of marine courts of enquiry held in England, and other matters referred to by him on the 21st inst.

Mr. Ramsay said he perceived the documents Mr. Uchiyama proposed to put in contained 9 pages. He ought only to be allowed to put in the words that he had actually spoken in Court. Mr. Uchiyama had not quoted the cases in fully as now written down.

Mr. Uchiyama explained that at the last sitting he had only given the points for shortness. At that time he had stated to the Court that he would furnish full copies of the matter referred to. The present documents did not contain anything new. They were only full copies of what he had cited at the previous hearing.

The Court said in that case it did not see why Mr. Ramsay should object.

Mr. Ramsay then expressed his willingness to withdraw the objection if Mr. Uchiyama thought the documents would strengthen his case.

Mr. Uchiyama then resumed his address to the Court on behalf of his client. Most of his speech, spoken in Japanese, was extempore and therefore we would say that the following report, although it contains the points of his argument, loses its force by interpretation.

The attorney for the respondent, speaking about the bearings of the light not having been taken, said it was impossible on account of the funnel. Mr. Uchiyama contended that the compass on the *Akitsuishima Maru* had always been in the same place. For five years the appellant had successfully navigated the vessel through all kinds of weather, with the compass in the same position, and therefore it seemed very clear that the master was able and did take bearings by it. Speaking about the contention that the appellant never attempted to ascertain his position, &c., Mr. Ramsay had quoted from the evidence of Captain Frahm, among the questions and answers there being the following:—Q.—"How was ship's position ascertained at 5.30 p.m. on the 9th?" A.—"By my own calculations and the log." Mr. Ramsay then added "yet there is nothing recorded in the log."

Mr. Uchiyama here explained to the Court the meaning of log-book and patent-log, after which he went on to say that Mr. Ramsay had tried very hard to make the Court believe that when the appellant gave the above answer he meant the log-book. But he contended that that was impossible, because Captain Frahm in his evidence had also said that he did not see the log-book. Therefore what he meant to say was that he had worked up the ship's position by his own calculations aided by the patent-log, not the log-book. This, Mr. Uchiyama maintained, was the true meaning of the appellant's answer. Mr. Ramsay, however, had tried to twist it round to aid his own purposes. Regarding Mr. Ramsay's lengthy argument as to the statement made by him (Mr. Uchiyama) that the appellant was unable to take any observations during 40 hours previous to the catastrophe, he

(Mr. Ramsay) although he had tried very hard, had only been able to show that correct observations were taken within 22½ hours before the disaster. He (counsel) had made a slip of the tongue and instead of saying about 14 hours before the sighting of the light, he had said 40 hours. If 14 hours before the sighting of the light was taken, it would give about 22 hours before the disaster, as stated by Mr. Ramsay. Mr. Ramsay, quoting from the *Japan Daily Mail*, had said that he (Mr. Uchiyama) had said "that for 3 days previous to the catastrophe they had been unable to take an observation." He denied having made such a statement, and considering the Japanese vocabulary of the *Mail's* reporter contained only about 10 words he would like to know what reliance could be placed on his interpretation. The *Japan Gazette*, whose reporter had a good knowledge of the language, contained no such statement. He would, however, go entirely by the record of the Court, which although it stated that he had said that there was bad weather during 3 days, contained no mention of observations not having been taken during that time. The respondent had further tried to show that "although Mr. Uchiyama Rossettsu stated that from noon to 5.30 p.m. on the 9th, the appellant could not get to his room" it was quite clear that he could, in support of which he quoted one of the masters's answers, namely:—"I had been on deck for 48 hours. I had no rest at all. The greater part of the time I was on the bridge, and I only went below to consult the charts and barometer and to take my food." Mr. Uchiyama contended that this was only a general answer, referring to the last two days and not to the particular time between noon and 5.30 p.m. on the 9th, which, he maintained, became clear by looking at another part of the appellants's evidence given on the 12th November, viz., "The position of the ship was not worked up by me or the chief officer at noon on the 9th. I could not get into my room and I don't think the chief officer could get into his." This was sufficient to prove the point, and to show that when the hurricane was at its height the master could not enter his room. Referring to the report of the *Khiwa*, Mr. Ramsay had produced a letter to show that the vessel was about 500 miles from the *Akitsuishima Maru* when she experienced the current which took her 40 miles out of her reckoning in 12 hours. This, Mr. Uchiyama contended, did not affect his argument in the least. He had no desire to prove that the *Khiwa* was at the same place as the *Akitsuishima Maru*, although she was in the same typhoon. What he wanted to show was the variableness of the currents on the coast of Japan, where Mr. Ramsay could not deny the *Khiwa* was. The currents on that coast, he remarked, were more variable than on any other in the world; so much so that experienced ship-masters, who had sailed on the coast for seventeen years, had told him that they did not yet know the currents, as they often changed with the direction and force of the wind. As an instance, and to prove this, he had mentioned the case of the *Khiwa*. This vessel was coming from Hongkong and approaching Omai-saki, a course that one would think was as well known as the Ginza in Tokio, and yet she became 40 miles out in 12 hours. Regarding this subject, what had Captain Young said? Q.—"Under circumstances in which the *Akitsuishima Maru*, during the 48 hours or more, had been placed, and considering the variableness of the currents, was 20 or 24 miles much for the captain to be out in his reckoning?" A.—Certainly it was not, even if he had been 60 miles out in his reckoning I would not consider it extraordinary." That evidence alone, Mr. Uchiyama said, settled the question, and Mr. Ramsay might have saved himself the trouble of getting the letter. At the close of sitting on the 10th, Mr. Ramsay had said:—"The Marine Court did not take into its consideration the master's neglect in disregarding his owner's instructions; it was outside the province of the Court to do so." He (Mr. Uchiyama) was glad that Mr. Ramsay admitted that such private regulations had nothing to do with the Court of Enquiry, because he thought, at first, by the length at which Mr. Ramsay had quoted the regulations in the answer to the petition of appeal, that he would have to waste time in arguing about a matter which now became unnecessary, owing to Mr. Ramsay admitting that it did not bear on the case.

In continuing his remarks on Mr. Ramsay's argument, Mr. Uchiyama said that Mr. Ramsay had exerted himself strenuously and at great length to prove that on the 9th it was clear weather, and not as dark as he (Mr. Uchiyama) would have the Court to believe; but Mr. Ramsay had not got further with his proof than noon of that day, when the real hurricane commenced. From that time forth there was nothing said about clear weather. What did Captain Young say, in answer to a question from Mr. Ramsay, regarding

the darkness in those regions at that time of the year? Q.—"Would you assume the lee-way by guess?" A.—"I would have to guess mostly, for at that time of the year there is more night than day." When he Mr. Uchiyama used the words *ni-san-ken* (2 or 3 ken) he did not mean literally two or at the most three ken, but in the way it was always used in the Japanese language, i.e., a few ken. Regarding the trim of the vessel, it had not been his intention to state anything contrary to the evidence, and if he had said that the draft of the *Akitsuishima Maru* was 6 feet and aft from 8 to 10 feet, it was merely a mistake in reading the record, which could be easily understood by looking at the figures used. These were 6, 8, 10, as given in evidence, but meant 6 feet 8 or 10 inches by the stern. Mr. Ramsay had shown a drawing of the *Akitsuishima Maru* to the Court, but had neglected to state that she was built at Glasgow, England, as a great many colliers were, to go to sea without cargo and with only the ballast tanks filled with water. This would make the vessel in a trim of about 6 feet or so by the stern, which trim she was in on the present occasion. On the question of a vessel's trim, what did Captain Young say? Q.—"Do you consider a vessel seaworthy drawing 6 feet 8 or 10 inches by the stern?" A.—Some vessels might be, but whether the *Akitsuishima Maru* was or not I am not prepared to say." However, there was no necessity to go at length into the question of trim. The only point to be considered regarding the trim was, whether the ship was lost through the improper trim or not? Emphatically she was not. And why not? Because the evidence showed, and Mr. Ramsay had admitted in his statements to the Court, that from about 9 a.m. on the 9th, i.e., long before the light was sighted, and 6 or 7 hours before the accident, that the *Akitsuishima Maru* answered her helm and was entirely manageable. Now, if the vessel was entirely manageable hours before the disaster took place and when the captain, thinking everything safe, had gone below, the question of trim could have nothing to do with the loss of the vessel, and must therefore be put on one side. Mr. Ramsay, in speaking of his (Mr. Uchiyama's) second objection: "The chief officer, a person appointed by the Company, neglected to call the master when he should have done so," said "why so? because the chief officer observed the master so entirely ignoring his responsibilities in regard to the safe navigation of the ship that he (the chief officer) thought he might also disregard the master's instructions to call him." Was the man who said this, Mr. Ramsay, the person who was entrusted with the presidency of the Marine Court of Enquiry? It almost looked as if he desired to return Mr. Werner, poor injured man, his certificate. It was monstrous for a judge to argue that because one man was a thief another would be perfectly justified in stealing also. This expression of opinion by Mr. Ramsay was sufficient to show his incompetency to preside over the Court or plead for the respondent. He, however, would say no more about that matter. He would now hand in a document received by Captain Frahm from the Directors of the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company which stated that he had been in their employ from 1875 to the 9th November, 1883. The document also stated that during that period he had been chief mate for twelve months, and master nearly seven years, and had given the greatest satisfaction. He also wished to put in a copy of the *London Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* of the 4th April, 1884, which contained reports of two cases recently decided in England, one of which he had already referred to and which was almost the exact counterpart of the present case.

The case referred to by Mr. Uchiyama was an Enquiry held at Glasgow into the stranding of the *Rose*. In this case the master mistook a light which proceeded from a church steeple for the masthead light of a tug; the immediate cause of the stranding of the vessel being attributed to the course laid down by the master not being steered. The judgment concludes as follows:—

The Court was asked to deal with the certificates of the master and chief officer. The counsel who defended the master and the chief officer admitted that there had been blame in this case. In the opinion of the Court there was blame. The Court thought there was blame attachable to both those gentlemen. In the first place—for he would assume that the course steered was not N.N.E. but E.N.E.—there was an alteration of four points. That should have been seen by the master. The mate also was in our opinion to blame. It was perfectly true that the master, when he comes on deck, takes the charge; but still that does not relieve the mate from those duties which he was called upon to discharge. The master ordered a course of N.N.E. to be steered, and it was the mate's duty to see that course was kept. The Court did not believe the statement of the man at the wheel that he steered N.N.E. We believe he steered an E.N.E. course. The fault seemed to him to be that the master did not see the position of the Cumbrae Light, and the mistake of the mate was that he did not see the order that had been given properly carried out. At the same time, this was not a case in which the Court felt disposed to deal with the certificates of those gentlemen. The certificates that had

been produced showed them to be men of good character and steady in every way, and under the circumstances, although they were guilty to some extent of neglect it was not such neglect as would induce the Court to deal with their certificates.

The second case was the stranding of the steamer *Thetis*. In answer to the question put to it,

The Court replied—1. A proper course was set and steered after rounding the north pier buoy. 2. The course set after passing Hartley Buoy was too fine, taking the state of the weather and tide into consideration. 3. The lead was not used with sufficient frequency. 4. There was no evidence to show that a good look-out was not kept. 5. The vessel was not navigated with proper and seamanlike care. 6. The Court had no reason to believe that the vessel was over-insured. The Court found the master, Henry Gaze, in default, but, having regard to his good character, did not deal with his certificate. At the same time the Court censured him.

In both cases, Mr. Uchiyama remarked, the masters were found at fault. Nevertheless, the Court, far superior ones than could be headed by Mr. Ramsay, did not desire to deal with the certificates of the masters. They looked at their past career and would not for one's mistake, and at the most Captain Frahm's was only an error of judgment, deprive a long proven sailor, a good, sober, and energetic master, of his livelihood; for taking away a man's certificate meant depriving him of the means of earning bread for himself and the family. What was the past career of the appellant? He could show better service and better certificates than the man who judged him. He held an English and a Danish master's certificate, in addition to a Japanese. What certificates could Mr. Ramsay show? For further proof regarding the appellant's character and ability he referred the Court to Captain Young's evidence. In the first case quoted, which was very similar to the present, what was said regarding the responsibility of the master when he had given over charge of the ship to the mate? "It is true the master takes charge when he comes on deck, but that does not relieve the mate from his duties." In this case the master not being on deck, where did his responsibility come in? He would conclude by briefly referring to his former assertions, which were. (1) The captain was misled by a false light which under the circumstances might easily have been mistaken for the Shiriya-saki light, and all that could be said on that point was, not that any inability or carelessness had been proved, but at the most an error which might easily be made by anyone. (2) That the direct cause of the loss of the ship was owing to the action of the chief officer, whose duties under the circumstances were plain, as was clearly shown by the cases quoted. On the question of calling the captain what did Captain Young say?

Q.—"Considering that the *Akitsuishima Maru*, after losing sight of the light ran for about 2 miles before striking, would not the master have had plenty of time to save the vessel if the first officer had done his duty and at once called him after losing sight of the light?" A.—Yes, he would have had plenty of time."

Mr. Uchiyama, continuing, said it must not be forgotten that when the appellant left the deck in charge of the mate he was greatly fatigued by his exertions during the past 48 hours. In addition to his previous assertions he now desired to add a third reason why the Court was in error, which was that, even supposing the master to have been in fault, no just Court would deprive a man of the means of obtaining a livelihood for one such error as is claimed the appellant committed. They would have enquired into his past career. If they had found that he was a drunkard or an incapable man the case might have been different, but when they found that he was a steady, thoroughly competent, hard working man, as the appellant was, who had met his first accident during a period of 25 years, they would have returned him his certificate, as was done in the two cases lately tried in England, in both of which the masters were in fault. In concluding, Mr. Uchiyama said he did not yet know if he would put in a written argument, as he considered he had proved all his points, while his opponent had confined himself to big talk, all smoke and no fire. He, therefore, prayed the Court for a judgment ordering the return of his client's certificate which, he said, had been most unjustly taken from him.

Mr. Ramsay remarked that before the Court adjourned he wished to say a word regarding the two cases quoted by Mr. Uchiyama. These cases were tried in England according to English law. Japan had her own laws and what occurred in England had nothing to do with the question.

Mr. Uchiyama said that the present was the first case of the kind tried in Japan, and therefore he had produced the reports of the cases to show his Honour how the experienced judges of England dealt with such matters. Of course it was for his Honour to consider whether he would be guided by them or not.

The Court adjourned till the 2nd June, at 9 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 22nd.

PROPOSED RELIEF FOR GENERAL GORDON.

The *Pull Mall Gazette* publishes a paragraph stating that an expedition of 10,000 men will be despatched in the Autumn unless General Gordon escapes. Lord Wolseley will have the command, and the route will be Suakim and Berber.

London, May 24th.

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

The French Government has decided to largely increase the forces in Madagascar.

EGYPT.

Wood's cavalry and artillery will proceed to Assouan on the 3rd of June.

London, May 28th.

RESULT OF THE DERBY.

RENEWAL OF THE DERBY STAKES of 50 sovs. each, h ft.; colts, 9st.; fillies, 8st. 9lb.; for three year olds; about a mile and a half, starting at the New High Level Starting Post; the owner of the second horse to receive 300 sovs. and the third 150 sovs. out of the stakes.—193 subs.

St. Gatien	†
Harvester	†
Queen Adelaide	3

The owners divided.

London, May 29th.

MORE TROUBLE IN MADAGASCAR.

Admiral Miot has broken off negotiations, and is blockading the whole of Madagascar.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 14th May.

THE GOVERNMENT AND SIR M. HICKS-BEACH'S RESOLUTION.

At the conclusion of the debate in the House of Commons on Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's resolution, the House negatived the motion, the majority in favour of the Government being 303 against 275.

The Irish members voted with the minority.

London, 15th May.

THE FRANCO-CHINESE CONVENTION.

We learn that the French Consul received a telegram from Shanghai on Wednesday stating that a preliminary agreement in five articles, the clauses of which were not given, had been signed at Tientsin on the 10th inst.

London, 16th May.

THE ORIENTAL BANK.

A compulsory winding up of the Oriental Bank has been ordered.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE PANIC IN NEW YORK.

The panic still continues and further large failures are reported.

London, 17th May.

THE FRANCO-CHINESE SETTLEMENT.

The following telegram from Captain Fournier appears in *Le Saigonnais* :—

Tientsin, 13th May.

By order of the Minister of Marine, I have the honour to announce that the preliminary convention which I proposed to the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been entirely approved by the Court of Peking and the French Government, and was signed on the 11th May at Tientsin.

It stipulates the withdrawal of the Chinese troops from Tonquin, respect for all our past and future treaties with Annam, a treaty of commerce opening in their entire extent the common frontiers of Tonquin and China to free traffic in goods, with guarantees; advantages for French trade. Will send you the text.

London, May 19th.

AN EXPEDITION TO BE SENT TO KHARTOUM.

It is reported that the British Government has resolved to send an expeditionary force to the relief of the garrison at Khartoum almost immediately.

A BRITISH OFFICIAL MADE PRISONER BY THE ARABS.

The British Agent at Berber, in endeavouring to escape from that place, has been captured by the Arabs.

[FROM "LE SAIGONNAIS."—M. BLANSUBE TO THE GOVERNOR.]

Paris, 7th May.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The Municipal Elections have terminated. Everything quiet. Immense Republican majority. Radicalism accentuated about Paris.

TROUBLES IN SPAIN.

The troubles in Spain continue.

THE MAHDI.

The success of the Mahdi continues.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

The French Legation at Morocco has lowered its flag.

GOVERNORSHIP OF INDO-CHINA.

Yesterday's papers speak of the nomination of a Governor-General of Indo-China; Admiral Duperré and a high functionary in the Foreign Office are mentioned.

I believe Patenôtre is being sent as Resident to Hué.

THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

The Chambers will meet on the 20th.

[M. BLANSUBE TO GOVERNOR OF SAIGON.]

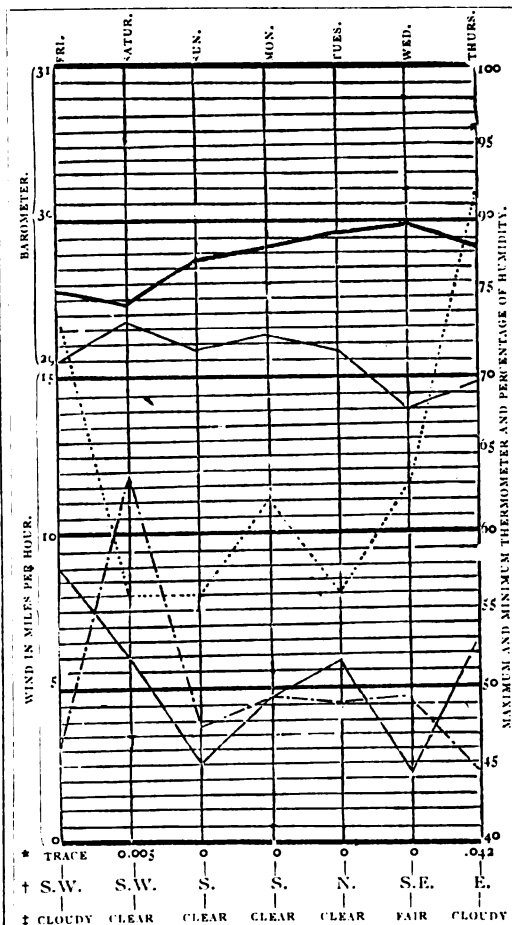
Paris, 13th May.

The Tientsin Treaty favourably received.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 23RD, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.

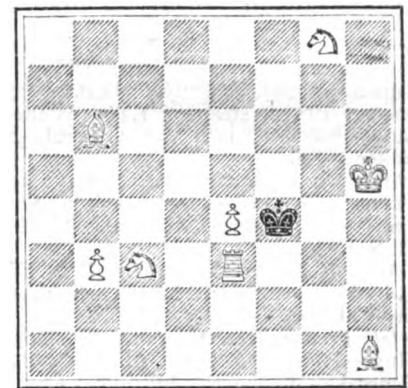


REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
--- percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 43.5 miles per hour on Saturday, at 4 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.026 inches on Wednesday at 6 a.m., and the lowest was 29.307 inches on Saturday, at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 73.5 on Saturday, and the lowest was 44.3 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 77.8 and 48.5 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .048 inches, against .669 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

CHESS.

By Mr. G. E. BARBIER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 17th May, 1884,
by Mr. J. W. ABBOTT.

White.

Black.

1.—Kt. to Q. B. 6.
2.—Kt. to K. B. 4.
3.—Q., mates.

1.—K. or P. moves.
2.—Anything.

Correct answers received from "K. OMORI,"
"TESA," and "W.H.S."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 1st.*
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, June 2nd.†
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Friday, June 6th.‡
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, June 5th.
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Monday, June 16th.§

* *Teheran* left Nagasaki on May 28th. The *Benlarig* (with English mail) left Hongkong on May 25th, and will be due here on Saturday, May 31st. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on May 13th. ‡ *Volga* (with French mail) left Hongkong on May 31st. § *Oceanic* left San Francisco on May 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, June 1st.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Monday, June 2nd.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, June 3rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, June 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 8th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, June 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.38; First-class, yen 2.00; Third-class, yen 1.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Agnes Muir, British bark, 851, James Lowe, 23rd May,—Cardiff 18th December, Coals.—Langfeldt & Mayers.

Channel Queen, British bark, 609, William Le Lacheur, 23rd May,—Takao 6th May, 14,800 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,383, White, 23rd May,—Shanghai 18th May, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Young, 25th May,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe 23rd May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 25th May,—Kobe 23rd May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,382, B. Blanc, 26th May,—Hongkong 20th May, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 26th May,—Yokoska Docks 25th May.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 27th May,—Hongkong 21st May, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 345, Fukui, 27th May,—Oginohama 24th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 28th May,—Yokkaichi 25th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 28th May,—Oginohama 26th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 29th May,—Yokkaichi 27th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 29th May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 29th May,—Yakitsu 26th May, General.—Handasha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 29th May,—Hakodate 26th and Oginohama 28th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 29th May,—Yokosuka Docks 29th May.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 30th May,—Yokkaichi 28th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Velocity, British bark, 490, Martin, 29th May,—Takao 14th May, 14,000 piculs Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Thomas Dana, American ship, 1,288, C. C. Sisson, 30th May,—New York 4th January, Kerosene and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 30th May,—Yokkaichi 28th May, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 30th May,—Fukuda 29th May, General.—Fukudasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Minoura, 30th May,—Shimidzu 29th May, General.—Seiriussha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 31st May,—Kobe 29th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 31st May,—Yokkaichi 29th May, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 24th May,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 25th May,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese bark, 1,028, Eckstrand, 26th May,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 27th May,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Omega, British bark, 480, A. V. Brown, 27th May,—Hakodate, General.—H. MacArthur.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Toyoshima, 27th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 27th May,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 28th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,243, J. Thomas, 29th May,—London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 29th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 864, Maki-hara, 29th May,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 29th May,—Toba, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 29th May,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 29th May,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,129, J. Maury, 30th May,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, E. Vannier, 30th May,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—4 Japanese in cabin; and 171 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. C. H. Klemme, F. Klemme, R. Seider, Rembielinski, Lekitebi, Matsu, Kuwabara, Nagai, and Kambara in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. E. Laurence and Mr. Alfred Blumenthal in cabin; and 2 Chinese in steerage.

For San Francisco: Mr. Paul Bourde in cabin; and 1,085 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Durant, Mrs. Prun, Mrs. Rhode and servant, Mrs. Drummond, Miss Dr. Reissnyder, Mr. Herinan Buhler, H.I.G.M.'s Consul, Korea, Mr. N. P. Kingdon and servant, Rev. C. F. Warren, Messrs. William Bell, Woolworth, A. Primaveski, A. Kruss, Satake, Oyama, Nakai, Yasui, and Okuda in cabin; and 1 European, 4 Chinese, and 303 Japanese in steerage.

For San Francisco: Rev. L. W. Pitcher and 2 children, Miss Cushman, Miss C. W. Boone, and Miss Chapin in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. Scott and 1 Japanese in cabin; and 82 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Tripler, Messrs. Strome, Calder Smith, Fukutani, and Kitadai in cabin; and 145 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Dr. and Mrs. Rentley, Mr. and Mrs. Coughtrie, Mrs. Fraser and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Kak Seang Tat, Miss Kok Seang Tat and 2 servants, Dr. Lyall, Mr. N. P. Kingdon and servant, Mr. L. Wertheimer and servant, Messrs. S. Strauss, F. Medwin, Fachtman, H. Foss, and Tsuda in cabin; and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Messrs. G. J. Mansbridge, G. Haruta, S. Yamagata in cabin; and 55 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Breconshire*, for London:—Miss E. Hodges.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. Tripler, Mrs. Nishimura, Messrs. Y. Yamada, H. Wakizaka, C. Nagata, S. Mori, G. Murakami, N. Okura, and Santo in cabin; and 115 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. and Mrs. Iwahashi and S. Sakamoto in cabin; and 110 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, for Hakodate:—Messrs. T. Ito and S. Fujino in cabin; and 65 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Colonel Katsuta, Messrs. Y. Shinodzu, H. Muramatsu, and Y. Yegi in cabin; and 50 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Young Shem Kim, Rev. J. McKim, Mrs. Truscott, Mrs. Mayeda, Messrs. T. B. Glover, A. Baumann, W. Sayel, J. P. Reid, Hirayama, Shimdo, Yamakawa, Oko, Wakayama, Nomaguchi, and Suyekawa in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco and Europe:—Count and Madame de Noidans, and 8 children, Miss Chapin, Miss Cushman, Miss C. W. Boone, Rev. and Mrs. L. W.

Pilcher and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Gale, Miss Kreckler, Mrs. Simms, Messrs. G. Hamaguchi and servant, H. Dacre-Tonge, C. E. Grainger, P. Schlichter, F. B. Van Vorst, A. D. Savage, J. F. Storer, T. G. Young, Gerald Waller, Preston Kreckler, W. Fordyce Brown, Jas. M. Blair, W. T. MacLellan, A. Kruss, Cornu J. Rouston, N. Nabeshima, M. Fukushima, K. Kumasaki, Y. Kaneko, K. Okura, and M. Yokoyama in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 1,080 Chinese, and 7 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—2,777 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$285,000.00.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	474	2,088	1,542	4,104
Shanghai	—	615	215	830
Hiogo	302	—	2,740	3,042
Yokohama	2,431	1,834	4,127	8,392
Total	3,207	4,537	8,624	16,368

	SILK. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	106	—	106
Shanghai	—	94	—	94
Yokohama	—	34	—	34
Total	—	234	—	234

REPORTS.

The British bark *Agnes Muir*, Captain James Lowe, reports leaving Cardiff on the 18th December, 1883, with light variable N. and N.W. winds till the 24th, when experienced strong gale with had squalls, and high sea from S.W. hauling to S. and S.E. Passed Norwegian bark *Rechnild* lat. 40° 08' N. long. 18° 41' W. on the 27th, sighting Island of Palma on the 3rd January, 1884, wind south-westerly, light. Took N.E. Trades in 26° 30' N. 20° 02' W. very light, and unsteady throughout, passing St. Antonio about 4 miles off on the 14th, and exchanged signals with British bark *Mary Hogarth*, of Ardrossan, from Hartlepool for Buenos Ayres, 59 days out; on the 16th January, spoke British bark *St. Andrew*, of St. John's, N.B., from Cardiff, for Rio Janeiro 31 days out, lat. 8° 40' N. long. 25° 48' W. Took S.E. Trades in 2° 30' N., crossing Equator and signalling British bark *Sylhet* bound north, on the 22nd, winds very light; on the 23rd signalled H.M.S. *Rambler* bound north, and on the 27th exchanged signals with British bark *Fiery Cross* from London for Penang, 41 days out. Passed Island of Trinidad on the 2nd February, winds light easterly; On 6th signalled British bark *Bereau*, of London from Launceston, Tasmania, for London 46 days out, lat. 27° 43' S. long 24° 06' W. Had light northerly winds from thence to lat. 36° south, when fresh south and south-east breezes set into Gough Island which was passed on the 14th February, from there to coast of Tasmania moderate variable winds, rounding Tasman Head on the 31st March, distant 5 miles. Had light-winds to Howe Island, passing it on the 7th April, experiencing light airs and calms from there to lat. 9° N., passing Pocklington Reef on the 18th April; Bougainville Island 27th; St. John's Island, 29th; Caru Islands, 30th; crossing the Equator on the 1st May. Sighted Pagan and Algaman Islands on the 12th, light winds from thence to port, making No-sima light at 7 p.m. on the 21st; took pilot, H. Deguchi, on board on the 22nd off Tsurugisaki, and tried to beat up, but gale freshening with hard squalls had to come to anchor in Tateyama Bay for the night; weather moderating next noon proceeded and anchored in the bay at 8 p.m. of 23rd. Experienced strong S.W. and N.W. currents from equator to port.

The British bark *Channel Queen*, Captain Wm. Le Lacheur, from Takao, reports having experienced light variable winds till within forty miles of the Linschoten Islands; thence to port strong variable winds and current setting to the north-east at the rate of sixty miles per day. Arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd May, after a passage of 16 days.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving Hongkong on the 21st May, at 2 p.m. with fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 27th May, at 8.15 a.m. Passage, 5 days and 15 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 29th May, at 6 p.m. with light N.E. breeze and fine weather to Rock Island; thence to port fresh N.E. breeze and thick rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 31st May, at 7.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

This season of the year is usually very dull, owing to the attention required by produce crops, and the present forms no exception, as the Market is in an extremely quiet state.

COTTON YARN.—Business has been on a very small scale, dealers not caring to speculate, and, having few orders in hand, quote prices 25 to 50 cents lower, whilst holders, encouraged by the firmness of Manchester, refuse to sell at such rates, and nearly all quotations are quite nominal for English Yarns. Bombays have been sold to a moderate extent at slightly lower prices.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—The Market has continued dull, and very few transactions have been recorded.

WOOLLENS.—Some large sales of Mousseline de Laine have been reported at lower prices; also a fair quantity of Orleans; but in other descriptions there is next to nothing doing.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.25 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.00 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9½ lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13½ to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½ lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

There is very little doing in Oil, and sales are, for the past week, 20,000 cases, this business having been done on a basis of \$1.72 for Devoc, \$1.70 for Comet, and \$1.65 for Stella. Stocks are heavy, amounting to 600,000 cases, not including the cargo of *Thomas Dana* just arrived, but not yet landed.

	PER CASE.
Devoc	\$1.70
Comet	1.64
Stella	1.60

SUGAR.

Business is of a retail character in extent, and prices remain unaltered.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	2.75 to 2.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last Report was of the 23rd instant, since which date there has been no business done in this Market, and for the third consecutive week we have no Settlements; a state of things without parallel for many years past. Arrivals have come in from the producing districts, but an equal amount has been withdrawn for the interior trade, and for "direct" Export; leaving the Stock same total as last week, although composed of rather different items.

The position is practically the same, but again more intensified. Japanese brokers and dealers

perambulate the Settlement, using their best exertions towards moving their accumulated stocks, but without avail; foreign buyers refuse to listen to the voice of the charmer. Crop news from all quarters is good: altogether too good for holders, who are getting anxious, and know not what loss they may sustain on some of their old stock. Some of them have reduced their asking price very considerably, others just ask for an offer.

Reports as to the New Crop continue favorable. In Japan all things are well, more "seed" has been laid down than last year, and there will probably be an increased yield of fully ten per cent. on last crop. The worms are spinning their cocoons in *Koshu*, *Bushu*, and *Joshu*: in a few days all will be over in those provinces, and warned in time by the stagnation here, dealers are determined to open the interior Markets at low prices. From China the estimate is maintained at about 60,000 bales available for Export, if required: in spite of a few days' bad weather and some deficit in the Long-reel district. From Europe also news is good, and it seems that the prospect everywhere is for a full crop of excellent quality with reasonable prices. Such an outlook should be eminently acceptable to consumers, and tend to the spread of the manufacturing industries.

The P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, which sailed for Hongkong, via ports, on Saturday, the 24th inst., carried no Raw Silk at all: the P.M. steamship *City of Tokio*, which left port this day for San Francisco, had on board 34 bales, of which 20 bales were on native account and 14 bales represent the balance of some old-time purchases. The Export figures now stand at 29,409 bales, against 27,081 bales to same date last year, and 19,789 bales on 30th May, 1882.

At closing there is some disposition on the part of foreigners to operate, and *Koshu* filatures are reported settled at \$600 or thereabouts.

Hanks.—No business in the foreign Market: something done for interior use, at prices which have not transpired.

Filatures.—Further supplies of well-known marks have come in, and dealers are willing to listen to much lower prices. *Nihonmatsu* would probably take \$640. *Tokosha* (with about 70 piculs in stock) is more conservative. Good No. 1 *Filatures* could be obtained at \$630, with good *Koshu* sorts at \$610 or less.

Re-reels.—Nothing fresh beyond a few arrivals which the owners would no doubt sell at about \$600 for well-known chops.

Kakedas.—No new feature, some parcels of good silk could be bought at near \$600 with a firm order in hand.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3½	Nominal
Filatures—Extra	\$640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	625 to 635
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	615 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 30th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
France and Italy	17,214	13,736	10,020
America	9,556	9,058	6,271
England	2,639	4,287	3,498
Total	29,409	27,081	19,789

WASTE SILK.

There has been but a small business doing in this department, caused by the undesirable nature of the Stock now remaining. Buyers are willing to pay a fair price for the qualities they require, but favorite assortments are remarkable by their absence and the parcels on offer are not inviting. Prices for anything decent are well maintained.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Thibet* on the 24th instant, carried 10 bales only, all booked for London. Total Export to date is now 23,321 piculs against 24,167 piculs last year, and 24,733 to 30th May, 1882. Arrivals of *Filature* Wastes have come in fairly well and Stock is about 700 piculs, chiefly low *Kibiso* kinds.

Noshiito.—The parcel of *Tomiyoka* filature mentioned in our last, has been finally settled at the high price of \$157½, a marked advance on the figure

paid a month ago. Some *Hagiwara* fil. at \$138, and *Foshu* at \$80, with a parcel of fair *Oshu* at \$145, complete the list.

Kibiso.—Not much done in this. Best *Filatures* \$125 (a parcel *Tokosha* held for \$127½) *Zaguri* \$95, Common *Foshu* \$33.

Sundries.—A little *Kusuito* settled at \$70. In *Neri* a mixed lot is on offer at dear prices, considering the quality: a parcel of *Tokosha* has arrived, but no price mentioned at present.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$157½
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom.
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom.
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 30th May, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
Waste Silk	21,120	20,966	20,495
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,201	4,238
	23,321	24,167	24,733

Exchange.—Rates for foreign bills reported as per last week, plenty of Tea-paper but nothing further. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* dropped suddenly to 111½, but have now recovered to 110 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock, 30th May, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	520	Pierced Cocoons	13
Filature & Re-reels	350	Noshi-ito	130
Kakeda	160	Kibiso	350
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	90
Taysam Kinds	10	Sundries	117
Total piculs	1,140	Total piculs	700

TEA.

An active demand has existed throughout the past week, and the Settlements for the interval are heavier than at any period during the present season. Medium and Good Medium have declined fully one dollar since our last quotations. The same can be said for Fine and Finest kinds. Choice and Choicest are met very sparingly, and cannot be considered any cheaper than that we quoted in our last Market report. The Settlements for the week amount to 16,250 piculs, and they are distributed under the following various grades:—Medium 490 piculs, Good Medium, 5,010 piculs, Fine 4,870 piculs, Finest 3,975 piculs, Choice 1,370 piculs, and Choicest 435 piculs. The Stock consists of 7,200 piculs at this port, against 8,400 piculs in 1883 at the same date. The P.M. steamer *City of Tokio*, which sailed on the morning of the 30th inst., took 483,660 lbs. Tea, and they are divided as follows:—106,632 lbs. for New York, 248,947 lbs. for Chicago, 700 lbs for Saint Louis, Mo., 116,574 lbs. for California, and 10,807 lbs. for Canada Markets. The steamship *Glenavon* leaves here for New York, via Amoy, on Monday, the 2nd June, and will be followed by the *Pembroke* during the week. The former, it is stated, takes about 2,000 tons Tea from Japan. The O. & O. steamer *Arabic* is circulated to leave on the 19th June, and she takes Tea at the following rates:—3 cents per lb. gross to Eastern States and Canadian Cities; 5 cents per lb. gross to Salt Lake City and Ogden; 2 cents per lb. gross to San Francisco. The Market closes easy at the undernoted quotations:—

QUOTATIONS.

Medium	\$17 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 22
Fine	23 to 25
Finest	26 to 29
Choice	32 to 36
Choicest	39 & up'ds. } Very scarce and } not freely offered.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained stationary throughout the week, and a moderate amount of business has been transacted; at the close there is every appearance of an advance:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4.6
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	4.6 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	90
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91

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It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in
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spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the
demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining
"stock."

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May 1st, 1883.

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a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Exotics

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a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
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a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
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"Golden Lyre."

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Dec. 29th, 1883.

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THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to
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stroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES,
BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every
other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this
invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as
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THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a
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YOKOHAMA, MAY 31ST, 1884.

REPORT ON TAXATION IN JAPAN.

By J. H. GUBBINS, Esq., Acting Japanese Secretary, H.B.M. Legation.

[Reprinted from "Commercial Reports by Her Majesty's Consuls, &c., in Japan: 1883."]

Taxation in Japan may be most conveniently considered under two heads:—"National" or "Imperial Taxation," ¹ i.e., taxes which go directly into the National Treasury to appear afterwards in the Estimates of Government Revenue and Expenditure; and "Local Taxation," by which is understood all taxes which do not enter the Imperial Exchequer, but constitute the revenue by which the expenditure of the various local constituencies throughout Japan is met.

Under the head of "National Taxation" come—

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Land tax. | 12. Licence fees— |
| 2. Saké tax. | 1. Shooting licences. |
| 3. Malt tax. | 2. Attorneys' licences. |
| 4. Tobacco tax. | 3. Horse-and-cattle-dealers' licences. |
| 5. Tax on drugs, &c. | 13. Other fees— |
| 6. Ship tax. | 1. Copyright fees. |
| 7. Carriage tax. | 2. Judicial fees. |
| 8. Mining tax. | 3. Passport fees. |
| 9. Tax on Yezo exports. | 14. Stamp duties. |
| 10. Tax on Companies. | 15. Customs duties. |
| 11. Tax on weights and measures. | 16. Postal receipts. |

Under the head of "Local Taxation" we have—

1. Land rate.
2. House tax.
3. Trades tax and miscellaneous taxes.
4. "Kiyô-gi-hi," or district rates.

The "land rate" is a tax levied on land in the same way as the land tax, only for local purposes. It is assessed at present at one-third of the land tax, and amounts, therefore, to a charge of five-sixths upon the value of land.

The "house tax" is a tax levied on householders. It is calculated on the measurement of each building, and varies according to the classification of houses and of the ground on which they stand.

The "trades tax" is a tax levied in the form of the house tax on all industries, trades, and professions. The "miscellaneous taxes" are similar taxes not levied in the form of the house tax.

The "district" or "ward rates," though they may properly be classed with "local taxes," are in their assessment and application somewhat different. They are determined by the residents in each district or ward, and not by the Government.

Taxation in Japan admits, however, of another classification which may be briefly noticed. It may be divided into "fixed taxes" and "variable taxes."

The words "fixed taxes" may be taken to mean that the taxes so described, though liable to modification and change from time to time at the pleasure of the Government, are yet sufficiently determinate in their character to be regarded as settled; and these are, moreover, taxes in regard to which it is in the interests of the Government to discourage fluctuation.

"Variable taxes," on the other hand, include all those taxes and rates which, from their nature, do not admit of being fixed.

Under the head of "fixed taxes" we can therefore place—

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Land tax. | Tax on Yezo exports. |
| Land rate. | Tax on Companies. |
| Saké tax. | Tax on weights and measures. |
| Malt tax. | Licence fees, &c. |
| Tobacco tax. | Stamp duties. |
| Tax on drugs. | Customs duties, postal receipts, and a portion of the trades tax. |
| Ship tax. | |
| Carriage tax. | |
| Mining tax. | |

While under the head of "taxes which are not fixed" will come the "house tax," a portion of the "trades tax," and the "district rates" or "Kiyô-gi-hi."

It may be necessary to refer to this second classification of the taxes, but for the general purposes of this paper it will be sufficient to follow the division of taxation into "National" and "Local

Taxes," and to consider each tax in the order previously given.

(A) NATIONAL TAXES.

I.—LAND TAX.

Before considering this tax, which, in regard to the revenue it yields and the extent of its application, is by far the most important tax in Japan, it will be well to consider generally the subject of the land on which the tax is levied.

Land in Japan (not including Yezo and Loochoo) admits of the following broad division² into two kinds:—

1. Government land.
2. Private land, or land owned by the people.

Government land may again be sub-divided as follows:—

Class I., for which no title-deed is issued and no taxes are paid, includes—

1. Ground occupied by Imperial Palaces.
2. Religious ground, i.e., that occupied by the Isé shrines, the Imperial cemeteries, official and national shrines, Fu and Ken shrines, and other shrines not owned by the people.

Class II., for which a title-deed is issued but no taxes are paid, includes—

1. Land held by members of the Royal Family.
2. Land held by Government for the purposes of various Departments of State, e.g., ground occupied by army and navy buildings and public offices.

In the case of land held by Fu and Ken authorities, no title-deed is required: the land is simply registered in the land books; but if Government buildings or Government lands are leased to private people, a land rent is charged.³

Class III., for which no title-deed is issued, and no taxes are paid, includes—

1. Land, of whatsoever kind, not owned by the people, whether hill land, forest land, land under the sea, land under rivers, marshes, moors, and under canals, dykes, roads, or cultivated land.
2. Land occupied by railroads, telegraphs, and lighthouses.
3. Land comprised in places rendered famous by tradition.
4. Land in which the people's rights have lapsed.⁴
5. Land occupied by public buildings and cemeteries not owned by the people.
6. Land used for places of execution.

Class IV., for which no title-deed is issued, and no taxes are paid:—

Land occupied by temples, schools, religious lecture-halls, hospitals, and poor-houses, not owned by the people.

The subdivision of private land is as follows:—

Class I., for which a title-deed is issued, and land tax and local taxes are paid, includes—

1. Cultivated land in the possession of private individuals who have a clear title to ownership; and also mountain, forest, and other land held in the same way.⁵

The purchase and sale of this land are left free and unrestricted in any way. When, however, great changes are about to be made in land, as, for instance, by bringing waste land under cultivation, permission must be obtained from the authorities.

2. Land occupied by schools, hospitals, or district godowns, land consisting of grazing commons, pasture land, and ground attached to shrines and temples, not being Government property, which is the common property of one village, or of several villages, or is in the joint ownership of several individuals, and to which the owners have a clear title. Unrestricted liberty of sale and purchase are enjoyed, as in the case of the land above mentioned.

Class II., in regard to which a title-deed is issued, but no taxes are payable, includes—

¹ This classification is taken from the "Zei-Soku-teiyo," a small work on taxation.
² But the lessee would not be charged any land tax or land rate, for the land would still be in the ownership of the Government.
³ E.g., land on which mines have been discovered; and unclaimed land rendered waste by natural calamity, which, like land on which mines have been discovered, becomes Government property.
⁴ Here the words "and house land" should be added.—J. H. G.

1. Temple land and cemeteries owned by districts and villages, not being Government property.
2. Land occupied by irrigation ditches, sewerage drains, ponds, dykes, wells, and canals.
3. Land occupied by public roads.

(But) when alterations are made in the conformation of land by the construction of new roads, the permission of the Government must be obtained.)

The foregoing classification shows clearly the various classes into which land is divided, and establishes two facts.—

1. All cultivated land in the country, with a few exceptions, belongs to the people.
2. All waste land, with a few exceptions, belongs to the Government.

To these we may add a third, that all land in Japan is subject to land tax, with three exceptions:—

1. Government land.
2. Land held for religious purposes.
3. Land used for purposes of irrigation, drainage, and roads.⁶

The question of the land tax had probably been under careful consideration by the Government for some time before it was definitely decided, in 1873, to adopt the sweeping reform then introduced.

The Imperial Proclamation promulgated in July of that year, which was issued simultaneously with the Notification by which the regulations for the revision were published, was to the following effect:—

"Taxation is a question of great importance to the country, for it is either beneficial or injurious to the people. The system hitherto in force has been wanting in uniformity, the incidence of taxation being in some cases harsh, and in others too lenient, and for the most part unfair. We are desirous of remedying this state of things, and accordingly we have inquired into the views of the district Mayors, we have elicited the opinions of the local authorities throughout the country, and we have further discussed and come to a decision on this subject in conjunction with the members of our Cabinet, with a view to establish a just and uniform system. We now publish a revised system of land taxation, by which we trust the evil of an unfair distribution of taxes will be removed, and the industry of the people will be no longer prejudiced by any partiality."

The Notification of the same date (July 28, 1873) is worded as follows:—

"The land tax having now been revised, the old system of paying taxes on rice land and other arable land in rice is altogether abolished, and as soon as fresh title-deeds for the land have been prepared, the land tax will be fixed at 3 per cent. on the value of the land. These are His Majesty's commands. The details of the revision, as they appear in the accompanying Regulations, are to be observed."

"The local taxation," hitherto levied on the yield of the land, will in future be levied on the value of the land. The amount of this taxation shall not exceed one-third of the land tax."

The change thus introduced amounted to this:—The land tax, which had previously been paid in rice, and had been calculated on the assessed yield of ground under cultivation, was in future to be paid in money, and based on the assessed value as entered in the title-deed held by the owner of the same land.

The Regulations, which form Appendix (C), may be summarized briefly as follows:—

The local authorities were instructed to take great care in preparing the question of the land tax for revision, and to collect the opinions of the people in each district as to the value of the land, and then to report details to the Central Government, which reserves to itself the right of ultimate decision in each case; and they were especially enjoined not to form too rapid conclusions, but to give the subject patient and deliberate investigation. This was the more necessary in view of the decision having been formed by the Government to allow the revised system to come into force in each district as soon as the result of the investigation of

⁵ This exception only came into force when the land tax was last revised.

⁶ Land rate, equivalent to the present "Jizowari-zei."

the local authorities should have been reported, and should have received the Government's approval.

The value of the land, after being determined by the official valuers, was to remain unaltered until the period of reassessment arrived, and during such time no reduction was to be made in years of famine, and no increase in years of plenty.

The distinction between paddy and other arable land was abolished,⁸ and all land under tillage was to be known as cultivated land. Land of other kinds was to be known by a special denomination, such as pasture land, moorland, &c.

In cases of damage to land from natural disasters, exemption from taxation for certain periods was to be granted, under certain well-defined conditions.

The proper rate of land tax was recognized to be 1 per cent., but in view of the disorganized condition of taxation generally, it was deemed necessary to fix the land tax at 3 per cent. When, however, the taxation from sources other than land had reached the sum of 2,000,000 yen, a promise was held out that the land tax would be reduced gradually until it reached its proper rate of 1 per cent.⁹

More detailed instructions were issued later on by the Finance Department, which will be found in Appendix (B).

By these the local authorities were to call upon all holders of land to state the value of the holdings, based on the profits attending cultivation of the land, and also to remeasure the land and furnish a statement of such remeasurement, so that the extent of each holding might be determined according to the modern method of measuring the land.

Instructions were given as to the system to be followed in computing the value of barren land in remote or mountainous districts.

Experts were to be appointed in each district to remeasure and value every holding.

In the case of a holder of land refusing to agree to the value of his holding as estimated by the official assessor, the land was to be sold by written tender to the highest bidder, or at a price fixed by the Government.

The work of revising the land tax did not proceed so rapidly as the Government, it seems, had anticipated. In the spring of 1875, the pressure of business connected with the revision became so great as to necessitate the establishment of a separate office for the transaction of these matters, and in the autumn of the same year, the inconvenience resulting from the long delay was urged upon the attention of the local authorities by the Government, who fixed the beginning of the year 1876 as the date by which the land tax revision must be concluded.

Neither that year, however, nor the next, saw the end of the undertaking; it lasted five years more, being eventually completed in 1881.

Four years after the work of revision had begun, the following Notification was issued, reducing the land tax to 2½ per cent. :—

"The accompanying Imperial Proclamation having been issued by His Majesty, the land tax, payable from the first day of this year (1877), has been fixed at 2½ per cent. on the value of land.

"IMPERIAL PROCLAMATION."

"Although it is not long since the Restoration took place, the nation has been busily employed with domestic and foreign affairs, and so numerous are the wants of the country that it is difficult to estimate them. The people are still in distress, and are not yet in a position to enjoy the blessings of wealth. Moved by a feeling of pity for this state of things, we revised, some time ago, the old system of taxation, and settled the land tax at 3 per cent. with the object of removing what inequalities and harshness existed under the former method. Now, again perceiving the difficulties still attending the pursuit of agriculture, we are anxious to enable cultivators to earn their livelihoods without distress. We have therefore reduced the land tax still further, and fixed it at 2½ per cent. on the value of the land. Do all of you officials take note of our wishes, and, by the practice of economy in public expenditure, aid us in the furtherance of our intentions.

"January 4, 1877."

Shortly after the issue of this Proclamation some short Rules for the regulations in land entered into between the Government and the people were drawn up. These will be found in Appendix (D).

In carrying out the revision of the land tax, one difficulty which presented itself to the Government was this. Formerly, in estimating the tax to be

paid on land, the Government had simply to estimate the yield of the land. Under the revised system, which superseded the method of payment in kind, it became necessary, in order to arrive at the value of land, to convert the yield of land in rice or other cereals into money, and, in order to do this, it was necessary to fix a uniform price for a koku of rice.

A Notification bearing on this subject, which exemplifies in some way the difficulty alluded to, was issued to the local authorities in March, 1875:—

"With regard to the price of rice, which is to be made a basis for investigating and fixing the value of land, a Notification was lately issued by the Revision directing that, in fixing the value of land, the average prices of first, second, and third class rice for the five years immediately preceding the commencement of the revision were to be taken as a basis. But as the prices of rice in the different *ken* during those years have varied considerably, according as the date of the commencement of the revision has been early or late, the value of land, if fixed on the basis of store prices, would also vary greatly, which would be productive of much inconvenience. The valuation of land is therefore to be conducted on the basis of the average price of rice during the five years from 1870 to 1874 inclusive; and you will accordingly prepare estimates of this average price, and submit the same for approval."

While the revision of the land tax was in progress, and before it had reached its conclusion, taxes continued to be levied for the most part according to the old system in kind. But in some cases the Government anticipated the new system which was about to be introduced, and, taking the value of a holding as entered in the Land Register as the correct price, charged the tax upon that.

The plan generally adopted in fixing the value of land in a district was to take a certain village as a "specimen village,"¹⁰ and having fixed the value of the land in it, make that value the basis for determining the value of all the other land in the district. The assessors chosen were usually local landed proprietors of means and position and considerable local knowledge. The valuation of a holding was practically left in their hands, for the farmer was, of course, an interested party, and the Government had not sufficient local experience to venture to interfere, with any confidence, in the decisions of the experts.

Every five years the land was to be revalued.

As the date at which the land tax was actually settled under the new system in the different districts was rarely identical (the revision in some cases being finished in 1875 and 1876, while in others, it was not concluded until 1881), the period of reassessment differs in almost every locality.

For some months at least after the revision of the land tax had come into operation, those farmers who held rice land were allowed to pay half of the tax on their rice land in kind. This part payment in rice was allowed under special Rules,¹¹ which, as they have never been rescinded, are still nominally in force, though virtually inoperative; whether, indeed, the privileges they conferred were ever made use of is not at all clear. The arrangement was from the first intended only to be provisional; at the present time, when the market price of rice is low, it would be very much to the interest of the farmers to pay their land tax in kind. But it is needless to say that the Government have no intention of allowing them to do so.

In the autumn of 1877, the distinction between rice and other arable land, which had been abolished at the commencement of the revision of the land tax in 1873, was restored, and about the same time the periods for collection of the land tax were altered and fixed as follows¹² :—

In the case of rice land—	Was made payable from—
The first instalment, consisting of half of the land tax due for the year	Dec. 1 to Jan. 31
The second instalment, consisting of three-tenths of the land tax due for the year.....	Feb. 1 to Mar. 31
The third instalment, consisting of two-tenths of the land tax due for the year	Apr. 1 to Apr. 30
In the case of all other land—	
The first instalment, consisting of two-tenths of the tax due for the year	July 1 to Aug. 31
The second instalment, consisting of half of the tax due for the year.....	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31
The third instalment, consisting of three-tenths of the tax due for the year	Nov. 1 to Dec. 31

In February, 1881, the collection of the land tax underwent further revision, and a new mode of payment was introduced considerably shortening the period in which the tax was collected.

¹⁰ "Mo-han-son."

¹¹ They have never been used in the Tochigi Ken or in the Tokio Fu.

¹² By Notification No. 53 of July 1877.

Under this new system the land tax was made payable in two instalments instead of three.

Was made payable from—

In the case of rice lands—	
Half of the tax	Nov. 1 to Dec. 15
And the other half	Jan. 1 to Feb. 28
In the case of other lands—	
Half of the tax	July 1 to Aug. 31
And the other half	Sept. 1 to Dec. 31

This is the latest alteration which has taken place in the land tax, and although it affected only the method of payment, and not the amount of tax to be paid, some dissatisfaction was provoked by it.

On the whole, however, it is generally allowed that the revision of the land tax has been a success. In the days when the farmers paid their taxes in kind, they laboured under several disadvantages. Besides the expense and risk attending the transport of the rice to the Government offices where it was received, which were borne by the farmer, it was customary for the Government to fix a certain average of loss in weight which was supposed to occur in packing the tax rice into bags for conveyance to the receiving stations. The farmers had therefore to deliver so many bags of rice, plus so much per bag for loss of weight. The bags, too, into which the tax rice was packed, were required to be of superior quality and make, and the packing had to be done with more care than in the case of ordinary rice. From all these inconveniences the farmer is saved by the payment of the land tax in money, and there is every reason to believe that the present system works well, and has proved satisfactory to agriculturists and to the owners of land generally.

II.—SAKÉ TAX.

Under the Regulations published in September, 1880, this was placed on a new footing, and although in December, 1882, further alterations were introduced, and the tax was greatly increased (in some cases 100 per cent.), the general provisions for its collection remain the same.

The tax is paid by the brewer.

The licence tax, payable in one sum on application for a licence, is fixed at 30 yen, and in addition to this the brewer has to pay on all saké which he brews—

	Per koku. Yen.
For Saké of Class I.	4
For Saké of Class II.	5
For Saké of Class III.	6

This tax is payable in three instalments. The first of these, payable by the 30th April in each year, amounts to half of the tax chargeable on the saké which has been officially inspected in the period between the 1st October in the year preceding and the 31st March of the current year.

The second instalment, payable by the 31st July, amounts to half the tax chargeable on the saké which has been officially inspected in the period between the 1st April and the 30th June.

The third instalment, payable by the 30th September, amounts to the full tax chargeable on saké inspected in the period from the 1st July to the 30th September, and the balance of taxes for the two previous periods which remains unpaid.

Other points noticeable in these Regulations are as follows :—

The saké year is reckoned from the 1st October to the 30th September.

Persons wishing to receive a brewer's licence must apply for it before the 30th September in each year.

No brewer is allowed to manufacture any saké after the 31st August in each year.

No tax is chargeable on damaged saké if the damage is duly reported to the authorities.

Saké altered from one class to another must pay tax for both classes.

All saké must be officially inspected before sale. No uninspected saké can be sold or consumed on the premises.

Persons other than saké brewers are allowed to make one koku of saké per year without paying any tax on it. But they must pay a licence fee of 80 sen¹³ a year.

Persons making wine from grapes and spirits from barley, &c., pay the same licence tax as saké brewers, but no other tax.

Penal clauses were added, in December of last year, punishing infractions of these rules with fines ranging from 2 to 30 yen.¹⁴

III.—MALT TAX.

Established for the first time in 1880.

The only tax levied is a licence tax of 50 yen, payable in one sum on application for a licence.

⁸ By special Notification, July 1873.

⁹ It is unnecessary to state that this promise was not fulfilled.

¹³ About 2s. 11d.

¹⁴ 7s. 4d. to 5l. 10s.

This licence can, with the permission of the authorities, be sold or transferred.¹⁵

The malt tax year, or period, as it is called, is reckoned, like the saké year, from the 1st October to the 30th September.

Among other new clauses added to the Malt Regulations at the end of last year was one rather curious Article which provides that, for any infringement of these rules on the part of any member of a maltster's family, or any one in his employ, the maltster shall be held responsible. It may be well to note that the nature of this impost is not described by the signification ordinarily attached to the term "malt tax."

IV.—TOBACCO TAX.

The tobacco duties, established in 1878, were also revised in December 1882.¹⁶

In the new Regulations, which came into force only on the 1st July of this year, those engaged in the tobacco trade are divided into three classes:—

1. Manufacturers.

2. Middle-men, namely, merchants who buy from manufacturers and producers and sell to retailers.

3. Retail dealers.

The difference between these three classes is thus explained:—

"The term 'manufacturer' applies only to those who manufacture their own tobacco. It does not include people who manufacture the tobacco of others at a fixed charge."

"The term 'middle-men' applies to those who buy unmanufactured tobacco and sell it to manufacturers or to persons in their own branch of trade; or who buy manufactured tobacco and sell it again to retail dealers or to persons in their own branch of trade."

"The term 'retail dealer' is applied to a person who buys manufactured tobacco and sells it to the consumer."

The following three Articles contain rather complicated provisions, and will be given best in full:—

"Art. 2. Licences must be applied for by all persons wishing to engage in any of the three branches of the tobacco trade specified above. If the same persons are both manufacturers and middle-men, or manufacturers and retail dealers, they must provide themselves with licences for each branch of the trade."

"Permits for buying and selling tobacco must also be carried by persons engaged in buying or selling tobacco, and by their employes and members of their families."

"The following are the fees to be paid for licences:—

For tobacco trade licence (renewable yearly) 20 sen*
For licence to sell tobacco.....10 sen*
For licence to buy tobacco.....10 sen*

"The licence is not transferable."

"Art. 3. The following taxes are to be paid:—

	Yearly.
By manufacturers.....	15 yen
By middle-men.....	15 yen
By retail dealers.....	5 yen

"The tax in each case is payable in two instalments. The tax for first half-year to the 30th June by the 31st January; that for second half-year to the 31st January by the 31st July."

"Art. 4. Cut tobacco must be put up into boxes or packets, and an Excise Stamp must be affixed according to the following table of weights:—

"1. On tobacco the fixed price of which is less than 25 sen per 100 mommé—

For	Rin	For	Sen
5 mommé a stamp of...2		30 mommé a stamp of...1½	
10 mommé a stamp of...4		50 mommé a stamp of...2	
15 mommé a stamp of...6		100 mommé a stamp of...4	
20 mommé a stamp of...8			

"2. On tobacco the fixed price of which is more than 25 sen but less than 50 sen per 100 mommé:—

For	Rin	For	Sen
5 mommé a stamp of...3		20 mommé a stamp of...1½	
10 mommé a stamp of...6		30 mommé a stamp of...1½	
15 mommé a stamp of...9		50 mommé a stamp of...3	
		For 100 mommé a stamp of 6 sen	

"3. On tobacco the fixed price of which is more than 50 sen per 100 mommé—

For	Rin	For	Sen
5 mommé a stamp of...4		20 mommé a stamp of...1½	
10 mommé a stamp of...8		30 mommé a stamp of...2½	
	Sen	50 mommé a stamp of...4	
15 mommé a stamp of...1½		100 mommé a stamp of...8	

The stamps vary in colour according to the price, and there are two kinds of shapes. One of these is the same as an ordinary postage stamp. The

other stamp is attached to a strip of paper similar to the newspaper wrappers used in Europe.¹⁷

They are sold by those who obtain licences¹⁸ to sell them, and these persons receive a small commission on the sale from the Government. Preference is given in issuing the licences to those who are known to be in impoverished circumstances.

Every packet or box of tobacco must bear the name and address of the manufacturer.

Tobacco manufacturers and dealers are obliged to keep books for the registration of sales and the purchase of Excise Stamps. In July of every year, each manufacturer and dealer must report in detail to the local office the amount of his transactions in tobacco and Excise Stamps, and state at the same time what tobacco and Stamps he has left on hand after the 30th June up to date of report.

Sellers of Excise Stamps must give similar reports at the same time as to sale of Stamps, giving the names and addresses of purchasers of Stamps, and amounts sold to each.

Every tobacco manufacturer and dealer must obtain a licence to buy Stamps, which he must produce to the seller of Stamps.

The books kept by tobacco manufacturers and dealers, and the tobacco held in stock, must be open to the inspection of the local authorities at any time. The inspecting officers must, however, carry a certificate of authorization, which they shall produce on demand.

The penalties for infraction of these Regulations are as follows:—

1. For selling tobacco bearing no Excise stamp or on which an insufficient stamp has been placed, 10 to 100 yen.

2. For evading payment of licence fee, three times the amount of such fee; confiscation of all tobacco in stock; and the offender is also liable to prosecution for the value of all tobacco fraudulently sold by him.

3. For falsification of books or reports, 10 to 100 yen (1l. 15s. 8d. to 18l. 6s. 8d.).¹⁹

4. For carelessness and neglect in keeping books, 5 to 50 yen (18s. 4d. to 9l. 3s. 4d.).²⁰

There are other smaller penalties for minor infractions.

V.—TAX ON DRUGS. TAX ON SALE OF PREPARED MEDICINES. STAMP DUTY ON MEDICINES.

The profession of a druggist in Japan does not coincide with that of a foreign apothecary. Before this country was opened to foreigners there was no such class as apothecaries, as we understand the word. The sale of medicines was confined to doctors, who either sold medicines prepared by themselves according to original recipes of their own or according to prescriptions of others, or, perhaps more commonly still, sold medicines already prepared and known to practitioners and patients by the names of the doctors who compounded them.

The legislative enactments relating to this branch of taxation, which may in part be traced to the encroachments of foreign medical science upon existing native systems of medical treatment, have been so numerous that they can only be clearly explained by going back to the year 1877, when these taxes were first introduced.

Under the Regulations established in January of that year, persons engaged in the sale of medicines were, for the purposes of taxation, divided into three classes: druggists, retail dealers, and itinerant sellers of medicine.

By a Notification, however, published in April, the taxes²¹ leviable on the two latter classes were placed under the head of local taxation. These will therefore be considered later on in their proper place.

The taxes levied on druggists (which appear in the Financial Estimates under the title of "Druggists' Licences") under these Regulations consist of:—

1. A tax of 2 yen yearly on each separate medicine prepared and sold by them.²²

2. A licence fee of 20 sen, repayable every five years, for a licence to sell each separate medicine prepared and sold by them.²³

The various provisions of these Regulations are not important enough to be given in detail. It will be sufficient to notice that the details of analysis, weight, and taste of each separate medicine, of its medicinal properties, and of the amounts given in

a dose, had to be sent in to the Home Office when applications for licences were made; and that the Home Office reserved to itself the right to refuse licences in the case of any medicine which might be considered dangerous.

The term "prepared medicines" comprised medicine in a liquid form, and in the form of pills, ointments, and powders.

The penalties for infraction of these Regulations ranged from 10 to 500 yen,²⁴ and in aggravated cases the stock in trade of the offender was also liable to confiscation.

By a subsequent enactment of last year, every druggist had to pay the same tax and licence fee in the case of every branch shop conducted in his name.

A further tax on the sale of medicines was established by a Notification of the 27th October, 1882, and has been enforced from the 1st January of this year.

This tax is in the form of a stamp duty on the sale of prepared medicines. The duties payable are stated as follows in the 1st Article of these new Regulations:—

"A fixed price must be attached to all drugs, and the following stamps proportionate to such fixed prices must be affixed by all druggists:—

On medicines of the price of 1 sen, a stamp of 1 rin.
On medicines of the price of 2 sen, a stamp of 2 rin.
On medicines of the price of 3 sen, a stamp of 3 rin.
On medicines of the price of 4 sen, a stamp of 4 rin.
On medicines of the price of 5 sen, a stamp of 5 rin.
On medicines of the price of 10 sen, a stamp of 10 rin.

"On medicines the price of which is more than 10 sen, an additional stamp of 5 rin must be affixed for every additional 5 sen in value."

The stamps can only be sold by persons who receive licences from the Government to sell them.

The penalties to be exacted for infringement of these Regulations vary from 2 to 20 yen; the heaviest penalty being inflicted for the offence of selling unstamped medicines.

VI.—SHIP TAX.

Under the Regulations established in the case of sea-going vessels in 1871, and in the case of cargo-boats, &c., in 1874, which were links in a chain of successive enactments dating back to the year 1868, the taxation on vessels of all kinds, including boats, was settled as follows:—

Vessels of Japanese build and of 50 koku burden and over—	Yen
Paid yearly per 100 koku burden.....	1
Steamers—	
Paid yearly per 100 tons.....	15 = £2 5s.
Foreign-built sailing-vessels—	
Paid yearly per 100 tons.....	10 = £1 16s. 8d.
Vessels under 50 koku burden, and not exceeding 18 feet in length—	
Paid yearly.....	0.20 sen
And for every additional 6 feet in length an additional tax of 15 sen was charged.	

Under the present Regulations (see Appendix F), which were published on the 17th April last, and came into force from the 1st July last, the taxes on steamers and foreign-built sailing-vessels remain the same. But the tax on Japanese-built vessels of over 50 koku²⁵ burden has been doubled; and that on vessels under 50 koku burden has been increased from 20 to 30 sen.

Pleasure-boats have also been made a distinct class, the tax on which is 50 sen a-year.

These taxes are payable in advance in two instalments: that for the first half-year being payable by the 31st January, and that for the second half-year by the 31st July.

Vessels exempt from taxation are:—

"Store-vessels, punts used in cultivating paddy-fields, boats kept for use in times of flood, ferry-boats used to supply the place of bridges, boats used in bridges of boats, and boats carried on board of vessels during a voyage."

The principal penalty for the infraction of these Regulations is that imposed for attempted evasion of payment of the tax, namely, five times the amount of the tax sought to be evaded, or a proportionate fine.

VII.—CARRIAGE TAX (OR TAX ON WHEELED VEHICLES).

Formerly, by a Notification of January, 1873, the taxes on wheeled vehicles were placed in the same category with taxes on men and women servants, on palanquins, on riding-horses, and on pleasure-boats.

In February 1878, however, the rules issued in the former year were abolished, and the taxation on wheeled vehicles was made a separate part of the revenue under Regulations specially framed for that purpose.

²⁵ Taking the yen as the equivalent of a dollar, and as worth, therefore, 3s. 8d., 10 yen will equal 1l. 16s. 8d., 500 yen 91l. 13s. 4d.

²⁶ A koku = 2½ piculs.

* When renewed in consequence of loss or necessary alteration, the same fee is to be paid.

¹⁵ What are the advantages to be gained by the person buying the licence does not appear.

¹⁶ Notification No. 63.

¹⁷ Specimens of these stamps were issued in a Notification of May of this year, and appear in Appendix (E).

¹⁸ These licences are not transferable.

¹⁹ Taking the yen at 3s. 8d.

²⁰ These are only the licence fees of 20 sen a-year.

²¹ Payable in two instalments: half by the 31st July, and half by the 31st January in each year.

²² Payable on application for issue or renewal of licence.

The 1st Article of these Regulations reads:—

The yearly tax for a two-horse carriage is fixed at...	3 00
The yearly tax for a one-horse carriage is fixed at...	2 00
The yearly tax for a luggage-cart, drawn by horses...	1 00
The yearly tax for a jinrikisha, to carry two persons...	2 00
The yearly tax for a jinrikisha, to carry one person...	1 00
The yearly tax for a bullock-cart	1 00
The yearly tax for a luggage-cart, drawn by coolies...	1 00
The yearly tax for a luggage-cart, small	0 50

These taxes are not payable in advance like the ship tax; otherwise their payment is regulated in a similar manner.

VIII.—MINING TAX.

All mines in Japan belong, as of right, to the Government, and any mine newly discovered is, by virtue of that right, at once appropriated by the Government; the owner of the land in which the mine is situated being indemnified by the Government for the loss of the land. There is, therefore, no such thing as royalty. But a tax introduced in 1873 is levied on those who obtain permission from the Government to work mines.

Persons working mines containing ores from which gold or silver can be extracted, pay a yearly tax of 1.50 yen per 500 tsubo of superficial measurement.

Persons working iron mines and other mines yielding ore from which gold or silver cannot be extracted, being mines not previously worked, pay 90 sen yearly for 500 tsubo of superficial measurement.

Persons working old mines pay the same tax per 1,000 tsubo.

In the case of mines the superficial measurement of which is less than 1,000 or 500 tsubo, proportional taxes are paid. The first year's taxes are paid according to the number of months due.

Taxes on the working of mines in Yezo are payable monthly.

IX.—TAXES ON EXPORTS FROM YEZO (KNOWN AS HOKKAIDO TAXES).

All productions of Yezo, whether shipped on Government or on private account, pay, with the exception of metals, rice, and other cereals, silk-worms' eggs, raw silk, and hardware, and of goods required for the army or navy, an export tax of 4 per cent. on original value.²⁵

The tax is levied at the port of export.

In the case of Japanese-owned vessels, the master of the ship collects the tax; in the case of foreign-owned vessels, the exporter pays the tax direct to the Government.

X.—TAX ON "COMPANIES."²⁶

The history, not, perhaps, exactly, of this tax, but of legislative enactments bearing on this subject, dates back to the second year of the Restoration (1869). At that time, all commercial operations of any magnitude, and notably those conducted with foreigners, were in the hands of large trading societies, which went under various designations, such as "Town" and "Provincial Guilds," and Clan Commercial Associations," but which had all, more or less, through connection with central or local officials, an official character, some, indeed, though nominally private enterprises, being established entirely on an official basis. In June, 1869, the Government issued a Notification in which, referring to these various trading associations, the evils caused by the virtual monopoly in different branches of trade enjoyed by these societies were pointed out. Owing, it was said, to the action of the agents of these so-called mercantile firms, trade was diverted from its proper channels, its free and unrestricted exercise was hampered, and the markets being manipulated for the sole benefit of these wealthy traders, the general development of commerce was impeded. The Notification concluded by observing that, in order to put a stop to these practices, commercial inspectors had been appointed, and rules carefully drawn up for the regulation of commercial establishments.

The first results of this special legislation do not seem to have been altogether favourable to the objects the reformers had in view, for in April, 1871, another Notification appeared on this same subject. In this attention was drawn to the unsatisfactory conditions under which trade was conducted through non-conformance with the Regulations²⁷ for the formation of trading societies. Litigation had increased, trading societies had ventured in an arbitrary manner to issue notes purporting to have the value of current money, no care was taken to keep a reserve of money at

hand to meet liabilities, and the general result of these proceedings was depression and insolvency. Further Regulations would therefore be made in order to insure sufficient control in these matters, and, meanwhile, the local authorities were strictly enjoined to put a stop to this state of things in so far as they were able.

In 1873 a few general rules were drawn up having reference to the issue of licences in the case of commercial establishments of all kinds, but it was not until the following year that any important legislation was undertaken by the Government. In October of that year (1874) Regulations were framed for the control of share agencies,²⁸ and these were followed in August, 1876, by the establishment of the National Bank Regulations (which were revised only the other day²⁹), and by the issue of further Regulations in regard to the management of rice exchanges.

The taxes³⁰ at present levied on commercial establishments, as such, are limited to these three classes.

Of these—

National Banks pay to the Government a yearly licence fee of 7 per cent. on the total value of their note issue.

Rice exchanges pay to the Government a yearly licence fee of 40 per cent. on the total amount of commission received and profits made in the course of business.

Stock exchanges and share agencies pay to the Government a yearly licence fee of 10 per cent. on the total amount of commission received and profits made in the course of business.

The taxes are payable half-yearly: that for the first half-year by the 21st July, and that for the second half-year by the 20th of the following January.

In order to keep a check on the transactions of these commercial establishments in the interests of the revenue, they are required to supply detailed statements at specified periods of all business done. And in the case of Stock Exchanges, every newly-established agency is required to publish, for the period of six months from the date of commencing business, monthly statements of business done; and in accordance with these the tax for the first half-year for which it becomes due is levied.

In 1882, however, the tax on companies was increased by the imposition of taxes leviable on brokers who are members of Rice Exchanges and Stock Exchanges.

These taxes are as follows:—

Members of Rice Exchanges pay a tax of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. upon the amount of each transaction in rice.

Members of Stock Exchanges pay a tax of $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent. upon the amount of each transaction in Public Debt bonds, and a tax of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. upon the amount of each transaction in old coinage and foreign currency.

In the present year a further Notification was issued,³¹ enacting that persons wishing to become brokers must pay a licence fee of 30 yen (5l. 10s.).

XI.—TAX ON WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Regulations for the collection of these taxes were issued in 1875, but they underwent revision in the following year.

The present system of taxation is as follows:—

Weights and measures are divided into three classes (a classification borrowed from the Regulations of 1875).

The expenses of manufacturing the various instruments for testing weights and measures in each locality are ascertained; to these are added incidental expenses which may occur before the articles are ready for sale. The total cost thus ascertained is called the "original value." This original value is increased by the addition of a further sum of 24 per cent. and the value thus increased is termed the current selling value. Of this 24 per cent. by which the cost of production, or original value is increased, one per cent. goes to the Government as tax and the remaining 23 per cent. is divided as profit between the manufacturer and dealer. Taking yen 1.00 as the cost of production, yen 1.24 is fixed as selling value. Of this sum one sen goes as tax to the Government, and 23 sen are divided as profit between the manufacturer and dealer.

XII.—LICENCE FEES.

The following taxes are paid into the National Treasury under the head of licence fees:—

1. Shooting licences.
2. Attorneys' licences.

²⁸ Brokers' establishments.

²⁹ May 1883.

³⁰ Irrespective of local taxation.

³¹ No. 28 of August 6, 1883.

3. Horse and cattle-dealers' licences.

1. SHOOTING LICENCES.—Professional hunters pay a yearly licence fee of 1 yen.

Sportsmen pay a yearly licence fee of 10 yen.

2. ATTORNEYS' LICENCES.—Attorneys pay a yearly licence fee of 10 yen (1l. 16s. 8d.).

The provisions respecting attorneys, after passing through repeated revisions, were finally settled in the year 1880, since when no material alterations have been made.

3. HORSE AND CATTLE DEALERS' LICENCES.—

In 1870, the tax payable by dealers in horses and cattle was fixed at 3 bus (about 75 sen) per annum. In the following year it was increased to 1 yen.

At the end of the same year this tax underwent further revision, and new Regulations were framed, for the purpose, as stated in the Notification giving effect to these Regulations, of placing the taxation on an uniform basis throughout the country. Some local dissatisfaction was probably caused by this alteration of the tax, for, a year afterwards, stringent orders were sent by the Finance Department to the various local authorities, directing the immediate payment of the arrears which had been allowed to accumulate.

According to these Regulations, the local authorities in each district were instructed to ascertain the names and residences of the horse and cattle dealers in each district, and to issue to each dealer a licence for every "string"³² of horses or cattle which he owned, on payment of a fee of 1 yen for each licence, the licence or licences to be renewed every year on payment of the same fee. Lists of the dealers in each Fu and Ken were to be sent into the Finance Department at the end of every year. The full tax for the year was, under these Regulations, made payable by February in each year; but by a subsequent enactment passed in 1875, the tax was made payable in advance in two instalments: that for the first half-year being collected in February, and that for the second half-year in August.

The penalty inflicted in the case of a dealer pursuing his calling without a licence was ten times the amount of the licence fee, and confiscation of the offender's horses and cattle. To encourage the detection of attempts to evade the tax, a reward of one-fifth of the value of the confiscated animals was given to the informers on whose information an offender was convicted.

It is impossible not to notice the impracticability of collecting this tax in the manner described so as to leave no room for fraud. What, for instance, would be more simple than for dealers to dispose of their stock in collusion with one another just at the moment when the tax became due, and on receipt of a licence for a few head of cattle, quietly receive back the cattle they had temporarily parted with? And, indeed, without going so far as this, it is obvious that a dealer might evade payment of the proper amount of tax due from him in many ways without coming within reach of the law. For, supposing a dealer to have 100 head of cattle actually in stock when he applies for a licence, and a week afterwards to have increased his stock to 1,000 head, he could not be called upon to pay a fresh licence fee, for he would naturally denounce the hardship of paying fees for cattle which might only remain in his possession for a week. In fact, by playing his cards skilfully in the intervals between the dates fixed for payment of the taxes, a dealer might pay only 3 or 4 yen a-year, and yet have transactions in cattle amounting to 3,000 or 4,000 yen. It is, indeed, generally understood that this device is commonly resorted to by dealers, and that it is unusual for a dealer to pay fees for more than one "string" of horses or cattle.

XIII.—OTHER FEES.

Under the head of "National Taxes" the following fees also appear in the Financial Estimates:—

1. Copyright fees.
2. Judicial fees.
3. Passport fees (paid by Japanese who receive passports for foreign travel).

1. COPYRIGHT FEES.—Authors (and publishers) of books or maps, and translators (and publishers) of books or maps, may obtain a copyright giving the exclusive right of publication for a period of thirty years on payment of a fee amounting to the value of six copies of the book or map which it is intended to publish. This fee is payable on application for the grant of copyright. If this copyright is give up by the person obtaining it, a fee of 30 sen is charged.

³² 2. JUDICIAL FEES.—These relate to civil matters only, and are divided into three kinds:—

³³ A string was composed of seven horses or cattle.

³⁴ Replaced by new system introduced April 1, 1884 (see Annex 2.).

²⁵ The original value is defined as being the market value at the place of export of that third part of the month in which goods are supplied.

NOTE.—Japanese months are divided into three parts, of, theoretically, ten days each, called first, middle, and last part.

²⁶ I have adhered to the term given in the Finance Minister's estimates.

²⁷ What these Regulations were I have been unable to ascertain.

(1.) Charges for ruled paper on which Petitions and answers in civil cases are written.

(2.) Charges for ruled paper on which Judgments in civil cases are written.

(3.) Charges for ruled paper used in interlocutory proceedings, and summonses, motions, &c.

The charges are made at so much per sheet of ruled paper used, and vary with the amount of money involved in the matter before a Court, and according as the suit is one in which money, goods, houses, or land is sought to be recovered.

Details of these fees are given in Appendix (G).

3. PASSPORT FEES.—These require little explanation.

The fee for a passport issued in Japan is 50 *sen* (1s. 10d.), when issued abroad by a Japanese Minister or Consul the fee is 2 *yen* (7s. 4d.).

Under the head of passport fees is included a fee of 10 *sen* (about 4½d.) charged on all Japanese who take passage in a foreign-owned vessel, even though the vessel is only bound on a coasting voyage from one Japanese port to another.

14. STAMP DUTIES.³⁴

The stamp duties include charges for Government ruled paper used in drawing up documents of a business character, and charges for Government stamps, which are required in nearly all business transactions; they also include the charge for official seals necessary in notarial acts.

The Government ruled paper is of three kinds:—

Large-sized paper, for which the charge per sheet is... 7 *rin*.
Medium 5 *rin*.
Small 2 *rin*.

The use of this ruled paper is obligatory, with a few exceptions, in all business transactions of a documentary nature where stamps are required to be used. In some cases, however, ruled paper alone is necessary without the adjuncts of stamps. The cost of the stamps to be employed varies according to the nature of the transaction and the amount of money involved.

The provisions regulating the use of "ruled paper" and stamps are given in detail in Appendix (H). They are voluminous and uninteresting, and some of the distinctions drawn appear to any one not intimately acquainted with Japanese methods of business so very arbitrary that a brief notice of them will be all that is necessary.

The cases in which stamps are required are divided into two large classes:—

1. Documents.
2. Account-books, ledgers, &c.

In the former case ruled paper is always necessary, sometimes, as previously stated, when stamps are not required. In the latter case stamps only are used.

The documents on which stamps have to be affixed admit of a further classification into several classes, which will be understood by reference to Appendix (H).

Both stamps and ruled paper are sold by persons who obtain a licence for that purpose from the Government.

Those dealers who pay in-advance to the Government the cost of stamps and ruled paper received by them for sale from the Government, receive a commission of 10 per cent. on the total value of what they sell. Those, again, who pay to the Government the cost of stamps and paper after they have disposed of them, receive a commission of only 4 per cent. on the total value of what they sell.

The charges for notarial seals are only required in certain commercial matters, and vary according to the amount of money involved.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.—These duties are connected with foreign trade, and do not call for any remarks in this paper.

POSTAL DUTIES.—These appear in the Finance Estimates under the head of "National Taxes," and I have therefore included them in the list given in this paper. But as they belong to a subject which may be considered as quite separate from taxation, no comment on them is necessary.

(B.)—LOCAL TAXES.

The establishment of the system of local taxation now in force was commenced in 1878. In July of that year a Notification was issued enacting that the local taxes in each Prefecture, or administrative district, should be divided into three classes:—

1. Land rate ("jizowari-zei").
2. House tax ("kosuwari-zei,"³⁵ or "kaoku-zei").

³⁴ Introduced by Notification No. 121 of July 1878. These duties have now been raised;—the new system will come into force July 1, 1884 (see Annex 3).

³⁵ In 1882 the name was changed from "kosuwari ze" to "kaoku-zei."

3. Trades tax and miscellaneous taxes.³⁶

The local expenditure which this taxation is designed to meet may be divided broadly into the following heads:—

Police rates.	Educational rates.
Prison rates. ³⁷	Poor rates.

Maintenance of public roads (including construction and repair of roads, bridges, dykes, and canals).
Maintenance of hospitals.

Maintenance of lunatic asylums.

Cost of construction and repairs of prefectural and municipal³⁸ offices and buildings.

Expenses of Board of Health (or sanitary rates), including cost of sanitary precautions rendered necessary by outbreaks of epidemic disease.

Wages and expenses incurred on public service of local officials and District Mayors.

Expenses of shipping offices and relief of shipwrecked vessels.

Cost of printing and publishing Government Notifications.

Expenses of Prefectural and Municipal Assemblies and of local Government offices.

Official expenditure incurred in the development of national industries.

And extraordinary expenses of various kinds occasioned by fire or flood, or arising out of any other causes.

The expenditure incurred under the foregoing heads differs in almost each locality, and the incidence of taxation varies accordingly. In some districts, where the number of householders is small as compared with that of land-owners, and where the outlay of public money is made more in the interests of the latter, certain charges which, in townships like those of Tōkiō and Osaka are borne by house property, are in these localities laid upon the land.

The system under which the local taxes are collected, in spite of the variations in detail which have been noticed, may be roughly described as follows:—

The estimates of expenditure, and of the taxation to be imposed in order to meet it, for each year (*i.e.*, for the period from the 1st July to the 30th June) are drawn up in February of each year by the Prefect of each Prefecture, who presents them for discussion to the local Prefectural Assembly. When the estimates have been passed by this Assembly, they are submitted for approval to the Home and Finance Ministers. The estimates are then given to the District or Municipal Assemblies, where the minor details of taxation are settled.

Extraordinary expenditure incurred through sudden emergencies is met by special taxation. In cases of urgency this additional taxation may be levied at once and reported subsequently to the central authorities. But in ordinary cases the usual course of procedure above described is followed.

In July of every year the Prefect of each Prefecture prepares a detailed financial statement, called the "Fixed Account," of the expenditure and receipts for the preceding twelve months, which is forwarded to the central authorities, and is laid before the Prefectural Assembly in the following year.

1. LAND RATE.

This tax was first established in 1878, and is leviable on land in the same manner as the land tax. It was then assessed at one-fifth of the land tax, but was subsequently, in 1880, increased to one-third. As the latter tax is at present fixed at 2½ per cent. on the value of land, the land rate amounts to a charge of five-sixths on the same land. It is payable half-yearly in January and July of each year.

2. HOUSE TAX.

This tax is imposed on owners of houses. The tax itself is not new, dating back to the times of the Tokugawa Shogunate, when it was known to ratepayers under the name of "kiki-goma."³⁹ In the spring of 1879, however, some alterations were introduced into the collection of the tax by allowing the Municipal Assemblies greater latitude in determining and fixing the rates; and in October of the following year the system of taxation was completely revised (the revision having retrospective effect to the 1st July of that year), the old method of rat-

ing a house according to its frontage being replaced by one under which the square measurement of a house is taken. The old system of levying the house tax is probably responsible for the peculiar construction of Japanese houses, which have a very narrow frontage but extend back a long way from the street.

The tax is now payable half-yearly, that for the first half-year being payable in the period comprising July and August; that for the second half-year by the end of February. So little uniformity obtains in the incidence of this tax throughout the country that it is impossible to consider its details as applicable to the whole of Japan. In dealing with this tax, therefore, it must be understood that by the house tax is meant this tax as it is collected in Tōkiō and the neighbourhood.

The city of Tōkiō is, for administrative purposes, divided into fifteen urban districts, called "ku," which constitute the city proper, and into six rural districts, which constitute the suburbs.⁴⁰ Under the Regulations which came into force in March 1879, the estimates of the local expenditure of the Prefecture of Tōkiō for the ensuing year⁴¹ are discussed and settled in the Prefectural Assembly, and at the same time the Assembly settles the amount of taxation to be levied in each "ku" and "gun" in order to meet this estimated expenditure, and the rate per tsubo⁴² (of the tsubo measurement of the premises belonging to each householder at which the contribution is to be levied). The results, after being submitted for approval to the Home and Finance Ministers, are communicated to the Mayors of each "ku" and "gun," and, with this estimate before them, the Ku and Gun Assemblies meet together in May and November of each year in order to consider and fix the exact contribution to be levied on each householder in the "ku" and "gun" for the coming half-year, the tax being collected every six months. It rests with these bodies, therefore, to determine the classification of each house, and of the ground on which it stands, and to rate the premises accordingly.

The system on which the tax is distributed amongst the different ratepayers is practically the same in every district of Japan, and its complicated character renders a detailed explanation necessary.

The amount leviable as house tax on a particular householder, as house tax holder, is determined by calculating the square measurement in tsubo of the buildings on the premises, godowns, and buildings detached from the main structure being all measured (an exception being made only in the case of houses which have more than one storey, the measurement of the second storey is taken as seven-tenths, and that of the third storey as half of the measurement of the ground floor.⁴³)

But all houses or buildings are not taxed alike. They are rated according to their construction. For this purpose buildings are divided into two classes:—

Under Class 1 come houses built of stone or brick, and houses built like godowns (*i.e.*, of a specially solid construction).

In the case of buildings of this class the actual measurement of tsubo is doubled. That is to say, a house of 100 tsubo is, for the purpose of taxation, taken to measure 200 tsubo.

Class 2 includes wooden houses only.

In this case the measurement of tsubo simply remains as it is.

The same distinction made in the case of houses is made in the case of the land on which they stand.

For the purposes of this taxation, the land on which houses stand is divided into no less than nine classes, and more than 160 grades.⁴⁴

With regard to land of the first class coming under grades 1 to 20, the actual measurement of tsubo, as ascertained by the official surveyors, is multiplied by 5, and on this increased measurement the rate per tsubo fixed beforehand by the Municipal Assembly is levied.

With regard to land of the second class, coming under grades 21 to 40, the actual measurement of tsubo is multiplied by 4½, and so on till we come to land of the ninth class, coming under grades 160 and further, in which case the multiplier is 1, the measurement of tsubo remaining as it is.

Houses, the building and ground measurement

⁴⁰ In Tōkiō there are certain limits which inclose Tōkiō proper; all districts outside these limits, but within the Tōkiō Fu, are included in the suburbs.

⁴¹ July 1 to June 30.

⁴² 1 tsubo = 36 square feet.

⁴³ If a house of three storeys have a measurement of 100 tsubo on the ground floor, 70 tsubo will be added for the second storey, and 50 for the third storey, so that the total measurement becomes 220 tsubo.

⁴⁴ The value of house-ground in Tōkiō is determined entirely by the position it occupies. It is rated accordingly as it is situated in a populous or unfrequented part of the city.

of which amount to less than 8 tsubo, are exempt from taxation.

The application of the rate per tsubo which has been fixed by the Municipal Assembly is thus governed by three considerations:—

1. The extent of tsubo measurement of the buildings constituting each separate house-holding or premises, which will vary according as the buildings are one, two, or three storeys high.

2. The class of buildings under which the particular house comes.

3. The class of land under which the ground occupied by the premises in question comes.

To make the matter clearer, we will take the case of a householder owning a two-storeyed building coming under Class 1, the measurement of the ground floor of which has been officially determined at 100 tsubo, and standing upon ground rated as of the 1st Class.⁴⁵

The measurement of the building will be taken as...	Tsubo.
As the building is of the 1st-class, this measurement will be doubled	170

Which gives as the measurement of building...	340
The land being of the 1st-class, this measurement will again be multiplied by	5

So that the total measurement on which the rate will be levied will be	1,700
--	-------

Again, let us take the case of a householder owning premises which consist of two buildings, one a two-storeyed building coming under Class 1, the measurement of the ground floor of which has been officially determined at 100 tsubo, and the other a one-storeyed building coming under Class 2, the measurement of which has been officially determined at 50 tsubo, both these buildings standing upon ground rated as of the 9th Class.⁴⁶

In this case the building measurement will be as follows:—

Building 1—	Tsubo.
Measurement	170
This measurement will be doubled, as the building is of the 1st-class	170
Total measurement of Building 1	340
Building 2—	
Measurement	50
Which will remain as it is, this building coming under Class 2	
The total measurement of both buildings will thus be	390

As the ground supporting these buildings is of the 9th Class, this measurement will remain as it is, so that the total measurement on which the rate will be levied will in this case be only 390 tsubo.

Taking the rate fixed for the year's taxation at 5 *sen* per tsubo, the first-named householder would pay a house tax of 85 *yen*, while the latter would pay only 19.50 *yen*.⁴⁷

The tsubo measurement of house property is liable to revision every five years; claims to exemption from taxation are considered at the same intervals of time.

Up to July, 1882, the house tax was paid by the occupants of houses, whether they were tenants or landlords, and no tax was imposed on unoccupied buildings. In March of that year, however, the question was discussed in the Tōkiō Prefectural Assembly, and it was decided that in future this tax was to be paid by the landlord, irrespective of whether a house was tenanted or not. This change, it is said, increased the revenue of the "fu" by 170,000 *yen*.

The local expenditure of the Prefecture which this tax assists to defray, includes the heads of local expenditure previously given, with the addition of the expenses of the Fire Brigade.

The item of educational rates includes only the cost of maintaining the "Chiu-Gakkō," or "Middle Schools." Previous to this year the "Middle Schools" were maintained at Government expense in the same way as the "Dai-Gakkō," or Universities, are still. The "Primary Schools" are supported out of the "kiyo-gi-hi," or district rates.

The Assembly of the Tōkiō Prefecture, when determining the estimates of expenditure, also fix the proportions chargeable to the householders in the "ku," or city proper, and to those in the "gun," or suburbs of Tōkiō. This distribution of the house taxation varies with each head of expenditure, but in most cases the charge per house levied in the city proper is at least double, and in some cases seven or eight times as much as, that levied

in the suburbs. In certain items, too, a portion of the expense is met by contributions from the Government funds.

Government property and buildings and religious edifices pay no house tax.

The Table given in Appendix (I) shows the amount contributed as house tax in the year 1881 by the various urban districts of Tōkiō.

3. TRADES TAX AND MISCELLANEOUS TAXES.

By the trades tax and miscellaneous taxes are understood all taxes levied on trades, industries, and professions for local purposes. These taxes were first established in July, 1879. The Regulations then issued were of an intricate nature, and the system of taxation exceedingly complicated. It was found necessary in July of the following year to revise this system, under which no business or profession was secure from official intrusion, and commercial privacy could not exist; and again in August, 1881, the subject was taken up by the Government, and fresh Regulations were issued superseding all previous enactments in regard to these taxes. These new Regulations introduced an entirely new system, which is now in force. It will be sufficient, therefore, if we confine our attention to the present mode of assessing and collecting these taxes, although, as the subject is one of some interest, a description of the former system will be found in Appendix (J).

Under the present system, which, in view of the numerous local differences which exist, must be taken as applying only to the Prefecture of Tōkiō, the trades tax and miscellaneous taxes are divided into two classes:—

1. These taxes as levied in the urban districts.
2. The same taxes as levied in the country districts.

CLASS I.—TRADES TAX.

A tax similar to the house tax previously described, being assessed according to the tsubo measurement of the premises occupied by the ratepayer, and regulated and made payable in an identical manner, is levied on all commercial Companies or Associations of every kind, and all merchants and shop-keepers; in fact, this tax includes all people of the trading class, with the exception of those who are taxed separately by the Government, such as saké dealers, tobacco dealers, and druggists, and those who pay taxes which come under the head of miscellaneous taxes.

The only difference between this and the house tax is that, whereas in the case of the latter, land which supports buildings is divided into nine classes, in the case of the former, the classes into which similar land is divided are no less than twenty-seven. Moreover, in the case of the house tax, the measurement of buildings standing upon land of the 1st Class is multiplied by 5, and the measurement of buildings standing upon land of the 9th Class remains as it is, while in the case of the trades tax, the measurement of buildings standing upon land of the 1st Class is multiplied by 14, and it is not till we come to land of the 27th Class that the measurement of buildings remains as it is.

In the case of manufacturers and artisans the same tax is levied, with this difference, that it is assessed on the tsubo measurement of the buildings actually used as workshops.

CLASS I.—MISCELLANEOUS TAXES.

Restaurants, hotels,⁴⁸ assignation houses, pleasure-boat houses, tea houses attached to theatres and music-halls, are taxed according to their guest-room accommodation as follows:—

1. Restaurants having a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
70 tsubo and over, pay monthly	10	00
60 tsubo and over, pay monthly	8	00
50 tsubo and over, pay monthly	6	00
40 tsubo and over, pay monthly	4	00
30 tsubo and over, pay monthly	3	00
20 tsubo and over, pay monthly	2	00
15 tsubo and over, pay monthly	1	00
10 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	50
5 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	25
And under 5 tsubo, monthly	0	10

2. Hotels⁴⁹ having a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
40 tsubo and over, pay monthly	1	00
30 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	45
20 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	30
10 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	25
5 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	10

⁴⁸ On further examination of the Financial Reports of the Tōkiō Prefecture, I see that under the head of "Trades Tax" are included the two items of "hotel taxes," "druggists' licences," &c.; why these should not come under "Miscellaneous Taxes" is not clear. The taxes levied in these two cases are similar to the other miscellaneous taxes in every respect.

⁴⁹ See note on "hotels" previously given.

3. Assignation houses and boat houses having a guest-room accommodation of—

30 tsubo and over, pay monthly	3	yen
20 tsubo and over, pay monthly	2	yen

4. Tea houses attached to theatres with a tsubo measurement of 300 tsubo and over, which have a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
20 tsubo and over, pay each day ⁵⁰	0	20
Under 20 tsubo, pay each day	0	15

- Tea houses attached to theatres with a measurement of 200 tsubo and over, which have a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
20 tsubo and over, pay each day	0	15
Under 20 tsubo, pay each day	0	10

- Tea houses attached to theatres with a measurement of under 200 tsubo, which have a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
20 tsubo and over, pay each per day	0	10
Under 20 tsubo, pay each per day	0	05

But the yearly taxation is limited in the case of each tea house to 36 *yen*.

5. Music-halls having a guest-room accommodation of—

	Yen	sen.
25 tsubo and over, pay monthly	0	75
Under 25 tsubo, pay monthly	0	50

When the same persons are proprietors of two or more of these establishments, the nature of the establishment being different in each case, they are only charged the tax on that which is most heavily rated.

Bath-houses, hair-dressers, and servants' agencies pay the following taxes:—

Bath-houses pay yearly	2	yen.
(In the case of very small bath-houses the tax is only 1 <i>yen</i> .)		
Hair-dressers pay yearly	1	yen.
Servants' agencies	1	yen.

Billiard saloons, rifle and archery saloons, and bowling alleys pay monthly taxes ranging from 1.50 *yen* in the case of the first, to 50 *sen* in the case of the last.

The following taxes are imposed on water-mills:—

Silk mills, grain mills, and mills for hulling rice pay yearly 5 *yen*.

Boats of various kinds pay yearly taxes as follows:

Boats over 12 feet, a tax equivalent to half the Imperial tax; under 12 feet, a quarter of the same.

Carriages belonging to livery stables, ox-carts, goods-carts, waggons, and velocipedes pay yearly a tax equivalent to half of the Imperial tax.

Private carriages and private jinrikisha pay yearly the same amount as the Imperial tax.

Riding-horses belonging to livery stables pay yearly 1 *yen*; private riding-horses pay 3 *yen*.

Graziers, who supply the meat market, pay yearly:—

Per Ox sold	40	sen.
Per Calf sold	10	sen.
Per Sheep sold	15	sen.
Per Pig sold	10	sen.

Formerly, the taxes on markets were assessed at so much per cent. on the value of the sales, and were payable monthly.

The tax on markets has now been settled at a fixed annual sum, which varies in different districts.

The market in Nihonbashi⁵¹ pays 100 *yen*; that at Yokkaichi pays 60 *yen*; and other markets pay taxes varying from 10 to 1 *yen*.

Theatres pay a tax of 8 per cent. on total receipts (i.e., all money taken at the doors).

Shows and other places of entertainment (not otherwise taxed) pay a tax of 5 per cent. on receipts.

In each case the tax is payable every ten days.

Actors, wrestlers, dancing-girls, jesters, jugglers, singers, reciters, circus-riders, and story-tellers pay the following taxes:—

	Yen	sen.
Actors—		
First class, pay monthly	5	00
Second class, pay monthly	4	00
Wrestlers—		
First class, pay monthly	1	00
Second class, pay monthly	0	50
Dancing-girls—		
First class, pay monthly	2	00
Second class, pay monthly	1	00
Jesters, pay monthly	2	00
Jugglers, singers, reciters, circus-riders, and story tellers—		
First class, pay monthly	2	00
Second class, pay monthly	1	00
Third class, pay monthly	0	30

⁵⁰ Namely, for each day while the performances are going on.

⁵¹ The central market in Tōkiō.

⁴⁵ Being in a busy quarter of the town.

⁴⁶ Being in an unfrequented portion of the city.

⁴⁷ These figures are simply given by way of illustrating the working of the system. In point of fact, the average measurement of buildings in Tōkiō is given officially at about 17 tsubo for the country districts. In the case of urban districts, no average measurement of buildings has been officially determined.

Blind minstrels, and professional performers above 60 years of age, pay no taxes.

Apothecaries and medicine pedlars pay an annual licence fee of 20 *sen*.⁵²

Actors and wrestlers pay their taxes to the office of the Prefecture; other people to the district offices.

It will be seen that the period of assessment as regards the trades tax and miscellaneous taxes varies, being sometimes annual, in other cases monthly, and in others, again, daily.

In the case of these taxes, which are assessed at so much per year, payment is made in two instalments; the tax due for the first half-year to the 30th June being payable before the end of August, and that for the latter half-year being payable by the end of the following February. Monthly taxes must be paid by the 20th day of the month for which they are due.

Daily taxes are payable every ten days.⁵³

CLASS 2.—TRADES TAX.

The trades tax and miscellaneous taxes levied in the country districts of Tōkiō are practically the same as those levied in the urban districts.

The principal difference lies in the details of assessing the trades tax.

The classification of houses is the same, only that in the case of the measurement of houses of the 1st Class the measurement is not doubled as in the urban districts, but is increased by half of the ascertained measurement.

In the case of land the classification differs materially.

Land supporting buildings is divided into five classes only, and in the case of buildings standing upon ground of the 1st Class the tsubo measurement is multiplied by 3; while in the case of buildings standing upon ground of the 5th Class the tsubo measurement remains as it is.

CLASS 2.—MISCELLANEOUS TAXES.

Restaurants, hotels, and similar establishments previously enumerated under the head of urban districts pay a much lower rate of tax in the country districts, these monthly taxes varying from 1 *yen* to 10 *sen*, and the same comparatively low rates are levied in most of the other items of taxation—theatres, for instance, paying only 5 per cent. on receipts.

Both in the urban and country districts people of the poorest class are exempted from taxation.

4. DISTRICT RATES, OR "KAYOJIHI."

It only remains to notice these rates, which may be dismissed with the brief explanation that they are variable in amount, and are determined by the residents in each district. In case of disputes, the questions at issue are referred for settlement to the local authorities.

The expenditure thus met comprises:—

1. Maintenance of primary schools.
2. Construction and repair of local wells, privies, drains, aqueducts, and street lamps.

GENERAL REMARKS.

(A)—NATIONAL TAXES.

The Financial Estimates for the year 1883-84, just published, give the total amount of the revenue from national taxes at 70,256,720 *yen*, divided as follows:—

	YEN.		YEN.
1. Land tax	43,029,745 ⁵⁴	10. Tax on Companies	500,000
2. Saké tax	16,711,635 ⁵⁵	11. Tax on exchange brokers	Nil
3. Malt tax	56,500		
4. Tobacco tax	974,199		
5. Tax on druggists, &c.	686,495		
6. Ship tax	136,131		
7. Carriage tax	441,549		
8. Mining tax	15,878		
9. Tax on Yezo exports	864,193		

A detailed comparison of the amounts collected under the various heads of national taxation, as they appear in the present Estimates, and in those for former years, belongs properly to a Financial Report, so I will confine myself in the present instance to pointing out the increase of revenue which has occurred under the above heads in the last four years. This is shown by the following Table, in which the figures, of the present Estimates are compared with those of the Estimates of the financial year 1879-80.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE AMOUNTS OF NATIONAL TAXES APPEARING RESPECTIVELY IN THE FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR 1879-80 AND 1883-84.

TAX.	FINANCIAL YEAR 1879-80. YEN.	FINANCIAL YEAR 1883-84. YEN.	REMARKS.
Land tax	41,000,950	43,029,745	Increase... 2,028,795
Saké tax	4,507,272	16,711,635	Increase... 12,204,363
Malt tax	—	56,500	Only established in 1880. No Returns till 1881.
Tobacco tax	348,674	974,199	Increase... 625,525
Tax on druggists, &c.	79,131	686,495	Increase... 607,364
Ship tax	138,357	136,131	Decrease... 2,226
Carriage tax	270,348	441,549	Increase... 171,201
Mining tax	11,537	15,878	Increase... 4,341
Tax on Yezo exports	363,971	864,193	Increase... 500,222
Tax on Companies	500,000	1,279,544	Increase... 779,544
Tax on weights, &c.	2,925	3,309	Increase... 384
Licence fees	118,730	191,057	Increase... 72,327
Other fees	88,464	129,819	Increase... 41,355
Stamp duties	539,168	886,336	Increase... 347,168
Customs duties	2,181,310	2,600,330	Increase... 419,020
Postal receipts	1,050,000	2,250,000	Increase... 1,200,000
Add tax on official salaries	81,992	—	Abolished in 1880.
Total taxes ...	51,282,829	70,256,720	
	£ 9,401,851 9 8	£ 12,880,398 13 4	

It will be seen from the above Table that, making allowance for two items which figure alone in each financial year, namely, that of the tax on salaries of officials, and that of the malt tax, the Estimates for 1883-84 show a net increase in the total amount of national taxation for the financial year, as compared with the Estimates for 1871-80, of 18,999,383 *yen*.

Of this amount the saké tax alone contributes an increase of 12,204,363 *yen*. This large increase is due to the additional taxation imposed in 1880, and again in 1882.

The land tax shows an increase of 2,028,795 *yen*, which may be attributed to the increased area of ground under cultivation, owing to the gradual reclamation of waste land.

The tobacco tax shows an increase of 625,525 *yen*. Of this, 125,525 *yen* are due to increased manufacture and consumption, and 500,000 *yen* to the newly-imposed stamp duty on tobacco, which was established in 1882.

In the revenue derived from the tax on druggists and on prepared medicines the increase is 607,364 *yen*. Of this amount, 7,364 *yen* are attributable to an increased trade in drugs, while 600,000 *yen* represent the additional revenue obtained by the imposition of the stamp duty on prepared medicines.

The increase of 500,000 *yen* in the item of duties levied on exports from Yezo is due to the increased export trade from that island.

The tax on Companies shows an increase of 779,544 *yen*. This increase is explained by the imposition in December 1882 of the taxes on brokers who are members of Rice and Stock Exchanges.

The actual revenue derived from the tax on Companies has increased but slightly, as the following figures show:—

	1879-80. Yen.	1883-84. Yen.
Tax on Companies	500,000	546,588
Tax on exchange brokers	Nil	932,956

giving a balance in favour of the financial year 1883-84 of 779,544 *yen*.

The only other item which need be considered is the increase of 347,168 *yen* in stamp duties.

We see, therefore, that of the total increase of revenue shown in the Estimates for 1883-84, as compared with 1879-80, amounting to 18,999,383 *yen*, no less a sum than 14,216,706 *yen* is due to the additional taxation imposed in the case of four taxes—those on saké, tobacco, drugs, and on Companies, most of this additional taxation having been introduced at the end of last year (1882).

(B) LOCAL TAXES.

The amount yielded by the land rate in the financial year 1883-84, being one-third of the land tax, is estimated at 14,343,249 *yen*.

The statistics of the other local taxes for the whole country are not obtainable, nor indeed have the statistics of these taxes, as collected in the Tōkiō Prefecture, for either the last or the present financial year, been yet published in a complete form.

It is necessary, therefore, to fall back upon the statistics of local expenditure and taxation in the Tōkiō Prefecture for the financial year 1881-82, which have been kindly placed at my disposal by the Prefect of Tōkiō. The division of this local expenditure into three classes—expenditure chargeable jointly to urban and country districts, expenditure chargeable to urban districts only, and expenditure chargeable to country districts only—has neces-

sitated the adoption of a similar arrangement in the preparation of the two following tables:—

(TABLE A)—SHOWING EXPENDITURE CHARGEABLE JOINTLY TO URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, AND AMOUNT PAID OUT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1881-82.

Nature of Expenditure.	Expenditure chargeable jointly to Urban and Country Districts, and Amount paid out of Government Funds.	
	Paid by Urban Districts. Yen.	Paid out of Government Funds. Yen.
Police rates	208,786	349,249
Public works	7,324	8,492
Expenses of Fu Assembly	737	169
Expenses of hospitals and Board of Health	6,155	355
Educational rates	3,269	2,542
Poor rates	25,968	1,495
(Including maintenance of lunatic asylums.)		
Expenses of shipping offices and relief of shipwrecked vessels	289	66
Encouragement of industries	307	45
Maintenance of Prefectural buildings	2,194	509
Prison rates	159,549	18,373
(Including maintenance of prison buildings.)		
Totals	414,668	351,637

(TABLE B)—SHOWING EXPENDITURE CHARGEABLE SEPARATELY TO URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS RESPECTIVELY, AND AMOUNT PAID OUT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS, AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE UNDER EACH HEADING.

Nature of Expenditure.	Expenditure chargeable to Urban Districts only. Yen.	Paid out of Government Funds.		Total paid out of Government Funds. Yen.
		Urban Districts. Yen.	Coun-try Dis-tricts. Yen.	
Police rates	20,203	79	113	30,418
Public works	103,438	52,600	600	600
Expenses of Fu Assembly	3,177	2,303	—	—
Expenses of hospitals and Board of Health	7,773	400	—	—
Educational rates	1,629	—	—	—
Maintenance of district offices and buildings	1,264	84	—	—
Salaries, &c., of Prefectural and district officials	104,781	47,413	—	—
Poor rates	2,128	263	—	—
(Including maintenance of lunatic asylums.)				
Cost of publishing Government Notifications	210	788	—	—
Cost of collecting taxes	3,119	513	—	—
Gas rates	17,064	—	—	—
Encouragement of industries	—	17	—	—
Deficit from financial year 1879-80	10,514	—	—	—
Totals	275,300	104,361	—	31,018
Add expenditure paid by urban and country districts, from Table (A)	414,668	56,090	—	—
Add expenditure paid out of Government funds, taken from Table (A)	—	—	—	351,637
Grand totals	689,968	160,451	—	382,655
	£ 126,494 (about)	£ 29,416 (about)	—	—

The above Tables show that the local expenditure of the Tōkiō Prefecture chargeable to urban and country districts for the financial year 1881-82 amounted to—

	Yen.
Urban districts	689,968
Country districts	160,451

The local revenue derived from the three local taxes, which appear in the Estimates of the local authorities for the same period, was as follows:—

	Urban Districts. Yen.	Country Districts. Yen.
Land rate	88,452	92,488
House tax	294,291 ⁵⁶	15,729 ⁵⁶
Trades tax and miscellaneous taxes	299,014	17,956
Totals	681,757	126,416

It will be seen that there was an excess of expenditure over revenue for this year in each case.

This deficit in revenue has, I understand, been partly met by surplus funds remaining over from previous years, and by receipts derived from the sale of local Government property.

NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES.

With regard to the measures adopted by the Government in regard to arrears of taxes, the following provisions were established in November, 1877, and have effect in the case of all taxation, whether Imperial or local:—

"When taxes remain unpaid, after the period within which they are to be collected, a public sale is ordered of the property on which the unpaid taxes are leviable. If such property has been sold, or transferred in free gift to any other person, the person buying or receiving such property is held responsible for the arrears of taxes. In the case of property given in pledge or mortgaged, if the debtor

⁵² These amounts do not agree with those given in Appendix (1); but the latter form the estimated revenue from this tax, while the former represent the actual revenue collected.

⁵³ See note on "hotels" previously given.

⁵⁴ This is explained by the Japanese method of dividing a month into three parts, each consisting nominally of ten days.

⁵⁵ Taking the *yen* as the equivalent of a dollar, and as therefore worth 38. *sd.*, the equivalent in English money will be about 7,888,328.

⁵⁶ The saké tax yields in English money a revenue of about 3,063,799.

declares himself able to pay the arrears due, they shall be charged to him and not to the mortgagee.

"In the case of arrears of trades taxes, the business or trade of the defaulter will be suspended, and the goods in stock shall be publicly sold first, and then afterwards, if necessary, the machinery or plant. Brewers who do not pay their taxes will be dealt with according to this clause.

"In all cases of arrear in local taxation, the defaulter shall be dealt with in this manner. In cases where the taxes are not leviable on particular property, in the event of the taxpayer becoming insolvent, the Government shall have a preference claim before all other creditors in the case of property other than land and houses.

"When the property of taxpayers whose taxes are in arrears has been publicly sold, the cost of such public sale will be made the first charge on the proceeds of the sale. This having been defrayed, the proceeds will then be applied to meet the arrears of taxes, and if any balance is left over, it will be returned to the defaulter.

"Property offered for public sale, for which no purchaser can be found, will be confiscated by the Government."

CASES OF FAILURE OF CROPS.

In ordinary cases of hardship endured by agriculturists through the failure of crops in bad years, no allowance is made by the Government on the ground that the land tax has been adjusted on a liberal scale, so as to enable the people, by the profits which they make in good seasons, to cover their losses in bad years. But in cases of extraordinary hardship, caused by inundations, or prolonged drought, the localities which have suffered damage to land or crops are inspected by the Government, and where the damage sustained amounts to the loss of one-half or more of the year's crop, half of the tax due is made payable at the ordinary time, and the payment of the other half extended over a period of five years, dating from the year in which the loss was sustained. In the case of the total failure of crops, the payment of the whole tax due is extended over a period of ten years, dating from the year in which the loss was sustained.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.

The mode of collecting both national and local taxes is uniform throughout Japan, although the process of collecting taxes in town and in country districts is slightly different. The Taxation Bureau of the Finance Department has eighteen branch establishments in various parts of the country which are entrusted with the immediate supervision of all matters connected with the receipt of taxes.

In towns the District Mayors collect all taxes at the periods when they are due, and pay the sums so collected into the local National Bank, receiving a receipt for each amount paid in. These receipts are given in to the nearest branch establishment of the Taxation Bureau.

In the country the District Mayors collect the taxes in the same way, and pay the sums so collected into the nearest local National Bank. The receipts given for these payments are handed in by them to the "Gunchō," or district offices, by which they are forwarded to the nearest branch office of the Taxation Bureau.

The National Banks receive a commission of one-tenth per cent. on all sums paid in, and this commission is chargeable to the taxpayers and not to the Government.

It will be seen from a consideration of the system of taxation, as explained in the preceding pages, that the revenue of Japan is anything but elastic. The large increase of revenue discernible in the last few years has been derived mainly, if not entirely, from specific taxation on such commodities as saké and tobacco, and this increased taxation cannot, it is clear, admit of any further extension. The land tax is the only tax which can be recognized as capable of yielding an increased revenue to the country. And although it is commonly reported that the valuation of land in certain localities has been considerably underrated, and rumours are current that, in the ensuing survey and revaluation of land which will take place in 1885, a high increase will be made in the assessment of all holdings, it remains to be seen how far the Government may be able to expand the national revenue from this source, without at the same time imposing too heavy a burden on the productive powers of the country.

(Signed) JOHN H. GUBBINS,
Acting Japanese Secretary.

September, 1883.

APPENDIX (A).

RULES RELATING TO WASTE LAND.

WASTE LAND.

1. Under the term "waste land" is included land which is damaged by landslips, inundations, or by the changing of a river's course, land forming part of the bed of a river, and land which, by natural calamity, has been converted into ponds, lakes, rivers, or sea.

2. The period for which tax exemption is given in the case of land rendered waste varies, according to the extent of damage, within a limit of ten years. At the expiration of this period, if, on inspection, it appears that the ground has not yet been brought under cultivation so as to yield a profit, a further extension will be allowed.

3. In the event of an owner of land rendered waste by devastation caused by river, sea, or lake, wishing to continue in possession, on application, a title-deed, in which the value of the land is stated, will be given, and a period of ten years' exemption from taxation fixed. If at the end of this term the land be not brought into its former cultivated condition, the title-deed will be taken back, and the land revert to Government in its devastated state as waste land.

4. In the event of land rendered waste by conversion into a pond at the expiration of the term of exemption remaining still unprofitable as cultivated land, if it yields any profit from weeds, fish, &c., tax will be collected according to the profit accruing to the owner, and the land entered in the Land Register as pond land.

5. In the case of waste land yielding profit to its owner, during the term of exemption, from the growth of bamboos, trees, reeds, or rushes, at the expiration of the term such land will be entered under the head of reed and rush land.

6. With regard to waste land which, at the expiration of the term of exemption, has been brought under profitable cultivation, the extent of land so rendered profitable will be determined and tax collected.

7. After the revision of the land tax, land owned by people, being mountain land precipitous in nature, or very rocky land, converted into house land, shall be treated on favourable terms on account of the labour involved, and a suitable period determined during which taxes will be collected according to the original value of land. In the case of land for which no value is entered in the title-deed, owing to its being sea, river, or lake land, being turned into house land, a suitable period of exemption from taxes will be granted.

8. After the revision of the land tax, land owned by people, being waste land permitted to be converted into arable land, and for which an exemption period has been granted, when turned into house land for reasons of convenience, will still, during period of exemption, be regarded as land under cultivation.

9. Waste land turned into house land during the exempted period will pay suitable taxes from the year following that in which the conversion takes place.

Land on which much labour has been expended will be left exempt during a period fixed.

(The last three clauses were added in 1876.)

An additional clause was subsequently introduced:—

"In the case of reclaimed land, either mountain, forest, or moor, the owners of which received exemption from payment of taxes for a term of years before the revision of the land tax,⁵⁷ should the owners apply for an extension of the term of exemption after the revision of the land tax, and obtain such extension, they shall pay during such extended term of years a tax based on the value of the land in its wild state, such value to be assessed on the basis of the value of neighbouring land of a similar kind."

APPENDIX (B).

REGULATIONS FOR REVISION OF LAND TAX.

1. With regard to the present revision of the land tax, as it is not an easy matter, great care must be taken in preparing the subject for revision. As in regard to land of the best quality there are cases which can be quickly settled, and others the settlement of which is tedious—cases which present much difficulty, and others which are easily dealt with—the revision cannot, of course, be carried out simultaneously in all districts. The matter is, therefore, not one which requires a prompt settlement. When detailed opinions have been carefully prepared, reports must be made to the Finance Department, and when these have been approved by that Department, then the old taxes

⁵⁷ Called the "hoeing term."

will be abolished, and the new system will be brought into operation. This must be borne in mind.

NOTE.—Even if arrangements in respect to all the lands under one jurisdiction be not completed, when these arrangements are complete in one district, they may be brought into operation in that place.

2. When the revision of taxes has been brought into operation, taxation will be levied according to the actual value of the land in each case. Taxation will not be increased, of course, in years of plenty, and similarly in bad years no reduction will be allowed.

3. When changes occur to land through natural disasters, the land in question will be inspected, and, in accordance with the extent of damage sustained, either a reduction of rent for that year will be made, or a period of years will be fixed within which the land can be brought into cultivation again, and during this term of years no fixed rent will be charged.

4. After the revision of taxation has taken place, the distinction between paddy and ordinary arable land will be abolished, and all land under tillage will be called cultivated land. Other land will be called by its respective appellations, such as grazing land, mountain land, forest land, moor land, &c.

5. Land on which buildings are erected will be known as house land.

6. Hitherto taxes on various commodities and taxes on buildings have become mixed up with the land tax, but when the taxation has been revised, a clear distinction will be made, and, although the land tax ought to be at 1 per cent., the taxes on various commodities have not yet been fixed, and therefore the land tax has been fixed at 3 per cent. Later on, however, when taxes on tea, tobacco, and timber, &c., have been introduced, and the revenue has been increased until the total amount of taxation has reached the sum of 2,000,000 yen or more, then, in the case only of land which has been subjected to this revised taxation, the increased amount of money derived from the new taxes will be substituted for part of the land tax, and the latter will be gradually reduced until it reaches the proportion of 1 per cent.

7. Until the land tax has been revised, it will be necessary to adhere to the old system, and therefore, even if complaints of hardship in regard to the old taxes be preferred, they will not be entertained, except in special cases, when the taxes are unfairly severe or unfairly light. This must be borne in mind. In the case of land on which a reduction of rent has been allowed after inspection, and land in regard to which the reduction of rent has been cancelled, the old rules are to be followed.

The above rules have been established. Detailed instructions will be issued later on by the Finance Department.

July, 1873.

An additional clause was added in May of the following year, 1874, stating that should the value of land rise or fall in connection with transactions of sale or purchase, the value as fixed at the time of revision would still be considered, during the period of five years, to have remained unaltered, and accordingly the same land tax would for that period be levied. But the local authorities were instructed to endorse on the title-deeds of land, the value of which varied in any transaction of sale or purchase, the extent of such variation.

APPENDIX (C).

RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE REVISION OF THE LAND TAXATION.

The Imperial commands having now been issued for a revision of the land tax, with regard to the value of land as entered in the title-deeds of land formerly issued (by the Government), the amount levied was not uniform owing to the rice measures not being identical, and to other inequalities of taxation. Therefore the owners of land will be made to estimate the yearly profit on land, and to give their opinion as to the value of their holdings based on the profit attending cultivation according to the customs of the different localities, and a suitable tax will be levied after inspection of the land on the part of the Government.

2. In the old title-deeds, although there ought to have been no mistakes in the extent of the land, yet, as it is to be apprehended that fractions of land were omitted, if the old land records be followed the actual facts would be lost, and, consequently, inequalities of rating be caused. As it would be difficult to examine into the matter, the actual measurements of land (held by farmers) must be submitted.

3. In the case of places in country districts where it is difficult to fix the price of house land, the value

must be fixed in accordance with the average price of cultivated land in those places, and the value of corresponding house land in neighbouring districts.

4. In the case of house land, or mountain land, and land on the seashore, where it is difficult, in the absence of land which could serve as a basis of comparison, to fix the price of house land, the price of such house land shall be fixed at not less than 10 sen per tan⁸⁸

5. Land on which district godowns, schools, and poor-houses are erected, though hitherto untaxable, shall, when held as common property in the district, be subject to the same tax as house land.

6. All the mountain, pasture, and other land held in common in a district shall pay a suitable land tax.

7. No tax will be levied on land occupied as dykes, roads, and graveyards, though such taxes have been paid hitherto.

8. In the case of land in the vicinity of the sea, of rivers, or lakes, the limits and extent of which, owing to the variation in the influx of water, are hard to define, and land cultivated by way of experiment, the exact nature of such land must be defined, and an estimate of its extent given.

9. In the case of reclaimed land, the extent must be remeasured, and taxes levied according to these Regulations.

10. In the case of damaged land, a term of years will be fixed proportioned to the extent of damage sustained, and the difficulty of bringing the land into cultivation again, and a title-deed will be given remitting taxes during the term of years so fixed.

11. Suitable taxes will be levied on ponds and marshes, which, by reason of rushes, weeds, and other sources of profit, are remunerative to the owners.

12. A term of years will be fixed in the case of reclaimed land, and a title-deed remitting taxes for that term of years given to the holder.

13. Suitable persons will be appointed by the various district offices to estimate the value of land.

14. The assessors will survey the land, and erect posts in each holding on which will be inscribed the extent of land held, the number, and the name of the occupier.

15. In the case of holdings the price of which is correctly stated, the old title-deeds will be renewed, and the details regarding the land endorsed on the back.

16. In the case of holdings the price of which is not correctly stated, a fresh estimate will be ordered, and in case of the holders disagreeing still with the estimate of the Government, the land will be sold by written tender, or at a price fixed by Government.

17. When the title-deeds have been prepared, the forms for taxes will be drawn up in the inclosed form. They must be produced at the Taxation Department before taxes are paid.

(Signed) OKUMA SHIGENOBU.

For the information of local authorities.

APPENDIX (D).

1. In the case of the purchase by Government of private land (as opposed to Government lands), the land tax for the year shall be paid to the end of the month previous to that in which the purchase is made.

2. In the case of the purchase by private individuals of Government land, the land tax for the year shall be paid for the number of months remaining, dating from the month following that in which the purchase is made.

3. In the case of private land converted by permission of the Government into river frontages, parks, roads, wharves, &c., tax shall be paid up to the end of the month preceding that in which the land is appropriated to its new use.

APPENDIX (E).

(Translation.)

With regard to the notification, by Decree No. 63 of December 1882 of the revision of the Tobacco Tax Regulations, the following stamps (specimens annexed) have been issued.

(Signed.) SANJO SANÉYOSHI,
Daijō Daijin.
MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

May 28th, 1883.

APPENDIX (F).

NOTIFICATION NO. 13.

The following Ship Tax Regulations have been established and will come into force on the 1st July, 1883.

⁸⁸ About a quarter of an acre.

(Previous Notifications and Decrees relating to ship taxes are abolished.)

(Signed) SANJO SANÉYOSHI,
Daijō Daijin.
MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

April 17, 1883.

SHIP TAX REGULATIONS.

SECTION I.—LICENCE, TAXATION, EXEMPTION FROM TAXES.

Art. 1. All vessels are made subject to taxation.

Art. 2. Owners of vessels must fix a regular place of anchorage for their vessels, and must make application to the local office in the place of anchorage so determined; and when their vessels have been inspected they must apply for licences.

Art. 3. When, in the case of vessels newly built, the regular place of anchorage (determined by the owners) is not within the jurisdiction of "fu" or "ken," in which the place where the vessel was constructed is, the owners must apply to the office of the said "fu" or "ken" (as the case may be), and the vessels, having been examined, they must apply for a provisional licence. When the vessels have been taken round to the regular place of anchorage, application must be made to the local office for the exchange of the provisional licence (for a permanent one).

Art. 4. In the event of alterations being made to a vessel, and its tonnage or length increased, application must be made to the local office at the regular place of anchorage, where the vessel must be inspected and application must be made for an exchange of licence.

Art. 5. In the case of the sale or transfer of a vessel, after both parties have signed (the licence) application must be made to the local office at the regular place of anchorage by the purchaser or transferee, for an exchange of licence.

Art. 6. The taxation of vessels will be as follows:—

Steamers of foreign build, per 100 tons yearly 15 yen.

Sailing-vessels of foreign build, per 100 tons yearly 10 yen.

Vessels of Japanese build, 50 koku burden and over, per 100 koku yearly 2 yen.

Vessels under 50 koku burden, not exceeding 18 feet in length from stem to stern; and passenger-boats, cargo-boats, and fishing-boats, not exceeding the same length (shall pay) irrespective of carrying capacity, annually 30 sen.

(For every 6 feet of additional length an increase of 15 sen will be charged.)

Pleasure-boats not exceeding 18 feet in length from stem to stern, shall pay, annually 50 sen.

(For every 6 feet of additional length an increase of 25 sen will be charged.)

Art. 7. The permanent or provisional licence must be held on board of a vessel when she is on a voyage, or when she is being sent round from the place of construction to the port of regular anchorage. (In the case of vessels of Japanese build under 50 koku burden, and passenger, cargo, and fishing boats, the permanent licence must be attached to the vessel or boat.)

Art. 8. In the event of the loss of vessels through being broken up (on account of their age) or shipwrecked, or through accident by water, fire, or theft, the circumstance must be reported to the local office at the place of regular anchorage, and the licence returned.⁸⁹

Art. 9. Should a licence be destroyed or injured, or should the owner change his name, or should the ownership be transferred from father to son, or should the vessel's name be changed or the regular place of anchorage be altered, application must be made to the local office of the regular place of anchorage, and a fresh licence or an exchange of licence requested.

Art. 10. The vessels enumerated below are exempted from taxation:—The owners of such vessels must report (the fact of ownership) to the local office and apply for the burnt stamp:—Store-vessels, punts used in cultivating paddy-fields, boats kept for use in times of flood, ferry-boats used to supply the place of bridges, boats used in bridges of boats, and boats carried on board of vessels during a voyage.

SECTION II.—PAYMENT OF TAX.

Art. 11. The tax is divided into two periods, and will be leviable on ships actually in existence on the 1st January and 1st July. The tax due for the first half-year must be paid into the office of the regular place of anchorage by the 31st January, and the tax for the latter half year by the 31st July.

Art. 12. Newly-built vessels must pay the tax for the period in which their owners receive a licence.

Art. 13. In the event of a ship being altered and its tonnage or length increased, a tax proportionate to such increase must be paid for the period following that in which the alterations are effected.

⁸⁹ In the case of vessels under 50 koku burden there would in most cases be no licence to return.

Art. 14. If the regular place of anchorage be fixed in a jurisdiction other than that to which the owner is subject, an agent must be appointed, and the (owner's and agent's) names having been duly affixed to the licence, a report must be made to the office of the regular place of anchorage and the tax paid.

Art. 15. When the regular place of anchorage is fixed in the same jurisdiction as that in which the owner is registered, in the owner's absence an agent must be appointed, who will report to the office of the regular place of anchorage and pay the tax.

Art. 16. In cases where the period of payment of tax arrives during the passage of a ship, to the owner of which a provisional licence has been issued, from the port of construction to the regular place of anchorage, an agent must be appointed beforehand at the regular place of anchorage, who will report to the office concerned and pay the tax.

Art. 17. Persons who infringe these Regulations and evade taxation will, after payment of the fine, be made to pay the tax in addition.

SECTION III.—PENAL CLAUSES.

Art. 18. Persons who infringe these Regulations and evade payment of the tax will be punished by a penalty of five times the amount of the tax evaded, or by a fine.

Art. 19. Persons who put vessels exempted from tax to the use of taxed vessels will be punished by a penalty of not less than 2 yen and not more than 50 yen.

Art. 20. Persons who infringe Articles 3, 5, 7, 9, 14, 15, and 16, and owners of vessels exempt from taxation under Article 10, who neglect to have the official stamp put on such vessels, will be punished by a penalty of not less than 1 yen and not more than 1.95 yen.

Art. 21. In the case of persons punished by fine or penalty under these Regulations, the offence that they may have committed against the criminal law will not be inquired into, nor will the system of diminution of penalty in cases of light offences or of increase of penalties in grave cases, &c., be employed. Cases, however, which come under clauses 75 and 76 of the Criminal Code⁹⁰ will not be included in this category.

APPENDIX (G).

JUDICIAL FEES.

1. Charges for petitions and answers:—

In cases where money, rice, or other cereals are in question:—

Where the amount involved is under 10 yen or 5 koku⁹¹ of rice, or 10 koku of other cereals, 1 sen⁹² per sheet of ruled paper on which the petition is written.

Where the amount involved is over 10 yen but under 100 yen, or over 5 koku but under 50 koku of rice, or over 10 koku but under 100 koku of other cereals, 2 sen per sheet of ruled paper on which the petition is written.

Where the amount involved is over 100 yen but under 500 yen, or over 50 koku but under 250 koku of rice, or over 100 koku but under 500 koku of other cereals, 3 sen per sheet of ruled paper on which the petition is written.

Where the amount involved is over 500 yen but under 1,000 yen, or over 250 koku but under 500 koku of rice, or over 500 koku but under 1,000 koku of other cereals, 4 sen per sheet of ruled paper on which the petition is written.

Where the amount involved is over 1,000 yen, or over 500 koku of rice, or over 1,000 koku of other cereals, 5 sen per sheet of ruled paper on which the petition is written.

In cases concerning succession of property, adoption, and employment of servants:—

1½ sen per sheet of paper.

In cases concerning land and houses:—

1½ sen per sheet of paper.

In cases concerning miscellaneous matters:—

1½ sen per sheet of paper.

2. Charges for judgments.

In cases where money, rice, or other cereals are in question:—

Where the amount involved is under 10 yen, or under 5 koku of rice, or under 10 koku of other cereals, 2 sen per sheet of paper.

Where the amount involved is over 10 yen but under 100 yen, or over 5 koku but under 50 koku of rice, or over 10 koku but under 100 koku of other cereals, 3 sen per sheet of paper.

Where the amount involved is over 100 yen but under 500 yen, or over 50 koku but under 250 koku of rice, or over 100 koku but under 500 koku of other cereals, 4 sen per sheet of paper.

Where the amount involved is over 500 yen but under 1,000 yen, or over 250 koku but under 500 koku of rice, or over 500 koku but under 1,000 koku of other cereals, 5 sen per sheet of paper.

Where the amount involved is over 1,000 yen, or over 500 koku of rice, or over 1,000 koku of other cereals, 6 sen per sheet of paper.

⁹⁰ Cases where persons have acted under compulsion, or under orders from a superior.

⁹¹ 1 koku = 2½ piculs.

⁹² Taking the yen as the equivalent of a dollar, and as worth 3s. 8d., 1 sen being the hundredth part of a yen = 3½ths of a penny.

- In cases concerning succession to property, adoption, and employment of servants :—
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ sen per sheet of paper.
 In cases concerning land, houses, &c. :—
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ sen per sheet of paper.
 In cases concerning miscellaneous matters :—
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ sen per sheet of paper.
 3. Charges for interlocutory proceedings, and for summonses, motions, etc. :—
 5 sen per sheet, in all cases.

APPENDIX (H).

STAMP DUTIES.

RULED PAPER USED FOR ALL KINDS OF FORMAL DEEDS AND DOCUMENTS (EXCEPT JUDICIAL DOCUMENTS.)

	Charges. Rin. ⁶³
One sheet—	
Large size.....	7
Medium size.....	5
Small size.....	3

(A)—STAMP DUTIES (ON DOCUMENTS).
FIRST CLASS.

1. Receipt for money received in payment of goods sold, or in return for discharge of duties of any kind.
 Receipt for goods pledged.
 Ruled paper required, and 1 sen for sums of 10 yen and over. No stamp duties on ruled paper required for sums less than 10 yen.
2. Receipt for money received on deposit.
 Receipt for rice received on deposit.
 Receipt for cereals received on deposit.
 Lease of land for purposes of cultivation.
 For sums of 10 yen and over, for 5 koku of rice and over, for 10 koku of other cereals and over, ruled paper, 1 sen required.
 Deed of gift of money on death of donor.
 For sums less than 10 yen, &c., no stamp duty or ruled paper required.
3. Certificate of shares in a Company or commercial firm.
 Bill of lading or invoice.
 Deed of gift of land or buildings.
 Deed of gift of goods.
 Receipt on goods received on deposit.
 Deed of gift of public debt bonds, &c.
 Deed of gift of all property ⁶⁴ either before or after donor's decease.
 Ruled paper required, and 1 sen stamp, irrespective of amount.

SECOND CLASS.

1. Entries in books of large transactions in the sale of and purchase of goods, &c.
 For sums under 10 yen no stamp or ruled paper required.
2. Deed executed in borrowing money.
 Receipt for deposit of money, in which it is not stated that the rice must not be used.
 Receipt for deposit of rice, in which it is not stated that the cereals must not be used.
 Receipt for deposit of cereals, in which it is not stated that the money must not be used.
3. Deed of value of land and buildings.
 Deed of pledge and mortgage of land and buildings.
 Deed of sale of public debt bonds, &c.
 Deed of pledge and mortgage of goods.
 Deed of contract to execute work of building contract.
 Contracts in which money is advanced.
 Contracts in which money is advanced and deeds exchanged between parties to the contract.
 Deed for the sale and purchase of rice, cereals, or other goods.
 Deed for the loan of rice.
 Deed for the loan of cereals.
 Deed for the loan of goods kept for sale.
 Deed of loan of land.
 Deed of loan of buildings.
 Deed of guarantee of employé, over 10 yen in value.
 Deed for deposit of security money in transactions of sale and purchase.
 Deed for payment of money in advance as security for fulfilment of loan or other contract.
 For sums of under 10 yen, and for amounts under 5 koku of rice, and 10 koku of other cereals, ruled paper required, but no stamp.
 For sums above 10 yen and under 20 yen, for amounts over 8 koku of rice but under 10 koku, for amounts over 10 koku of other cereals, but under 20 koku, ruled paper and 1 sen stamp.
 Sums above 20 yen but under 30 yen, rice above 10 koku but under 15 koku, cereals above 20 koku but under 30 koku, ruled paper and 3 sen stamp.
 For sums of 40 yen and over, for 20 koku of rice and over, and 40 koku of other cereals and over, ruled paper and stamps in proportion to value.

⁶³ A rin is the tenth part of a sen, and about $\frac{1}{10}$ th of a halipenny.
⁶⁴ Whole estate.

Receipt for money placed on current deposit in bank.

1 sen stamp, irrespective of amount.

Bill of exchange.

(Invoice of goods endorsed for value received is considered to be of similar effect as bill of exchange.)

Under 50 yen, no ruled paper or stamp required.

Over 50 yen and under 100 yen, 1 sen.

Over 100 yen and under 150 yen, 2 sen.

Over 150 yen and under 200 yen, 3 sen.

Over 200 yen and under 250 yen, 4 sen.

For amounts in excess of these, stamps proportionate to amount.

Slips of paper given in exchange for value received, entitling the bearer to the following goods in the following cases—

Saké—

Under 1 sho.

No stamp and no ruled paper required.

Over 1 sho and under 1 to.

1 sen and ruled paper.

Over 1 to and under 2 to.

2 sen and ruled paper.

Over 2 to and under 3 to.

3 sen and ruled paper.

For amounts in excess of these, stamps proportionate to amount.

Eatables—

Under 25 sen.

No stamp and no ruled paper.

Over 25 sen and under 2.50 yen.

1 sen and ruled paper.

Over 2.50 yen and under 5 yen.

2 sen and ruled paper.

Over 5 yen and under 10 yen.

3 sen and ruled paper.

For amounts in excess, stamps proportionate to value.

Slips of paper given in the purchase of rice, oil, and shoyu (sauce)—

Under 25 sen.

No stamp or ruled paper.

Over 25 sen and under 5 yen.

1 sen and ruled paper.

Over 5 yen and under 10 yen.

2 sen and ruled paper.

Over 10 yen and under 20 yen.

3 sen and ruled paper.

For amounts in excess, stamps proportionate to value.

Receipt for goods.

When unaccompanied by invoice, no ruled paper required; when accompanied by invoice, either ruled paper may be used or an entry made in the books of the person handing over the goods.

Contracts of all kinds, where money is not concerned.

Ruled paper required, but no stamp.

Power of attorney or letter of authorization.

Ruled paper required, but no stamp.

Documents requiring the stamp of offices or officials in the course of the transaction of business do not require ruled paper or stamps.

Receipts for official salaries, for money given in rewards, and for money given in charity, do not require ruled paper or stamps.

(B.)—ON RECEIPT-BOOKS, LEDGERS, ACCOUNT-BOOKS, &c.; AND IN BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS.

FIRST CLASS.

Ledger for entries of receipt of money paid, kept by person paying money.

Ledger for entries of receipt of goods pledged, kept by person pledging the goods.

Ledger for entries of receipt of money placed on current deposit in bank, kept by person depositing the money.

If estimated amount is under 100 yen, ruled paper; stamp not required.

Over 100 yen and under 200 yen, 1 sen stamp.

Over 200 yen and under 300 yen, 2 sen stamp.

Over 300 yen and under 400 yen, 3 sen stamp.

For amounts in excess, proportionate stamps.

SECOND CLASS.

Ledger for entries of receipt of goods pledged (kept by pawnbroker.)

Ledger for entry of money borrowed and lent.

Ledger for entry of amount of damage to goods borrowed.

Ledger for entry of loans on goods kept for sale.

Ledger for entry of money received on deposit, only referring to money which may be spent.

If estimated amount is under 100 yen, no paper is required, or stamps.

Over 100 yen and under 200 yen, 5 sen stamp.

Over 200 yen and under 300 yen, 10 sen stamp.

Over 300 yen and under 400 yen, 15 sen stamp.

For amounts in excess, proportionate stamps.

THIRD CLASS.

Ledger for entry of receipt of goods, kept by person handing over the goods.

Ledger for entry of receipt of miscellaneous articles, kept by person handing them over.

20 yen a-year, irrespective of the number of entries.

(PPENDIX AI).

TABLE SHOWING ESTIMATED REVENUE FROM HOUSE TAX LEVIED IN URBAN DISTRICTS IN TOKIO IN 1881-82 (JULY 1 TO JUNE 30).

DISTRICT.	Tax. Yen Sen.	DISTRICT.	Tax. Yen Sen.
Kojimachi.....	10,860 00	Ushigomé	7,170 75
Kanda	30,034 40	Ko-ishikawa ...	5,249 42
Nihonbashi ...	65,924 39	Hongo	10,894 55
Kiyobashi	35,548 53	Shitaya	10,188 67
Shiba	23,212 41	Asakusa	29,467 82
Azabu	6,094 04	Honjo.....	16,061 98
Akasaka	4,551 21	Fukagawa	15,806 13
Yotsuya.....	4,813 50		
Total.....			275,807 80

The amount contributed in the same manner by the country districts of the Tōkiō Fu for the same year was estimated as about 17,912 yen.

APPENDIX (J).

TRADES TAX AND MISCELLANEOUS TAXES AS ESTABLISHED BY NOTIFICATION OF THE 4TH JUNE, 1879, WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION FROM THE 1ST JULY.

The system introduced at this date will best be explained by quoting from the Regulations then published :—

“CLAUSE I.

“The Companies and commercial establishments on which the trades tax will be levied are settled as follows :—

“COMPANIES.—Under this term is included any association of two or more people who form a capital for carrying on joint business of any kind, whether ordinary trade, or manufactures, or transport, or printing, or contracting work, or money-lending, or brokerage, and who do not, in connection with their particular business, pay any Imperial taxes.

“WHOLESALE MERCHANTS.—Under this term are included dealers who buy commodities at first hand, namely, direct from the producers, or who buy them from other dealers and sell them to other dealers, or who buy things in the rough and finish them for the market, and then sell them to other dealers, and who do not, in connection with their particular business, pay any Imperial taxes.

“MIDDLE-MEN AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.—This term applies to dealers who buy commodities from the producers and sell them to other dealers, or who, acting as agents, buy goods on commission from wholesale dealers for sale to retail dealers, and who do not, in connection with their particular business, pay any Imperial taxes.

“RETAIL DEALERS.—This term applies to dealers who sell goods direct to the consumers.

“CLAUSE II.

“Companies and commercial establishments of all kinds, whatsoever their appellations, which come within the meaning of the first clause of these Regulations, will be provided with a licence for carrying on business.

“CLAUSE III.

“In the first month of each year the manager of every commercial establishment conducted on the basis of an association of members shall report the classification of such establishment to the office of the Prefecture in which it is situated. The classification of commercial establishments will consist of nine or more grades. In the case of Companies and commercial establishments conducted by associations of several members, or by single individuals, a statement of the total business done during the previous year must be sent in through the district offices to the office of the Prefecture namely :—

“WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS will furnish statements of the total value of goods sold during the previous year;

“MIDDLE-MEN AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS will furnish statements of the total value of goods sold and commission received;

“MANUFACTURERS AND PROPRIETORS OF PRINTING ESTABLISHMENTS, will furnish statements of goods manufactured and sold, and of work executed;

“CONTRACTORS will furnish statements of receipts taken in the course of their business;

“MONEY-LENDERS will furnish statements of amount of interest received on loans made; and

“BROKERS will furnish statements showing total amount of brokerage received in the course of the previous year.

“CLAUSE IV.

“The Prefectural offices will examine the statements received and will fix the amount of tax to be levied in each case.

"CLAUSE V.

"The periods for payment of taxes are fixed as follows:—

First period	July and August.
Second period	September and October.
Third period	November and December.
Fourth period	January and February.
Fifth period	March and April.
Sixth period	May and June.

"CLAUSE VI.

"Taxes will not be levied on business establishments which have been in existence for a period less than one full year from the date of commencing business. Persons changing their business will be charged the old tax for the current year."

The miscellaneous taxes were levied on a similar system.

Enough has been quoted to show the complicated nature of this system, and the many inconveniences to which ratepayers were exposed in regard to the taxation levied under it.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT ON TAXATION.

LAND TENURE.

In describing the system of land taxation in Japan, various legislative changes, extending over the last ten years, have been noticed in the order in which they occurred. But there are many points in connection with land in Japan which have not yet been discussed, and as they have no direct bearing on the question of taxation, it will be best to consider them separately.

The question of the tenure of land, however, is one of great difficulty, and opens out such a wide field of inquiry that the following remarks must be understood as being simply a brief sketch of the subject:—

In a country where the farmers occupied a position next to the "Shizoku," or military class, ranking above both artisan and merchant, it is not singular that the subject of land should always have been one of considerable importance.

It is difficult to ascertain the precise condition of land tenure before the Restoration of 1868. It is more than probable that in points of detail it varied in each locality. We know, however, that the greater part of the land in Japan under the feudal system prior to the Restoration of 1868 was held by the territorial nobility, or Daimios, and that, besides the land included in the territory of each Daimiate, there were—

Lands belonging to the Imperial Family;

Lands held by the Shōgun;

Lands in the possession of the "Hatamoto," who may be described as a small feudal aristocracy forming a distinct class, created by the Tokugawa Shōguns, and holding petty fiefs from them;

Lands in the possession of Shintō and Buddhist religious establishments; and

Lands received by individuals as grants from the Government in return for meritorious services.

The actual ownership of land at the time we speak of admits of the above distinctions, and the occupiers of land might therefore hold it from a territorial noble or from the Emperor, from the Shōgun's Government, from a "Hatamoto," from a Shintō or Buddhist establishment, or from any large proprietor, being a grantee of land from the Government.

The ordinary inference from a consideration of this state of things would be that the people who occupied the land were simply tenants. But we are confronted with the singular problem that, while tenants in point of fact, they were landlords in name, each in respect of his particular holding. The true solution of this puzzling contradiction must, no doubt, be sought in the internal history of the country. Before the comparatively settled times which date from the beginning of the seventeenth century, Japan had passed through many phases of government. And it is not impossible that, when the feudal system was established about 1180-90, the existing tenure of land throughout the country in all its complicated variety of local usage was not changed, but absorbed into the new system of administration, certain modifications being introduced at a later date from time to time in different localities, as occasion offered, or the caprice of a feudal baron suggested.

Though landlords in name, the people may therefore properly be regarded as tenants. But very extensive proprietary rights, though falling short of complete ownership, were enjoyed by the different classes who occupied the land.

The land so occupied may be divided as follows:—

- Land in towns;
- Land in the country.⁶⁵

The town holdings, again, were of two kinds:—

Holdings occupied by the military class,⁶⁶ who were exempt from taxation, and held no title-deeds; and "Town land,"⁶⁷ as it was called, by which was understood land held by merchants and artisans, who paid taxes and held title-deeds.⁶⁸

The country holdings comprised nearly all land under cultivation occupied by the large class of agriculturists,⁶⁹ who were, nominally, proprietors of their holdings, and were in the same position as merchants and artisans with regard to taxes and title-deeds.

There was, indeed, a numerous class of smaller agriculturists who went by the name of "Midzunami-hiyakushō." These, however, were in no sense of the word proprietors, but were simply tillers of the soil, who rented their holdings from the upper class of farmers, or from the real owners.

The land occupied by the military class was held under the peculiar conditions attaching to military service then existing in Japan; and the position of the agriculturists differed in some respects from that of the tax-paying classes who occupied town holdings. But the proprietary rights in each case were much the same. Holdings descended from father to son, in accordance with the law of primogeniture, the effects of which in Japan were sensibly modified by the law of adoption peculiar to the country, or, failing direct heirs in the same family, the right of sub-letting, subject to the approval of the real owner, was acknowledged and freely exercised, and fixity of tenure was virtually assured.

But, though the tenant was therefore practically free from disturbance in his holding, and had a tenant-right good as against all other people, he possessed only a modified tenant-right as against the real owner. The latter reserved to himself the right, rarely, it is believed, exercised, of re-entering upon the land at will, and in such cases of disturbance the occupant received some sort of compensation by the grant of other land (which was usually of an inferior kind) in the vicinity.

There were other restrictions to which the occupiers of land were subject. The agriculturist could not combine the profession of merchant with that of farmer, and he was not free to cultivate his land as he pleased. He was limited to certain methods in the rotation of crops, and was usually prohibited from growing anything but rice and wheat, except in small quantities for private consumption.⁷⁰ Farmers, merchants, and artisans were alike precluded from entering into any transactions in regard to land occupied by the military class, and a reciprocal prohibition was enforced in the case of the latter. This mutual disability, which extended to house property, existing between the military class on the one hand, and the three other classes of the people on the other, is exemplified in the division of all castle towns in Japan into two quarters, the "Shizoku" quarter, and the commercial or industrial quarter, and owed its origin, doubtless, to the important distinction that the "buké-chi," a land assigned to the military class, was exempt from taxation, while land held by the other classes was not.

Another, and, seemingly, a very important restriction by which the tenant-right of occupiers of land was curtailed, was the prohibition, enforced also in the case of house property, of the sale or free gift of land by the tenant in occupation. But the right of mortgage was, strangely enough, allowed, and there is abundant evidence that, under cover of this privilege, the sale and transfer of land were matters of common occurrence, the terms used to signify these transactions being either "to mortgage," or "to give in pledge."

Of late years so much laxity appears to have attended the enforcement of this prohibition that in many cases the transfer of land was not questioned so long as the actual words, "sale," or "free gift," did not appear in the wording of the deed of transfer.

In a document now before me, which purports to be the form of a deed of transfer of town land in general use during the fifty years preceding the Restoration, space is left for the actual price paid for the holding, and the terms used to indicate the nature of the transaction are simply: "In consideration of the sum above mentioned, I hand over

⁶⁵ Called "son-chi."

⁶⁶ Styled "buké-chi."

⁶⁷ "Machi-junen."

⁶⁸ All title-deeds were issued by the District Mayors until after the Restoration.

⁶⁹ There were distinctions between large and small cultivators, into which we need not enter.

⁷⁰ This restriction was introduced and maintained on the ground that there might otherwise be an insufficiency of food for the wants of the country.

to you the aforesaid lot of ground," &c., "and I hereby guarantee to secure you against interference on the part of any other person."

It is clear, therefore, that the holders of land in Japan prior to the Restoration possessed very extensive proprietary rights in regard to their holdings, limited by the restrictions which have been mentioned. But it must not be forgotten that under the feudal system—the keystone of which, so to speak, in this country was the absolute subservience in everything of the subject to his feudal lord—the occupiers of land owned by the territorial nobility were virtually at the mercy of their landlords. Side by side with the rights of which we have spoken came the rights of the feudal proprietor, which were backed by the weight of centuries of traditionary custom, which knew no limit, and against which there was no appeal. And although we are aware that these rights were not generally exercised in their fullest extent, still the fact remains that the power to enforce them was always there. The power which each feudal noble enjoyed in those days is illustrated by the unlimited issue in the territory of each large clan of a separate paper currency, by the call for forced labour to which every peasant had to respond, and by the formation of trade monopolies and guilds in each clan which rendered the conduct of mercantile operations by single individuals on any large scale, impossible. And yet in the midst of these features of the feudal system, which would seem to indicate beyond a doubt that the bulk of the population in Japan were, in those days, little better than serfs, we are startled to perceive that the holders of land were in some respects on a footing nearly approaching that of the owner of an estate in fee simple in our own country.

Enough has been said to show that the subject abounds in contradictions, which only ceased to exist with the extinction of feudalism.

In the autumn of the year 1868, when the struggle between the Mikado and the Shōgun had terminated in the defeat of the latter, and the consequent downfall of the Shōgunates, the way was cleared for the abolition of the feudal system by the voluntary surrender of their fiefs by the territorial nobility. The lead in this great measure was taken by the four clans of Chōshū, Satsuma, Hizen, and Tosa. The Memorial to the Emperor in which they surrendered their territorial and feudal privileges is of considerable interest, and, in view of the importance of the subject it may be as well to give it in full:—

Joint Memorial of MORI, SHIMADZU, NABESHIMA, and YAMANOCHI, Daimios of the four clans of Chōshū, Satsuma, Hizen, and Tosa:—

Your servants again venture to address your Majesty with profound reverence. Two things are essential to the Mikado's Administration. There must be one central body of Government, and one universal authority, which must be preserved intact. Since the time when your Majesty's ancestors founded this country and established a basis of government, all things in the wide expanse of Heaven, and all things on the earth to its furthest limits, have belonged to the Emperor from generation to generation. This is what is known as 'one central body of Government.' And the sole power of giving and of taking away, which renders it impossible for the Nobles to hold the people in subjection by virtue of their rank, or to deal with the smallest piece of ground at their pleasure, or to seize and treat despotically any single individual of the humbler classes; this is understood by the term 'one universal authority.'

The Administration of the Emperors was conducted entirely on this principle. The Emperors conducted the Government in their own persons, and, consequently, the name and the reality of power existed side by side, and the nation was tranquil and contented. But from the time of the Middle Ages the administrative system became lax, and the authority of the Emperors came to be a plaything. All men fighting for power, changes of Government followed each other in rapid succession until half of the country fell into the hands of men who dealt with the people and the land at their pleasure; and, in the end, a state of things was reached where there was nothing but open contention and acts of violence. The Government, having no body of Administration to protect, and no effective power, were unable to control matters. Everywhere men of influence, but of unprincipled character, took advantage of the existing disorder to promote their own interests, and the weak became food for the strong.

The most powerful barons took possession of fourteen or fifteen provinces, while those of less influence collected bodies of armed retainers to the number of 5,000 and 6,000. The Tokugawa Administration seized lands and people arbitrarily wherever it thought fit, and by this means extended its influence. Finally, the Mikado's Government lost all real authority, and was entirely dependent on the views of the Shōgunate. The boundless despotism of the Shōgunate lasted for over 600 years, and during this interval violent dealings with land and with the people were carried out by stealth under the pretence of the Imperial authority. And these acts were rendered possible owing to the existence of people who could not dissociate themselves from the time-honoured observances of the past, and were still guided by the reverence due from a subject to his Sovereign, and by a proper sense of the relations which should exist between high and low.

The ancient family of the Tokugawa dynasty of Shōguns and their relatives held half of the country; as a natural consequence fresh families were constantly springing up; and it became a precedent founded on long custom

which has lasted up to the present day for these numerous branches of the Tokugawa family to take no heed of the question as to whether their lands and subjects had been received in grant from the proper Government or not. It was commonly said by members of these families, 'These possessions of ours were gained by the military prowess of our ancestors.' But there is little doubt that these ancestors had originally raised forces, invaded the Imperial store-houses, and had laid forcible hands on the treasures contained, and that they had braved the penalty of death in the execution of their designs. Those who break into store-houses are commonly termed robbers, but no suspicion was attached by the nation to those who seized upon the land and the people. It is terrible, indeed, this confusion of ideas between right and wrong.

"It is now sought to establish an entirely new form of government. Care must therefore be taken to preserve intact both one central body of Government and one universal authority. The land in which your servants reside is the land of the Emperor, and the people whom they govern are his subjects. Neither the one, therefore, nor the other can belong to your servants.

"Your servants accordingly beg respectfully to surrender to your Majesty the registers of the population, and beg your Majesty to deal with everything as you may think fit, giving what should be given and taking away what should be taken away. They entreat your Majesty to issue such Imperial Decrees as you may deem necessary with respect to the lands and the people of the four clans represented in this Memorial, and to make such changes as your Majesty may think proper. They also beg that all laws, decrees, and military regulations, extending even to rules respecting military dress and accoutrements, may be issued by the Central Government, so that all matters of State, both great and small, may be decided by one and the same authority. In this way both name and reality will be secured, and this country will be placed on a footing of equality with foreign Powers.

Your servants share the responsibility which the present critical condition of affairs entails upon the Mikado's Government. It is this which has led them to present their foolish views for the consideration of your Majesty.

The surrender of their territorial fiefs by the various Daimios was of course a preconcerted measure. The example of the four Daimies which had taken the most prominent part in the Restoration was at once followed, more or less willingly, by the other clans, and although the wording of each Memorial differed in some points, the gist of each may be gathered from the specimen given.

That the surrender would be accepted by the Emperor was of course understood. The lands of the various Daimies were taken over by the Crown, and suitable provision was made out of the revenue of each Daimie for the maintenance of the ex-Daimios, and for the administration of the country under the new system. The settlement of the details of these measures presented many difficulties, as a distinction was not unnaturally made between those clans who had fought on the side of the Mikado in the civil war and those who had sided with the Shōgun. By the spring of 1871, however, the necessary measures had been completed, and the abolition of feudalism was formally announced to the country in a Decree which, considering the magnitude of the change effected, is most singular in its brevity. "The clans," so ran this Decree, "are abolished, and Prefectures are established in their place."

Simultaneously a further Edict was issued, by which the Government took back, with certain exceptions, all land previously held by the Shintō and Buddhist religious establishments.

It is more than probable that the farmers were unable at first to realize the importance of the change. Accustomed to generations of feudal servitude, their experience had taught them that a change of landlord was for them merely a change in name, having no practical significance, and in no wise affected their position as cultivators of the soil. So long as they were able to draw a subsistence from the land on which they were settled, it mattered little to them whether they held that land from Emperor, Shōgun, or territorial noble; and certainly the attitude of the Government was not calculated to open their eyes to the new order of things which was in train.

We have seen how, in the Memorials of the clans, a complete surrender of both land and people to the Emperor had been made. The terms used to express this surrender differed in several cases. In some the actual words, "the land and the people," were used; in others the term, "feudal rights;" and again in others the words, "registers of the population." Each of these expressions, however, was tantamount to this: that the ownership of all land held under feudal tenure reverted to the Crown, and that the people passed with the land.

The peculiar character of this feudal tenure, under which landlord and tenant were associated in a kind of joint ownership, has also already been noticed. And it might have been expected that the Government would have taken advantage of the surrender of the fiefs to place the question of land tenure on a clear footing by defining accurately the position of the people with regard to the land. This, however, was not done. No Decree

affecting the broad question raised by the abolition of the feudal system was promulgated, and it was only by degrees that the intentions of the Government became apparent. Step by step the policy of the new Administration was manifested by the removal of the various restrictions which had curtailed the tenants' rights, until at length it became clear that while retaining the theory that the ownership of all land was vested as of right in the Crown, the intention of the Government was that each occupier of land should become virtually the proprietor of his own holding.

One explanation of the delay which occurred, and the extreme caution displayed by the Government in dealing with the land question, is to be found in the embarrassing circumstances which followed the abolition of the feudal system. The surrender of their fiefs by the Daimios involved logically the surrender to the Crown of all land throughout Japan occupied by the military class, which numbered about 6,000,000 souls.⁷¹ In the case of those who, having sided with the Shōgun, were regarded as rebels, scant mercy was shown, but there remained a very large number whose loyalty to the Crown had been proved in the civil war, and in dealing with these the Government, which was then only feeling its way, had to proceed with extreme caution.

The first act of the Government at the end of the civil war had been to place all land as far as possible on a common footing. And the earliest step in this direction was taken in March, 1868, when it was enacted that all land held in grant from the Government should be liable to taxation. This measure affected the class of Hatamoto, which did not long survive the abolition of the Shōgunate, as well as all other grantees of land, and "yashikis," or feudal residences of the territorial nobility in Tōkiō, came under the same rule. The ground covered by these yashikis, some of which were very extensive, forming separate parks in different quarters of the town, had originally, like other grants of land, been handed over in free gift to the nobles, who paid neither rent nor land tax.

In the autumn of the same year (1868) another step in the same direction was taken by the partial removal of the prohibition against any transactions in land or house property between the military class and the other classes of the people. The Decree then issued allowed Shizoku to purchase land in country or in towns, provided the transaction was concluded in the name of some person not belonging to the military class. The restriction, however, was not wholly removed until the end of the year 1871, when it was formally decreed that the distinction between land occupied by the military class and that in occupation by the other classes was abolished, and that all land in occupation would be placed on the same footing as "land for which title-deeds are issued."

In 1870, the restrictions which prevented the farmer from engaging in commercial pursuits, and the further restrictions to which he was subject in the cultivation of his ground, were abolished.

Towards the end of 1871 all restrictions relating to the sale and transfer of land were removed, and title-deeds were issued by the Central Government for all land in occupation.

Regulations respecting the land followed each other in rapid succession about this date; in one of these a special clause appears by which the Government bound itself, in the event of land in occupation being required for Government purposes, to compensate the holder for disturbance in his holding by paying him the value of his holding as entered in the title-deed.

By the beginning of the year 1872 the position of the tenant in regard to his holding had, by these gradual measures, forming, as it were, a course of negative legislation, been at length clearly defined,⁷² and from that date therefore we may regard the occupier of land in Japan as virtually a proprietor, although traces of the system of joint ownership that existed before the abolition of feudalism have survived in two privileges which the Crown still retains: the right of the Crown to the possession of all mines discovered on land in individual occupation, and the right of the Crown

⁷¹ Various estimates are given of the proportion borne by the military class to the whole population, this proportion being variously computed at one-eighth, one-sixth, and one-fifth. We have evidence, in any case, to show that the military class increased considerably in numbers in the latter years of the Shōgunate, and taking the population of Japan at the period of the Restoration as 36,000,000, we are probably not far wrong in assuming the military class at this time to have numbered in all one-sixth of the total population.

⁷² In a Notification issued in the spring of this year, which has an interest of its own in so far as it applies to the prohibition of the sale and mortgage of land to foreigners, the following passage occurs, which tends to confirm this view:—"Although land has now become the personal property of individuals, no land can be sold to foreigners, nor can any land be mortgaged in connection with pecuniary transactions to any foreigner, or the title-deed be given in pledge."

to re-enter on any land in individual occupation, in the event of the non-payment of the land tax, or in the event of the land being required for Crown purposes.

(Signed)

JOHN H. GUBBINS,
Acting Japanese Secretary.

September, 1883.

ADDENDA.

Since the above Report was compiled, various changes have been introduced. Some of these, viz., the alterations in the "Land Tax," in "Judicial Fees," and in "Stamp Duties" are of sufficient importance to warrant their being appended to this Report in the form of Annexes. The report will thus be brought up to date. These additions comprise:—

Annex 1 New Land Tax Regulations.
Annex 2 New System of Judicial Fees.
Annex 3 New System of Stamp Duties.

It has also been thought advisable to add extracts from a series of Articles on the Land Question, translated by the same writer, which appeared in the *Hochi Shimbun* of November and December last, and were reproduced in the *Japan Gazette*.

ANNEX I.

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

NOTIFICATION NO. 7 OF COUNCIL OF STATE.

The following Land-Tax Regulations have been established. The Regulations for the revision of the Land-Tax published by Notification No. 272 of 1873, the rules relating to the revision of the Land-tax, and all other measures which conflict with these Regulations are hereby abolished.

In the case, however, of the Seven Islands of Idzu and of the Island of Ogasawara, which are in the jurisdiction of the Tokio Fu, and of the Hakodate, Okinawa, Sapporo, and Nemuro Prefectures, the existing regulations will remain in force.

The above is notified by Imperial Decree,

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

(Signed) MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

15th March, 1884.

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

I.—The Land-tax is fixed at 2½ per cent. of the value of land per year.

By "the value of land," mentioned in these regulations is understood the value of land as stated in the Title Deed.

II.—The Land-tax will not be increased in years of plenty nor will it be reduced in years of scarcity.

III.—Taxable land is divided into two classes.

1.—Rice land; land on which crops other than rice are grown; house land in country districts; house land in towns; salt flats; and land about mineral springs.

2.—Marsh land; hill and forest land; moor land; and other land not specially classified.

Land of the 1st class or land of the 2nd class, the separate classification¹ of which is altered, shall be known as "altered land."

Land of the 2nd class which by the employment of labor and capital has been converted into land of the 1st class shall be known as "reclaimed land."

Land of the 2nd class the conformation of which has been altered by natural calamity, such as "land slips, changes in a river's course, encroachments of the sea or of rivers, deposits of sand by sea or river, and land which by such natural disasters has been converted into rivers, into sea or into lakes, etc., shall be known as "waste land."

IV.—Land occupied by Public Schools, land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country,² and by cemeteries, land covered by drains, land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, land forming dykes and embankments, land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, and land included in public thoroughfares, is exempt from taxation.

V.—In the measurement of land the long measure *kanjaku* will be used, and 6 feet of this measure will constitute one *ken*. One square *ken* will constitute one *ho*, 30 *ho* one *se*, 10 *se* one *tan*, and 10 *tan* one *cho*.

¹ The meaning is not quite clear. But evidently the alteration referred to is intended to apply only to alterations within the particular class; such as rice land being converted into ordinary arable land or forest land becoming moor land; or again arable land, being turned into house land.

² No mention is made of the land included in the precincts of Buddhist Temples.

In the case of house land, one square *ken* will constitute a *tsubo*; one-tenth of this square area will constitute one *go*; and one-tenth of a *go* will constitute one *shaku*.

VI.—When the value of land is to be determined upon the expiration of the period known as the "Hoeing Term" in the case of reclaimed land, and of the period of exemption from taxes in the case of waste land, and when the classification of land is changed, the land in question shall be measured.

VII.—The value of land, except in the case of land the classification of which is changed and reclaimed land, shall not be altered.

VIII.—Should it be necessary to make an universal revaluation of land, notice of the fact will be given beforehand by decree.

IX.—In determining the value of land, the quality of the land and its class will be specially determined, the profit attending cultivation will be ascertained, and the value will be fixed in accordance with the conditions of the land.

X.—When the classification of land is altered, application must be made to the office of the local prefecture, and the land will be re-valued in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding in question.

XI.—When it is desired to convert land exempt from taxation into taxable land, the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained, and the value of the land will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding.

XII.—The Land-tax will be levied on the person in whose name the title deed of the land is made out. But in the case of land given in pledge the Land-tax will be paid by the mortgagee.

XIII.—When taxable land is converted into land occupied by Public Schools, into land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country, or into cemeteries, exemption from taxation will date from the month¹ in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained. When taxable land is converted into land covered by drains, into land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, into land forming dykes and embankments, into land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, or into land included in public thoroughfares, exemption from taxation will date from the month² in which the work of carrying out the changes commences: when land exempt from taxation is converted into taxable land, the Land-tax will be levied from the month immediately following that in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained.

XIV.—In the case of land the classification of which is altered, Land-tax will be levied, in accordance with the change in the value of the land, from the year in which the alteration in value took place.

XV.—In the case of reclaimed land and waste land, Land-tax will be levied from the year following that in which the "Hoeing Term" and period of exemption from taxation, respectively expire, in accordance with the value of the land as determined.

XVI.—When it is desired to reclaim land,³ the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained. A "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will then be granted; during this period, however, Land-tax will be levied on such land in accordance with its original value.

XVII.—Should the cultivator, during the "Hoeing Term," change his intentions and convert the land in question into a class of land different from that originally intended, he must report the fact to the office of the local prefecture. Under these circumstances the value of the land may be at once determined, or a new "Hoeing Term" be granted, (according to the nature of the case).

XVIII.—In the case of land which, at the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" has not been brought into profitable cultivation, a further "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will be granted.

XIX.—At the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" a revaluation of the land in question will take place. In the event of the "cultivator's original intentions with regard to the land not being realized, and the land being converted into a class of land different from that originally intended, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of such land.

XX.—In the case of land rendered waste by natural calamity, a period of exemption from taxation not exceeding 10 years, and dating from the year in which the calamity occurred, will be fixed.

¹ The "Hoeing Term" is a period fixed, in the case of moor or forest land, etc., being brought under cultivation, during which the cultivator, in consideration of his having improved the quality of the land, is only called upon to pay the Land-tax leviable upon the land in its original condition. The reclamation of "waste-land" is treated separately.

² i.e. periods of days not being taken into account, the exemption will take effect from the 1st day of that month.

³ See previous note.

⁴ This does not apply to the reclamation of "Waste Land;" see previous note.

At the expiration of this period the land will revert to its original value.

XXI.—In the case of waste land the actual condition of which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is such as will not admit of its reverting to the original value, a further period not exceeding 10 years will be fixed, during which the value of the land will be estimated at a low rate, not, however, less than 30 per cent. of the original value. At the expiration of this further period the land will revert to its original value.

XXII.—In the case of land which at the expiration of the further period during which it has been estimated at a reduced value is still not in a state to revert to its original value, and in the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is not in a condition to be restored to its original classification, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual condition of such land.

XXIII.—In the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation preserves all the characteristics of waste land, an extended period not exceeding 10 years will be granted; and land which at the expiration of such extended period is still not in a condition to revert to its original value will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Articles XXI. and XXII.

XXIV.—In the case of land rendered waste by being converted into rivers, into sea, or into lakes, not being restored to its original condition at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation, an extended period of exemption not exceeding 20 years will be granted; and if at the expiration of this extended period the land in question has not reverted to its original classification, and is incapable of any other classification, such land shall be regarded as land underlying rivers, sea, or lakes, and the title deed shall be taken back.

XXV.—Persons who fraudulently conceal the extent of their holdings and thereby evade payment of land-tax, will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 4 and not more than *yen* 40. Moreover, the value of the land in question will be determined in accordance with its original classification, and land-tax will be exacted for the number of years during which the fraudulent concealment has continued.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision (1873).

XXVI.—Persons violating Articles XI. and XVI. will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 3 and not more than *yen* 30. In the case of land exempted from taxation which has thus been converted (without notice to the authorities) into taxable land, and in the case of land being reclaimed (without the permission of the authorities having been obtained) and in respect to which it appears fitting that such permission should be given, the price of all such land shall be determined respectively in accordance with its actual¹ classification, and the Land-tax shall be levied on the increased scale.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision.

XXVII.—Persons violating Articles X. and XVII. will be punished by a penalty of not less than *yen* 1.00 and not more than *yen* 1.95.

XXVIII.—With regard to the offences enumerated in Article XXV. and in succeeding Articles, should these be committed by the lessee or cultivator without the knowledge of the proprietor, the lessee or cultivator shall be fined and the taxes shall be levied from the proprietor.

XXIX.—In the event of persons who have committed the offences enumerated in Articles XXV., XXVI., XXVII., and XXVIII. confessing their misdemeanours, the fines and penalties in question will be remitted, but the Land-tax will be exacted.

ANNEX 2.

JUDICIAL FEES.

NOTIFICATION No. 5.

The accompanying Regulations relating to Stamps to be used in Civil Suits have been established and will come into force from the 1st April next.

The regulations for the use of Ruled Paper in Civil Suits which were published by Notification No. 196 of December, 1875, will cease to have effect from the date above named.

The above is notified by Imperial decree.

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI, Prime Minister.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI, Minister of Justice.

February 23rd, 1884.

¹ And not, as it would otherwise be, for a term of years in accordance with the original classification.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING STAMPS TO BE USED IN CIVIL SUITS.

1.—Stamps must be affixed to all documents in Civil Suits in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

2.—In the case of Petitions, Stamps must be affixed to the original copy of the petition at the time that it is received, in accordance with the following scale, and corresponding to the sum of money claimed in the petition, or the actual amount involved in the case.

Where the sum of money claimed or the amount involved does not exceed 5 *Yen*.....

Stamps to the value of	
20 <i>Sen</i>	
Do. 10 <i>Yen</i>	Do. 30
Do. 20	Do. 60
Do. 50	Do. <i>Yen</i> 1.50
Do. 75	Do. 2.20
Do. 100	Do. 3.00
Do. 250	Do. 6.50
Do. 500	Do. 10.00
Do. 750	Do. 13.00
Do. 1,000	Do. 15.00
Do. 2,500	Do. 20.00
Do. 5,000	Do. 25.00

In cases where the sum of money claimed or amount involved exceeds *yen* 5,000, stamps to the value of *yen* 2.00 must be affixed for every additional sum of *yen* 1,000, or less.¹

In the case of appeals to the Superior Courts Stamps to the value of half the above stated amounts must be affixed; and in the case of appeals to the Supreme Court, Stamps to the same amount.

3.—In cases affecting personal rights² and in other cases where it is impossible to estimate the amount involved, stamps to the value of *yen* 3.00 must be affixed (to the original petition);—and in the case of appeals in such suits to the Superior Courts and the Supreme Court, stamps to the same value must be affixed.

But in suits of this nature where the plaintiff is in very impoverished circumstances and brings a certificate to that effect from the *Kochō*, the judge may remit the stamp fees.

4.—Stamps to the value of 20 *sen* must be affixed to each original copy of the following documents:—

1.—Answers; copies of documentary evidence; statements made in refutation of allegations made by plaintiffs; explanatory statements; reports;³ and statements of fact.⁴

2.—Applications for issue of summonses to experts, valuers, and persons whose corroborative testimony is required.

3.—Applications for postponement of trial.

5.—Stamps to the value of 50 *sen* must be affixed to the original copy of the following documents:—

1.—Applications for the attendance of an official for the purpose of inspection.

2.—Application for order of Court to execute judgment.

3.—Applications for proceedings in bankruptcy to be taken (made by creditors).

When copies of judgments are furnished (by the Court) stamps must be affixed to the receipt for the same at the rate of 5 *sen* for each sheet⁵ of the written judgment: when copies of other documents are given (by the Court) Stamps must be affixed to the receipt for the same at the rate of 3 *sen* for each sheet of the copied document.

6.—Each sheet of a copied judgment must only contain 12 lines of writing and there must be 12 characters to a line. In the case of copies of other documents each sheet shall contain 20 lines and there must be 18 characters to a line.

7.—In the case of official arbitration⁶ the parties to a suit shall in each case affix Stamps to the value of 20 *sen* to the statement of arbitration signed jointly by them.

8.—The cost of stamps affixed (to documents) in accordance with these regulations shall be repaid by the party which has lost the suit to the party which has gained it.

9.—Details respecting the classes of stamps to be used, their denominations, and the mode of affixing them will be settled by a notification from the department concerned.

10.—Stamps will be sold at those places where permission has been received from the local authorities to sell them. They may not be sold anywhere else.

¹ The wording is not very clear, but this appears to be the meaning.

² *Jin-jī*.—This term is difficult to translate literally. It includes all cases affecting matters of succession, disinheritance, adoption, matrimonial and family disputes, and the employment of servants, etc.

³ Voluntary statements made to the Court in writing.

⁴ Statements made in writing by order of the Courts.

⁵ A sheet of Japanese paper contains two pages.

⁶ *Hankajo* is a Court of arbitration for the settlement of small cases which might otherwise come before the ordinary Court of Justice.

11.—Persons selling stamps at any place other than that where permission to sell has been received from the local authorities shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 20 and not more than *yen* 100, and in addition the stamps they may have in their possession shall be confiscated; and persons who knowingly buy stamps so sold shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 10 and not more than *yen* 100, and in addition the stamps in their possession shall be confiscated.

12.—In the case of persons violating these regulations the offence that they may have committed against the criminal law will not be enquired into, neither will the system laid down in the Penal Code with reference to the diminution of penalties in cases of light offences, to the increase of penalties in grave cases, or to the commission of several infractions by the same offender be employed.

NOTIFICATION NO. 4.

Regulations respecting Stamps to be used in Civil cases having been established by Imperial Notification No. 5, the different kinds of Stamps to be employed, their prices, and the mode of affixing them have been settled as follows:—

YEN. SEN.		YEN.	
Grey stamp.....	3	Blue stamp	5
Black stamp	5	Bright yellow stamp ..	10
Orange stamp.....	10	Green stamp.....	15
Light brown stamp ..	50	Chestnut stamp	20
Yellow stamp.....	1.00		

These Stamps must be affixed to all original copies of petitions and other documents and must be effaced by the seal of the person affixing them.

The above is notified.

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI, Prime Minister.

YAMADA AKIYOSHI, Minister of Justice.

February 23rd, 1884.

The new system of Judicial Fees in civil process which came into force on the 1st April last, varies greatly from that established in 1875 which it has superseded.

Under the old system the fees levied were divided into three classes.

1. Charges for petitions and answers.
2. Charges for copies of judgments.
3. Charges for summonses and documents used in interlocutory proceedings.

The mode of levying these fees, moreover, was peculiar, the charge being calculated at so much per sheet of paper used and varying according to the amount of money involved in the case. The paper employed was ruled paper made expressly by the Government, and sold only by stationers who received permission to do so. The fees, in other words, were the price paid for ruled paper for use either (1) in petitions and answers, or (2) copies of judgments, or (3) summonses, &c.

The scale fixed was very moderate, varying from 1 *sen* per sheet of paper, in cases where the amount involved did not exceed *yen* 10, to 5 *sen* per sheet in cases where the amount involved exceeded *yen* 1,000; and five *sen* per sheet was the maximum charge.

The new system which came into force on the 1st April last is quite different. Ruled paper is no longer used, and has been replaced by stamps, the charges for which are fixed on a much higher scale. The system, however, has the advantage of simplicity. Under the old system the amount of fees to be paid depended on two things, the length of the documents concerned, and the amount of money involved in the case. The amount of fees to be levied according to the scale fixed by the new regulations is made to depend entirely upon the amount of money involved,—except in the case of copies of judgments and other documents furnished by the Court,—and provision is made for the payment of a fixed fee of *yen* 3 in cases affecting personal rights,^a and in cases where it is impossible to estimate the sum involved in the suit.

The new system in fact approaches more nearly to our own.

In the case of filing original petitions, the scale of fees varies from 20 *sen*, in cases where the amount does not exceed *yen* 5, to *yen* 25 in cases where the amount involved does not exceed *yen* 5,000; and where the amount involved exceeds the latter sum a fee of *yen* 2 is charged for every additional sum of *yen* 1,000 or less.

The Fees charged for filing petitions of appeal to the Superior Courts (*Fōtō Saibansho*) are half those charged in the Court below; but in the case of appeals to the Supreme Court the fees levied are the same as those paid in the Court of First Instance.

^a 1 sheet = 2 pages.

^b *Jin-ji*.—See note a.

In the case of answers, written statements, copies of documentary evidence, and applications to the Court of all kinds, the fee charged is 20 *sen* or 50 *sen* according to the nature of the document.

Copies of judgments and of other documents furnished by the Court are charged for at the rate of 3 and 5 *sen* per sheet respectively, irrespective of the amount of money involved in the case.

The Fees go with the decision of the Court, the party losing the case being held responsible for the whole expenses of litigation. Whether this rule will be modified later on remains to be seen. As it now stands, the judge has no power of ruling in regard to costs.^b

It will be seen that the principal fees to be paid are those charged on filing a petition to the Court of First Instance, and on filing Petitions of Appeal; the fees charged in all other instances being comparatively trifling.

Provision is also made in these Regulations for the remission of fees in cases where a person is allowed to sue *in forma pauperis*. This is a privilege formerly unknown to Japanese suitors.

JOHN H. GUBBINS.

May, 1884.

ANNEX 3.

THE NEW STAMP DUTIES.

NOTIFICATION NO. 11.

The Regulations respecting Stamp Duties, published by Notification No. 81 of July, 1874, have been revised as shown in the accompanying enclosure. The amended regulations will come into force from the 1st July next, from which date Notification No. 120, of July 1875, will cease to have effect.

The above is notified by Imperial Decree.

(Signed) SANJŌ SAN'EYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

(Signed) MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

(ENCLOSURE.)

REGULATIONS RESPECTING STAMP DUTIES.

Article I.—Stamps must be affixed in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations to all formal documents and ledgers, etc., which are used in the transfer of property or as evidence of a contract.

Article II.—Formal documents and ledgers, etc., are divided into two classes, and stamp duties are leviable on them as follows:—

Class I.—The Stamps specified below must be affixed to the following formal documents and ledgers, whether money is involved or not, and irrespective of the sum involved. In the case of cheques drawn on a Current Account, application may be made for the seal of the Finance Department instead.

A Stamp of 5 *rin* is required for—

- A Cheque drawn on a Current Account.
- A Power of Attorney.

A Stamp of one *sen* is required for—

- A Deed of Contract where no amount is named.
- A Will bequeathing money or property.
- A Deed of transfer of property to an heir, or of an interest or shares in a business to a successor.
- A Deed of gift.
- A Receipt for money held on deposit where no fixed period is named.
- A Lease of land (by proprietor to tenant) for purposes of cultivation.
- A Deed of guarantee of employé or servant.
- A Receipt for goods held on deposit the value of which is not stated.
- A Receipt for goods borrowed the value of which is not stated.
- A Receipt for land or houses held on deposit.

¹ Tickets given in exchange for value received entitling the bearer to certain articles (such as saké, fish, etc.).

- A Lease of Land or Houses.
- A Special Contract of sale and purchase used in Mercantile Transactions.
- A Policy of Insurance.
- A Certificate of Shares in a Company or Commercial Firm.
- A Draft or Bill of Exchange.
- A Ledger for entries in regard to money or goods—one book per year.
- A Pass-Book in which entries of transactions in money or goods are certified by seal.
- A Deed of Partnership (under which a Company or Commercial Firm is established).

Should deeds of partnership contain any stipulations as to the payment of or loan of money, the documents or ledgers which serve as proof of such

^a A Judge had a discretionary power under the old system.

^b These are peculiar to Japan, and are used in the following way. A person pays the price of, say, a *shō* of saké, or a dozen fish, and, not wanting the saké or fish at the moment, is handed a Ticket entitling him to receive these articles at any future time on presentation of the Ticket.

^c *Shi-kiri-sho*.

payment or loan, although no sum be named, must bear the same stamps as the various contracts mentioned in Class 2, where special amounts are named.

The documents hereinafter mentioned, which deal with sums of *yen* 5 and over that amount, must bear stamps as follows:—

A Stamp of one *sen* is required for—

- Invoices used in business transactions.
- Receipts given in business transactions.

If such documents are bound into one book, one stamp of one *sen* will suffice for the year.

Class 2.—Stamps must be affixed to the documents specified below according to the following rates and in proportion to the amount of money involved.

In the case of Bills of Exchange and Agreements, the special forms required must be used.

The documents here named require stamps in proportion to the amounts given in the following tables:—

- Deed of Loan.
- Deed of sale or purchase of land or houses.
- Receipt for goods held on deposit where value of goods is specified.
- Deed of loan of goods, where value of goods is specified.
- Deed of sale or purchase of goods.
- Receipt for money held on deposit for fixed period.
- Contracts of all kinds where the amount of money is specified.

Where the amount of money involved is *Yen* one, or over, but under *Yen* 20, a Stamp of one *Sen* is required.

OVER.	UNDER.	VALUE OF STAMP REQUIRED.
Yen 20	Yen 50	2 Sen.
Yen 50	Yen 100	4 Sen.
Yen 100	Yen 150	6 Sen.
Yen 150	Yen 200	8 Sen.
Yen 200	Yen 300	11 Sen.
Yen 300	Yen 400	14 Sen.
Yen 400	Yen 600	20 Sen.
Yen 600	Yen 800	26 Sen.
Yen 800	Yen 1,000	32 Sen.
Yen 1,000	Yen 1,400	38 Sen.
Yen 1,400	Yen 1,700	44 Sen.
Yen 1,700	Yen 2,000	50 Sen.
Yen 2,000	Yen 2,500	60 Sen.
Yen 2,500	Yen 3,000	70 Sen.
Yen 3,000	Yen 3,500	80 Sen.
Yen 3,500	Yen 4,000	90 Sen.
Yen 4,000 and over—	a stamp of one Yen.	

If the above documents are made into one book, stamps must be affixed according to the estimated total value specified in the whole documents, taken together, and in accordance with the following rates:—

Where the total sum involved is under *Yen* 100, Stamps to the value of 4 *sen* are required.

Where the total sum involved is *Yen* 100, or over the duties will be calculated on the value of the stamps^a to be fixed in the case of each document.

Receipt for money deposited on Current Account, or Pawn-broker's Ticket, where the amount involved is—

OVER.	UNDER.	VALUE OF STAMP REQUIRED.
Yen 1	Yen 20	1 Sen.
Yen 20	—	2 Sen.

If these documents are bound into one book, they must bear Stamps as follows, according to the estimated total value specified in the whole documents when fastened together.

Where the total amount is under *Yen* 100, a Stamp of 2 *Sen*.

Where the total amount is *Yen* 100, or over, a Stamp of 4 *Sen*.

- Bills of Exchange.
- Contracts of Barter.
- Formal Agreements.

Where the total amount involved is under *Yen* 50, a Stamp of 1 *Sen* is required.

OVER.	UNDER.	VALUE OF STAMP REQUIRED.
Yen 50	Yen 100	2 Sen.
Yen 100	Yen 200	4 Sen.
Yen 200	Yen 500	8 Sen.
Yen 500	Yen 1,000	15 Sen.
Yen 1,000	Yen 2,000	25 Sen.
Yen 2,000	—	50 Sen.

Article III.—Documents the intention and effect of which are similar to those mentioned in the foregoing clauses, must bear Stamps of a suitable value, irrespective of their special names or designations.

Article IV.—Documents and ledgers, etc., which should bear Stamps, but to which Stamps have not been affixed in accordance with Article V., shall not be accepted as valid by the Civil Courts. But this rule does not apply to documents and ledgers to which Stamps have been fixed after a penalty has been enforced for their not having been stamped.

Article V.—Stamps must be affixed by the person transferring a document or by the owner of a ledger before such document has been accepted or such ledger has been used. The seal, which is to be affixed immediately below the name of the person executing the document or making an entry in the ledger, shall be placed partly on the Stamp and

^a If there are 5 documents and the Stamp duty on each is 5 *sen*, the duty will be 25 *sen*.

partly on the paper surrounding it, and the Stamp shall thus be effaced.

Article VI.—The denominations of the Stamps and the forms to be used (in certain cases) will be settled (hereafter) by notification.

Article VII.—These Stamps and forms shall only be sold at places where an official license to sell has been obtained.

Article VIII.—All ledgers,* special contracts, and invoices that require Stamps, shall be examined by officers appointed for that purpose.

Article IX.—The documents and ledgers herein-after specified do not require stamps.

1. Formal documents executed by Government Offices and ledgers used by them.
2. Documents used in pursuance of their duties by officials or deputy officials, or by members of deliberative assemblies appointed by official decrees, or by persons serving in public schools or hospitals.
3. Deeds of guarantee for receipt of money deposited with Government Offices by the Treasury agencies or Government accountants.
4. Formal receipts given to Government offices by the Treasury agencies or Government accountants in return for taxes paid in by them.
5. Formal acknowledgment given by the Treasury Agencies or Government accountants of the receipt of an order for money issued to them by Government Offices.
6. Receipts given to individuals for taxes received by the Treasury agencies or Government accountants.
7. Documents concerning donations of money made to Government Offices by individuals either to relieve distress occasioned by any natural calamity or disaster, or towards any State undertaking or public work.

Article X.—With regard to ledgers of Class 2 the estimated value of transactions, the period for which the ledger will be used, and the number of pages of the ledger, must be entered on the first page. Ledgers which refer to the transfer and receipt of goods must contain a statement of the value of such goods.

Article XI.—Should items in respect to which the stamp duties differ, be noted in the same document, or should entries the stamp duties on which are not identical, occur in the same ledger, the proper stamps required in each case must be affixed.

Article XII.—In the case of ledgers which have been duly stamped, when the previously estimated total value of transactions entered has been reached, or when the period for which the ledger is to be used has expired, the fact must be noted in the ledger, and when the inspecting officer comes to make inspection, his seal must be affixed to this entry.

Article XIII.—Should there remain in a ledger such as mentioned in the foregoing article^a any blank pages, and it is desired to utilize them, the proper stamps must be affixed in the manner indicated in Article X.

Article XIV.—Should all the pages of a ledger be exhausted either before the previously estimated total value of transactions entered has been reached, or before the period for which the ledger is to be used has expired,—fresh pages may be added to the ledger. In these cases the reasons for increasing the ledger and the number of pages added must be noted at the side of the entries as to estimated value of transactions and period of use which are made at the beginning of the ledger.

Article XV.—Should the amount of a transaction be entered in a document or ledger in Foreign coin, the equivalent amount in Japanese Currency must be calculated and entered, and the proper stamps affixed.

Article XVI.—When formal documents are exchanged between two parties each party to the transaction must affix the requisite stamps.

Article XVII.—When a supplementary document previously executed, or when an endorsement is made on a previously executed document, if by the addition of such supplementary document or endorsement the intention and effect of the previously executed document are altered, or if the amount of the transaction is thereby increased or lessened, fresh stamps of the proper value must be affixed.

Article XVIII.—In cases where these Regulations are violated by persons who seek to evade payment of duties, after the offence has been punished the proper stamps may be affixed by the person receiving the document or ledger, etc.

Article XIX.—Persons who do not affix stamps to documents or ledgers, etc., which ought to bear stamps, or who affix stamps of an insufficient value, and persons who do not use forms when requisite, or who use insufficiently stamped forms, shall be punished by a penalty of 20 times the value of the stamp duties sought to be evaded, or by a fine;—and persons who have received such unstamped or insufficiently stamped documents, ledgers, or forms shall be punished in the same way.

Article XX.—Persons who neglect to efface the stamp with a seal in accordance with the provisions of Article V.—the circumstances stated in Article XVIII. being excepted,—shall be punished by a penalty of 10 times the value of the stamps in the case in question, or by a fine; and persons who have received documents or ledgers, etc., in which such irregularities have occurred will be punished in the same way.

Article XXI.—Persons who have affixed their seals as guarantees or witnesses to documents or ledgers, etc., in respect to which infractions of these Regulations have occurred shall be punished by a penalty or fine amounting to half of that incurred by the principal parties in the transaction.

Article XXII.—Persons who refuse to submit documents or ledgers, etc., for inspection in accordance with Article VIII. shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 2 and not more than *yen* 20.

Article XXIII.—Persons infringing Articles X. and XIII. shall be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 2 and not more than *yen* 10.

Article XXIV.—Persons infringing Articles XII. and XIV. shall be punished by a penalty of not less than *yen* 1 and not more than *yen* 1.95.

Article XXV.—Persons infringing Article VII. shall be punished by the confiscation of all stamps in their possession and all profit they may have made by the (unauthorized) sale of stamps, and in addition by a fine of not less than *yen* 5 and not more than *yen* 50.

Article XXVI.—In the case of persons who have committed any of the above-mentioned infractions of these Regulations the offence they may have committed will not be enquired into by the Penal Code, nor will the system (laid down in that Code) in regard to the diminution of penalties in cases of light offences, to the increase of penalties in cases where the offence is repeated, or to the disclosure of several offences at the same time be employed.

ANNEX 4.

HISTORY OF THE REVISION OF THE LAND TAX.

(Translated from *Hochi Shimbun* of November and December, 1883.)

The history of ancient laws in regard to taxation in Japan is difficult to trace owing to the imperfect nature of the records on the subject, but we learn from various books that in early times the land system was based upon that of Corea. According to this system, 6 square feet of land were reckoned as one *ho*; 29 *ho* constituted a *shiro*; and for every 50 *shiro* one bundle and a half of rice in the ear were paid as tax. In the period of *Tai-kwa* (1230 years ago) the area of a *ho* was altered, and 5 square feet were made one *ho*; 360 *ho* were made to constitute a *tan*; and on each *tan* a tax of 2 bundles and 2 sheaves of rice in the ear was levied. Some years later the old system was reverted to, but in the period of *Tai-ho* (about 1177 years ago) the system established in the period of *Tai-kwa* was again introduced. In the period of *Kei-un*,—only three years later, a reduction of 3 *sho* and 5 *go* was made in the tax levied on each *tan*. In the period of *Wa-do* (about 1170 years ago) the Corean foot was abolished and the Chinese foot adopted, and the amount of taxation levied on a *tan* of ground was altered to what it had been in the period of *Tai-ho*. From this time forward all learning and all laws and regulations were based on Chinese models, and taxation was introduced on the Chinese system and divided into 3 kinds of taxation,—rice tax, forced labour, and local taxes. This arrangement, however, did not work well. Those in authority appropriated lands at their pleasure, and religious associations vied with each other in taking possession of agricultural holdings. Both in Imperial taxes, local taxes, and miscellaneous dues, the tax-payers were allowed to fall into arrears, on the condition that they paid 50 and 70 per cent. interest for such arrears to the government. These facts will serve to show the confused state of the laws relating to taxation. Later on, changes took place which had the result of increasing the power of the military classes, and the people of Japan became divided into two divisions, agriculturists and soldiers, and taxation was increased.

When Yoritomo assumed control of the administration, the land regulations were found incon-

venient for apportioning the forced labour levied upon the land for military purposes. Consequently the taxes on land were fixed in *kwan*,¹ and land was classified according to its quality. Moreover, the system of paying taxes only in rice and other grain was abolished, and a joint system of payment in grain and in money was introduced. Under the Ashikaga Administration, Chinese copper cash of the *Yei-raku* period (made in the Ming Dynasty), were imported into Japan in large quantities, and to this importation of cash the fact is probably due that the yield of land was computed at so many *kwan*, and so many *yei*. All land appears to have been classified, its value in *kwan* or *yei* cash determined, and taxes in the shape of forced labour were, it seems, levied upon the land for military purposes, according to this assessed value. The system was not without its advantages, but at this time the country was divided into various feudal districts and powerful military chieftains held fiefs in various parts of the country, and exercised in a tyrannical manner their feudal rights to levy military supplies upon the land. Consequently the laws in regard to taxation fell into a state of terrible confusion.

When Hideyoshi suddenly rose to power lands in all the provinces were remeasured; 6 square feet and 3 square inches were made to constitute a *ho*; and 300 *ho* were made equal to one *tan*. Taxes were levied upon the land according to the assessed yield of rice, and the previous confused systems and regulations were brought into order and rectified. Iyeyasu followed the policy bequeathed to him by Hideyoshi, and introduced no unreasonable reforms. But, warned by the past wholesale appropriation of land in the 20th year of the period *Kwan-yei* (about 235 years ago), the sale and purchase of arable land were strictly prohibited, the infraction of this prohibition being punished by confiscation of the property of the offenders, and the exaction of fines from the village officials who had connived at the occurrence. At the same time, various reforms were introduced affecting the minor provisions of land taxation.

In the period *Hiyō-ho* (about 162 years ago), the land laws were at last arranged on a system which was fairly satisfactory. But this system was only in force in the case of those lands which were under the direct administration of the Shōgun's government, and did not extend to the territories of the various clans, or to those lands which were either in the possession of temples and shrines, or owned by members of the nobility. In all parts of the country outside the jurisdiction of the Shōgun, ancient systems of taxation prevailed, and land was assessed variously at certain values in *kwan* and *yei*, cash, or according to measurement in *tan* or *shiro*, or again according to the estimated yield in rice. Moreover the *ho*, varied in different places, being sometimes equal to 6 square feet and 5 square inches, sometimes equal to 6 square feet and 3 square inches, or 6 square feet and 2½ inches, or only 6 square feet; and it was the same in the case of the *tan*, which contained variously 900 *ho*, 360 *ho*, 300, and 200 *ho*, according to the system obtaining in a particular locality. The assessment of taxes also varied in different districts. In some places, 70ths of the yield of land went to the landlord and 30ths to the cultivator; in others the proportions were 3ths and 2ths; in some, again, the yield of land was divided equally between landlord and cultivator; and yet in others, the landlord received only 10ths, and the cultivator 90ths. Nor did the differences end here. The methods of assessing the yield were not identical. There were three distinct methods of assessing the yield, the assessment by measure (in which the measurement of the land was taken), the assessment by inspection of the crops (in which the yield was estimated by the appearance and condition of the crops), and the assessment by sample (in which specimens of the rice growing were taken as samples). The amount of hulled rice that one *sho* of un-hulled rice would produce was moreover variously estimated at 6 *go*, 5½ *go*, and 5 *go*; and to complete the list of divergencies, each district had its own peculiar system of packing and weighing rice, and its own rules in regard to matters of detail, forming no part of the regular taxation,—such as the right of the government to surplus rice of all kinds, and the payment of taxes on all commodities in rice. To crown everything, the inequalities in the measurement of land and in the incidence of taxation became so outrageous that in many places it was possible to find fertile land pay no taxes at all and waste land burdened with an enormous tax. And the numerous evils which arose out of this wide spread injustice grew gradually larger and larger. When taxes were unfairly light they became still lighter; where they were excessive they grew still more burdensome; until at last universal disorder prevailed in regard to the land system, for the poor

* Shi-kiri-sho.

^a i.e. a completed ledger which has been examined and sealed by the inspecting officer.

¹ 1 Kwan = 1,000 cash.

man was ground down by taxation while the rich man escaped.

Under the Shōgun's administration the land system was, as we have seen, in a state of confusion. According to the system then in force, the area of land was determined by measurement, the yield was calculated according to the amount of the production, and good and bad years were determined by inspection of the crops. The land tax was levied in this manner, and was paid always in rice. In followed, therefore, that the amount of taxes payable could not be ascertained beforehand, nor could the selling price of rice be calculated in advance, because there were both years of plenty and years of scarcity, and fluctuations occurred in the value of rice. The amount of taxes payable, therefore, depended upon good or bad years, and upon the price of rice. On the one hand, the people suffered from the grievance of burdensome taxation, and on the other hand, the government were saddled with a deficit in revenue. A revision of the land tax was thus urgently required at this time, but the indecision and procrastinating policy of the Shōgunate made it quite impossible for such an important work to be undertaken. When the Restoration took place, great changes were effected in the national economy, and the evils consequent upon the disordered state of taxation became more and more a subject for serious consideration. Political economists consequently directed their attention to the introduction of reforms in the land system, and the government decided to take definite steps in the matter. In the 2nd and 3rd years of Meiji the Home Department took the lead in this direction by bringing forward a proposal to re-assess the valuation of land, and Kanda Kohei, a member of the senate, introduced a measure for the reform of the land system. The principal features in this reform were that the sale of land should be allowed, that a title deed should be granted for each holding, and that taxes should be paid in money according to the value of the holding as stated in the title deed. To prevent the value of a holding being understated, with the view of evading taxation, a provision was inserted by which it was stipulated that should any person offer to buy a holding for a higher price than that fixed by the proprietor, the holding should be sold, and if the proprietor would not purchase it, the price offered for the holding should be entered in the title deed as the value of that holding, in place of the value as fixed by the proprietor, and one-tenth of the purchasing money paid for the holding by the bidder should be given to the proprietor in satisfaction of his claims. Subordinate offices were to be established in each *Fu* and *Ken*, which should have jurisdiction over five or ten villages, as the case might be, and have control of all matters relating to land in their jurisdiction. A land register was to be kept in each office, in which all title deeds were to be registered, and the original title deed and the corresponding entry in the register were to be sealed with a joint seal.

Whenever the price of land varied, the change in value was to be entered and taxes were to be paid in accordance with the value of the land as entered in the title deed.

The officers were also to ascertain the total value of the title deeds according to the entries in the land register, to determine the average amount of rice paid as taxes during a period of 20 years, and then to convert this amount into money according to the average market price of rice. The sum total thus obtained was to be compared with the sum total of the values of the various holdings stated in the title deeds, and the tax due on each title deed fixed. When the fixed period for payment arrived, the proprietor of each holding was to pay his taxes to the local office, which was to receive them, and, adding together all the taxes paid on land in its jurisdiction, was to hand them in to the office of the prefecture. Each prefectural office was to keep a general register of the title deeds of all land in its jurisdiction, and the taxes, when received, were to be compared with the entries in the register and paid in collectively to the finance department. The finance department was to compare the taxes thus received with the entries in the "general register of the title deeds of all land throughout the country," and place them all together. This scheme was therefore a proposal to levy taxes on land according to its selling value, and was called the "title deed system of taxation."

The title deed system of taxation proposed by Mr. Kanda was a sound measure, in its way, but at the time it was brought forward the Restoration was in its infancy, and public affairs were in a state of general confusion. Moreover, each clan had different laws, and therefore, although the government were eager to amend the land system, it was impossible for them to introduce the necessary reforms.

In the month of August of the next year, however,

(1871), the great work of abolishing the clans and establishing prefectures in their place was accomplished, full powers in all military matters reverted to the government, and the finance department for the first time had full control over the collection of revenue and the national finance. The bureau of taxation then prepared a draft scheme for the revision of the laws of taxation, and submitted it to the Finance Department. The Minister and Vice-Minister of Finance, Messrs. Okubo Toshimichi and Inouye Kaoru, accepted this scheme and brought forward a proposal for the revision of the land tax. This was in the month of December 1871. The principal features of this proposal were as follows.

The proprietor of a holding was to be free to cultivate his land in all respects as he pleased, and the right of absolute sale of his land was conceded to him. The export and import of rice and other cereals by the people were to be freely permitted. The extent of all cultivated land, house land and forest land, etc., throughout the country was to be ascertained by survey. Title deeds were to be issued for all land with certain exceptions, taxes were to be levied according to the selling price of the land, and the value of all land was to be fixed after examination.

The *Sei-in*^a adopted the scheme proposed by the Finance Department and caused arrangements to be made for carrying it into effect. The Finance Department accordingly framed, in concert with the taxation bureau, a set of title deed regulations, containing 28 clauses, which, in January 1872, were put in force, as a tentative measure, in the limits of the *Tokio Fu*, and later on were made applicable to all town-land, and other land coming under the same designation, in all the prefectures. Then for the first time, moreover, castle-towns, and places famous by tradition were made to pay land tax.

In February 1872, the Finance Department issued a set of regulations, containing 24 clauses, for the issue of title-deeds and the payment of land tax. In clause 10 of these regulations it was stated:—"The Land Tax shall be paid annually as follows:—namely, at the rate of 2 per cent. of the value of the land as entered in the title deed," and an additional sum of 3 *sen* for every *yen* of land tax will be paid as office expenses. For the present, the amount of taxation has been fixed at the rate stated in these regulations, but it must necessarily vary from time to time according to circumstances. Clause 23 stated, that after an interval of 5 years a re-examination of all title deeds would take place.

In March, 1872, the restriction on the absolute sale of land was removed and rules were published which provided for the transfer of the title-deed of land when thus sold.

It appears from these regulations that the government considered the title deed taxation system as the most convenient method of levying taxes, and were anxious by issuing title-deeds in the case of castle towns and places famous by tradition, which had hitherto been exempt from taxation, and by granting title deeds in the case of all land sold, to fix the value of land throughout the country, and collect taxes in accordance with the value so determined. Land, however, being in the nature of a fixture, people are usually very unwilling to relinquish possession of it, and therefore, as the government proposed to wait until land was sold or transferred before issuing title-deeds, 40 or 50 years might have elapsed, and even then title deeds would probably not have been issued for all the land in the country. It is easy to understand, therefore, that difficulties arose in the determination of the value of land. Accordingly, in August of the same year, the government supplemented these regulations by additional rules under which they agreed to issue title deeds for all land in Japan under occupation by the people, irrespective of its sale or transfer, and published a notification to the local authorities everywhere to the effect that the task of issuing title deeds was to be finished by the month of October. In September, the Bureau for the Revision of the Land Tax was established as a sub-office of the Taxation Bureau, and to this office full powers for this revision were entrusted together with the special control of all matters connected with title deeds. In this month a draft of the revised system of land taxation was completed and communicated to the chief administrative officers in each locality, and rules were framed for carrying this system into effect.

Later on, a fresh proposal for the revision of the land tax was brought forward by Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu, Governor of the *Kanagawa ken*. This proposal may be summarized as follows:—"The existing system of land taxation was to be changed, and all ancient methods of assessing taxes, and determining the extent and yield of land were, without exception, to be abolished. The land tax was to be levied at a certain rate according to the actual

value of land, and the taxes were to be payable in certain fixed periods. The three classes into which land was divided were to be amalgamated, all land to be valued according to its productiveness, and on the value thus fixed the land tax was to be assessed. Thus, if the land was productive the assessed value would be high, and if the value was high the taxes would of course be heavy. If, on the contrary, the land was unproductive, the assessed value would be small and the taxes therefore would be light. By this method, it was argued, much trouble would be saved to the authorities and the people without detriment to either, and the land taxes would be adjusted on a fair and equitable basis. The government accordingly appointed Mr. Mutsu superintendent of taxation, and the work of revision was commenced.

The plan proposed by Mr. Mutsu was, we see, substantially the same as that brought forward by Mr. Kanda in 1870, and by Mr. Okubo in the following year; but at that time the laws in each clan were different and the administration was not yet firmly established. Although, therefore, the government gladly concurred in the plans then put forward, they could not easily be carried into effect throughout the whole country. When however, the Daimios surrendered their fiefs to the crown, and the administrative power being placed in the hands of a central government, the way was cleared for the settlement of the affairs of the country, the work of revising the land tax was at once commenced.

In February, 1873, the chief administrative officials in each locality were summoned by the finance department to a deliberative meeting, and the draft scheme for the revision of the land tax was discussed. The result of the deliberations of this assembly was that the members eventually were divided into three parties. One party proposed that the total amount of the taxes previously levied on land in rice should be converted into money (such amount to be fixed on the basis of the average amount of taxation for the previous 10 or 5 or 6 years); that the money obtained by this calculation should be apportioned according to the total amount of land entered in the title deeds; and that, afterwards, an equitable adjustment of the taxation to be levied on each holding should be gradually made in accordance with the quality of the land. A second party argued that it was useless to deal with superficialities without going to the root of the matter; that the question should be dealt with in a decisive manner by abolishing once and for all the methods of assessing taxes according to the yield of land and the inspection of crops; and that a simple and uniform system of taxation based on the value of land should be introduced. The third party held that it would be no easy matter suddenly to do away with all old customs and usages, that it would be better for some time to follow the system introduced under the Tokugawa Shōgunate, and adopting an equitable method of taxation based on the system of inspecting crops, to correct any unfair incidence of taxation in the case of particular holdings. Title deeds might then be issued gradually, and a new system of taxation introduced later on, when the people, having out-grown old usages, were prepared to accept it.

The views of these three parties were not identical, but in reality they only differed on the question as to whether the reform should be carried out at once, or gradually. As far as the main issue of the necessity of reform was concerned their views coincided. The president of the assembly, Mr. Inouye Kaoru, then selected a few of the members of the assembly and entrusted them with the task of drawing up a draft scheme for the revision of the land tax. When this draft was completed, Mr. Inouye suddenly sent in a memorial to the government and resigned office. Mr. Okuma, the chief of the party, who was then a *sangi*, assumed charge of the Finance Department. He accordingly became president of the assembly and presented the draft scheme for the revision of the land tax to the members, who discussed it clause by clause.

The draft law was then submitted to the Emperor, who readily gave it his sanction, and it was then notified to the country by Imperial decree. This occurred on the 28th July, 1873.—(see Report).

Regulations for the revision of the land tax containing seven clauses^b were accordingly issued by the Council of State, another set of regulations for the carrying out of this revision, containing 17^c articles, were published by the Finance Department, and a memorandum of 44 clauses for the information and guidance of the local authorities, and a set of new rules for the inspection of land containing 3^d articles were also drawn up and made public. We will summarize the chief provisions in this series of enactments which concern our present argument.

As soon as the revision of the land tax was com-

^a Name of the old senate which was replaced by the *Gemō-in*.

^b See Report Appendix B. ^c Appendix C. ^d Appendix D.

pleted, the land tax was to be levied on the value of land. No increase of taxation was to take place in good years; nor was any decrease of taxation to be allowed in bad years (see Article 2 of the Revision Regulations). The land tax had hitherto been mixed up with taxes on various commodities, and with the house tax, but henceforth a clear distinction was to be made. And although it was agreed that the land ought not to be assessed at more than 1 per cent. on the value of land, yet as the taxes on various commodities were not yet settled, for the present the land tax was to be assessed at 3 per cent. on the value of land. When, however, the taxes on tea, tobacco, timber, and other productions of the soil had been established, and the yearly revenue from these sources had reached the sum of yen 2,000,000, then the land tax levied on all land in respect of which the land tax had been revised was to be reduced gradually in proportion to the increase in the revenue derived from these new taxes, until it reached the limit of 1 per cent. on the value of the land. (See Article 6 of the Revised Regulations.)

With regard to the value of land, the owners of land were to be made to estimate the yearly profit attending the cultivation of their holdings, and to give their opinion as to the value of their holdings based on this estimate of the profit attending cultivation, according to the customs of the different localities; and a suitable tax was to be levied after inspection of the land on the part of the Government. (Article 1. of the rules for the carrying out of the regulations of the land tax.)

In the case of holdings the price of which was not correctly stated by the proprietors, a fresh estimate was to be ordered, and in the event of the land holders being dissatisfied with the value thus estimated, and refusing to listen to reason, the land was to be sold by written tender or at a price fixed by the Government. (Articles 16 of the same rules.)

The price of land, it was said, depended upon many considerations: upon its position, whether in town or country; upon people's tastes; upon the difficulty, or ease of cultivation, and upon the different nature of the industries carried on by the people; and not only upon the actual profit attending its cultivation by the farmers. People's tastes and their views as to the convenient or inconvenient position of land were, it was pointed out, matters of private opinion which did not as a matter of course find open expression, and consequently the value of land as regulated by these considerations could only be calculated by conjecture. It followed, therefore, that unless land repeatedly changed hands and was sold by competition to the highest bidder, its true value, in so far as these two elements of price were concerned, could not possibly be determined. Accordingly, the best method for determining the value of land was to estimate the profit attending cultivation. As the price of land for which there was a great demand would naturally rise higher than the value thus calculated, this method ought by all means to be adopted. (Article 10 of the memorandum for the information and guidance of local officials.)

In cases where the value of land was understated by the holder, and it was difficult to sell it by written tender, the holder was to be asked whether he was willing to sell it to the Government at the price named by him, and if he consented, he was to be called upon to give a written guarantee to that effect. (Article 33 of the same memorandum.)

It might occasionally happen, it was pointed out, that a holding would be bought by the Government when the value fixed by the proprietor was very near the proper value, but in most cases the Government would only step in as a purchaser when it was thought that a false estimate of value had been furnished by the proprietor. (Article 35 of the same memorandum.)

In determining the value of land in pursuance of the revision of the system of taxation, no regard was to be paid to the amount of taxes on rice formerly levied, but each proprietor was to state what he considered to be the actual selling price of his holding. Instructions in this sense were to be issued to each village. (Article 40 of the same memorandum.)

The system of measuring land by which its extent was determined, the system of investigating the yield of land by which its fertility or unproductiveness was ascertained, and the system of inspecting the crops by which a distinction could be made between good and bad years, were all good methods in their way. The evil lay in the practical application of these methods. This was attended by numerous drawbacks, which continued until the year 1868. For instance, the practice of assessing the taxes to be paid in a particular year only after the results of that year's harvest had been ascertained, made it impossible to draw up any estimate of annual revenue; and this impossibility of estimat-

ing the annual revenue made it very difficult to administer the national finances in an efficient manner. Consequently, when the new period of Meiji commenced, political economists were anxious for the establishment of a sound land system under which the evils of unequal taxation and a fluctuating revenue might be avoided; and they endeavoured by every means in their power to find some expedient which would serve their purpose. But although by a just and impartial system of measuring land and estimating its yield it is possible to remedy an unfair incidence of taxation, a fluctuating revenue is a difficulty which does not admit of solution in the same manner. In all times farmers have regarded with distrust and aversion the measurement of land, and as often as this has taken place local disorders have been the result. It is impossible not to understand that this result would not certainly have happened had these reforms been hastily taken in hand, so shortly after the new Government had come into power, and before it had gained the confidence of the people. It would, indeed, have been a mistaken policy at this early period to have inaugurated the work of reform by re-measuring the land. The reformers probably saw the danger, and accordingly altered their plans and brought forward the scheme known as the title deed system of taxation, which became law in July, 1873.

It appears to us, that the two most necessary points in a system of taxation are that it should have the advantage of simplicity and that it should satisfy the people. Now, in point of simplicity, the assessment of the land tax according to the value of land is not as satisfactory as the assessment of the tax according to the yearly revenue it yields to the cultivator. But the aversion to the measurement of land was a feeling ingrained in the minds of the people and one which could not easily be eradicated. The Government in deciding to adopt the system of assessing taxation upon the value of the land, avoided the danger of a measure which the people regarded with suspicious aversion,^a and although the principal object of the Government was not to avoid this danger, the decision, nevertheless, was certainly most opportune in view of the fact that at this time the Government did not command the full confidence of the people. By revaluing all land throughout the country, fixing its proper value and assessing a fixed yearly tax, the difficulties connected with the varying extent of holdings were avoided, the unfair incidence of taxation was remedied, and the evil of a fluctuating revenue was removed. These were the good results of the new system. Why then, it may be asked, was it condemned by some people at the time? It was condemned firstly on the ground that it would be difficult to carry it out; secondly, that the assessment of the land tax at 3 per cent. would not produce sufficient revenue for the requirements of the administration; and thirdly, that if taxes were not increased and lessened in good and bad years the people would become imprudent, and no provision for bad years would be made. Exception was also taken to the provision for a gradual reduction of the tax until it should reach the proportion of 1 per cent. When a 3 per cent. tax, it was said, is not enough to support the finances of the country, what shall we say to a further reduction of the tax? This was the fourth ground of objection. Again the opponents of the new system quoted in support of their arguments the following passage from Mr. Mutsu's scheme:—"We will suppose that the land tax is fixed at 5 per cent. on the original value of the land; and that there is a piece of land the soil of which is naturally rich and which is advantageously situated with regard to the water supply. The price of such land is, of course, high, probably yen 1,000. The land tax to be paid on it will be yen 50. Then we will take another piece of land of the same size the soil of which, however, is of a poor quality, being stony, and which presents no facilities for cultivation. The price of such land is, of course, small, say yen 500. The land tax to be paid on it will be yen 25."

This, said the objectors, was of course only intended by Mr. Mutsu to be taken as illustrating his

^a The meaning of the writer is this:—Previous to the restoration, the assessment of the land tax underwent revision at certain periods. But this revision simply amounted to a re-measurement of all holdings, with the object of augmenting the Government revenue by ascertaining the increased area of land brought under cultivation since the last census of land had been taken. No alteration was introduced in the system of taxation. As these periodical revisions, therefore, in the vast majority of cases, simply resulted in an increase of the land tax, although in some few instances perhaps a previous excess of measurement may have been rectified, it was only natural that the people should regard the re-measurement of land with unconcealed aversion, foreseeing, as they did each time, that it must result in an increase of taxes.

In the revision of the land tax introduced by the present Government, the re-measurement of land formed of course part of the official programme. But the Government, by giving the greatest prominence to the change of system that was inaugurated by the new enactments, diverted attention from the re-measurement of land which would in any case have been a necessary consequence of the revision.—(Translator.)

scheme, and cannot, therefore, be regarded as his opinion on the actual rate of assessment; but it is a well-known rule that is such an important matter as a memorial of this kind, the greatest care must be taken even in a single word or meaning. And it is very clear that if Mr. Mutsu's idea was that the land tax should be assessed at 3 per cent. or less, he would not have taken it as he did at 5 per cent. for the purpose of illustrating his argument. And if Mr. Mutsu knew that such an assessment would be too low, then clearly others should know it; more especially in view of the fact that under the Shōgun's administration the proportions of the produce of land which went to the government and to the cultivator respectively were at the lowest rate of taxation $\frac{7}{10}$ ths to the cultivator and $\frac{3}{10}$ ths to the government, and at the highest $\frac{7}{10}$ ths to the cultivator and $\frac{3}{10}$ ths to the Government. These were the grounds on which the opinion was based that the assessment of the land tax at 3 per cent. was too low. This opinion was held by many, and still more were opposed to the provision that, as taxes on commodities increased, the land tax should be reduced until it reached the proportion of 1 per cent.

Our director, Mr. Okuma, however, who was then Minister of Finance, and Sangi, having, in obedience to the benevolent command of His Majesty, elicited a clear collective opinion on the subject, fixed the assessment of the land tax at 3 per cent., and established the provision for gradual reduction of the tax to 1 per cent.; he also inserted the clause by which no alteration of taxes would take place in good and bad years, and presenting the draft law to His Majesty obtained for it the Imperial sanction. The decision of the Government was based on the fact that a famine year is an occurrence out of the ordinary course of things, and cannot therefore be taken as a basis for regulating the ordinary system of national finance; and that land again, being the principal source of national revenue, to impose heavy taxes on the principal source of revenue is to prevent the extension and development of all productions and industries.

The 17 clauses of the regulations for carrying out the revision of the land tax defined the methods for determining the value of all land under cultivation, and of house land, hill land, forest land, and moor land, and of land included in dykes, etc., and for assessing the land tax; and were therefore in the nature of explanatory rules for the carrying out of the revision. The most difficult matter, when the revision was in progress, was the determination of the value of land. Accordingly, the same Government had occasion to explain no less than three successive times its intentions in regard to this determination of value.

The 44 clauses of the memorandum for the information and guidance of the local authorities were in the nature of explanatory rules giving information on points which it was necessary for the local authorities to possess. In this case too, the determination of the value of land was the chief point in regard to which the Government had to explain its views. But the circumstances of each district, and indeed of each village, being different, it was impossible to carry matters with a high hand, and establish one fair basis which should serve for the determination of the value of all land. And as the people were anxious to obtain as light an assessment of taxation as possible, there were not wanting proprietors who endeavoured to deceive the authorities by understating the income they drew from the land, and tenants who practised the same fraud in regard to the amount of their share of the produce of the land. Accordingly the Government published 4 additional rules for inspecting land, intended to be applied in those cases where the general fair basis for determining the value of land could not be adopted. The taxation system was thus perfected in all its details, and the plan which had cost so many years of labour to elaborate was able to be put into operation. The necessity of prompt action was accordingly urged on the local authorities; and the great work of revising the land tax was commenced.

In September, 1873, the laws in respect to the reclamation of land and the evasion of land registration, with intent to defraud the revenue, were revised, and it was thus rendered impossible for the ownership of land to be concealed from the authorities; for a notification was issued to the effect that if after the conclusion of the revision of the land tax any persons should be found guilty of such concealment they would be punished according to the law established to meet such cases.

In May, 1874, clause No. 8 was added to the revision regulations. By this clause it was enacted that even though the price of any land should, after the revision, vary in price in transactions of sale, the land tax would still, for the period of 5 years dating from the revision, be levied according to the value originally fixed at the time of such revision.

In June of the same year, the rules under which tax-payers who fell into arrears were made to pay interest in addition to the taxes due were re-enacted.

In the following December a re-classification of land took place; a broad distinction was established between land owned by the Government and land owned by the people, and land was sub-divided into several minor classes.

In March, 1875, a bureau for the control of all matters connected with the revision of the land tax was established as an intermediate office between the Finance and Home Departments. This step was taken because although the revision of the land tax was a matter under the control of the Department of Finance, many questions arose in the course of the revision which concerned the Home Department, and much delay was unavoidably occasioned by the joint discussion of such questions which took place between the two departments.

In the same month, an order was issued to the effect that as it was intended to fix the price of rice, to be used in determining the value of holdings, by taking the average market value of rice for the period included in the 5 years from 1870-4, particulars respecting such average value were to be collected and sent in by the local authorities to the Central Government.

In August of the same year, it was notified that all town land, etc., in the various prefectures on which the land tax had been levied at the rate of 1 per cent. on the value of the land, should, after the revision of the land tax had come into operation, be taxed at the rate of 3 per cent. on the value of the land. In the same month, also, the following Notification was issued to the various prefectures:—

“Although there is no immediate necessity for the rapid completion of the revision of the land tax, still if this revision is only accomplished step by step the opportunity of fixing an average basis of land value by comparing the prices of land in different localities will be lost. Accordingly the year 1876 is fixed as the date by which the revision of the land tax must everywhere be completed. Take note of these our intentions and by the exercise of diligence see that the work of revision is completed.”

In the following September, all taxes were divided into two classes: “National taxes and prefectural taxes.” In October, a supplementary clause was added to the regulations for the revision of the land tax; and in the same month it was notified that the local taxes levied on town land in prefectural districts should not exceed one third of the land tax.

In May, 1876, a notification was issued to the effect that in the case of persons who, when the revision of the land tax had taken place, persisted in adhering to their own estimates of the values of their holdings, and refused to accept the proper price fixed, the land tax was to be assessed and levied at the same rate as that charged on neighbouring land, and title deeds issued accordingly.

In October of the same year, it was notified that even though the value of any town land should vary in transactions of sale, taxes would still be levied on the land in question for the period of 5 years from the date of the revision of the land tax, according to the original value determined at the time of revision. And in the following December a notification was issued to the effect that, owing to the work of colonization in Yezo being still in its infancy, the land tax in that part of Japan would, for the time being, be assessed at 1 per cent. on the value of land.

The work of revision was thus in a fair way to show practical results. The people, however, still suffered considerable distress. Consequently the government decided to reduce the land tax in conformity with the 6th clause of the revision regulations. This was done by means of an Imperial decree issued in January 1877.—(see Report)

The land tax was thus reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and at the same time the local taxation levied on all holdings was reduced to $\frac{1}{3}$ th of the amount of land tax.

In February of the same year, a notification was issued regulating the collection and remission of taxes in regard to land bought and sold by the government, and waste land; and in the following July another notification was issued reducing the land tax on all land in remote mountainous districts and all land bordering on the sea, which, in the absence of any fair basis of comparison, had, in accordance with article 4 of the rules for the carrying out of the revision of the land tax, at the time of this revision been fixed at 10 sen per tan² by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ th such reduction to date from January, 1877. In

the same month the system of collecting taxes was changed, the periods for payment of taxes being altered to six. In December of the same year, 30 years from the date of first cultivating the land was fixed as the period during which exemption from taxation would be allowed in the case of the reclamation of waste land.

In November, 1879, authority was given to the local authorities to grant a remission of taxes on land in regard to which improvements had been executed for the public advantage, such as the construction of drains and canals, etc.

In May, 1880, the Government issued a notification of 4 clauses. The first clause stated that although by a notification of 1874 it had been established that no alteration should take place in the assessment of the land tax for 5 years dating from the time of the revision of the tax, and that during that period taxes would be levied according to the value of the land as determined at the time of the revision, it had been decided by the Government to extend the period of 5 years originally fixed until the year 1885. Should, however, the land tax in any locality be considered by the governor of the prefecture to be improperly adjusted, on his reporting the fact to the government, officers would be despatched by the Finance Department to the locality in question. These officers would investigate the matter on the spot, and, if necessary, special permission would be given to alter the assessment of taxes in the case of any ward, village, or town or country district.

The 2nd clause referred to the alteration of land. It was provided that in all cases of the conversion of land, such as the conversion of rice land into ordinary arable land, or ordinary arable land into rice land, or house land, which had taken place subsequent to the revision of the land tax, such land should be re-registered under its new designation within the period of 5 years from the date of such conversion, and the value re-estimated. In the case, however, of all future conversion of land, the re-registration and re-estimation of value should be made yearly.

Clause 3 enacted that all alterations in the values of land which might be made under clauses 1 and 2 were to be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the regulations for the revision of the land tax, and the rules for carrying out the revision of the land tax, which were issued in July, 1873; and that all expenses connected with these alterations in value, with the exception of the salaries and travelling expenses of the officials entrusted with the conduct of the investigations, should be charged to the district concerned, or to the land holders, as circumstances might require.

In clause 4 it was provided that all increase or diminution of taxes which should follow upon the alterations so made in the value of land should date from the year in which such alterations received official sanction.

This notification was followed by another in November of the same year, in which it was stated that any applications for alterations of land value in accordance with the above-mentioned provisions, should be addressed to the Finance Department not later than the middle of February, 1881.

In February, 1881, the periods for payment of the land tax were altered to four. In the following March it was notified that in the event of a land holder being dissatisfied with the value of his holding, as re-estimated in the manner above stated, the value of his holding would be determined by taking the average yield of his land for the three following years. During those three years, however, he would be required to pay taxes according to the original estimate of the value of his land.

The great work of the land tax revision which had cost all classes of the people so much labour since the year 1873, was thus, at last, practically completed, and accordingly, on the 30th June 1881, the government closed the bureau for the revision of the land tax, and entrusted what affairs still remained to be arranged to the taxation bureau. Reviewing the course of events, we see that in the first year of the new period of Meiji (1868) a notification was issued announcing that the system of taxation which existed in the various provinces would be allowed to remain as they were for one or two years, and that the minds of the people were thus reassured. This result having been obtained, the changes which subsequently took place in the laws relating to land were many and various. The most conspicuous of these reforms were the rules for inspection of the crops issued in July, 1870; the permission to pay taxes in money instead of in rice granted in May, 1871; the removal of all restrictions upon the cultivation of land which took place in September, 1871; the tide deed system of taxation brought forward in December of the same year; the removal of the restriction

on the absolute sale (or sale in perpetuity,) of land which took place in February, 1872; the abolition of the payment of taxes in money calculated at the market price of the cheapest rice, which came into effect in August, 1872; the abolition of the old system of paying the land tax in rice according to the *koku* assessment which followed in June, 1873; and, finally, the regulations for the revision of the land tax issued in July, 1873, by means of which the value of all land throughout the country was settled on the same basis, and the land tax assessed at 3 per cent.

The energy displayed by the Finance Department in regard to the administration of the revenues of the country was considerable. Several works on taxation and finance were printed and published, and the Bureau for the Revision of the Land Tax made arrangements for publishing special information in connection with the progress of the revision.

In conclusion, if we attentively consider the whole course of this land tax revision, from the time of the issue of the initiatory notification down to the completion of the work, we shall find that the principal reforms introduced were five in number:

1. The change in the nature of the price of land.
2. The change in the method of investigating and determining the value of land.
3. The change in the method of measuring the land.
4. The change in regard to taxation in bad years.
5. The change in the classification of the land.

The exertion and labour which it cost the reformers to accomplish this work could not, in the nature of things, be properly appreciated even by those who observed the progress of the revision.

The two most difficult matters connected with the revision of the land tax were the determination of the extent of all holdings and the determination of their value.

The estimated extent of all land held by the people ascertained in the course of the land tax revision amounted to 12,543,770 *cho*. The extent of such land previous to the revision had been estimated at 3,916,077. The revision of the land tax, therefore, resulted in an addition of 8,627,693 *cho* to the area of land subject to taxation.

The value of the total area of land owned by the people, as determined by the revision, was assessed at yen 1,648,764,476 and the revised land tax charged on this was yen 49,462,934.^{*} The total amount of land tax levied previous to the revision was yen 52,368,054. The immediate result of the revision of the land tax was, therefore, a loss to the government of yen 2,905,109 in the revenue derived from the land tax.

The writer observes, in regard to these figures, that those politicians who had propounded the doctrine that the assessment of the land tax at 3 per cent. would not yield sufficient revenue for the finances of the country to be properly administered must have recognized the falsity of their views when they saw that the re-adjustment of the land tax in the form to which they objected caused a diminution in revenue of only yen 2,905,109.

The following table is then given showing the results of the revision in regard to the classification of land and the value in each case of land so classified, the figures given being those for the year 1881:

	Extent.	Value.
Rice land	2,631,068	1,230,118,277
Other arable land	1,855,974	267,245,578
House land	349,041	135,009,755
Hill, forest, and moor land	6,901,685	24,051,465
Salt fields	6,821	2,039,556
Miscellaneous land	7,642	172,538

The price of cereals adopted for determining the value of land was, as we have seen, the average market price of all classes of cereals for the 5 years from 1870 to 1874 inclusive. The method employed to determine the value of a holding for the purpose of taxation was as follows:—

The total yield in rice or other cereals of the holding was ascertained and converted into money at the average market price of the rice or other cereals in question for the period of five years above referred to. From the sum thus obtained, the cost of cultivation was deducted, the balance left over being the net profit of the cultivator. This profit was taken to be the interest on the value of the land at 6 per cent., and a simple calculation gave the net value of the land on which this interest accrued to the cultivator. This was fixed as the assessed value of the land on which the land tax was levied.

The following comparative tables show the total area of land on which rice and other crops were

^{*} 1 tan = 4 acre.

^{*} The tax therefore became 6 sen and 3 rin per tan.

^{*} At 8 per cent. = yen 49,462,934.

cultivated in the year 1881, and the amount of produce yielded:—

AREA OF LAND UNDER CULTIVATION AND AMOUNT OF PRODUCE YIELDED IN KOKU.

RICE.							
Ordinary rice.	Glutinous rice.	Upland rice.	1881. Total.	1880. Total.	1879. Total.	1878. Total.	
<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>
2,324,356	219,715	20,054	2,564,125	2,562,460	2,541,661	2,489,765	
<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>
27,482,621	2,396,331	92,431	29,971,383	31,359,326	32,418,924	25,282,540	

AREA OF LAND AND PRODUCTION.

BARLEY, WHEAT, OATS, &c.							
Barley & Oats.	Kara-mugi.	Wheat.	1881. Total.	1880. Total.	1879. Total.	1878. Total.	
<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>	<i>Tsubo.</i>
597,936	495,218	365,604	1,458,759	1,432,344	1,416,327	1,365,621	
<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>	<i>Koku.</i>
5,194,371	3,274,371	2,038,973	10,507,983	12,503,063	9,890,908	9,411,460	

In estimating the yield of land, the writer says, all rice fields were, of course, taken as producing rice, and other arable land was taken as producing chiefly barley, oats, wheat, and beans. The yield of the land in the case of tea, mulberry, hemp, and indigo cultivation was estimated according to the profit attending the cultivation of rice¹⁰ and wheat in the vicinity. The cultivation of beans being on a small scale as compared with that of rice and wheat, we do not therefore give the estimated production, which is comparatively inconsiderable.

The yearly profit obtained from hill, forest, and moor lands is, on the whole, much the same as that on cultivated land. But the profit derived from such lands is only obtained once in 30 or 50 years. In order to ascertain the value of such lands it was, therefore, necessary first to estimate the productive power of the land, and, in the case of forest land, it was further necessary to calculate in how many years a growth of wood would be obtained, to make a rough estimate of the value of such, and deducting the expenses of planting and tending the trees and the cost of transporting the timber to market, to divide the result by the number of years it had taken to obtain this return on the cultivator's original outlay. The sum thus obtained was fixed as the yearly profit attending the cultivation of such forest land. As the surveys of all hill, forest, and moor lands were at that time very incomplete, the Government, we understand, experienced great difficulty in investigating and dealing with the subject.

With regard to the price of rice and other cereals, the price employed for the purpose of revision was, as we have seen, the average price of the 5 years from 1870-74 inclusive, the dates on which the yearly averages were taken being the dates for payment of taxes in rice in each of the 5 years. In the year 1873, however, the price of cereals was abnormally high, owing to the bad crops of the previous year. Moreover, the importation of rice from one province into another having under the feudal system been strictly prohibited, the prices of these cereals differed greatly even in provinces which adjoined one another, being in one case high and in another low. It would have been impossible, therefore, to prevent the average price for the 5 years in question, as fixed by the Government, from being in some localities quite unsuitable; in these cases the Government proceeded with careful deliberation, and endeavoured, as far as possible, to avoid any unfair incidence of taxation. If we now reduce to an average for the whole country the prices of cereals employed in the revision of the land tax, we find that the average price per *koku* of rice employed to calculate the value of a holding, was a trifle under *yen* 4.18 $\frac{1}{2}$; that of wheat, a little less than *yen* 1.79 $\frac{1}{2}$; and that of beans, a little less than *yen* 3.01 $\frac{1}{2}$. The amount of interest to be deducted from the estimated value of a holding before the taxable value was determined, was based upon the profit attending the cultivation of the land. As the circumstances of each locality were different, the rate of interest also varied. The Government, however, fixed the ordinary rate of interest at 6 per cent., and the highest rate of interest at 7 per cent. If, therefore, we reduce the various rates of interest to one average rate for the whole country, we find that the interest on rice land was a trifle under 6 $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent., and on other arable land a little less than 6 $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent. The cost of seed and manure was calculated by the Government at 15 per cent. of the total value of yield.

[TRANSLATOR'S NOTE.—The writer here amplifies his former statement of the method adopted by the Government in estimating the taxable value of land, but he still leaves a good deal to be supplied by his readers. It may be well, therefore, to explain clearly the method

adopted by the Government in determining the value of land. Land was, first of all, divided into two classes; rice land, and land on which other crops were grown; valuers were employed to estimate the yield of a holding. This yield was then converted into money in the case of rice, wheat, and beans by taking the average market value per *koku* of each of these articles of produce for the 5 years included in the period from 1870-74. In fixing this average market value it would have been impracticable to have taken one price for the whole country.¹¹ The difficulty was therefore met by fixing various market values which were used as the separate bases of valuation in each locality where local conditions and circumstances required special consideration. Thus, in some cases, one market value for rice say, or for wheat, was made the basis of valuing land in an entire province; whereas, in other cases, separate market values had to be determined for each district or even village. In the case of land on which other productions such as tea, mulberries, hemp, indigo, etc., were grown, the method employed was to estimate what crops of wheat and beans land of the same value yielded; the yield of similar land laid down in wheat or beans was then taken as the yield of the land in question, and this yield converted into money at the average market price of wheat or beans for the 5 years from 1870-4 as fixed for the particular locality.

The estimation of the yield of land and the conversion of the yield into money were, however, only the first steps in the valuation of holdings and assessment of the land tax. The process by which the value of a holding was determined was somewhat complicated: a distinction was made between holdings cultivated by the proprietor and those which were leased to tenant farmers who paid a certain proportion of the produce of the land to the proprietor as rent for the holding; the amount of produce thus due to the proprietor being variable, and depending upon the arrangement in each case made between landlord and tenant.

In the case of land cultivated by the proprietor, the yield having been estimated by the valuers and converted into money, the next step in the process was to deduct 15 per cent. of this sum (the proportion fixed in all cases by the government) as cost of seed and manure from the total value of the yield. From the sum which remained the amount of local taxes and land tax assessed, in the latter case, originally at 3 per cent., and in the former at $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the land tax (and calculated on the value of the net yield of the land, after deduction of the cost of seed and manure), was again deducted. The balance remaining over was taken to represent the actual profit to the cultivator, and as the Government decided to regard 6 per cent. as the annual profit accruing to each cultivator (though in some cases, as the writer points out, the rate of such profit, or interest, was taken to be 7 per cent.), the value of the holding was determined by a simple calculation.¹² This value so determined was fixed as the assessed or taxable value of the land, upon which the land tax (at 3 per cent., and later 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.) was levied.

In the case of the holdings cultivated by tenant farmers where the yield of the land was shared between landlord and tenant (or proprietor and cultivator), in certain proportions regulated by mutual arrangement, the same method was employed with one exception:—the cost of seed and manure was included in the share of the yield of the land taken by the proprietor, and the share taken by the cultivator constituted the net yield of the land on which taxation was levied.

The process by which the value of land was determined and the land tax calculated by the government was illustrated by them as follows in the memorandum issued for the information and guidance of the local authorities.¹³

Given a holding cultivated by the proprietor yielding 20 *koku* of rice:—

Taking the average market value of rice for the 5 years 1870-4 as adopted in the district in question for the purposes of the revision at *yen* 3, the value of this yield will amount to.....*yen* 60
Deducting 15 per cent. for cost of seed and manure, we get*yen* 51
which sum represents the net value of the yield of his holding to the proprietor cultivating his own land.
From this sum deduct $\frac{1}{3}$ th for local taxes, i.e. *yen* 5.10 : balance.....*yen* 45.90
From this balance deduct again $\frac{1}{3}$ rd for land tax, i.e. *yen* 15.30 : balance*yen* 30.60¹⁴
which sum represents the actual yearly profit, as calculated by the government, to the landlord, farmer, or proprietor who cultivated his own holding.

¹¹ The reasons are obvious. Not only do the prices of rice and other cereals differ in various localities, but it must be remembered that the revised system of land taxation came into operation at different dates in different places.

¹² e.g. If the net profit on a holding was *yen* 50, the calculation was as follows:—6 : 50 :: 100 : *yen* 833.33.

¹³ The figures are not exactly the same as those used by the Government, but any figures will serve the same purpose.

¹⁴ The taxes deducted therefore amount to 40 per cent. on the net yield of the land; for $\frac{1}{3}$ th of *yen* 51 and $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of *yen* 45.90 = 40 per cent. of *yen* 51, which is the net yield of the land.

Then 6 per cent. being fixed by the government as the ordinary rate of profit accruing to a cultivator annually from the cultivation of his holding, and *yen* 30.60 being the yearly profit in this case, we arrive at the sum of *yen* 51.0 as the taxable value of the holding. And the land tax payable on this at 3 per cent. will be *yen* 15.30; and the local taxes (assessed at $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the former will be *yen* 5.10; the amount in each case being the same as that previously arrived at in fixing the value of the holding.

A simple manipulation of figures shows that the same result might have been arrived at in a less indirect manner by merely multiplying the net yield of the land, which in this case was, as we have seen, *yen* 51, by 10 and calculating the land tax and local taxes on that amount.

The reason of the more elaborate calculation being given is due probably to the desire of the government to explain clearly to the farmers the principle on which the government worked in calculating the taxable value of land.

Stated shortly, therefore, the matter resolves itself into this:—

The taxable value of land as determined by the revision was in all cases the net value of its yield to the cultivator; and the amount of taxes leviable (including land tax and local taxes) was 40 per cent.¹⁵ on the net yield or taxable value.]

From the foregoing brief review of the revision of the land tax, the practical results of the work accomplished by the Government after several years of labour may be understood. Before, however, we can properly consider the whole subject it is necessary that we should ascertain the cost of the revision of the land tax to the government and to the people.

This total cost was..... *Yen* 37,108,014

Divided as follows:—
Expenses defrayed by bureau for the revision of the land tax *Yen* 672,279
Expenses defrayed by prefectural treasuries *Yen* 7,339,919
Expenses defrayed by the people - *Yen* 29,095,822

The "Expenses defrayed by the bureau for the revision of the land tax" include all expenditure of the bureau from the date of its establishment in 1875 up to February, 1881 (when it was closed), connected with official salaries, travelling expenses, and the cost of making out title deeds and transmitting the same to the various prefectures.

The "prefectural expenditure" which was incurred from the date of the issue of title deeds in 1872, down to the completion of the revision, include official salaries and travelling expenses, cost of land registers, and advisers who were engaged to value the land.

The "expenses defrayed by the people" represent the total outlay directly incurred by them in connection with the land tax revision, such as the cost of measuring the land with rods and ropes, of preparing land registers, fixing land marks, of drawing up plans of each holding, and of classifying land and estimating the yield for the purposes of determining the value of land, and the cost of furnishing detailed reports to the local authorities.

It appears that at the outset of the revision, all matters connected with it were managed by the Finance Department; and that subsequently a special Revision Bureau was established and all affairs were transacted through officials of the Home and Finance Departments. In the case of the prefectures, too, although supernumerary officials and experts, were engaged for this special business, most of the work was done by the ordinary staff of local officials in each case; therefore, the larger portion of the salaries paid was included in the ordinary expenditure, and the amount actually debited to the expenses of the revision was small. Moreover, the stamp duties levied by the government in connection with the title deeds issued amounted to *yen* 6,156,741, which sum must be added to the expenses incurred by the people on account of revision of the land tax. We may, therefore, estimate the total cost of the revision of the land tax to the people at between 44 and 45 million *yen*. This, divided amongst the population, gives a proportion of *yen* 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ per individual. The time and labour spent in this work cannot of course be estimated in money, but both must have been very considerable. These facts serve to show that a work of extraordinary magnitude must entail extraordinary expense and labour.

¹⁵ Taking the land tax at 3 per cent. and the local taxes at $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the former; prior therefore to the reductions subsequently made by the government.

¹⁰ Wheat or beans, not rice. Vide note later on.



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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

It is stated that the new Korean Minister to Japan will be Mr. Pak Yōng-hyo.

A MUSICAL entertainment was given on board H.M.S. *Sapphire* on the evening of the 29th ult.

THE total decrease in the traffic receipts of the Government railways during 1883 was 267,193 *yen*.

THE Japanese Punch (*Maru Maru Chimbun*) has been suspended by order of the Press Bureau.

It is in contemplation to engage two more Italian experts for service at the Gun Foundry in Osaka.

Two meteorological signal stations have been erected by order of the Home Department at Yokohama and Yokosuka.

A RECENT return shows that the number of fishermen living in Tokiyo is 3,788, and that the number of houses they inhabit is 2,212.

ON the night of the 3rd instant, a young man by name Saze Kujiro, residing in Makacho, Tokiyo, murdered his father and then shot himself.

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL SAIGO was a passenger by the Mitsu Bishi Mail steamship *Nagoya Maru* which sailed on Wednesday.

It is announced that a fancy bazaar in aid of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital will be held by the

Japanese ladies of Tokiyo at the Rokumeikwan on the 12th instant and three following days.

THE health of His Majesty the Emperor is now completely restored, and His Majesty has resumed his attendance at the Council of State.

THE Ladies' Purse, to be run for at the first meeting of the Union Race Club at Lake Shinobadzu, will, it is said, contain about a thousand *yen*.

A NUMBER of Japanese, and Chinese gamblers were arrested at No. 165 in the foreign settlement of Yokohama on the night of the 30th ultimo.

THE disturbances recently reported from the district of Amata, province of Tamba, have entirely ceased, and the ringleaders have returned to their homes.

THE judgment delivered in H.B.M.'s Court in Japan in the case of Yukioka Shobei *versus* Ed. Whittall has been reversed with costs by the Supreme Court in Shanghai.

A COOLIE engaged in filling a water-cart to water the streets of Yokohama, on the 5th instant, had his leg badly crushed by the falling of the wall of a neighbouring godown.

THE rice-market is reported very brisk, quotations having made a big jump upward on Monday. Altogether, the future looks brighter than it did at the beginning of the year.

THE Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club held an extraordinary meeting on the 2nd instant, when measures were adopted with a view to holding evening concerts on the premises of the Club.

ON the 31st ultimo, the M.B.S.S. Co.'s steamer *Sekiryo Maru* came into collision, off the coast of Tateyama, with a sailing vessel called the *Hiroshima Maru*. The latter vessel was sunk, but no lives were lost.

THE new man-of-war ordered from France has been named *Unebi-Kan*, and the gunboat and iron cruiser now in course of construction at Yokosuka are to be called the *Alago-Kan* and *Takao-Kan*, respectively.

WE hear that the *Sallara* has changed hands for the sum of \$18,000, Captain Hubenet being the purchaser. Her cargo will be taken by an early steamer, probably the *Flintshire*, and she will be placed under the Dutch flag.

MESSRS. HAYASHI AND OYE-TAKU, who with Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu were sentenced to a term of imprisonment for implication in the Southern Rebellion of 1876, have had their sentences shortened and will be released in 1886.

A WELL known merchant of Kobe, Mr. Hirose, has been assaulted and cruelly beaten. It is supposed that the affair had its origin in disputes between rival steamship companies, in one of which Mr. Hirose was prominently interested.

News from Korea is to the effect that steps are

about to be taken to strengthen the defences of the northern frontier, and that the Government contemplates constructing a line of submarine cables between the principal ports of the Kingdom.

TOKIYO was visited by a violent thunder-storm on the afternoon of the 3rd instant. The house of a jinrikisha-coolie, at Koishikawa, Tokiyo, was struck by lightning and two children were seriously injured. Four other places were also struck.

A NEW port at Nagahama was opened by His Excellency the First Minister of State on the 25th ultimo. The opening of the railway has converted this place into a prosperous emporium of trade, and its future is considered most promising, now that a good port has been constructed.

A FIRE broke out at Omachi, Noshiro, Yamagata Prefecture, on the 27th of last month. Fanned by a strong north-westerly wind, the flames soon reached the four neighbouring wards, which were completely destroyed. No less than 244 dwellings, including several warehouses and monasteries, were burnt to the ground.

SIXTY-FOUR persons, including two women, were punished for gambling in Tokiyo during the month of May. The numbers of civil and criminal cases brought before the Court of Cassation during the same period were 103 and 650 respectively.

A NUMBER of persons residing in the Osumi district, Kanagawa Prefecture, held a mass meeting on the 27th of May, and resolved to compel their creditors to grant them extravagant facilities for the discharge of their debts, as well as to dispense with any security. The affair has not yet been settled.

It is stated that the authorities propose to equalize the charges for telegrams throughout the country, and that in future the cost of despatching ten words between any two places within the limits of Japan will be fifteen *sen*. Vernacular journals regard this as still too dear, and urge the advisability of further reductions, not only in the charges for telegrams, but also in the rates of postage.

THE meteorological system of Japan now comprises 23 observatories in the most important places throughout the country. Reports are sent from each district to the central observatory in Tokiyo thrice a day, and are there thrown into suitable form for publication by the leading journals in the Capital and the open ports. To a German Scientist, Dr. E. Knipping, belongs the credit of elaborating and perfecting the whole system.

THE Financial Estimates for the 17th fiscal year of Meiji (1884-85) have been issued. The revenue is estimated at 75,282,969 *yen*, being an increase of 376,910 *yen* as compared with last year, and the expenditure is put down at the same sum, being an increase of 376,503 *yen*. The equality of incomings and outgoings is due to the fact that the surplus revenue is completely absorbed by the scheme of currency contraction.

NOTES.

ACCORDING to the latest news from London the relief expedition to Khartoum is to start in July, not October, as we supposed. It is said that the force employed will consist of 8,000 men, including an Indian contingent, and that the main body will proceed by the Nile route, while the remainder goes by the Red Sea, via Suakim and Berber. A camel depôt at Assouan is spoken of as already established, and if this be so, either the Government must have been hiding its hand with unnecessary care, or the Egyptian authorities have displayed remarkable foresight. But, indeed, judging by the Egyptian correspondence laid before the Houses of Parliament at the end of April, the Gladstone Cabinet was from the first disposed to give Gordon military support. Among the telegrams included in the correspondence is one from Earl Granville to Sir Evelyn Baring, suggesting that British troops be despatched to Wadi-Halfa to support General Gordon. To that telegram Sir Evelyn Baring replied that the military authorities deprecated the proposed movement or account of the climate. On April 9th, General Gordon telegraphed that 300 Turkish infantry and 1,000 cavalry could accomplish the relief of Khartoum and crush El Mahdi in four months. Sir Evelyn Baring answered that it would be impossible to organize a Turkish force in time to be of any use, and that to despatch troops of the Sultan would involve political difficulties. A fortnight later (April 23rd), Earl Granville telegraphed to Mr. Egerton as follows:—"General Gordon should be immediately instructed to keep us informed in regard to any immediate or prospective danger at Khartoum, and that, in order to be prepared for such danger, he should advise us in regard to the force necessary to secure his removal. We do not propose to supply him with a force for the purpose of making military expeditions, such being beyond the scope of his commission and contrary to the pacific policy which was the purpose of his mission." At the time this message was sent, the Cabinet was in receipt of telegrams from Khartoum, dated April 21st, reporting everything safe, and adding that the Greek merchants were in direct correspondence with the Mahdi with a view to the establishment of regular commerce should the city be taken. But the correspondence also contains a despatch from Gordon to Sir Evelyn Baring, written at Khartoum on April 16th, and saying:—"As far as I understand the situation, you state that there is no intention of sending relief here or to Berber. You refuse me Zebhr Pacha. I consider myself free to act according to circumstances. I shall hold on here as long as I can. If I can suppress the rebellion I shall do so, otherwise I shall retire to the Equator and leave you the indelible disgrace of abandoning the garrisons of Sennaar, Kassala, Berber, and Dongola, with the certainty that you will eventually be forced to smash up the Mahdi under great difficulties if you would retain peace in Egypt." Colonel Stewart supplemented this by a despatch in the following terms:—"General Gordon has acquainted me with your intention not to relieve Khartoum. It is proposed that I shall go to Berber, trusting to the success of your negotiations for the opening of the Suakim and Berber routes. Doubting, however, success, so far as the Berber road is concerned, unless it is opened by advancing troops, I am inclined to think my retreat safer

by way of the Equator, and shall, therefore, follow General Gordon's fortunes." Events have proved that Colonel Stewart was right in his forecast. Berber was in the hands of the rebels a fortnight later, and the route via Suakim was effectually closed. If Gordon is driven to retreat by the Equator, he will have to contend not only against terrible natural difficulties, but also against the attacks of the wild Bedouin tribes, who "think it honourable warfare to perch themselves on a hill and shoot down upon unsuspecting travellers." But at the beginning of April, he had fully five months provisions in Khartoum, and there was no reason whatsoever to apprehend any immediate necessity for retreat. If a British expedition is really to start in July, it is not likely that Khartoum will be abandoned before its arrival. Meanwhile, arrangements for a Conference of the Powers in London appear to have been settled. A telegram dated May 5th says:—"The conference will meet in London the first week in June, and is expected to last three weeks. The *Post* says it understands that the conditions upon which the French government will consent to the conference with England upon the Egyptian question are that England shall give up all idea of annexation and of a protectorate; and that, on the other hand, France shall recognize the services rendered by England in Egypt and shall acquiesce in the right of England to maintain a military occupation of Egypt until the task of reorganization has been completed; France stipulates that the date of withdrawal of the British troops shall be definitely fixed; that before occupation shall cease the Egyptian army shall be reorganized, and, that it shall be officered partly by British soldiers; that France and Italy must, however, be allowed to exercise a share of the influence in respect to the financial and judicial administration of the affairs of Egypt. France on her side pledges herself not to interfere by arms with the affairs of Egypt, recognizing that England alone has the right to do so."

It is not difficult to foresee the end of the course which the Irish agitators are pursuing. Their theory, as propounded by themselves, is that they are waging war on a scientific basis, and that if it is lawful in a military campaign to blow up women and children in order to compel the surrender of a besieged city, it is also lawful for a people without arms and therefore incapable of going to battle, to make use of every known device of science for the purpose of scaring their enemies into surrender. But the weak points of this theory are that Englishmen have never yet been scared into surrender, and that the dynamiters think they may employ the weapons of savages while their adversaries, all the while, adhere to the courteous fashions of civilized politicians. There is a limit, beyond which any alarm the people of England may feel at the possibility of having their wives and children shattered and mangled will change to a very different sort of sentiment. "The English were sadly frightened by the Indian mutiny," wrote William Dillon in the last number of the *Fortnightly Review*, "but it was not the sort of fright which causes concession or surrender. Its effect, as we all know, was to cause the suppression of the mutiny to be accompanied by outrages on humanity which threw the crimes of the mutineers into the shade. Experience shows that the English are never so savage, never so dangerous, as when terror is added to rage. To

work the English people up to this condition is the very most that the dynamite policy can hope to accomplish. If this policy is carried on for any length of time and to any considerable extent, it is not hard to predict the result. It will infuriate the English people; it will make the democracy of England as hostile to the Irish cause as the governing classes there have always been; it will alienate from Ireland the sympathy of foreign nations; and it will thus make it possible for England to trample upon Ireland with impunity." No sensible person believes that England wants to "trample upon Ireland," but men must be more than ordinarily sensible and self-contained if they patiently endure such outrages as the telegraph announces this morning. Early in May, the London police discovered that a number of spirit flasks containing nitro-glycerine had been conveyed to England from America, and one of them was found in the garden of a man at Birmingham. How much of the deadly compound was smuggled in by this device the telegrams do not say, but it is plain that the three explosions on the first of June may be only the precursors of a number of others.

On the night of the 30th ult., some Japanese and Chinese votaries of the game of hazard were spending a quiet evening at No. 165, Settlement. Unfortunately for the enjoyment of the gamblers, a dispute arose between them and the proprietor, who left the room in a huff, and betrayed his guests to the police. Several constables hastened to the scene of the ill-omened dispute, and arrested two Japanese in *flagrante delicto*. The Chinese gamblers were firmly but unostentatiously handed over to the tender mercies of their own Consul.

THE opening ceremony of the Sekigahara-Ogaki Railway took place on the 25th of last month. Several Government officials were present. The line is 8½ miles long, and the work of construction was commenced on the 16th of last November. From Sekigahara to Nagahama there is another line, completed in May, 1883, which is 14½ miles long, so that the two lines extend over a whole distance of 23 miles. There are only three intermediate stations between Ogaki and Nagahama, exclusive of Sekigahara, and trains run between the two termini in one hour and three quarters. There are several steep grades on the line, the station at Tarui being 305 feet (*shaku*) below the level of Sekigahara, while Ogaki lies 73 feet lower than Tarui. Two railway bridges, 250 and 260 feet long, span the Ai and Akasaka Rivers.—*Fiji Shimbun*.

WE observe that the *Fiji Shimpō* gives publicity, though in a somewhat exaggerated form, to the scheme proposed by the Rev. C. S. Eby for the promotion of Christianity in Japan. Our Tokiyo contemporary says that Mr. Eby's plan is to establish an university and a number of churches in Tokiyo, and that, as the support of these institutions would require an outlay of some \$200,000 per annum, it is in contemplation to raise a sum of three million dollars in Europe and America, and invest it in Japanese bonds so as to realize seven per cent. The *Fiji Shimpō* is right so far as the university is concerned, but we have heard nothing hitherto about the churches. Mr. Eby's pamphlet on "The Immediate Christianization of Japan," emphatically supports the idea that the Japanese should build their own churches, as far as possible, and that Christianity in this country should

be self-supporting. He counsels his brother missionaries to regard themselves always as a vanishing factor, and to work with the hope of hastening the time when they will be able to abdicate altogether in favour of Japanese. But though Tokiyo does not want churches built with foreign funds, it certainly does want a lecture hall, and we trust that the missionaries may soon be able to supply that need.

SOME of the recent discoveries in the universal distribution of those unpleasant bacteria are enough to make one forswear water, unless properly rectified. Dr. Pehl, of St. Petersburg, has, according to *Nature*, lately made a series of bacterioscopic measurements on the waters of the Russian Capital. The Neva is naturally rather poor in bacteria, only a beggarly 300 germs going to one cubic centimetre. After heavy rains, this number rises to 4,500 and 6,500 during the thawing of the ice. The canals of St. Petersburg, on the contrary, are infested with bacteria, their number reaching 110,000 in a cubic centimetre, even during good weather. The same is true of all the conduits throughout the city. Dr. Pehl explains this apparent anomaly by the rapidity of the motion of the water in the river, and his experiments directly confirm this hypothesis. In fact, when water was brought into rapid motion for an hour, by means of the centrifugal machine, the number of developing germs was reduced by 90 per cent. Recent experiments have shown that in the canals and conduits of Tokiyo there are enormous numbers of these pestiferous bacteria, and it seems tolerably certain that their presence is mainly due to the sluggish movement of the water. The germs are practically indestructible by ordinary means, but if Dr. Pehl's theory prove correct, a simple acceleration of the flow of the water will tend to decrease the number of developing germs. The aqueducts in Yokohama are, just at present, in a bad way, as many leak so greatly as to render the water quite brackish and undrinkable. It is a most necessary sanitary precaution to have this leakage stopped at once, for many of the inhabitants depend on the Tokugawa for their drinking water, a due analysis of which would undoubtedly disclose any quantity of bacteria; especially as the Tokugawa drains large tracts of rice-fields before reaching the sea. If the bacillus theory as to the origin of cholera be correct, and every day throws greater and more convincing light on the subject, it is of the first importance not only to keep the walls of the conduits intact, but also to make periodical microscopic examination of the water, and, if possible, prevent it from becoming stagnant or sluggish. Recently, when one or two doubtful cases of cholera were reported in the capital, the Board of Health enforced strict inspection in certain quarters around Nihonbashi and Kanda; but the amount of decaying filth which was discovered should certainly not have been dumped into the public streets, as was done, filling the air with the most noxious odours, and, doubtless, liberating quantities of disease-laden germs. In this case, the remedy employed was considerably worse than none at all.

THE telegram published in this issue with regard to the safety of General Gordon and the defeat of the rebels before Berber is very welcome. It will be remembered that our latest telegraphic information direct from Berber was dated April 25th, and that it embodied a de-

claration from the Governor, Hussein Pacha, to the effect that he and the garrison under his command would die at the post of duty. Three days later, the Paris journals published a statement that Berber had been evacuated and that the troops had fraternized with the rebels. We ventured, at the time, to question the truth of this report, and to include it among a series of *canards* which the French press set itself to bruit abroad during the last days of April, from motives readily conceivable. With Berber still in friendly hands, the situation wears a very different complexion. Another month will probably see the relief expedition under weigh. The plan indicated by recent telegrams is evidently that mapped out in Sir Samuel Baker's last letter to *The Times*. "Not a day should be lost," he wrote, "in preparing for this necessity. The route from Suakin to Berber can only be opened and secured by Indian troops. The Nile will afford the most secure route from Cairo to Khartoum if immediate preparations be made for an expedition at the first rise of the river in July. I have already suggested to the highest authority this plan of advance which requires the most careful but energetic management. Still I have no hope that such energy will be exhibited." Events have fortunately proved that Sir Samuel was needlessly desponding. An expedition is actually to start in July, and the news of that resolve has probably reached Berber and Khartoum ere now. The trouble with Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet seems to be such a blind loyalty to abstract principles that when they do consent to act vigorously, the performance has to be classed in the rank of ignoble necessities. The Marquis of Salisbury had a happy inspiration when he called their foreign policy "a policy of after-thoughts." In this instance, however, they have been singularly fortunate. The loss of Berber would have incalculably embarrassed them, and so the kind fates willed that Berber should be commanded by one of the rare Egyptian Generals who have shown themselves worthy of command, and garrisoned by one of the still rarer Egyptian garrisons who have shown themselves capable of fighting.

A LADY of somewhat varied accomplishments met with a hard fate two or three days ago in Tokiyo. The daughter of one Sudzuki Tokumatsu, who resided in a village called Ikenobe, Kanagawa prefecture, Kayo, as she was called, from the days of her childhood excited the admiration of the neighbourhood by her beautiful complexion, delicate features, and luxuriant hair. With such recommendations to public favour she soon found the paternal homestead too humble for her fancies. She set off to seek her fortune, accompanied only by her charms. At first everything went smoothly. She had a little stock of money which, while it lasted, enabled her to command all the services she needed and to reject those which were too importunate for her fancy. But when the bottom of her purse came in sight, she began to find this butterfly existence of flitting from inn to inn somewhat perplexing. It was necessary to take a decisive step, and she took it, as usual in such cases, at the expense of a country gentleman who was too fond of nature to be impervious to her attractions. He had just arrived from Kadzusa, this Mr. Saito Ninosuke, and to his sorrow he happened to be the possessor of a sum sufficient to attract Okayo's cupidity. She robbed him of 372 *yen*, and being too pretty to be suspected, went

off happily with the spoils. These sort of gains are sweet enough not to be easily foregone. Five months later, that is to say, last February, another genteel bumpkin turned up conveniently. Okayo's society cost him a hundred *yen*, but he was either less romantic or more reflecting than his predecessor, for he caused the beauty to be arrested and carried to the police station. There Okayo underwent the *procès verbal* with the most complete calmness. Her prettiness perplexed her judges, and above all, the money could not be found. Her belongings and her person were carefully searched without avail, though it is hinted by unscrupulous experts that she had the *Yensatsu* about her all the while. At any rate she escaped scot-free, but deeming it safer to change the scene of her operations, betook herself to Yokohama. And, indeed, but for this part of her career, we should scarcely ask our readers to peruse the story of an adventuress whose kindred are common everywhere. Yokohama, as we have frequently observed before, is the *dernier ressort* of all the scum of its environs. It is a rascals' paradise, for the castellated properties of the foreigners homes afford a perfect safeguard against police surveillance, and the foreigner himself offers a not uninviting prey to Japanese living by their wits. Okayo had found this out long before the time of her last return to the besieged Settlement. Four years previously, she had carried on a pretty little series of petty larcenies at the house of a Mr. Verdant, and subsequently appropriated 91 *yen*, the pocket money of his friend, with whom she very improperly went on a picnic. The gallant Anglo-Saxon, however, never suspects a pretty woman, and when Okayo found her own countrymen less genteel, she naturally drifted back to the place where the police are powerless and the stranger is sympathetic. There she soon found a protector, and with scarcely less alacrity eased him of 70 *yen* in coin and seven sea-otter skins in kind, four of which she sold for 80 *yen* to another foreigner, and then retired to Tokiyo to take her ease in her inn. But the skins proved her ruin. She was arrested at the very acme of a round of theatre-going and general jollification, and sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, to be followed by one year's police surveillance. It is believed by those who ought to be themselves worthy of belief, that a great many light-fingered ladies of Okayo's class have dangerous access to foreign property in Yokohama. We should be sorry to pronounce a decided opinion upon this subject, but we submit the story for our readers' reflection, reminding them only of the old proverb:—*bonum est fugienda adspicere in alieno malo*.

AN American paper, referring to the recently deceased English novelist, says:—The late Charles Reade took a deep interest in the American branch of his family, of which the late Chief Justice John Meredith Reade of Pennsylvania was a distinguished member. An article on this able jurist in the London *Graphic* gives an interesting sketch of the life of the Chief Justice, and of his son and namesake, General John Meredith Reade late our Minister to Greece. Of the latter the *Graphic* says, among other things:—"This gentleman is distinguished both in science and politics, has represented the United States in Paris, and is now American Minister at Athens. Reverting to the English branch of the family, we may observe that the baronetcy, unassociated

with estates, has not yet been claimed by the person to whom it belongs. The younger branch holds the lands of Ipsden, etc., which have been four centuries in the family, and is best known to the public by Mr. Winwood Reade, the African traveller, and Mr. Charles Reade, the popular writer. We understand that the Philadelphia and Oxfordshire branches maintain a firm friendship and sympathy."

THE Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at Birmingham on the 16th of April, said:—"You know how the industry of this town is being cramped and fettered and confused by the growing wall of hostile tariffs which shuts you out of most of the markets of the world.—(Hear, hear, and cheers.)—I will not now discuss how far it may be possible for diplomacy to relieve you of that confinement. I fear that most of the advantages which we might have offered to the other nations of the world in return for more favourable tariffs have been thrown away by the want of foresight of former legislators. I doubt if that evil can be retraced. At all events you must consider this—that if you are being shut out by tariffs from the civilized markets of the world, the uncivilized markets are becoming more and more precious to you. They threaten to be the only fields which will offer to you a profitable business. At all events they are fields which will offer the most profitable business, and as civilization goes on and exploration increases these uncivilized markets will be thrown open to you, if only no foreign Power is allowed to come in and introduce its hostile tariffs between you and the benefit for which you look.—(Hear, hear.)—The effect of the policy of the Government has been in place after place to allow these markets to be stolen away from you, and you know that in the Congo a treaty has been made which will have the effect of putting a highly protective and prohibitory power between your industry and the consumption of the native population of Africa. The same thing is the case with Madagascar. The French are being allowed to surround it, to make claims upon the sea coast, which will enable them to set up their exclusive and prohibitory tariff and to shut you out from those markets." Things certainly look bad for the one apostle of free trade. She is at the mercy of all the world, and she has hitherto been so much more prosperous than her neighbours that their desire to see her humbled gets the better of their logic. In all these years England has not made one convert to her free-trade doctrines. Even her own colonies have deserted their colours, and are just as protective as any alien rival. One is tempted to speculate whether the instinct which prompts the practice of all nations is not a safer guide than the abstract wisdom of any economical school. The Marquis of Salisbury is happily vague when he speaks of "the advantages we might have offered to the other nations of the world in return for more favourable tariffs," but it is not difficult to divine, generally, what he means. Having surrendered these advantages, however, without obtaining any reciprocal concessions, nothing remains but "the uncivilized markets." These the conservative policy would keep open at any price. We, in the East, are very familiar with the sound of this political note, and the ideas of most of us are probably in entire harmony with it. Nevertheless, Japan is about to be allowed to add her mite to the "wall of hostile tariffs," not because it was impossible to prevent her,

but because we preferred to leave her comparatively free in that direction rather than to entertain her legitimate proposals in another. Largely increased trade facilities and an extended lease of the old tariff might have been obtained by some trifling concessions on the extraterritorial question. But even hard-headed merchants can be romantic when occasion offers. The old tocsin *civis Romanus sum*, the old sentimental affection for English laws and English institutions under any and all circumstances, has rendered the prospect of continued isolation and a doubled tariff pleasanter than that of free intercourse, an unchanged tariff, and the remote contingency of having sometimes to obey Japanese laws.

WE (*Hongkong Daily Press*) regret to have to add another to the rather lengthy list of marine disasters this year. A telegram was received from Shanghai yesterday (May 29) by the general managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) that the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Posang* had gone ashore at the Fisherman's Group of islands, near Chusan. The passengers and specie were saved. Assistance has been sent from Shanghai, but the safety of the vessel is uncertain. The *Posang* left Hongkong on the 22nd inst. for Shanghai, *via* Swatow, which latter port she left on the 24th. She had on board one saloon passenger (Miss Mitchell), one European, and about one hundred native deck passengers. The specie on board amounted to about \$22,000. She had only two chests of opium. It is to be hoped that the vessel may yet be got off.

WE (*Straits Times*) have received some private advices from the interior of Selangore to the effect that the disturbance in Pahang continues, and is not unlikely to spread. The Sultan or Bandahara of Pahang has ordered Rajahs Impi and Ismail to quit his territory, and they have both refused. The Sultan has, in consequence, called to his assistance his old friend Tunku Koodin (of Quedah), whom, it will be recollected, he assisted nine or ten years ago in Selangore, before the English Government intervened on Sir Andrew Clarke's arrival. Rajah Impi is reported to have received instructions from Rajah Ismail, who is said to be here in Singapore, to hold out to the last, and to fight if necessary. Rajah Impi has summoned back to his assistance a number of his followers, who emigrated a short time ago to Selangore. We do not know what truth there may be in all this, but merely publish the information as received, and as what is currently reported in Selangore.

COLONEL BURLEIGH, who recently acted as the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in the Soudan, proposes to effect the relief of Khartoum by the rapid construction of a railway. He describes the project thus:—"I would build a narrow-gauge road, such as they have in the United States, or used to have when I was there in the oil regions. A road of this kind could be constructed very rapidly. In fact, there are establishments in Europe where narrow-gauge roads are manufactured in rail lengths all ready to be laid down. The great difficulty in this whole business is to move and maintain an army between Suakim and Berber, because of the terrible nature of the sandy surface and the almost total lack of water. If a good connection could be established between these points, Khartoum could be quite easily secured

and controlled from Berber. I have been all over Egypt, and have served in all the recent campaigns, and my experience in the Soudan convinces me that no military expedition of a size large enough to subdue the Soudan, with Khartoum as the objective point, can be moved successfully across the desert west of Suakim except by rail. A narrow-gauge road, manufactured in sections and transported to Suakim by water, can be laid across the desert between Suakim and Berber much faster than a well equipped modern army can travel, afoot or horsed, over these sands. The sands are so hot, the temperature so high, and water so extremely scarce, that, even under the slowest movement, the troops lose enormously by exhaustion. But the railroad once laid, an army of any size and with any equipment could be moved quickly, and comfortably to Berber. The road completed, the route would be safe forever, and with Berber in constant and easy access from the Red Sea, Khartoum would be within easy control.' The Colonel has submitted his idea to the Government, and offered to take charge of an expedition to lay the road. He estimates the cost at half a million sterling, and thinks that there would be no difficulty whatsoever in keeping the Arabs off while the construction was in progress. In fact, such an evidence of England's resolution would probably put an end at once to Arab opposition. If the line were afterwards extended beyond Berber, it could be made to pay handsomely, and would become the means of developing the great wealth of Central Africa. Of late the Soudan has begun to stink in English nostrils. People think only of getting quit of the huge district and its huger troubles with the least possible delay. A year ago, however, it was regarded as a valuable territory, needing only a railway for its development, and Lord Dufferin himself, in his celebrated report, recommended the building of a line from Suakim to the Nile.

ONE of the recent German weeklies has been giving some advice with regard to seeking shelter during thunder storms. Every one is supposed to know enough to go in out of the rain, but it is not so easy a matter to avoid thunderbolts. "Avoid staying in open fields, where there are no trees nor walls," says our contemporary, but adds, rather paradoxically, "don't go near walls nor trees if you happen to be in the open." High trees and all prominent objects are especially tabooed. If a heavy storm comes on while one is in the fields, it is unwise to run quickly so as to get in a great heat. It is tolerably safe to throw one's self flat on the ground, but by no means absolutely so. "If in water when the storm comes, get on dry land, and run for shelter,"—good advice, which no one would hesitate to follow; but what an awe-inspiring sight it would be to catch a startled bather flying across the fields in fragmentary clothing,—besides, one musn't run. "If in a house unprovided with lightning-rods, keep in the middle of a room, as far as possible from the walls. Don't stand under a chandelier, and keep away from bell-wires, and the like. Avoid stoves and grates in which there is fire, and don't stand in a draught." It is a relief to know that the chances of being struck by lightning are, after all, but one in 200,000.

WRITING on the terrible maritime disaster which recently took place in the Atlantic Ocean, the *Alla* says:—"The mystery surrounding the fate

of the *State of Florida* has been cleared up by the arrival of the ship which rescued her passengers and by the announcement that the *Florida* was sunk by collision with a bark, which also foundered. There was a frightful loss of life, though there is some confusion about the exact figures. The same day's despatches bring news of another disaster of the same character—the Guion steamer *Nevada* having run down and sunk the steamer *Romano*. These disasters make it plain that it is time to establish the proposed steam lanes across the Atlantic, and by international concert of action make it compulsory on vessels of all kinds to keep in certain tracks in going and coming. This would lessen the number of the disasters, which it now appears nothing can absolutely prevent. Occasional collisions at sea there always must be, but in an ocean so crowded with the vehicles of commerce as the North Atlantic now is, the best precautions possible should be taken to make the number of such affairs as small as it can be.

MR. YENUMA, a botanist, went to Korea last year in order to make scientific collections, and his success, though often imperilled, lies before us embodied in several large volumes. His collections were exhibited at the University Museum, and elicited great admiration from Mr. Techow who inspected them a short time ago. Mr. Yenuma has now received instructions to travel throughout the eight districts of Korea, and beyond the Russian frontier. It is feared, however, that he will have great difficulty in travelling through the interior of Korea, for some persons state that the country around Phŏng-an-do and Ham-gyōng-do is inhabited by regular savages, who clothe themselves in hides and like nothing better than a fresh blood-pudding.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

WITH the death of Jem Ward, which took place on the 2nd ult., the last great figure of the old generation of prize-fighters has disappeared. It was perhaps a kindly release, for the old champion had fallen on evil days and evil tongues; the art he gloried in had degenerated, and his powerful frame had for some time lost all vigour and vitality, although he solaced his old age with music and a little painting, besides recollections of the past. There clung round the veteran heavy-weight, who took the champion's belt from Simon Byrne as long ago as 1831, lingering reminiscences of the days when the chief curiosity of the Allied Sovereigns was to see a prize-fight; and when one "Royal personage," it is said, ventured into Tom Cribb's famous parlour and was proud to shake hands with the fancy.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE investigations into the circumstances of the card sharpening at the Club in the *Rue Royale* had not yet succeeded in exposing the guilty parties, at the date of latest advices. It will be remembered that a servant of the Club, named Monvoisin, was proved to have been acting as agent in the matter. He was employed to mark the cards in a very ingenious fashion, namely, by pricking them slightly with a pin, at the four corners in the case of the tens, and in the middle in the case of the fives. The indentations being on the back could be detected by the dealer only. As for Monvoisin, however, persuasion and threats have alike failed to elicit from him any statement with regard to his employers. He persists in asserting that he acted in obedience to written orders, sent by

some unknown persons and accompanied by considerable presents of money, directing him simply to mark the cards. It is a nice question, under these circumstances, to determine whether he has brought himself within the clutches of the criminal law. Certainly he was a *particeps criminis*, but in an exceedingly remote degree, and it would be difficult to determine whom he wronged or who ought to prosecute him.

A SOCIALISTIC mass meeting was held in Osumigori, Sagami, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the 27th of last month. Three hundred persons representing 44 villages met on Koboyama, bewailed their unfortunate lots, and expressed great sorrow at having had to mortgage the land their forefathers had held before them. They then determined to force their creditors to consent to a payment of their debts in many instalments. After passing this virtuous resolution, they hurried to the various money-lenders in bands of ten and fifteen, and demanded their agreeing to a payment of all the monies owed in—thirty-five annual instalments. With great difficulty, the creditors managed to evade direct personal assaults; but the mob is prepared to become riotous at any moment.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

A TELEGRAM in this issue gives the result of the Oaks—Busyboddy 1, Superba 2, Queen Adelaide 3—a result which will surprise no one, but which indicates that the flying daughter of Petrarch and Spinaway will probably at the back end be pronounced the best of her year, as she certainly is at present, having now won the Oaks, the One Thousand Guineas, the Middle Park Plate, the Great Challenge Stakes, and the Rous Memorial. The second, Superba, belonging to Mr. Robert Peck, is a smart filly, having won the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, beside earning winning brackets at Ascot and Lewes, and although not a single bet on the race is recorded in the latest home papers, it is safe to assume that Superba carried a pot of money at the post. It is rather hard luck for Sir John Willoughby, this consistent running into a place of Queen Adelaide, the filly having run second in the One Thousand, third in the Derby, and third in the Oaks; and this is emphasised when her splendid *début* in the July Stakes is remembered; for, although she had been highly tried, in this race she had to meet Sandiway with an unbeaten record, but public form had on this occasion to give way to private reputation, as the finish, which was a tremendous struggle, was between Queen Adelaide and Archiduc, and nothing but the gameness of the daughter of Hermit and Adelaide enabled her to win by a head in the last two strides. Sir John Willoughby's filly, however, once turned the tables on Busyboddy, for at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting she won the Dewhurst Plate, although the "magpie jacket" was not far behind. She was described last year as one of the grandest looking two-year-olds ever seen, and if the Town Moor suits her—as she is entered in the St. Leger—the greater northern event may be her journey. The name of Busyboddy naturally leads to that of Petrarch, her sire, and Petrarch begets a recollection of his numerous relations. As on a recent occasion "The Oracle" confessed his ignorance of the existence of a certain sire, a member of one of the first families in the Stud Book, to wit, Thornhill, "it may be as well to point out" that Thornhill is an elder brother of Petrarch, and although he does not

stand at a high figure he has already got several winners, and would probably receive more patronage than he does were it not for rumours of an infirmity acquired, it is said, through too early and hurried a preparation which cut short his racing career. Thornhill, however, quietly holds his own at Hollist Farm, Midhurst, and indications are not wanting, amongst two-year-olds and yearling stock, that the brother to Petrarch may yet achieve a success that will enhance his own reputation and assist to maintain that of the distinguished family to which he belongs.

At the sale of Lord Falmouth's racehorses on the 28th April, Sir John Willoughby bought the three-year-old brown colt Harvester for £8,600. The three-year old bay filly Busyboddy was purchased by Lord Abington for £8,800. Total amount of sale £38,228.

ON Wednesday evening, while returning from an excursion to the booths in Isezakicho, a correspondent happened to pass by several of those useful servants of the public who follow the romantic occupation of night-soil coolie. Somehow or other, the coolies chanced to come into odorous collision close to one of the public wells in Honmura Road, and two buckets with the contents were precipitated into the depths of the well. Dreadful as it may seem, there was no help for it, and so the ruthless destroyers of public sanitation fled in dire dismay. On the following morning, quite a little crowd had collected around the well, on hearing it reported that two buckets were floating at the bottom, and after some dexterous fishing, one fortunate speculator was seen hauling up a bucket, with results which can be better imagined than described.

ACCORDING to the *American Cricketer*, the team of the Philadelphians now on a visit to England to play a series of matches will number 14 and consist of the cream of the willow wielders of the United States, these having been selected from 24 candidates who arranged some months ago to hold themselves in readiness for the campaign. The first match will be played to-day (June 5), at Brighton, with the Gentlemen of Sussex, the next match will be at Lord's on the 16th instant, with the Gentlemen of the M.C.C., and matches have been already arranged at Stockport, Leicester, Southampton, Derby, Maidstone, Manchester, and Norwich.

THE following is a summary of the Consular Trade Report of Ninsen, received under date of the 22nd March last:—The chief imports during the month of January were cotton cloths, hulled rice, sugar, silk, woollen fabrics, dyed stuffs, zinc, musk, kerosene, shirtings, *sawai*; amounting altogether to 66,939.36.5 *yen*, of which 10,925.02.0 *yen* represent the amount consumed by foreign residents at the port. The chief exports were bullion, hides, beans, pepper, and gold dust, amounting to 92,124.59.0 *yen*. The imports during February reached 51,704.72.0 *yen*, as against 32,244.94.0 *yen* of exports.—*Kwampo*.

THE impending retirement of Prince Bismarck from the Prussian Ministry forms the subject of an article in the *North German Gazette* which explains that the step is the consequence of medical advice. Prince Bismarck was informed that his power to work could only be maintained if his labours were reduced in extent, and he was therefore absolutely ordered to give up some of the business which he had previously been in

the habit of transacting. The Chancellor accordingly decided to retain the Imperial business and to renounce his control over Prussian affairs. This determination he explained by stating that in the domain of foreign affairs he occupied a position of confidence with respect to foreign Governments which was of a personal character and could not therefore be transferred. Besides, his foreign business was free from the friction which in home affairs had added so greatly to his difficulties as to demand from him exceptional efforts.

MR. AUGUSTINE HEARD has addressed to the *New York Herald* a long letter on the subject of "France in Tonquin." Much of the letter is historical, and deals with facts familiar to all, but the writer's method of discussing China's claims of suzerainty in Annam is worth reproduction:—

The provinces of Annam and Tonquin were conquered and colonized by China long before the Christian era, and remained subject to her authority till the early part of the fifteenth century, when they threw off her yoke (some authorities place this as remote as the tenth century) and became independent. Independent they remained, and the continuity of Chinese rule was broken. For many hundred years China made no pretence of exercising her authority over them, and they may be said to have taken their place among the technically "tributary States" from which their early history had marked a certain distinction.

The connection between China and these States—Annam, Corea, Loochoo, &c.—was of a very curious and peculiar character. The duties and responsibilities which were recognized in mediæval Europe between vassal and sovereign—of service on the one side and of protection on the other—were here unknown. The inferior power invariably took the initiative and rendered homage, if so disposed, and the superior received it with dignity and condescension. "It is the respectful homage of an inferior to a superior, and not that of a fief to a sovereign. It is the sincere regard of a disciple to a teacher."—Dr. S. Wells Williams, in the *Journal of the North China Branch of the Asiatic Society*, 1866. The act was purely voluntary and might be omitted through long intervals without in any way disturbing peaceful relations. No compulsion was employed to bring in or to bring back an adherent; and years of intestine strife might ravage one of these tributary kingdoms without provoking a movement on the part of China; but she would serenely acknowledge, if requested, and invest with the insignia of royalty the victor in the struggle, who might or might not belong to the dynasty previously ruling. Siam broke away from this quasi-allegiance without a word of protest, so far as is known; and it may not be out of place to mention that on the official Chinese records England herself is inscribed as a tributary kingdom.

This account is at variance with the story told by General Mesny, according to whom Annam's struggle, now for autonomy, now against usurpers, lasted throughout the whole of the fourteenth century, and was only brought to a temporary close about the year 1429, when the Emperor of China, in compliance with a joint memorial forwarded by his own General and the commander of the Annamite forces, recalled the Chinese officials, and appointed the head of the Li family Viceroy of Annam. From time to time, during the succeeding centuries, Annam was invaded by Chinese forces and, if General Mesny's account be credible, a Chinese resident was appointed as late as 1848. It is certainly incorrect to say that "no compulsion was ever employed to bring in or to bring back an adherent," for assuredly the motive of nearly all the Chinese invasions of Annam was the restoration of some potentate whose ancestors had received investiture from the Dragon Throne. On the other hand, we quite agree with Mr. Heard, that the bonds between China and her tributary were altogether too shadowy to stand the strain of modern practice. Like many Americans, however, he seems to labour under an idea that, to complete his essay, a case of some sort must be made out against England, so he proceeds to attribute all China's mistaken policy to British intrigue. "Englishmen" he writes, "in their

shortsighted policy and hereditary prejudice, were delighted that their dreams of transcontinental Burmese-Western-China trade should be uninterfered with and the Red River remain closed to the nations. They are too much disposed to say, forgetful how much must inure to them from it all in the end:—The French cannot colonize. If they do establish a colony in Cochin China-Tonquin, and open new routes of trade, they will get no benefit therefrom, and so forth, and so on. And so, in the expectation that France would retire upon the multitudinous barking at her heels, assiduous barking was begun; but, for a wonder, France stood firm, and at once England began to reckon whether it would not be better to hold hard her Chinese friends. It certainly never would suit her for France to become really in earnest and wage war with China, even to the blockading of Chinese ports and the stoppage of Western trade." Not the least remarkable feature of all this is that a sober-minded merchant can be found to pen such silliness. England's counsels have doubtless a great deal of weight with the Peking Government, but they have always been directed to ends very different from those suggested by Mr. Heard. From the first, English politicians and journalists recognised that a speedy and peaceful solution of the Annamite trouble was most desirable in the interests of all, and certainly they wished for nothing less than that China's arrogance should be increased and her conservatism confirmed by a diplomatic victory over one of the leading Powers of Europe. But Mr. Heard apparently seeks to persuade China that she has a bad friend, and France that she has a treacherous enemy, in England, forgetting that but for England and France American merchants would not be doing business with the Middle Kingdom at all to-day. He has the assurance to deliver a judgment without appeal on the whole situation, and yet his idea of China's right to be consulted about the fate of Annam is limited to her claim of suzerainty, though, in point of fact, had no such bond existed between the two countries at any time in their history, the rulers of the Middle Kingdom would still have possessed a clear title to a voice in any arrangement that concerned the territory through which the chief route to their richest provinces lies. It is a curious and noteworthy point that England's "short-sighted policy and hereditary prejudices" have succeeded sufficiently well during the past half-dozen centuries to make her an object of envy and detraction to half the civilized world.

THE dressing bag that was stolen from Mr. J. M. Blair's cabin on the morning of the departure of the *City of Tokio* for San Francisco, was picked up in the Public Gardens by one of the Fire Brigade coolies, on Saturday last. That the thief was accustomed to deal with such property could be gathered from the expert manner in which he had broken the lock without injuring the rest of the bag. It is needless to say that all the coin and everything that could be turned into money were abstracted, but Mr. Blair will no doubt only be too glad to recover the drafts and papers which were of no use to the thief.

THE Judgment in H.B.M. Supreme Court for China and Japan, on appeal from H.B.M. Court for Japan, by Chief Justice Sir Richard Rennie, and Mr. R. A. Mowat, Assistant Judge, in the case of Edward Whittall, defendant and appellant, Yokioba Shobey, plaintiff and respondent,

was delivered on the 27th ult. Judgment was for the appellant, with costs both below and on appeal. This judgment leaves the respondent at liberty to bring an action for the recovery of such portion of the payment he made to the appellant for which he has received no value.

THE *Sanshi Kiyokwai* (Silk Industrial Association) has elected as its President Mr. Kawase Hideharu, who is also the President of the *Seicha Kiyokwai* (Tea Association). Mr. Kawase was formerly President of the Commercial Bureau, and has travelled in Europe and America in order to inspect the commercial systems of the Occident. The Association is certain to thrive under his auspices.—*Bukka Shimpō*.

THE Japanese papers report that the *Meiho Maru*, with a cargo of some 1,300 *koku* of beans, collided on the 31st of last month with the *Sekiriu Maru*, of the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company. The collision took place off Cape Tateyama, Idzu. The *Meiho Maru* sank almost immediately, and her crew were saved with great difficulty. It appears that every precaution had been taken by the *Meiho Maru*, but that she collided with the steamer so soon as the latter hove into sight.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* states that no less than 23 observatories have been erected in all the important localities of Japan since 1875. A meteorological report is forwarded thrice a day to the Central Observatory in Tokiyo. In future, weather bulletins are to be posted at the entrance of all police stations whenever sudden atmospheric changes are expected.

WE stated the other day, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, that Public Loan Bonds, redeemable in Silver Coin, would be sold on the London Stock Exchange. We now hear that a formal contract was made in March of this year by a Japanese National Bank and a well-known foreign merchant for the sale of some ten million *yen* worth of these bonds. We need not mention their names publicly, as the contract was of a private character.

ACCORDING to late telegrams, it appears H.I.H. Yamashina-no-Miya was on the way from New York to Niagara Falls when the train in which he was riding collided with another one near Rochester. His Imperial Highness sustained a slight wound on the right arm just below the elbow, the bone being uninjured. Five of his retinue were wounded in various parts of the body.

IN H.B.M. Court for Japan, on Thursday before Russell Robertson, Esq., Acting Judge, two firemen of the steamer *Mosser*, named Ross and Flemm, were brought up charged with being drunk and incapable. His Honour discharged Ross with a caution, ordering him to pay costs. Flemm, who had been up before, was sentenced to 48 hours' imprisonment, with hard labour, and costs.

WHILST a gang of coolies in charge of a water cart were filling up on Thursday at the well at No. 96, a large stone fell from the wall of a go-down close by, and, alighting on one man's foot, completely smashed it. The unfortunate man was at once carried off to the hospital by his mates.

WHAT JAPAN WANTS.

THE second issue of railway bonds and their rapid purchase by the public recall a subject which lies at the root of Japan's commercial prospects. The people have now subscribed ten million *yen* within the space of six months for purposes of railway construction, and the applications for the Finance Minister's bonds having nearly doubled the amount offered for sale, we may fairly conclude that, so long as the present commercial depression continues, so long as profitable investments in the ordinary lines of trade do not present themselves, there will be no difficulty in placing considerable quantities of this stock in the home markets. We have already expressed strong doubts with regard to the wisdom of making such large demands on the nation's floating capital. The Government, however, seems to rely on the salability of the bonds to foreigners as a means of preventing any inconvenience of this sort, and it cannot be denied that the success which has attended this financial measure up to the present entitles the opinion of its originators to more than average credit. We are disposed to think, too, that foreign estimates of Japan's financial capabilities have hitherto been somewhat under the mark. Not that it would be proper to draw any extended inference as to the people's pecuniary condition from the story of these railway bonds. Such securities have everywhere been a favorite species of investment at a season of trade stagnation, and if there was any money at all in Japan seeking employment, they would assuredly have attracted it. But the account recently given, in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, of the methods pursued by Japanese merchants, shows that the funds engaged in commercial transactions are altogether disproportionate to the aggregate of the transactions. Merchants—excepting, of course, the few who have been able to adopt Western methods—instead of conducting a business several times as large as the amount of their capital, virtually keep seventy *yen* idle for every thirty they employ profitably. It follows, necessarily, that under such circumstances, any obstacle in the path of trade causes an immense overflow of these secondary funds, and releases a volume of money of which the recent contributions for railway purposes represents but an insignificant sub-multiple. Testimony of a more direct nature was furnished, the other day, by the prospectus of a new association—*Kwangiyo-shihon-kwai*—which, at its inauguration, was able to announce a capital of ten million *yen*, to be offered for the promotion of agricultural industry. This, however, by the way. Our immediate purpose is to speak, not of Japan's floating capital, but of the only means she can command to compass the profitable development of her resources. The Memorial presented two years ago by

the foreign merchants of Yokohama, embodying, as it did, the experienced opinion of a large number of intelligent experts, deserved, and doubtless received, the fullest consideration. We believe that the estimate formed by the memorialists of the quantity of rice available for export was an exaggeration. It is impossible to reconcile the hypothesis of a large surplus stock with the fact of well-sustained prices. A surplus there undoubtedly was, but we are not without precedents to show the consequences of abundant harvests in a country where faulty means of transport render distant markets inaccessible. After the annexation of the Punjab, the reduction of the land tax and the peace and security of the country gave such an impetus to agriculture that there resulted a glut of produce, and means of disposing of it not being available, the cultivators were reduced to great straits. There are still large districts of India, notably the Central Provinces, where an abundant harvest is anything but a blessing to the farmers, and the same thing has lately been observed, though in much less marked degree, in Japan. All through these years, however, while great stores of grain were supposed to be lying idle in the interior, the prosperity of the agricultural classes was said to be unprecedented, and if they kept rice in their godowns, it was not because, being perplexed how to dispose of it, they would have welcomed the advent of ships to carry it away, but because they preferred it to paper money of fluctuating value. But these are questions of degree. Whether the estimate of the memorialists was too large or too small, the principle they advocated admits of no contradiction. If Japan is ever to become wealthy, it must be by improving her facilities for transport. The shipping question is simple enough, and will probably be soon arranged on the lines suggested by the memorialists. But the question of internal transport, though of incomparably greater importance, seems to be much farther from a satisfactory solution. Speaking roughly, Japan has now 280 miles of railway open, and her present plan contemplates the construction of about 100 miles per annum in the immediate future. This is a very praiseworthy effort, but there are good reasons to doubt whether it is well directed. The Nakasendo road is probably the least beneficial, from a commercial point of view, that could have been selected. The connection of Saikiyo and Tokiyo by a line of rails is not what Japan wants. Her immediate and pressing need is a number of radial lines bringing the interior within easy reach of the coast. India has ten thousand miles of railways, but not one line corresponding to that projected by the Japanese scheme. Routes there are in abundance passing from coast to coast of the great peninsula, as from Bombay to Madras or Calcutta, but in all that network of roads planned under the most

skilled advice, there is the plainest evidence that means of exit from the interior to the sea were rightly judged of paramount importance. Japan, however, has mixed up strategical and industrial considerations. She is bent upon fixing a large amount of her floating capital in a line which cannot help much to develop her wealth; and, what is still more regrettable, there is danger that this enterprise will occupy her attention and absorb her available resources to the prejudice of more profitable undertakings. Official statistics show that the production of wheat in Japan in 1881, was about three hundred thousand tons, and that the average price per quarter at Tokiyo and Osaka was twenty-five shillings. So long as carriage remains in its present hopeless condition, it is useless to attempt any elaborate calculations as to the cost at which this cereal can be produced in the interior. From the experience of India, however, we know that the price of exportable grain in the neighbourhood of a railway, is twice as much as the price in more remote districts, and there is every reason to believe that the same is true of Japan. Farm labour is as cheap here as in India, and there unquestionably exist large tracts of land on which wheat could be grown with success. But it never will be grown until improved transport facilities bring Western markets within reach. Nothing could be more instructive than the experience of India, in this respect. Ten years ago, nobody perceived a prospect of Indian wheat becoming an important article of foreign commerce. But during those ten years, railways have gradually approached some of the producing districts, and the results can be seen in the following table:—

AMOUNT AND VALUE OF INDIAN WHEAT EXPORTED.			
YEAR.	TONS.		£.
1873	19,700	.....	167,690
1878	318,658	.....	2,873,765
1882	995,050	.....	8,869,562
1883 (6 months).	784,749	.....	6,613,432

This enormous development has taken place in spite of the fact that railway carriage in India is still twice as dear as in the United States. The latter country has 100,000 miles of railway, and competition takes care that rates shall be adapted to the demands of trade, the results being little short of miraculous. The history of every State is simply a history of railways. Illinois was little more than a prairie before the railway made it one of the first producing States of the Union, and the same may be said of Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, and other great districts. Without exception "their vast agricultural wealth would have been locked up indefinitely but for the locomotive."* It may be too much to hope that Japan will follow the example of the United States closely, but she ought certainly to be capable of a greater effort than she is making at present. England has twenty thousand miles of railway. It will

* William Fowler. *Nineteenth Century*. p. 282.

take Japan half a century to construct a fourth of that length at her present rate of going, and if she persists in the phantasy of devoting her own capital to the process, she must look forward, in the interim, to commercial distress of the gravest character. Considering that the United States, already possessing such an immense network of lines, continue to construct eight to ten thousand miles per annum, and considering that India, with her ten thousand miles, which have cost her a hundred and forty-three millions sterling, is awaking to the necessity of taking immediate steps to construct an additional twelve hundred miles annually, Japan's performance scarcely deserves to be spoken of at all. It seems to us that the Government is sedulously treading in the very grooves along which Japanese merchants, untrained in the ways of a larger world, used formerly to creep. This notion of attempting nothing which cannot be accomplished with the country's unaided capital, is precisely analogous to the case of a man who allows his rice-field to lie barren rather than borrow some of his neighbour's surplus water. Japan cannot possibly become prosperous and happy until railways enable her people to utilize the resources nature has bountifully placed at their disposal, and she cannot have railways without doing as all other countries have done,—borrowing money to build them. While her currency was at a heavy depreciation, a foreign loan presented many inconvenient and perilous features, but now that she has successfully grappled with this difficulty, there is nothing to forbid recourse to European markets. The increased trade facilities which her revised treaties will confer, the excellent state of her finances, and the promptitude with which she has hitherto met all her engagements abroad, could not fail to obtain for her excellent terms. There never was a time, too, in the history of the iron trade when railway material could be procured so cheaply, and it seems not improbable that during the course of the next two or three years the ratio between silver and gold will have reached the point most favorable to borrowers of the latter metal. It will not be possible to say that this country is fairly launched upon the route to prosperity until she takes measures to construct, not a maximum of one hundred, but a minimum of five hundred, miles of railway every year.

CONSCRIPTION.

IF there ever was a country in which the ranks of the army might have been kept well filled by a voluntary system, that country ought to have been Japan, where the traditions of a large section of the nation had for centuries been associated with military service, and where, twelve years ago, the problem was, not what to do for soldiers, but what to do with the hereditary soldiers if their trade was taken

from them. But Japan has abolished her *Samurai* class, and adopted compulsory service, pure and simple, for reasons with some of which the public must sympathise, while it regrets the existence of others. It must, therefore, be interesting for her to observe the results which the methods she has adopted are producing on the national prosperity and happiness of the countries she is supposed to have taken as models. Just at present, the question of compulsory service is attracting much attention in France. After thirteen years' experience, the Government of the New Republic is still puzzled as to the best method of dealing with this problem. The law of 1872 fixed five years as the least nominal period of service, but by the aid of an extensive system of exemptions the hardships of this rule were considerably mitigated. Now, however, it is proposed to reduce the nominal period to three years, but, at the same time, to make service compulsory for all. This change, while apparently in the direction of greater liberty, has stirred up the whole controversy once more. French journalists refer in almost plaintive terms to the disadvantages under which their countrymen labour as compared with the people of England and America. The latter, alone throughout the universe, are absolutely free from restraint; free to go where they please and do what they please. They have not to endure the artificial and demoralizing existence of the conscript, nor to receive a training which unfits them for the pursuits they were born to. The sacrifices which the conscription imposes upon the adult population of the country are compared to a periodical blight, falling every spring upon the vegetable world, just at the moment when the buds and sprouts are gathering strength. France, thus handicapped, cannot, it is complained, possibly hope to compete with English-speaking countries. And the curious part of the affair is that Germany, who may be said to have imposed this irksome necessity upon Europe, does not herself seem to feel its inconvenience to a similar degree. Her statesmen, by a number of far-seeing and intelligent precautions, have contrived to rob compulsory service of most of its embarrassments. They have not fallen into the fatal error of supposing that a great nation can ever be established on a basis of absolute equality among its people. They recognise how unreasonable it would be to take scientists from their laboratories, students from their books, painters from their easels, and colonists from their travels, in order to compel them, during three years, not to study the business of a soldier, which they can acquire in twelve months, but to perform fatigue duties, make soup, sweep barrack-rooms, and clean latrines. In Germany it is confessed that these mechanical and revolting tasks need not be performed by everyone. "German laws," says a great French writer, "are not made for the unique purpose of satis-

fying the envious or mean instincts of the human soul; their object is not to bully, vex, or humiliate certain classes of citizens, and to inspire others with false ideas." Every device is therefore resorted to with the intention of protecting the scientific and mercantile classes against the disadvantages of the conscription, and among these devices the most efficient is the voluntary service of one year, which, instead of subjecting the volunteer, as in France, to all the menial offices of a common trooper, obliges him to acquire only the simple principles of his profession, and takes care that he shall be helped to do so in such a way as to interfere, as little as possible, with his professional or scientific career. Exceptional enactments also enable Germans to engage in foreign commerce without being called home every autumn to go through twenty-eight days' training. Add to this an excellent and wide-embracing system of exemptions, so framed as to include almost every legitimate case where exemption is desirable, and it will be seen that Germany manages to derive a maximum of advantage with a minimum of disadvantage from that most irksome necessity called conscription. LEROY-BEAULIEU, who has been unwearied in his endeavours to expose the abuses of French military laws, asks pertinently, why France, having been beaten by Germany, did not adopt the latter's conscription procedure in its entirety. That, he thinks, would have been much wiser than to try and better German systems by engrafting upon them elements of suicidal tyranny under the guise of Republican liberty, equality and fraternity. We are not at all surprised that Japan is of a similar opinion in her own case. Her conscription laws, promulgated last autumn, contain many of those that have been found so successful in Germany, and it is understood that the chief purpose of the military mission lately despatched to Europe is to acquire an accurate knowledge of the working of these provisions. As might have been expected, the mission has been exposed to a great deal of hostile criticism. Writers, who do not seem to give themselves much concern about the motives which prompted the Government to take such a step, have not hesitated to describe it as a wanton waste of the State's funds; a concession to the idle curiosity of a few officials who wished to enjoy the pleasures of a foreign tour at the public expense. Nothing is easier than to offer an explanation of that nature, except, perhaps, to find people whom it satisfies. But if a nation is so unfortunate as to be obliged to resort to compulsory military service, its rulers are bound by every consideration of duty and expediency to make the necessity sit as lightly as possible upon the people, and few things are better calculated to assist them in this endeavour than a practical knowledge of the methods followed in Germany.

MR. HENRY GEORGE.

THE Duke of ARGYLL has taken the trouble to expose the fallacies of Mr. HENRY GEORGE'S new philosophy in one of the prettiest and most convincing essays it has ever been our pleasure to peruse. At the outset, it strikes His Grace as a very curious coincidence, that this phenomenal compound of "goose and fanatic" should be a native of San Francisco. The boundless resources of the United States and their apparently inexhaustible prospects did not prepare men to find that from this land of opulence, above all others, there should issue "a solitary voice, prophesying a future of intolerable woe." Yet, writing in this land, nay more, writing in that part of it where wealth is supposed to be most plentiful, "the prophet of San Francisco" declares that "all the miseries of the Old World are already firmly established in the New; that they are increasing in an ever-accelerating ratio, growing with the growth of the people, and strengthening with its apparent strength. He tells us of crowded cities, of pestilential rooms, of men and women struggling for employments however mean, of the breathlessness of competition, of the extremes of poverty and of wealth—in short of all the inequalities of condition, of all the pressures and suffocations which accompany the struggle for existence in the oldest and most crowded societies in the World." To be sure, Mr. HENRY GEORGE is a pessimist. It is his business to paint things darkly, because he can only hope to get Society to listen to his doctrines by "trying to convince it that it is in the grasp of some deadly malady." As for himself, however, he declines to be bound by the results of his own observations. Having added the United States to the list of countries where population presses upon the limits of subsistence, and having thus completed the list so that it includes every habitable land on the globe, he nevertheless rejects with indignation the Malthusian doctrine; refuses to allow facts universally established to be generalized into a law. There is a double danger for him in the admission of such a doctrine: the direct danger, that it would destroy the value of the remedy he suggests; and the indirect danger, that if a law may be based upon one class of universal experiences, another law may, with equal justice, be based upon another class. If the hitherto unvarying experience that population does press upon the limits of production may be elevated to the rank of a natural law, then the equally unvarying experience that the right of property in land has always been recognised by all peoples in all climes as a necessary condition of agricultural prosperity, may also claim the respect due to a social axiom. Mr. HENRY GEORGE has to avoid this pitfall. But there are other pitfalls which he fails to avoid, probably because his mental vision is not keen

enough to perceive them. For example; while he goes about the world proclaiming that land is to be as free as the atmosphere, and that no exclusive ownership exists for any one in it, he nevertheless "claims for the community of California the right of excluding the whole human race absolutely, except on its own conditions, from a large portion of the earth's surface—a portion so large that it embraces no less than ninety-nine millions of acres." And this community, whose Government he denounces for ever consenting to part with any of these vast tracts, is a mere handful of men, less than one quarter of the population of London! But a pitfall even deeper lies immediately ahead. Supposing that Mr. GEORGE'S plans were carried out, and that ownership of the soil being abolished, it was parcelled out among individuals under some system of terminable leases, would not the whole area of any given region, thus parcelled out, be in the exclusive possession of a certain number of individuals for the periods of the leases, just as much as though it were their legal property? "Thus the absolute ownership which Mr. GEORGE declares to be blasphemous against God and Nature, is still asserted on behalf of some mere fraction of the human race, and this absolute ownership is again doled out to the members of this small community and to them alone, in such shares as it considers to be most remunerative to itself." As for the bodies whom he would constitute the sole and universal landlords, and to whom he would confide the duty of assessing and of spending the rents of everybody all over the area of the State, it is enough to quote his own words with regard to the experiment of popular Government in America:—"Speaking generally of the whole country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Lakes to the Gulf, our Government by the people has in a large degree become, in a larger degree becoming, government by the strong and unscrupulous." But Mr. HENRY GEORGE scoffs at all experience. The way to correct the corruption of democracies is, according to him, to give them larger opportunities to be corrupt. Nay more, the way to prepare Governments for this great trust, is to teach them the duty of repudiation. They are to begin by resuming the ownership of every bit of land already occupied, without compensation to the man who has bought it, who has spent upon it years of labour, and who from first to last has relied on the security of the State and on the honour of its Government. Well may the corruption of this teaching be called "desolating dishonour." It is purblind dishonour, too. For surely if ownership deserves no respect, neither will tenancy. "If one generation cannot bind the next to recognize a purchase, can one generation bind another to recognize a lease?" Truly Mr. GEORGE and his fellow lunatics have set themselves a strange task when they go about endeavouring

to overturn the customs into which the wisdom of all the ages has crystallized. If wholesale robbery of land be legal, why not also wholesale robbery of other properties? Why should not national debts be expunged, for surely they are as unjust as ownership of land? Mr. GEORGE, indeed, has not hesitated to push his doctrines towards their logical conclusion. In a recent publication, he says that "the institution of public debts, like the institution of private property in land, rests upon the preposterous assumption that one generation may bind another generation." But he has still another step to go. Since he considers that a Government would be justified in taking property entrusted to its honorable keeping, he cannot escape the still more legitimate contention that a Government may take property not entrusted to it. Thus every accumulation of industry would become liable to confiscation. Barbarism would be established as the summit of civilization. Even from this Mr. GEORGE does not shrink. Referring to that splendid war which the Northern States of America waged in the cause of humanity, he says:—"If when we called on men to die for their country, we had not shrunk from taking, if necessary, nine hundred and ninety-nine thousand dollars from every millionaire, we need not have created any debt." Civilized communities have been accustomed to think that without security of property material prosperity is impossible. In Korea at present men do not care to grow rich because evidences of wealth attract official spoliation. Mr. GEORGE would convert the whole world into a vast Korea. He would have the State, in time of need, help itself without stint out of the purse of every well-to-do citizen. The Duke of ARGYLL justly says of him:—"Here we have a man who probably sincerely thinks he is a Christian, and who sets up as a philosopher, but who is not the least shocked by consequences which abolish the Decalogue, and deny the primary obligations both of public and of private honour." This nineteenth century has produced a great many phenomena, but none more phenomenal than Mr. HENRY GEORGE.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Rowing Club was called last evening to discuss the advisability of holding Concerts either afternoon or evening during the summer months at the Boat House.

There was a small attendance, but amongst those present were—Mr. Hamilton (Chairman), Mr. Till (Hon. Secretary), and Messrs. Rickett, Pinn, Stewart, Hepburn, Sutter, Boag, Snow, Van Buren, Samuels, Gorman, Bull, Fraser, Glennie, Townley, Maxwell, Willoughby, Schwabe, &c.

The CHAIRMAN said that this was a general meeting called under the rules and duly advertised. It was called with the intention of getting up afternoon or evening concerts. The idea was that if they could get sufficient members to guarantee the expenses of the Band from Tokiyo

they might have a series of evening concerts and by this means raise funds, which were sadly wanted, to fence in and alter the portion of the Hatoba which they hoped would be granted to them by the Government. He thought that it would be necessary to appoint a committee to arrange affairs and to sell the tickets, but as the scheme might be said to originate with Mr. Hepburn, he would leave him to expound his views.

Mr. HEPBURN said that the Chairman had explained all he had to say. Funds were required, and he thought that this would be a good way of obtaining them. They would have to put up a fence on the pier, move the boundary wall, shift the flag-staff, and make sundry other alterations, besides this the house wanted some repairs. They did not wish to draw upon the reserve fund, which was put aside in case of a typhoon or other emergency, and he thought that if the meeting would sanction the Committee charging the members one *yen* entrance fee or five *yen* for the series of concerts which it was proposed to hold, there would be a good surplus to meet these expenses. He thought that as the object was to get money, the entrance should not be confined to members of the Club only, and would suggest that the sale of the tickets should be in the hands of the Committee or of a Special Committee appointed to manage the concerts so that no objectionable people should be admitted. He calculated that if 40 members could be induced to subscribe 5 *yen* each the scheme could be carried through. The first evening would be the most expensive and after that he thought 50 *yen* per night would cover it.

Mr. GLENNIE supposed that it would be the same as at the Bluff Gardens, where ladies well admitted free.

Mr. TILL calculated that it would cost *yen* 75 per night. Dance music was the cheapest, because they could get a portion of the band, but for concerts the band would not come without its full complement. He thought that ladies ought to be charged for, otherwise they would not get in sufficient money.

Mr. BOAG said that for the last two years there had been concerts in the Bluff Gardens, and he thought it would be better to find out whether there had been any surplus receipts, and also whether they intended to hold them this year again.

Mr. TILL made a proposition that 10 members should guarantee the sale of 10 tickets each for the first concert, in which case, if it succeeded, they would not want any guarantors.

Mr. BOAG seconded the proposition.

The CHAIRMAN said that before putting Mr. Till's proposition to the meeting it was first necessary to get the members to authorize the Committee to charge an entrance fee, at present they had no power to do so as any member could enter the compound so long as it was open.

Mr. PINN proposed that the present Committee be authorized to charge an entrance fee to the members on band evenings.

Mr. SAMUELS seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. TILL's motion was then put to the meeting and carried, the 100 tickets being subscribed for there and then.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether it was the wish of the members present that the permanent Committee of the Club should have the arrangement, of the concerts or would they like to appoint a special committee.

Mr. GLENNIE proposed and Mr. BOAG seconded, that the permanent Committee have charge of the whole of the arrangements.

This proposition was carried, and the meeting adjourned.

FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR THE 17th FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI (1884-85).

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

Before proceeding to specify the causes of the increase and decrease of the Revenue and Expenditure for the current fiscal year, as compared with previous years, a few important points require explanation, namely:—The total estimate of the Revenue is *yen* 75,982,969, showing an increase of *yen* 376,910, as compared with that of last year, *yen* 75,606,059. The causes which have led to the augmentation are to be found in the increase of the Tobacco Tax by *yen* 614,001, of the stamp tax on the papers for judicial proceedings by *yen* 530,576, and of the Gensai Kuriire (money to be transferred from the Reserve Fund to the ordinary receipts), and the miscellaneous receipts of both ordinary and extraordinary taxes by *yen* 1,656,616; making the total of *yen* 2,801,193. On the other hand, there is a decrease of *yen* 748,061 in the Tax on Companies, of *yen* 207,537 in the Tax on products of Hokkaido, and of *yen* 1,468,685 in the profits of the railways, &c., under the Public Works Department, the repayment of the loans made by the Government, and the sales of the Government property; the total being *yen* 2,424,283. Thus, the balance shows an increase of *yen* 376,910 as stated above. As regards the Expenditure, the total estimate is *yen* 75,982,562, the increase being *yen* 376,503 as compared with that of last year *yen* 75,606,059. This is attributable to an increase of *yen* 472,871 in the Expenses for the Imperial Family, of *yen* 1,630,000 in the redemption of paper money, and of *yen* 6,890,891 in the repayment of the Foreign Loan, the Expenditures for the Army and Navy and sundry expenditures both Ordinary and Extraordinary; making the total of *yen* 8,993,762. On the other hand, there is a decrease of *yen* 3,169,990, in redemption of the Domestic Loan, of *yen* 1,621,513 in Gunbibu Kuriire, and of *yen* 3,825,756 in the Contingency Fund of the Imperial Household Department, Cities, and Prefectures; the total being *yen* 8,617,259. Thus, the balance shows an increase of *yen* 376,503, as mentioned above. As regards the withdrawal of the paper currency, and the Gensai Kuriire (money to be transferred from the Ordinary receipts to the Reserve Fund), though there will be more or less increase or decrease according to the exigencies of the moment, the programme originally laid down will be adhered to with the utmost possible strictness.

The following are the several causes of increase in the Revenue:—

(N.B.—The items that underwent no change and the sums presenting no difference are excluded from these remarks.)

CUSTOMS REVENUES.—The import duties have suffered a decrease of *yen* 55,669, owing to the falling off in imports. This is, however, counterbalanced by an increase of *yen* 62,920 in the export duties, and of *yen* 2,419 in other various receipts, the total increase being *yen* 65,339.

TAX ON SAKÉ.—This shows a decrease of *yen* 178,400 on Licenses, consequent upon the decrease of the brewers since the issue of Notification No. 61, in the 15th year of Meiji, and though there has been some decrease in the amount of the production owing to the modification of the rate of taxation in the last fiscal year, there is a prospect of its being restored to its former condition. Hence, the increase of *yen* 70,553 in the tax on the amount of the brewing, and of *yen* 209,824 in License fees granting permission to brew for domestic consumption, applicants for which are on the increase. Thus, the total increase is *yen* 280,377.

TAX ON KOJI.—This shows an increase owing to an extension of demand consequent upon the increase of the saké brewed for domestic consumption.

TAX ON TOBACCO.—Although there has been a decrease of *yen* 119,632 in the business tax consequent upon a decrease in the number of Tobacco-traders since the issue of Notification No. 63, in the 15th year of Meiji (1882), yet this is counterbalanced by a considerable excess of the actual receipts in the previous year over the estimate; showing an increase of *yen* 733,633 in the stamp duties.

POSTAL DUTIES.—Although the sale of postage stamps and rent of boxes respectively show a decrease of *yen* 23,600 and *yen* 1,556 (amounting in the aggregate to *yen* 25,156), yet there is an increase of *yen* 27,864 in the fees charged for money orders, which are augmenting.

STAMP TAX ON PAPER FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.—Newly created by Notification No. 5 of the current year.

TAX ON SHIPS.—Although there has been a decrease of *yen* 43 in the tax imposed upon steamers and sailing ships of foreign build by Notification No. 13 of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), yet this is

counterbalanced by an increase of *yen* 62,057, of which *yen* 24,903 are from taxes on junks, and *yen* 37,154 from taxes on lighters, fishing boats, &c.

TAX ON VEHICLES.—Owing to an increase of vehicles of various descriptions.

FEES FOR PASSPORTS AND OTHERS.—Although under this heading there is a decrease of *yen* 1,003 owing to the fees for the issue of title deeds to foreigners and passports for internal travel having been transferred to the Miscellaneous Receipts, yet this is overbalanced by the sums of *yen* 1,380 arising from the imposition of *Ninkariyo* (permission fee) upon the brokers of the rice and stock exchanges according to Notification No. 28 of Council of State of the 16th year of Meiji (1883); of *yen* 13,211, in the licence fees for medical practitioners according to Notification No. 35, and of *yen* 3,099 in the fees for the engagement or discharge of mariners according to Notification No. 45. The increase is therefore *yen* 17,690.

PROFITS OF THE ARSENAL UNDER THE WAR DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the progress of the work in the Tokiyo Arsenal.

PROFITS OF THE DOCKYARDS UNDER THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the increasing number of ships undergoing repairs on account of the second dock in Yokosuka having been completed.

GENSAI KURIIRE.—Owing to an increase of the sums appropriated for repayment of the National Debts as per the plan for redemption.

RENT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.—Under this heading, there has been a decrease of *yen* 622 in consequence of the rents of the carriages and sledges of the Bureau for Control of Industries in Hokkaido and of the ships belonging to the Public Works Department having fallen off. But this is met by an increase of *yen* 36,552 in ground rents owing to the creek side having been newly let out in Tokiyo, and by increase in storage at the Explosive Storage Buildings in Yokohama, and of *yen* 18,861 in house rents; the total increase being *yen* 55,413.

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS (ORDINARY).—Owing to the sale of the Kwampo (Official Gazette) by Notification No. 22 of the Council of State of the 16th year of Meiji (1883).

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS (EXTRAORDINARY).—This item witnessed a decrease of *yen* 113,670 owing to the fee paid for exemption from conscription having been abolished by Notification No. 46 of the 16th year of Meiji. Against this decrease, however, has to be set an increase of *yen* 28,080 in the fines, and of *yen* 533,253 in the miscellaneous receipts; the total being *yen* 561,333.

In addition to the above fifteen items, there are four others—mining tax, copyright fees, profits of mines in Hiroshima Prefecture, and rent of Government lands in the treaty ports; making the total increase of *yen* 2,801,193.

The following are the causes of decrease in the estimated Revenue:—

(N.B.—Those items that underwent no change and sums presenting no difference are excluded from these remarks.)

LAND TAX.—Under this heading there has been an increase of *yen* 91,022 in stamp duties on title deeds, consequent upon the brisk transfer of lands, and of *yen* 17,875 in taxes imposed upon lands after the expiration of the hoeing term, the total being *yen* 108,897. This is, however, counterbalanced by a decrease of *yen* 192,910 in the taxes from Okinawa Prefecture (Riu Kiu Islands), which are paid in kind, owing to their depreciation, and of *yen* 57,166 owing to some loans payable by yearly instalments having been all paid off; the total decrease being *yen* 250,076.

TAX ON PRODUCTS OF HOKKAIDO.—Owing to the depreciation of the products received as taxes.

TAX ON RULED PAPER FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.—This item has been expunged by Notification No. 5 of the current year.

LAWYERS' LICENCE FEES.—This item shows a decrease as compared with the actual receipts in the previous year.

TAX ON COMPANIES.—Although there has been an increase of *yen* 27,324 in dues payable by the brokers of the Rice Exchange, as compared with the previous year, yet there is a decrease of *yen* 280 in the Tax on national Banks, owing to the closing of some of the National Banks. And taking into consideration the past circumstances, there would accrue a further decrease of *yen* 775,105 under the three headings, Taxes on Rice Exchanges, on Stock Exchanges, and Taxes payable by the brokers of the guild, so that the total decrease is *yen* 775,385.

SHOOTING LICENCES.—This item shows an increase of *yen* 390 in so far as the number of those who take out licences for pleasure are concerned. On the other hand, there has been a decrease of *yen* 4,846 in the tax upon professional hunting.

TAX ON HORSE AND CATTLE DEALERS.—Owing to a decrease in the number of licences.

TAX ON PATENT MEDICINES.—This shows a decrease as compared with the previous year.

MINTING PROFIT UNDER THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.—Owing to a decrease in the export of sulphuric acid.

PROFIT OF COAL UNDER THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to a depreciation in the value of coal.

PROFIT OF FACTORIES UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the work at the Senji Woollen Factory having been impeded by the destruction of the workshops by fire, and the depreciation of articles turned out in the Aichi Spinning Establishment.

PROFIT OF THE MINES UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Owing to a depreciation of mineral products.

PROFIT OF RAILWAYS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Although the traffic receipts have been augmented by yen 95,740, owing to the line between Tsuruga and Sekigahara having been completed, yet this is balanced by a decrease of yen 55,793 in the Tokiyo-Yokohama line, due to the diminution of passengers and merchandise, and of yen 211,400 in the receipts of the Kobe-Otsu line; the total decrease being yen 267,193.

PROFIT OF TELEGRAPHS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Owing to a decrease of messages, due to the stagnation in trade.

PROFIT OF SHIPBUILDING UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—This item shows an increase of yen 2,496 owing to the workshops have been perfected in the Hiogo Dockyard; but there has been a decrease of yen 4,720 in consequence of there being less work at the Nagasaki Dockyard.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS.—Owing to this item having been transferred to the Reserve Fund.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS MADE TO THE IMPERIAL FAMILIES AND EX-CLANS.—Owing to the same cause as above.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS MADE IN PROPORTION TO RICE PRODUCTION.—The same cause as above.

SALES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.—This item, though showing an increase of yen 3,001 on sales of buildings, has a decrease of yen 17,790 on sales of Government land, and of yen 134,317 on sales of articles, and as the price of mail-steamers sold was fully paid in the previous year, the total decrease is yen 152,107.

One more item, Tax on Scales, added to the above nineteen, makes a total decrease of yen 2,424,283.

This sum deducted from the aggregate amount of total increase, leaves a difference of yen 376,910, which is the net increase for the present fiscal year.

The following are the causes of increase in estimated expenditure:—

(N.B.—Those items that underwent no change and the sums presenting no great difference are excluded from these remarks.)

REPAYMENT OF FOREIGN DEBT.—Owing to an augmentation of sinking funds appropriated for the redemption of principal as the interest diminishes, amount for such redemption being the same every year.

REDUCTION OF PAPER CURRENCY.—Although yen 2,000,000 were transferred to the item Genshi Kuriire, yet the amount to be withdrawn has been increased by yen 3,630,000 according to the plan of redemption.

INTEREST ON DOMESTIC DEBT.—Although there has been a decrease of yen 331,461, owing to the principal of the new issue of Hereditary Pension Bonds, the Pension to the ex-Shinto priests, and to the Industrial Loan having been diminished, and the redemption of the voluntary capitalized pension bonds concluded, yet there is a total increase of yen 664,197. Of this, yen 14,197 belong to the Kinsatsu Exchange Bonds, yen 350,000 to the Nakasendo Railway Bonds, promulgated by Notification No. 47 of the 16th year of Meiji, and yen 300,000 to the newly issued unregistered Kinsatsu Exchange Bonds under Notification No. 48.

SUNDRY EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH DOMESTIC DEBTS.—Owing to the issue of the Nakasendo Railway, and unregistered Kinsatsu Exchange Bonds.

EXPENSES FOR IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD.—Sundry items for the Imperial Household Department have been included.

HEREDITARY PENSION BONDS TO THE SHIZOKU OF OKINAWA PREFECTURE.—Although this item shows a decrease of yen 743, owing to the gradual lapse of pensions, yet there is an increase of yen 19,436 due to an alteration in the standard, i.e., price of rice, whereby the dues in proportion to rice production were regulated, and of yen 26,764 due to the Aitai-Kikemashi (fees exacted by landlords from peasants as mutually agreed upon) etc., having been included in this heading.

GRATUITIES.—This item, newly established, is

made up of sums to be granted to Civil Officers on the occasion of their retirement, and of allowances to the military.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—Although there has been a decrease of yen 15,716 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the issue of Notifications No. 5, and No. 36 of the Council of State of the 17th year of Meiji (1884), yet an increase of soldiers necessitated an augmentation of yen 500,000, and the tour to Europe of the Minister of War yen 25,000; the total increase being yen 525,000.

NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—There has been a decrease of yen 8,654 in superannuation gratuities for the same reason as in the case of the War Department, and of yen 1,058 on account of fees for money transactions having been placed under charge of the Finance Department; showing a total decrease of yen 9,712; but the maintenance of new men-of-war has necessitated an increment of yen 153,850.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.—There has been a decrease of yen 1,370 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same reason as in the War Department; but there is an increase of yen 5,000 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the reform of educational courses in the Tokiyo Daigaku.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Decrease of yen 2,456 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same reason as in the War Department; but this is counterbalanced by an increase of yen 28,000, owing to the erection of a lighthouse and signal station at Muneyamisaki.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Decrease of yen 13,988 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same reason as in the War Department; but the construction of courts and repairs to official residences caused an increase of yen 230,576.

SENATE.—Decrease of yen 500, in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same reason as in the War Department; but outbalanced by yen 32,494, owing to the increase in the number of senators.

LEGATIONS AND CONSULATES ABROAD.—Increase owing to the establishment of a consulate at Lyons and to an increase of staff in the Consulate at Chefoo, China.

INTERNAL REVENUE OFFICE.—Decrease of yen 2,375 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same cause as in the War Department; but there has been an increase of yen 171,185 for the manufacture of stamps, &c., calculated from the actual expenses in the previous year.

POST OFFICE.—Decrease of yen 600 in superannuation gratuities, owing to the same cause as in the War Department; but the subsidy of yen 8,800 for navigation from and to Ninsen, Korea, the expenses for foreign tours, yen 14,555, and those for the extension of the postal service, yen 41,717, make the total increase of yen 65,072.

REPAIRS AND CONSTRUCTIONS.—There has been a decrease of yen 961 in repairs to the Explosive Storage Buildings at Yokohama and other places; but there is an increase of yen 5,300 owing to the reconstruction of the branch office of the Tokiyo-Fu in Ogasawara-jima (Bonin Islands).

ENGINEERING.—There has been a decrease of yen 104,751 in the expenses for the improvement of the Yodo, Fuji, Sho, and Oi Rivers, which works were executed with regard to their urgent nature or otherwise, and in the subsidy for the construction of roads in Fukushima Prefecture, of tunnels in Hiogo Prefecture, and repairs to the river embankments in Kumamoto Prefecture; there is a further decrease of yen 1,500, owing to the expense for repairs to the earthworks round the Imperial Palace having been transferred to the appropriation for repairs to the Palace, and a still further decrease of yen 56 in superannuation gratuities as in the case of the War Department. The total decrease is yen 106,307. On the other hand, the improvement of the Agano, Yoshino, Chikugo, and Mogami Rivers, such works being also done with regard to their urgency, and various engineering works in Okinawa Prefecture, necessitated an outlay of yen 69,590. There has also been another expenditure of yen 206,616 in connection with the opening of the Shimidzugoshi roads, improvement of Fushino River in Yamaguchi Prefecture, construction of roads in Hiogo, Tochigi, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigata, Akita, Iwate, and Yamaguchi Prefectures, and the dredging of rivers in Tokiyo. The total increase is yen 366,206.

EXPENSES FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES IN PREFECTURES AND CITIES.—This item, newly established, consequent upon the expenses for collection of National Taxes connected with the Expenditures for Cities and Prefectures, had been included here in expenses incurred for careful collection of taxes.

EXPENDITURES FOR CITY AND PROVINCIAL POLICE.—Though there has been a decrease of yen 5,777 in the superannuation gratuities, for the same reason as in the War Department, and of yen 3,560

in the subsidy to Cities and Prefectures, due to the rate of appropriation as fixed by the Bill for the Estimates of provincial expenses being less, making a total of yen 9,337, yet this is overbalanced by sums of yen 38,330 and yen 1,583, incurred respectively for the increase of police inspectors and the despatch of police at the Seven Islands of Idzu. The total increase is yen 39,913.

TOKIYO PENITENTIARY.—Decrease of yen 370 in superannuation gratuities owing to the same cause as in the War Department, but there is an increase of yen 32,419 in the expenses for convicts and other expenses owing to an increase in the number of convicts.

MIYAGI PENITENTIARY.—Decrease of yen 200 in the superannuation gratuities owing to the same cause as in the War Department, but it is counterbalanced by yen 30,074, owing to the same cause as above.

MIIKE PENITENTIARY.—Decrease of yen 250 in the superannuation gratuities, owing to the same cause as in the War Department, but it is overbalanced by an increase of yen 7,284 owing to the augmentation of officers and of their salaries on account of the increase in the number of convicts.

SORACHI PENITENTIARY.—Decrease of yen 1,500 in the superannuation gratuities, owing to the same cause as in the War Department, and yen 2,752 in expenses for convicts, making a total decrease of yen 4,252. But there is an increase of yen 20,781 in salaries and other outlays.

EXPENSES FOR SHRINES.—Increase owing to the "Futa-Ara-Yama Jinsha" having been made a National Shrine of the second grade, and the salaries of Shinto priests increased, by Notification No. 57 of the Council of State of the 16th year of Meiji.

EXPENSES FOR REPAIRS TO THE SURROUNDINGS OF THE IMPERIAL PALACE.—Owing to the expenses for repairs to the earthwork round the Imperial Palace having been transferred from the Engineering expenses.

EXPENSES FOR DECORATIONS AND GRATUITIES.—This item, established owing to its having been transferred from the Miscellaneous Outlays (ordinary), in accordance with the result of the actual expenses of the previous year.

EXPENSES FOR CUPS OF MERIT AND REWARDS.—Newly established, the sums under control of the Central Police Office and of Cities and Prefectures having been combined.

MISCELLANEOUS OUTLAYS (ORDINARY).—Decrease of yen 46,980, owing to the Decorations and Gratuities having been transferred to the item above. But there is an increase of yen 86,000 on account of the expenses for forwarding money having been transferred from the Finance Department, and of yen 48,000 for publication of the Official Gazette, showing a total of yen 134,000.

EXPENSES FOR CREATION OF INDUSTRY UNDER TELEGRAPHS OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the construction of lines between Sapporo, Nemuro, &c.

WOOLLEN FACTORY OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to setting the machines and reconstructing of the workshops which had been destroyed by fire.

EXPENSES FOR BUILDING OF MEN-OF-WAR.—Owing to many ships having been built this year.

SUBSIDY TO THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY.—Although the traffic receipts are increasing, yet as the line is extended and is not yet completed the amount of subsidy becomes larger and larger—hence the increase.

MISCELLANEOUS OUTLAYS (EXTRAORDINARY).—There has been a decrease of yen 42,215 in the subsidy to the Commercial School, the salary of priests of shrines and temples in Okinawa Prefecture, the yearly fund for encouragement of industries, and in expenses for maintenance of men-of-war in Korean waters; and a further decrease of yen 169,075 owing to the expenses of the erection of the Emperor Kwammu's tomb at Kashiwara Hill, and for the construction of Judicial Courts:—those for the removal of the shisoku from Himeji castle, those for education of students abroad, those for land taxation reform and for the competitive exhibition of tea and the Shuidan Kwai (meeting of tea manufacturers for investigating questions concerning tea production), did not occur in previous years. The total decrease is yen 211,290. This is, however, counterbalanced by an increase of yen 163,420 arising from the grant of a subsidy to the Kunashiri Islands, expenses for shipping inspection office, and competitive exhibition of pierced cocoons, lacquer work, fabrics, and porcelain, exhibition at New Orleans, U.S.A., destruction of voracious insects in the Hokkaido, interchange of art objects with foreign countries, rebuilding of the Tokiyo Normal School, increase of the militia and their movements, and training of police in military tactics. Beside

this, there is another increase of *yen* 189,003 in the expenses for prizes to the union competitive exhibitions of Cities and Prefectures, in those for relief of the natives of Nemiuro Prefecture, and others. The total increase is *yen* 352,423.

GENSHI KURIIRE, FOR REDUCTION OF THE PAPER CURRENCY.—Owing to this having been transferred from the item "Redemption of paper currency."

Another item—Pension to Military—added to the above thirty-five, makes the total increase of *yen* 8,993,762.

The following are items showing causes of decrease in the estimated expenditure:—

(Those which underwent no change and sums showing no great change are excluded from these remarks).

REPAYMENT OF DOMESTIC DEBTS.—Although there has been a total increase of *yen* 98,705 (*yen* 80 in old Loan, *yen* 67,750 in *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds, *yen* 12,075 in pension bonds to ex-priests of shrines, and *yen* 18,800 in Industrial Bonds), yet there is a decrease of *yen* 400 in New Loan Bonds, *yen* 2,220 in hereditary pension Bonds, and *yen* 3,266,075 owing to the entire redemption of the voluntary Capitalized Pension Bonds, making the total *yen* 3,268,695.

INTEREST ON FOREIGN DEBTS.—Owing to the principal having diminished.

ANNUAL GRATUITIES FOR MERITORIOUS DEEDS.—Owing to the recipients having died.

PENSIONS FOR SHRINES AND TEMPLES.—Owing to this payment having ended with last year.

COUNCIL OF STATE.—Owing to a decrease of the superannuation gratuities consequent upon the issue of Notifications No. 5 and 36 of the Council of State.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the same reason as above, and to the expense connected with monetary transactions having been transferred to the Finance Department.

HOME DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the same cause as in the Council of State.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.—There has been an increase of *yen* 20,420 in consequence of the expenses (*yen* 11,390) connected with monetary transactions for the Foreign and Naval Departments and other offices, and those for exchange of paper currency (*yen* 9,030) having been transferred to this item from Cities and Prefectures. But there is a decrease of *yen* 86,000 owing to insurance on remittances and pay to the Kawasekata having been transferred to the expenses for forwarding the money of the Miscellaneous Outlays (ordinary), and another decrease of *yen* 7,655 in superannuation gratuities owing to the same cause as in the Council of State; the total decrease is *yen* 93,655.

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.—Although the establishment of the Commercial School caused an expense of *yen* 10,000, yet there has been a decrease of *yen* 14,837 in the working expenses of the Breeding Farm in Shimosa, and of *yen* 3,166 in the superannuation gratuities owing to the same cause as in the Council of State; the total being *yen* 18,003.

IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.—Owing to transfer to the Imperial Household expenses.

CUSTOMS BUREAU.—Owing to the same cause as in the Council of State.

BUREAU FOR CONTROL OF INDUSTRIES IN HOKKAIDO.—Owing to the same cause as in the Council of State, and to the expenses of the breeding farm at Uii-Kapo-Maki having been transferred to the item of Imperial Household Expenses.

EXPENDITURES FOR CITIES AND PREFECTURES.—Owing to a decrease of the superannuation gratuities from the same cause as in the Council of State, the transfer of Imperial tomb-keeper's salary to the Imperial Household expenses, and of expenses for exchange of money to the Finance Department, and of expenses for imposing of national taxation and for collection of taxes in Cities and Prefectures; and owing to the decrease in expenses for relief and for local expenses in Okinawa Prefecture.

CENTRAL POLICE OFFICE.—Owing to the same cause as in the Council of State.

KABATO PENITENTIARY.—Decrease here is owing to the same cause as above and to a diminution in the expenses for convicts owing to a fall in the cost of commodities.

EXPENSES FOR CRIMINALS IN PRISONS OF CITIES AND PREFECTURES.—Owing to the same cause as above and to a decrease in the number of criminals.

EXPENSES FOR WORKING OF DOCKS UNDER THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the completion of the second dock at Yokosuka.

GUNPOWDER FACTORY UNDER THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the outlay in previous years having been dispensed with.

MINING EXPENSES UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Owing to the same cause as above.

EXPENSES FOR WORKING OF RAILWAYS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Owing to certain outlays having been reduced.

EXPENSES FOR ERECTION OF THE TEMPORARY PALACE.—Owing to the decrease of the original fund in consequence of donations from the people (which were made a separate fund in the 15th fiscal year, apart from the Miscellaneous Receipts) being employed for this purpose.

EXPENSES FOR REGULAR REPAIRS TO THE JINGU SHRINE.—Owing to the felling of timbers necessary for its construction having been brought to an end.

WAR SUPPLEMENTARY FUND.—Owing to the excessive outlay in consequence of the enlargement of the military organization.

CONTINGENCY FUND.—This item has not been provided for owing to the generally ample nature of the appropriations this year.

The total amount of decrease in the above twenty-four items is *yen* 8,617,259.

The above, deducted from the total increase, leaves a sum of *yen* 376,503, which is the net surplus for the current fiscal year.

APPENDIX.

The total amount of the domestic and foreign debts remaining unredeemed was, on the 30th April, 1884, *yen* 324,709,013.80. This amount, compared with the sum of *yen* 335,366,186.30 mentioned in the Budget of the last fiscal year, shows a decrease of *yen* 10,657,172.50. This decrease has been effected in the following manner:—By the issue of *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds, an increase of *yen* 325,950; an increase of *yen* 1,250,000 by the issue of unregistered *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds; of *yen* 3,091,600 by the issue of the Nakasendo Railway Bonds, and of *yen* 5,300 by the adjustment of various other loans, making a total of *yen* 4,672,850; but a decrease of *yen* 10,023,615 was effected by the redemption of the new loan, *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds, Voluntary Capitalized Pension Bonds, and of other domestic debts, *yen* 430,416 by the redemption of the foreign debt, *yen* 4,875,950, by the redemption of outstanding paper currency, and *yen* 41.50 by the withdrawal of counterfeit paper currency, making a total of *yen* 15,330,022.50.

The total amount of the Reserve Fund was *yen* 47,403,156.043, on the 30th April, 1884. This amount, compared with that of the reserve fund of *yen* 53,415,490.442 mentioned in the Budget of the last fiscal year, shows a decrease of *yen* 6,012,334.399. This decrease was caused in the following manner:—Although the sums *yen* 13,744 and *yen* 11,710.022, derived from the surplus in the 13th and 14th fiscal years respectively, and *yen* 938,674.867, being interest on Public Loan Bonds and profit of drawn bonds—both belonging to the Reserve Fund—were added to the fund, making a total of *yen* 950,398.633, yet there is a decrease of *yen* 5,223,429.406, owing to that sum having been transferred to the ordinary expenditure for the purpose of refunding the money borrowed for the subjugation of the south-western rebellion, and *yen* 1,739,303.626 owing to loss caused by exchanging paper currency for specie, making the total *yen* 6,962,733.032.

The total amount of advances was, on the 30th April, 1884, *yen* 23,696,128.40, showing an increase of *yen* 4,634,569.103 as compared with that of last year—*yen* 19,061,559.297. The cause is that, although there has been a decrease of *yen* 373,482.645 in consequence of loans made for relief having been fully repaid, of *yen* 683,997.657 owing to the adjustment of loans to former *Han* and repudiation, and of *yen* 525,507.742 arising from the reduction of a certain sum of capital for maintenance of industries under various Departments (amounting in the aggregate to *yen* 1,582,988.044), yet there has been a total increase of *yen* 6,217,557.147, of which *yen* 4,382.184 are the expenses handed over to the various Departments for the maintenance of their industries, *yen* 323,174.963 the sum added thereto by the alteration of management of advances, and *yen* 5,890,000, advanced hitherto out of the Reserve Fund, is classed as an advance out of the ordinary revenue.

The fund for the relief of agricultural distress was, on the 30th April, 1884, *yen* 2,230,554.743; showing an increase of *yen* 332,859.505 as compared with that of last year—*yen* 897,695.238. This is due to the fact that the remainder—*yen* 150,000—of the sums handed to every city and prefecture for the said purpose, for the second half of the 16th Fiscal year, and for the first half of the 15th Fiscal year, has been included in this item, and also due to the addition of the interest on the *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds, *yen* 32,859.505.

The total amount of the Special Receipts was *yen* 1,000,000 on the 31st April, 1884. The amount

compared with that of last fiscal year—*yen* 884,508.02—shows an increase of *yen* 115,491.98. The cause is that the sum of *yen* 884,508.02 in silver was exchanged for paper currency, which has been invested in *Kinsatsu* Exchange Bonds with a view to their increment, and the paper currency so exchanged will be destroyed.

NATIONAL DEBT.

DOMESTIC DEBT.

Domestic Debt, bearing interest...	214,479,310.000
New Debt, at 4 per cent.	10,752,450.000
<i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds at 6 per cent.	6,070,350.000
Unregistered <i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds.....	1,250,000.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds	171,835,835.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 5 per cent.	31,051,345.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 6 per cent.	24,713,275.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 7 per cent.	106,991,700.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 10 per cent.....	9,079,515.000
Pension Bonds for ex-Shinto Priests at 8 per cent.....	147,125.000
Loans for Public Works at 6 per cent.	11,331,950.000
Nakasendo Railway Bonds at 7 per cent.	3,091,600.000
Money borrowed for Subjugation of the South-Western Rebellion at 7½ per cent.....	10,000,000.000
Domestic Debt, without interest (old debt)	8,339,271.000
Paper Money in Circulation	93,414,360.800
Total of Domestic Debt	316,232,941.800
Increase as compared with the estimate of the last year ...	4,672,850.000
Increase in Issue	4,667,550.000
<i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds.	325,950.000
Unregistered <i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds.....	1,250,000.000
Nakasendo Railway Bonds.	3,091,600.000
Increase by adjustment.....	5,300.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 7 per cent	500.000
Pension Bonds for ex-Shinto Priests	275.000
Old Debts	4,525.000
Decrease as compared with the estimate of last year	14,899,606.500
Decrease in Redemption	10,023,615.000
New Debts	100,475.000
<i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds ...	100,400.000
Voluntary Capitalized Pension Bonds	3,265,050.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 5 per cent.	180,530.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 6 per cent.	144,520.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 7 per cent.	622,045.000
Hereditary Pension Bonds at 10 per cent.	53,095.000
Pension Bonds for Ex-Shinto Priests	19,950.000
Loans for Public Works	317,100.000
Money borrowed for Subjugation of the South-Western Rebellion	5,000,000.000
Old Debts	220,450.000
Decrease of Paper Money	4,875,991.500
Withdrawal.....	3,300,000.000
Paper Currency Exchanged for <i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds	325,950.000
Paper Currency Exchanged for Unregistered <i>Kinsatsu</i> Exchange Bonds	1,250,000.000
Withdrawal of Counterfeit Paper Currency	41.500

FOREIGN DEBT.

New Debt at 7 per cent	8,476,072.000
Increase as compared with the estimate of last year	430,416.000
Grand Total of Domestic and Foreign Debts	324,709,013.800
Reserve Funds	47,403,156.043
Sundry Loans due to Government	23,696,128.400
Central Fund for relief of Agricultural distress	2,230,554.743
Special receipts	1,000,000.000

TABLE I.—“COMPARATIVE TABLES OF THE ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR RECENT YEARS.”

SOURCE.	REVENUE.					DIFFERENCE BY COMPARISON.			
	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 17TH YEAR.	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 16TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 15TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 14TH YEAR.	ACTUAL ACCOUNT FOR 13TH YEAR.	16TH YEAR.	15TH YEAR.	14TH YEAR.	13TH YEAR.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Taxes	70,260,776.000	70,256,720.000	67,738,535.385	61,675,927.396	55,252,472.678	4,056.000	2,522,240.615	8,584,848.604	14,998,354.322
Custom Duties	2,610,000.000	2,600,330.000	2,613,290.935	2,569,666.391	2,624,177.440	9,670.000	3,200.935	49,333.609	14,177.440
Land Tax	42,888,566.000	43,029,745.000	43,342,187.876	43,274,031.896	42,346,181.483	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	542,384.517
Mining Tax	16,092.000	15,878.000	18,805.859	26,631.226	12,990.199	214.000	Dec.	Dec.	3,101.801
Tax on Products of Hokkaido	656,656.000	864,193.000	864,711.735	817,836.699	899,086.916	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	242,430.916
Tax on Saké	16,813,612.000	16,711,635.000	16,331,404.531	10,646,163.274	5,511,335.469	101,977.000	482,117.469	6,167,448.726	11,302,276.531
Tax on Koji	65,850.000	56,500.000	47,200.400	56,796.400	66,550.000	9,350.000	18,649.600	9,553.600	700.000
Tax on Tobacco	1,588,200.000	974,199.000	280,849.409	276,332.365	292,881.114	—	1,307,350.591	1,311,867.635	1,295,318.886
Stamp Tax on Legal Documents	886,336.000	886,336.000	872,794.477	885,826.286	869,260.352	—	13,541.523	599.714	17,075.648
Postage Stamps	2,252,708.000	2,250,000.000	1,612,984.824	1,659,679.797	1,423,728.236	2,708.000	639,723.176	593,028.203	828,979.764
Stamp Tax on Papers for Judicial Proceedings	530,576.000	—	—	—	1,423,728.236	530,576.000	530,576.000	530,576.000	530,576.000
Lawyers' Licences	10,270.000	11,500.000	10,270.000	10,120.000	8,510.000	Dec.	Dec.	150.000	1,760.000
Tax on Ships	198,145.000	136,131.000	135,219.454	133,417.680	135,289.437	62,014.000	62,925.546	64,727.320	62,855.563
Tax on Vehicles	453,847.000	441,549.000	453,866.183	428,210.865	379,485.766	Dec.	Dec.	25,636.135	74,361.234
Tax on Companies	531,483.000	1,279,544.000	435,974.157	496,223.647	334,277.920	Dec.	Dec.	35,259.353	197,205.080
Shooting Licences	86,162.000	90,618.000	85,892.450	90,313.950	79,258.627	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	6,903.373
Horse and Cattle Dealers' Licences	87,789.000	88,939.000	87,719.646	88,437.141	84,201.850	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	3,587.150
Druggists' Licences	556,495.000	686,495.000	364,942.042	84,246.064	86,041.170	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	470,453.830
Measures and Scales Tax	2,443.000	3,309.000	2,429.221	3,298.876	3,718.587	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	1,275.587
Copyright Licences	4,373.000	3,691.000	4,375.959	3,703.149	3,311.214	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	1,061.786
Fees for Foreign Passports and Others	21,173.000	4,486.000	4,049.691	7,936.569	7,795.068	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	13,377.932
Old Standing Taxes	—	—	2,557.161	547.721	899.810	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	899.810
Tax on Ruled Paper for Judicial Proceedings	—	121,642.000	166,916.375	116,507.400	93,441.020	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	93,441.020
Industrial Profits	1,581,296.000	1,912,415.000	1,828,002.126	2,146,697.776	2,104,329.781	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	523,933.781
Minting under Finance Department	355,700.000	397,811.000	462,666.781	385,233.415	487,409.910	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	131,709.910
Shipbuilding under Naval Department	17,170.000	35,000.000	1,326.287	12,373.841	25,343.856	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	17,170.000
Coal Mines under Naval Department	1,592.000	4,651.000	4,080.487	1,896.783	194.647	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	82,456.144
Gunpowder under Naval Department	—	26,584.000	77,425.770	16,276.860	0.215	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	1,397.353
Manufactures under Agricultural and Commercial Department	14,350.000	222,319.000	275,938.729	300,088.772	31,044.096	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	16,624.096
Mining under Public Works Department	65,288.000	913,845.959	913,845.959	1,127,478.847	888,560.870	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	332,328.250
Railways under Public Works Department	988,580.000	39,144.000	90,541.914	263,628.324	214,693.410	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	100,019.130
Telegraphs under Public Works Department	5,500.000	8,251.000	704.148	15,233.717	5,288.747	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	209,193.410
Shipbuilding under Public Works Department	6,027.000	18,622.000	120.024	50.972	112.435	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	738.253
Mines in Hiroshima Ken	19,289.000	—	1,128.798	—	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	19,176.565
Medical laboratories under Home Department	—	—	—	—	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	—
Printing under Finance Department	—	—	—	—	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	41,487.405
Dipping of Mineral Oil under Public Works Department	—	—	69.833	206.081	735.220	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	735.220
Works and Manufactures under Colonization Commission	—	—	—	15,639.965	11,842.720	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	11,842.720
Railways in Hokkaido	—	—	—	8,590.199	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	—
Gen-sai-Kuri-ire	2,190,926.000	1,391,687.000	—	—	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	2,190,926.000
Sundry Receipts	485,913.000	382,436.000	321,637.876	454,435.291	669,822.479	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	183,999.479
Income from Forests	232,767.000	232,767.000	175,283.882	258,068.682	411,266.014	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	178,499.014
Rent of Government Property	125,092.000	70,301.000	62,470.299	111,948.088	155,068.615	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	29,976.615
Rent of Government Land at open Cities and Ports	80,054.000	79,368.000	83,883.695	84,418.521	103,487.850	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	23,433.850
Miscellaneous Receipts	48,000.000	—	—	—	—	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	48,000.000
Total of Ordinary Revenue	74,518,911.000	73,943,258.000	69,888,175.387	64,277,060.463	58,036,373.938	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	16,482,337.062
Repayment of Debts due to the Government	—	497,300.000	411,506.090	637,375.058	663,334.457	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	663,334.457
Repayment of Advances	—	383,067.000	290,299.347	436,961.858	446,455.565	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	446,455.565
Repayment of Loans made to Imperial Princes and Former Han	—	82,371.000	110,196.739	159,721.805	146,968.497	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	146,968.497
Repayment of Loans in proportion to Rice Production	—	31,862.000	11,084.004	49,691.395	69,910.395	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	69,910.395
Other Miscellaneous	1,464,058.000	1,165,501.000	3,208,565.005	6,543,604.143	4,667,346.058	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	3,203,288.058
Sales of Government Property	547,763.000	696,866.000	545,603.525	739,951.639	1,183,427.029	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	635,664.029
Sundry Receipts	916,205.000	468,632.000	2,662,866.480	5,806,652.504	3,483,919.029	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	2,567,624.029
Total of Extraordinary Revenue	1,464,058.000	1,662,801.000	3,620,125.095	7,180,979.201	5,330,680.515	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	3,866,622.515
Grand Total of Revenue	75,982,969.000	75,606,059.000	73,508,300.482	71,458,039.664	63,367,254.453	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	12,615,714.547

TABLE II.—EXPENDITURE.

SOURCE.	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 17TH YEAR.	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 16TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 15TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 14TH YEAR.	ACTUAL ACCOUNT FOR 13TH YEAR.	DIFFERENCE BY COMPARISON.			
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	16TH YEAR.	15TH YEAR.	14TH YEAR.	13TH YEAR.
Redemption of National Debt	7,282,671.000	8,792,405.000	8,203,660.713	12,136,583.809	6,240,201.037	Dec. 1,509,734.000	Dec. 1,010,998.713	Dec. 4,833,912.809	Yen. 1,042,379.963
Domestic Debt	1,851,999.000	5,021,989.000	4,541,098.284	4,184,113.221	2,981,301.665	Dec. 3,169,990.000	Dec. 2,689,999.284	Dec. 2,332,114.221	Dec. 1,129,302.665
Foreign Debt	460,672.000	430,416.000	452,571.429	952,470.588	1,258,929.372	30,256.000	8,000.571	Dec. 4,917,988.588	Dec. 798,257.372
Paper Money	4,970,000.000	3,340,000.000	3,300,000.000	7,000,000.000	2,000,000.000	1,630,000.000	1,670,000.000	Dec. 2,030,000.000	Dec. 2,970,000.000
Interest and Expenses on National Debt	14,990,255.000	14,599,282.000	15,121,291.479	15,610,538.906	16,180,281.467	308,973.000	Dec. 213,036.479	Dec. 702,283.906	Dec. 1,272,026.467
Interest on Domestic Debt	14,294,101.000	13,961,365.000	14,382,250.957	14,801,421.596	14,981,522.576	332,736.000	Dec. 88,149.957	Dec. 507,320.596	Dec. 687,421.576
Sundry Expenses on Domestic Debt	15,107.000	8,861.000	8,850.930	8,641.560	—	6,306.000	Dec. 6,316.070	Dec. 6,525.440	Dec. 15,107.000
Interest on Foreign Debt	593,326.000	623,455.000	733,834.430	790,785.585	1,185,508.902	Dec. 30,129.000	Dec. 130,508.430	Dec. 197,459.585	Dec. 592,182.902
Sundry Expenses on Foreign Debt	5,601.000	5,601.000	6,355.102	9,690.165	13,249.989	—	Dec. 694.102	Dec. 4,029.105	Dec. 7,588.989
Civil List and appanages of the Imperial Families	2,221,656.000	1,748,785.000	1,788,721.000	1,523,491.611	1,042,975.000	472,871.000	Dec. 432,935.000	Dec. 608,164.389	Dec. 1,178,681.000
Pensions, &c.	437,665.000	412,740.000	430,221.879	456,532.008	511,613.161	24,925.000	Dec. 7,443.121	Dec. 18,867.008	Dec. 73,948.161
Annuitants attached to the Order of Merit	146,749.000	148,337.000	147,781.733	148,284.500	150,589.500	Dec. 1,588.000	Dec. 1,032.733	Dec. 1,535.500	Dec. 3,840.500
Gratuities to the Military	137,831.000	137,591.000	142,014.175	145,338.820	178,472.547	240.000	Dec. 4,183.175	Dec. 7,527.820	Dec. 40,641.547
Hereditary Pensions to Shizoku of Okinawa Ken	153,085.000	113,028.000	113,935.066	115,033.876	115,033.876	39,457.000	Dec. 39,149.934	Dec. 38,051.124	Dec. 38,051.124
Pensions to Shrines and Temples	—	13,184.000	26,490.995	47,854.812	67,317.238	Dec. 13,184.000	Dec. 26,490.995	Dec. 47,854.812	Dec. 67,317.238
Gratuities	35,000.000	—	—	—	—	35,000.000	Dec. 35,000.000	Dec. 35,000.000	Dec. 35,000.000
Expenditure of Council of State, Ministries, Senate, and Special Bureaux	25,436,139.000	24,787,092.000	23,658,197.928	22,492,032.811	24,159,465.474	649,047.000	1,777,941.072	Dec. 2,944,086.189	Dec. 1,276,673.526
Council of State	627,232.000	632,232.000	624,232.000	631,433.504	467,680.579	Dec. 5,000.000	Dec. 3,000.000	Dec. 4,231.504	Dec. 159,531.421
Foreign Department	193,420.000	195,210.000	195,210.000	210,541.000	247,372.101	Dec. 1,790.000	Dec. 1,790.000	Dec. 17,121.000	Dec. 53,952.101
Home Department	637,425.000	639,225.000	672,225.000	1,019,441.551	1,444,237.523	Dec. 1,800.000	Dec. 65,200.000	Dec. 382,016.551	Dec. 806,812.523
Finance Department	596,504.000	669,829.000	672,709.000	1,275,995.391	1,473,791.681	Dec. 73,235.000	Dec. 76,115.000	Dec. 679,371.391	Dec. 877,107.681
War Department	10,615,560.000	10,105,872.000	8,588,116.791	8,208,608.933	8,434,529.796	509,284.000	2,027,039.209	2,406,547.007	Dec. 2,180,626.204
Naval Department	3,225,830.000	3,081,692.000	3,160,492.000	3,014,758.483	3,165,222.052	144,138.000	Dec. 65,338.000	Dec. 211,071.517	Dec. 60,607.948
Educational Department	938,665.000	935,035.000	935,035.000	895,897.000	1,177,197.999	Dec. 3,630.000	Dec. 3,630.000	Dec. 42,768.000	Dec. 238,532.999
Agricultural and Commercial Department	895,294.000	903,297.000	1,017,660.239	1,144,619.634	281,098.451	Dec. 8,003.000	Dec. 122,366.239	Dec. 249,325.634	Dec. 614,195.549
Public Works Department	493,844.000	468,294.000	512,104.000	476,954.540	565,389.861	25,550.000	Dec. 18,260.000	Dec. 16,889.460	Dec. 71,545.861
Judicial Department	2,287,144.000	2,070,556.000	2,070,556.000	1,798,541.367	1,779,822.977	31,994.000	Dec. 216,588.000	Dec. 500,407.500	Dec. 44,633.617
Senate	217,404.000	185,500.000	192,698.937	179,854.367	172,860.383	19,599.000	Dec. 22,099.000	Dec. 88,001.482	Dec. 338,271.925
Legations and Consulates abroad	552,994.000	533,395.000	530,895.000	476,954.540	—	168,810.000	Dec. 912,501.612	Dec. 793,047.000	Dec. 793,047.000
Bureau of Inland Revenue	793,047.000	624,237.000	1,705,548.612	—	—	Dec. 1,310.000	Dec. 253,172.000	Dec. 203,661.000	Dec. 203,661.000
Customs Bureau	203,661.000	204,971.000	208,782.349	—	—	Dec. 64,472.000	Dec. 628,867.000	Dec. 1,058,558.745	Dec. 1,181,749.045
Post Office	2,520,472.000	2,405,000.000	2,276,300.000	1,470,913.255	1,347,722.955	Dec. 42,420.000	Dec. 395,633.000	Dec. 386,401.573	Dec. 2,184,356.547
Bureau for Administering the Hokkaido Industries	628,867.000	—	—	—	—	Dec. 401,460.000	Dec. 137,093.326	Dec. 548,776.508	Dec. 1,951,648.468
Colonization Commission	—	401,460.000	395,633.000	1,324,904.562	350,533.726	Dec. 264,238.000	Dec. 28,114.126	Dec. 7,926.426	Dec. 403,952.629
Imperial Household Department	—	—	—	525,205.402	509,222.629	4,339.000	Dec. 108,979.200	Dec. 556,703.024	Dec. 1,547,695.839
Land Tax Reform Office	1,073,982.000	809,744.000	936,888.674	113,196.426	2,516,407.839	259,899.000	Dec. 398,497.134	Dec. 361,922.674	Dec. 1,053,097.019
Repairs	105,270.000	100,931.000	77,155.874	412,068.976	5,231,059.019	Dec. 1,154,647.000	Dec. 1,348,095.000	Dec. 1,56,996.276	Dec. 127,434.285
Engineering	968,712.000	708,813.000	859,732.800	3,816,039.320	—	1,348,095.000	Dec. 107,779.938	Dec. 4,900.000	Dec. 930,520.393
Expenditure for Cities and Prefectures	4,177,962.000	5,332,609.000	4,576,459.134	2,343,843.724	2,628,274.285	Dec. 25,476.000	Dec. 112,979.938	Dec. 183,833.851	Dec. 803,086.108
Expenditure for Police, Metropolitan and Provincial	1,348,095.000	2,475,364.000	2,393,060.062	414,195.575	1,310,395.892	Dec. 30,576.000	Dec. 127,926.658	Dec. 647,131.000	Dec. 84,737.000
Central Police Office	2,500,840.000	392,458.000	392,258.000	1,929,648.149	—	Dec. 2,020.000	Dec. 38,744.000	Dec. 83,272.000	Dec. 83,272.000
Three Cities and all Prefectures	647,131.000	649,751.000	519,204.342	—	—	Dec. 32,049.000	Dec. 45,505.071	Dec. 42,523.000	Dec. 42,523.000
Penitentiaries	84,737.000	52,688.000	45,993.000	—	—	Dec. 29,874.000	Dec. 37,711.353	Dec. 195,663.000	Dec. 195,663.000
Penitentiary in Tokio	83,272.000	53,398.000	37,766.929	—	—	Dec. 7,034.000	Dec. 25,280.819	Dec. 184,124.000	Dec. 184,124.000
Penitentiary in Miyagi	42,523.000	35,489.000	4,811.647	—	—	Dec. 16,529.000	Dec. 84,889.054	Dec. 56,812.000	Dec. 56,812.000
Penitentiary in Mito	195,663.000	202,284.000	170,382.181	—	—	Dec. 81,485.000	Dec. 104,203.639	Dec. 11,223.272	Dec. 24,270.032
Penitentiary in Kabato	184,124.000	167,595.000	99,234.946	—	—	Dec. 2,484.000	Dec. 2,973.284	Dec. 28,000.000	Dec. 95,454.915
Penitentiary in Sorachi	56,812.000	138,297.000	161,015.639	—	—	Dec. 143,049.728	Dec. 240,612.735	Dec. 1,128.798	Dec. 1,785.458
Expenditure on Shrines	154,273.000	151,789.000	151,299.716	1,200,000.000	1,052,291.489	Dec. 2,484.000	Dec. 203,707.700	Dec. 51,821	Dec. 20,498.389
Fund for relief of Agricultural Distresses	—	1,200,000.000	1,200,000.000	28,000.000	95,454.915	—	Dec. 240,612.735	Dec. 1,128.798	Dec. 1,785.458
Supplement to Deficiency of Capital for Maintaining Public Works and Industries	—	—	240,612.735	—	—	—	Dec. 15,724.416	Dec. 51,821	Dec. 20,498.389
Manufactures under Home Department	—	—	1,128.798	—	—	—	Dec. 203,707.700	Dec. 51,821	Dec. 20,498.389
Manufactures under Agricultural and Commercial Department	—	—	15,724.416	—	—	—	Dec. 20,000.000	Dec. 28,000.000	Dec. 33,894.576
Mines under Agricultural and Commercial Department	—	—	51,821	—	—	—	Dec. 20,000.000	Dec. 28,000.000	Dec. 33,894.576
Mines under Public Works Department	—	—	203,707.700	—	—	—	Dec. 20,000.000	Dec. 28,000.000	Dec. 33,894.576
Shipbuilding under Public Works Department	—	—	20,000.000	—	—	—	Dec. 20,000.000	Dec. 28,000.000	Dec. 33,894.576

TABLE II.—EXPENDITURE.—CONTINUED.

SOURCE.	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 17TH YEAR.	ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 16TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 15TH YEAR.	PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 14TH YEAR.	ACTUAL ACCOUNT FOR 13TH YEAR.	DIFFERENCE OF COMPARISON.			
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	16TH YEAR.	15TH YEAR.	14TH YEAR.	13TH YEAR.
Miscellaneous Expenditure	401,729,000	236,217,000	164,397,263	4,273,521	—	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Total of Ordinary Expenditure	61,825,398,000	61,195,778,000	59,473,993,925	60,279,610,846	60,207,322,283	165,312,000	237,361,737	397,455,479	401,729,000
Expenditure for Creation of Public Industries	255,339,000	534,860,000	1,125,993,381	1,701,779,733	1,397,932,857	Dec. 629,620,000	Dec. 2,351,404,075	1,545,787,154	1,545,787,154
Shipbuilding under Naval Department	98,800,000	136,386,000	131,720,188	91,133,061	106,232,980	Dec. 37,586,000	Dec. 32,920,188	Dec. 1,446,440,733	1,142,593,857
Gunpowder under Naval Department	—	87,041,000	117,442,261	154,827,944	142,072,682	Dec. 87,041,000	Dec. 117,442,261	Dec. 7,666,939	7,432,980
Mines under Public Works Department	—	75,700,000	195,219,920	319,933,235	455,147,920	Dec. 75,700,000	Dec. 195,219,920	Dec. 319,933,235	455,147,920
Railways under Public Works Department	—	200,000,000	372,000,000	601,025,000	607,696,663	Dec. 200,000,000	Dec. 372,000,000	Dec. 601,025,000	607,696,663
Telegraphs under Public Works Department	76,476,000	35,733,000	101,949,854	128,376,181	108,970,650	Dec. 40,743,000	Dec. 25,473,854	Dec. 51,900,181	32,494,690
Mining under Finance Department	—	—	—	29,348,000	3,063,229	—	—	Dec. 29,348,000	3,063,229
Printing under Finance Department	—	—	—	36,444,979	2,400,000	—	—	Dec. 36,444,979	2,400,000
Arsenal under War Department	—	—	173,348,000	—	122,670,814	—	Dec. 173,348,000	Dec. 36,444,979	122,670,814
Coals under Naval Department	—	—	—	—	2,344,068	—	—	—	2,344,068
Manufactures under Agricultural & Commercial Department.	80,063,000	—	7,180,802	7,597,327	179,685,000	80,063,000	72,882,198	Dec. 72,465,673	99,622,000
Coal Mines in Hokkaido	—	—	—	25,526,537	—	—	—	Dec. 25,526,537	—
Shipbuilding under Public Works Department	—	—	27,102,356	6,427,585	187,039,034	—	Dec. 27,102,356	Dec. 6,427,585	187,039,034
Dipping of Mineral Oil under Public Works Department	—	—	—	6,139,884	14,236,787	—	—	Dec. 6,139,884	14,236,787
General Industries under Colonization Commission	—	—	—	—	13,300,000	—	—	—	13,300,000
Improvement of Ishikari River in Hokkaido	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Miscellaneous	6,707,205,000	5,559,288,000	5,401,838,973	4,512,503,680	1,415,641,541	1,147,917,000	1,395,366,037	Dec. 295,000,000	5,291,563,459
Outlays for Korean Troubles	—	—	1,338,881,248	4,859,144,944	—	—	Dec. 1,338,881,248	2,194,701,320	—
Genshi Kuri-tre for Reduction of the Paper Money	7,000,000,000	5,000,000,000	6,121,240,403	—	30,000,000	2,000,000,000	Dec. 878,759,597	2,140,855,056	6,970,000,000
War Supplementary Fund	194,620,000	1,816,133,000	—	—	—	Dec. 1,621,513,000	194,620,000	194,620,000	194,620,000
Contingency Fund	—	1,500,000,000	—	—	—	Dec. 1,500,000,000	—	—	—
Total Extraordinary Expenditure	14,157,164,000	14,410,281,000	14,007,924,005	11,073,428,357	2,843,574,398	Dec. 233,117,000	149,239,995	3,083,735,643	11,313,589,602
Grand Total Expenditure	75,982,562,000	75,606,059,000	73,481,917,930	71,353,939,203	63,140,896,681	376,503,000	2,500,644,070	4,629,522,797	12,841,665,319
Excess of Revenue	407,000	—	26,382,552	105,000,401	226,357,772	407,000	Dec. 25,975,552	Dec. 104,593,461	225,950,772

NOTE.—The present account for the 14th and 15th fiscal years are up to the 31st of March this year.

NOTE.—The surplus of every fiscal year is to be placed in the Reserve.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*).

Treaty Revision is rather a national than a party question. The judicious revision of the treaties will promote the well-being of the whole nation, while injudicious modifications will tend to injure one and all. The results of treaty revision are not confined to one locality or a single faction. Different men desire different regulations for the control of commerce; some follow the principles of free trade, while others advocate protection. Free-traders regard the tenets of their party as the sole source of national welfare, while Protectionists believe the same of their own creed. Commercial regulations, therefore, are *prima facie* a party question. But as for treaty revision, undeniably the first question of the day, there is no reason to assert that it has anything to do with political factions. Nor do we desire to see the several parties in opposition for the reason of different opinions on this subject. The importance of the revision lies in the restoration of those inherent rights which were unjustly wrested from us, as well as in reasserting our independence as a nation by freeing ourselves from the yoke to which we were forced to submit an account of our little acquaintance with Western diplomacy, and in consequence the dissensions which existed between the Emperor and the Shogunate at the time of the opening of the ports. To restore those rights which we ought never to have lost, and to secure the wellbeing of the nation by removing the yoke to which we should never have submitted, is the one desire of thirty-six millions of Japanese. If this is the wish of the Government, it is the hope of the people as well.

It is unnecessary to show that the views and principles advocated equally by the Government and the people cannot belong to any one political party. In the desire for treaty revision both Government and people, nobles and commoners, adults and youths, participate alike. And for this reason the revision of the treaties must be regarded as a national, not a party, question. Yet should there be any political clique in this land which ignores the restoration of our rights and is willing to bear with meekness the insults of Western nations, we will carry the standard of the Partisans of Treaty Revision, and crush all others out of existence. Only in this case can the burning question of our times be a party matter. Although the whole nation may strive for the restoration of our inherent rights, yet if every man differs in his opinion as to how we should go to work, the manner of revising the treaties may be discussed as a question of factions and parties; but even then the subject is of national and universal importance. Every one should consider the question from the most disinterested standpoint, and do away with all prejudice of class or position. If, after giving the matter unbiassed consideration, they perceive that the independence and dignity of the country are at stake, they should urge the revision of the treaties in utter disregard of personal interests. True patriots should be willing to give up all prejudice arising from position, custom, or self-love. We, personally, are among those who hold definite principles, which we would see carried into practice; but we are far from wishing to oppose all other steps not in accordance with our particular creed. We have never hesitated in giving praiseworthy propositions our hearty approval, nor have we failed to condemn iniquitous or evil-minded proceedings either among our own party or any other. Such is the course we have hitherto pursued; and, with regard to the revision of the treaties, we have ever endeavored to consider the subject with discretion and justice, and to approve all such proposals which promised speedy restoration of our rational rights and prestige. This is not our own peculiar creed, but is the real spirit of every patriot.

More than ten years have elapsed since the question of treaty revision has become a popular subject of discussion in this country, and, during this period, disturbances have arisen in Formosa, in Saga, in Kumamoto, and in Kagoshima. Although both Government and people are alike interested in the important affairs of the nation, their several ideas or sentiments were necessarily more or less affected in such times of emergency, and they were thus unable to give their full attention to the revision of the treaties. But now peace reigns throughout the Empire, and as the internal administration as well as foreign relations are in a state of perfect

tranquillity, our Government can well devote its undivided attention to the modification of the existing treaties; and, so far as we can see, nothing in the immediate future is likely to impede the negotiations of the Government. With great sagacity, the Government appears to have resolved to take advantage of the present tranquillity in order to settle the great question of treaty revision,—that perplexing problem which has given us anxious thought for so many years. Moreover, it is evident that the British Government and people, who of all the seventeen Treaty Powers are most closely connected with the revision of the treaties, have begun to give careful attention to the matter in hand. Parliament has declared that the modification of the treaties would ere long be completed, while the new Minister, the Hon. F. R. Plunkett, who is said to have received special instructions and to be accredited with special power, has already arrived in this country. From all this we may infer that the Foreign Department is already in receipt of proposals from the Government of Great Britain, and that although the new Minister has not yet commenced negotiations, the longed-for day is not far distant. Among those European and American countries which have commercial relations with Japan, Great Britain stands foremost. Next come the United States and France, followed by Germany, Austria, Holland, and Italy. The United States and Germany are said to have consented to our proposals for revision. If, then, the negotiations with Great Britain result favourably, all other obstacles in the way of treaty revision would be removed. So important are the negotiations which will shortly open between the British Minister and our Foreign Department, that the welfare and misery, the honor and dishonor of this country depend upon their issue. Now, of all times, should the public express their views on the revision of the treaties. We shall endeavour to discuss the subject in the proper spirit, and acquaint the Cabinet with our views.

THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE TREATIES.

The public are familiar with the fact that the treaties concluded between this country and the nations of Europe and America for the promotion of peace, amity, and commerce, are based on wrong principles, and tend to injure our national interests and prestige. No demonstration is needed to attest the truth of this fact. But the humiliation and injury we have suffered by reason of the existing treaties may be beyond the range of public information, and so it is necessary to refer to facts in order to substantiate our argument.

Our foreign treaties are, indeed, replete with unjust and harmful provisions, but the most serious injustice lies in the extraterritorial clause and the restriction of the tariff. It is undeniable that the rights of jurisdiction and tariff regulation are the inherent property of every independent nation. All the disadvantages and inconveniences under which we have laboured are chiefly due to the fact that these two rights were seriously crippled by the treaties. Properly speaking, extraterritoriality originates in the idea of protecting the Envoy of a foreign potentate when accredited to the Court of another nation, and is not a privilege to be enjoyed by private individuals. A Legation, in this instance, assumes the functions of a Sovereign. In whatever country a Legation may be established, it must maintain the status of an independent nation, and stand beyond the jurisdiction of the land in which it exists. This is not surprising. But it must be seen that it is a gross injustice to extend this peculiar privilege of an Envoy to private individuals, as merchants, traders, and the like; and that serious abuses are likely to result from granting them such extraordinary license. History shows that the unjust and preposterous law of extraterritoriality had its origin in Ancient Turkey. Ever since the Turks succeeded in founding an Empire in Europe, they have had commercial relations with various European countries; but the Mohammedan creed of the Turks unfortunately compels them to regard the adherents of all other religions as men of lower intellect and unequal rights, to beat, or even kill, whom finds favour in the sight of Paradise. As far as Christians in Turkey were concerned, they had no safeguard from the violence of fanatic Moslems, however great their injuries. Of course, no Continental country could hold commercial relations with the Turks under such abnormal conditions, and the Mohammedans had to suffer the consequences. One of the emperors of Turkey, however, issued a decree granting Europeans the privilege of being under the jurisdiction of their own laws, without respect to any Mohammedan code. This was the origin of extraterritoriality; a custom or system invented by a Turkish Emperor of olden time. When Europeans and Americans first opened intercourse with China, they concluded a treaty securing them this singular privilege, and

a special clause concerning extraterritoriality was inserted in the treaties concluded with Japan. Notwithstanding the fact that extraterritoriality was originally an unusual and special privilege granted under peculiar circumstances, Europeans appear now to regard it as one of their inherent rights, and display unreasonable anger when any one proposes to abolish it. This is mere impertinence.

Extraterritoriality can be sanctioned if it is confined within certain limits. Foreigners are not only not satisfied with privileges which they should enjoy exclusively within the jurisdiction of their own countries, but they also boast their ability to violate Japanese laws and regulations without fear of punishment. Under the present system, we are unable to bind aliens with our laws unless these laws have been sanctioned by the Corps Diplomatique prior to their enforcement. If aliens infringe laws not sanctioned by their Ministers they are in no way liable to punishment. It is by no means an easy task to receive the approval of the Representatives of seventeen Treaty Powers for every law or regulation the Government may desire to enforce. And granting even that such an undertaking were readily accomplished, *our judicial as well as our legislative power is sure to suffer from it.* How much more serious is the injury when we find the greatest difficulty in obtaining the approval of our seventeen allies for every law or rule we propose to enact. Were there no objection on the part of the Diplomatic Body we might put new laws in force; but were there any dissentient voice, we could never hope to force aliens to observe them. The extraterritorial privileges enjoyed by foreigners, outside of the legitimate benefits of the treaties, are formidable obstacles in the path of our administration. Again, foreign journalists not infrequently grossly insult our Sovereign and his people, and this with perfect impunity. All these abuses are directly ascribable to that abominable extraterritorial system which not only materially interferes with our administration, but also causes us to harbour ill-will against all aliens, and renders our mutual interests irreconcilable.

In addition to the fact that extraterritoriality is a blot on our nation's escutcheon, that it obstructs our administration, destroys all friendly feelings towards aliens, and impairs our mutual interests—in addition to all this, the existing treaties do us still further harm. They seriously diminish the revenues of the Government by placing restrictions on the tariff. *Deprivation of the power to regulate the tariff is in itself enough to destroy the honour of any independent nation.* The present treaties restrict the customs' duties to an average of five per cent. *ad valorem*, but even this duty is hardly realized. There is no country in Europe and America which has such an insignificantly small customs' revenue. The duties exacted by European and American nations generally form one of the principal sources of revenue, while the case is exactly the reverse in Japan. Great Britain's revenue from her customs averages 96,400,000 yen a year; France receives 61,400,000 yen; the United States 195,000,000 yen. Even Spain, whose foreign trade is a minimum, and Belgium, one of the smallest Continental nations, enjoy revenues from their customs amounting to 23,000,000 yen and 4,340,000 yen respectively. Compare these figures with our own customs' revenue of 2,700,000 yen, and we see how utterly insignificant are our receipts. The countries we have just enumerated have been engaged in commerce for a long time, and the gradual prosperity they enjoy stands in strong contrast with the lethargic condition of our own commerce. *Yet the small amount of our customs' revenue is in no way due to the decline of trade, but is solely to be ascribed to the fact that our customs are hampered by unjust treaties and their attendant commercial regulations.* The customs' dues of Spain form 10 per cent. of the total value of her imports and exports, while those of the United States amount to 13 per cent. Those of Japan do not exceed four per cent. Moreover, in Europe and America the duties are chiefly levied on imports, rarely on exports, and so they may be, on the whole, looked upon as import duties. Basing our calculation upon the supposition that the two continents impose duties exclusively on imports, we find that Spain exacts twenty-three per cent. on the original value of imports, while the United States levy twenty-seven per cent. Here, again, the tariff of Japan does not exceed four per cent. The revenue that we ought to receive from the Customs, but do not, amounts to several millions of yen. The extent to which the present treaties deprive us of our rights and just profits is simply incalculable.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE REVISION OF THE TREATIES.

We have already shown that the treaties are employed by our allies to encroach upon our rights of jurisdiction and legislation, as well as of tariff regulation, thereby entailing losses

upon us amounting annually to millions of yen. This simply represents the amount of loss on the customs' dues; for were we to take all the losses into consideration that result from our inability to regulate the tariff the sum would be a truly formidable one. Treaties as unjust and injurious as ours do not exist between any other nations on the face of the globe. Even such semi-barbarous countries as Hawaii, Bolivia, Venezuela, and Guatemala, have treaties far better than those of either China or Japan. Notwithstanding the fact that our treaties should have been revised in the 5th or 6th year of Meiji (1872 or 1873), they have remained untouched and unaltered. But as the country was just then in the early days of the Restoration, the energetic modification of the treaties was next to impossible; nevertheless, treaty revision was at an early date a moot question among individuals of all classes, and public-spirited men eagerly discussed the matter in all its bearings. Our Envoys travelled all over Europe and America in order to open negotiations with foreign governments with respect to treaty revision, but the Formosan difficulties for the time absorbed the entire attention of the Cabinet Ministers. Troubles both at home and abroad have interfered with the tranquillity of the Empire, so that negotiations with regard to the revision of the treaties were practically out of the question until after the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion in the 10th year of Meiji (1877). So soon as peace and order were restored, the Government began to give particular attention to internal administration, and again brought the question of treaty revision forward. Measures were speedily taken to submit proposals for modification to the several Treaty Powers, a movement which was hailed by our thinking men and literati with enthusiasm. It was at this time that the clamour for treaty revision reached a climax. This state of affairs continued during the 13th and 14th years of Meiji (1880-1881), while in the 15th year of the present era (1882), the foreign representatives in the capital were requested to meet together for the purpose of participating in the negotiations. It may be truthfully affirmed that both our Government and our people have spared neither time nor pains to affect the revision of the treaties. And yet no satisfactory results have been arrived at, and the negotiations for revision have dragged wearily and hopelessly onward up to the present day.

THE ACTUAL STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS.

It is said that when, some time ago, our Government submitted proposals for revision to the various Treaty Powers, both the United States and Germany signified their acquiescence. But it seems that the proposals referred to embodied the increase of the import tariff and the abolition of export duties, while extraterritoriality was not touched upon at all. And now we should like to know what decision the Foreign Representatives in Tokyo have arrived at; whether the matter was left unsettled, without arriving at any decision at all; whether the Government did not suggest any particular scheme with regard to the revision; whether the Treaty Powers, in their turn, demanded aught of us; and how far the proposals for modification are to be pushed forward. These questions are the very natural result of an investigation into the true nature of treaty revision. Just as the public were busily engaged in discussing these questions, it was reported that, on the occasion of the opening of Parliament, H. M. the Queen of Great Britain had intimated, in her inaugural address, the near completion of a revised treaty with this country. Following in the footsteps of this report came another affirming the intention of our Government to establish Mixed Courts. Thereupon other rumours became current that the Government proposed engaging foreign judges instead of establishing Mixed Courts, and that, if agreed to by the Treaty Powers, steps would forthwith be taken to throw open the whole country to foreign trade and residence. But as these reports have had their origin chiefly in foreign correspondence, their truth or falsity can hardly be determined without confirmation or contradiction by those who are responsible for the revision of the treaties. Yet, upon careful comparison of all the telegrams which have arrived in this country of late, we find that they apparently contain much that is true. Despatches and letters from London, Paris, and New York are, it is true, not always of the same tenor, but they all agree in at least one point, and that is that our Government has proposed to establish Courts of justice in which suits involving foreign residents are to be tried by a tribunal composed of foreign and Japanese judges. It is, therefore, not unreasonable to assert that proposals for the establishment of Mixed Courts have really been propounded by the Cabinet, and that these proposals are now being seriously considered by foreign Governments. Although it is self-evident

that, should these proposals be acceded to by the Treaty Powers, extraterritoriality will at once be abolished, will our Government then, in return, proceed to open up the country to trade at once? Or will it rather sanction residence in the interior? All the foreign intelligence which we have hitherto received confirms the idea that the country will be thrown open to foreign commerce. Not a few contend that the new dispensation will remain in force for eight years, while others put this term at not less than twelve years. Though our foreign intelligence varies considerably in this respect, it appears, on the whole, probable that the Government aims at the complete recovery of the right of jurisdiction after the new system has been in force for ten years, or thereabouts. Our Treasury has not overplus funds, and yet the rate of taxation must be lowered. The import duty is one of the most trustworthy sources for an increase of revenue, and there can be no doubt that the Government will persistently adhere to its propositions for a revision of the tariff; especially as a revision of the customs' duties will tend to replenish the Treasury, and this, in turn, will permit the Cabinet to adopt measures for the reduction of the land tax. We may thus reasonably conclude, that the claims of the Government will not be restricted to the restoration of the right of jurisdiction, but will include also the right of tariff regulation. What will be the demands of foreign governments in their turn? One of the chief desires of foreigners is to obtain the privilege of residence in the interior. If, therefore, we demand anything of them, they will surely reply by asking for the removal of all restrictions imposed upon residence in the interior. In this case, the actual condition of negotiations for treaty revision will be something like the following:—

The Government of Japan will propose: first, to revise the tariff so that a duty of 14 or 15 per cent. can be levied on imports, instead of four per cent. as heretofore; secondly, to establish Courts of justice where suits involving foreigners may be tried by tribunals composed of Japanese and foreign judges in the service of the Government; thirdly, to discontinue the employment of foreign judges in Courts of justice and to recover full right of jurisdiction after the lapse of a certain number of years,—say eight or twelve.

In reply to these proposals, the Treaty Powers will demand the abolition of all restrictions placed upon foreign residence in the interior, and claim the enjoyment of the same privileges as those of the Japanese themselves, in order that foreigners may reside, travel, and hold landed property in any part of the Empire.

And now, should the Government accede to this request, will the Treaty Powers accept the three proposals which, as we suppose, will be made them by our Government? Or will they accept the first, reject the last two, and still demand the privilege of residence in the interior? These are questions which we cannot answer.

THE DIFFICULTIES ATTENDING THE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHTS OF JURISDICTION AND TARIFF REGULATION.

Both the right of jurisdiction over foreigners and that of tariff regulation must be restored to us, for they are the legitimate property of every independent state, and their loss or even limitation cannot fail to be productive of serious injury. As a simple matter of justice, these two rights ought never to have passed into alien hands. Yet we have long since been taught that, pertinacious and obstinate as are our allies, they have absolutely no regard for the dictates of justice so long as they gain nothing thereby. *We cannot hope to revise the treaties on the plea of justice, but must manage to attain our desires in conformity with the circumstances under which we are placed.* If justice is ineffectual in prompting the revision of the treaties, we must take all those circumstances into consideration which indicate the comparative degree of the difficulty or necessity of treaty revision. Those parts of the treaties which require immediate alteration should be at once undertaken, while all modifications of a less important nature should be reserved for future adjustment. Any attempt to effect revision for the simultaneous restoration of both rights is likely to result in their loss. All are familiar with the fact that extraterritoriality is a national curse, and that it obstructs the progress of our administration. Our patriots unanimously desire to see it abolished; while the Japanese people at large have shown a spirit of hostility towards the one-sided and arbitrary measures of our allies, who scheme for nothing but self-profit, even at the risk of their own honour, and in utter disregard of the fact that their proceedings are liable to be stigmatised as unjust and tyrannical. The fact that the Treaty Powers still cling obstinately to extraterritoriality has aroused the uncontrollable anger of the Japa-

nese. So long as this iniquitous system obtains, the relations between foreigners and ourselves can never be consolidated. Yet unbiassed retrospect shows that aliens have a shadow of reason in still claiming extraterritorial privileges: *and this is the not yet perfected improvement of our internal administration.* Properly speaking, right and duty stand on an equal footing. Should we desire to obtain a right, we must perform some equally necessary duty. Aliens enjoy a freedom of pen and speech which we are far from holding. They have fine Commercial Codes and Laws of Property, which we do not possess; they have a Civil Code, Trial by Jury, and Codes for the protection of life and property, all of which have not yet been established in Japan. There are innumerable other advantages which they enjoy to the full, but which we do not own. It may very possibly be due to these circumstances that they persist in maintaining the extraterritorial system, little caring how much they thus encroach upon our rights. In order to do away forever with extraterritoriality, we must considerably improve our internal administration, so that aliens can have no pretext for rejecting our just claims. So long as they have the least semblance of justice on their side, they will adhere most persistently to the present system, without giving a thought to the propriety or impropriety of their actions. Is it then not perfectly clear that, as matters stand, we shall experience the utmost difficulty in the restoration of our autonomic rights?

On the other hand, there is absolutely no reason to refuse our proposals for the increase of the import duties in order to benefit the customs' revenue, no matter how self-willed and arbitrary our allies may be. They not only possess no valid reason for refusal, but will rather approve of this step, so long as we appropriate the surplus funds to some notable enterprise. In the thirteenth year of Meiji (1880), our Government submitted to the Treaty Powers a scheme for the increase of the import tariff to an average of 15 per cent. *ad valorem.* Taking this as a basis for our calculation, and supposing that the imports reach an annual total of 32,500,000 yen, we should have a revenue of somewhat more than 4,870,000 yen. And if this amount could be realized, we might do away entirely with the export duties and still have a yearly surplus of more than two million yen. Again, though the price of imports may rise in like ratio with the increase of the tariff, their increased value will virtually lead to a reduction of the land tax, and the purchasing power of the people would by no means be curtailed; and if this be true, there is no reason why the imports should fall off in bulk. Foreigners, too, would not sustain any loss, but would rather enjoy the greater advantage of purchasing domestic products at lower rates. The economical management of both central and local administrations would enable the Government to reduce the land tax by seventeen million yen. *This arrangement thus increases the tariff by two million yen, while it decreases the burden of the people by seventeen million yen.* The purchasing power of the people would herewith be greatly augmented. As the abolition of export duties will increase the amount of exports, and as the reduction of the land tax gives the people greater license to purchase and promotes the import trade, so will our foreign commerce attain a great degree of prosperity, beneficial to all alike. Foreigners are exceedingly shrewd in looking after their own profits, and there is no reason why they should not recognize in this instance the greater advantages which will accrue to them. And so surely as they recognize these advantages they will not refuse to revise the tariff. So far as the actual state of affairs is concerned, agriculture demands the immediate adoption of measures for its protection. Apart from the increase of the customs' duties, we must afford facilities for the development of our agricultural interests, in which lies the true source of national wealth. Should we explain all this to the Treaty Powers, they could not possibly reject our propositions. Hence it is plain that, although it may be difficult to abolish extraterritoriality, it is comparatively easy to augment the import tariff.

THE NECESSITY OF THE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF TARIFF REGULATION BEFORE THAT OF JURISDICTION.

We have shown that the difficulty in obtaining the two great rights simultaneously is well-nigh insurmountable. Extraterritoriality is beyond all doubt highly detrimental to the progress of national administration, as well as to our reputation as a free nation. We can hardly wait for the time when it will be utterly done away with. Yet, so long as foreigners are confined to their settlements, and so long as the Government persists in the maintenance of restrictions upon residence in the interior, it is quite unlikely that the welfare of this nation will be

seriously endangered. If circumstances require our so doing, we must patiently submit to extraterritorial abuses, and take active measures for the improvement of our internal administration, so that foreigners can have no possible excuse for replying to our proposals in the negative. Should our people have full freedom of speech, and should the Government establish Civil Codes, a Commercial Code, a codified Law of Property—in fact, all those codes and laws which Europeans and Americans regard as the very stronghold of liberty, and ostentatiously point to as the source of national supremacy—our allies could no longer urge any reason for not agreeing to the abolition of extraterritoriality, however thoroughly selfish they may be. *If they should then still persist in their refusal, we should have no alternative but to oppose them with as great a force as the country could put in the field. We are truly most sincere in our desire to recover the right of jurisdiction over aliens, and are, therefore, ready to adopt any course of action that may enable us to attain our desire. But, as matters stand, the restoration of our rights is attended with almost insurmountable difficulties.* Nevertheless, the revision of the customs' tariff is not nearly so difficult an undertaking. So far as the regulation of the tariff is concerned, our allies have no reason to reject our claims; and the present system is harmful to our interests and rights alike. Look at the internal condition of Japan. Every year sees the taxation increased in a dozen different ways. A tax has been imposed even upon patent medicines and tobacco, although the revenue from these sources can but be insignificantly small. The import tariff alone stands on the old five per cent. basis, and the Government thus loses annually several million yen from the most iniquitous and unjust of causes. Moreover, the fall in the value of rice has well-nigh made it impossible for our agriculturists to pay their taxes, and extensive rice-lands are on the verge of becoming desolate and deserted. The Government cannot do away with the export tariff in order to encourage domestic industry, for the simple reason that the customs' revenue is even now a mere bagatelle. Our farmers are forced to give fully one half of their produce towards defraying the expenses of the administration, while the import tariff does not exceed five per cent. on the original values of articles which are comparatively low-priced. This is bitterly unjust. And all the while the revision of the tariff is as easy as the restoration of the right of jurisdiction is difficult. It is to be hoped, therefore, that as present circumstances forbid the satisfactory modification of all contested points, measures will be at once adopted to restore the right of tariff regulation before all else. It must, however, be borne in mind, that this step can only then be taken when some grave and truly unavoidable obstacles prevent our attaining our original desire. For, as far as possible, we must strive to effect the simultaneous restoration of both rights.

THE NECESSITY OF DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN FRIENDLY AND COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

Treaties of amity differ considerably from purely commercial conventions. When one nation enters into intercourse with another and concludes an agreement for the development of mutual goodwill, it is not necessary to revise the articles of this agreement so long as friendly relations are maintained. The case is different with commercial treaties. Whenever a change takes place in the production of commodities or in other commercial matters, the revision of the treaty stipulations becomes inevitable; and it is but natural that such changes should occur from time to time. In point of mutability, commercial stipulations differ greatly from amicable conventions. As these two sorts of treaties are so widely different, special provisions should be made to keep them clearly distinct from one another. For this reason, both should stand on an independent basis. When this country first began intercourse with other nations, our relations with foreign powers were limited strictly to commercial transactions, and our political administration had absolutely no connection with any nation beyond our own borders. The treaties were in consequence based on commercial principles, and the provisions for "peace and friendship" were attached merely as a sort of formal political preamble. The modification of the trade stipulations and that of the main treaties were fixed for one and the same period. No distinction whatever was made between commercial and friendly stipulations. At the time, circumstances may have necessitated such an arrangement; but our present intimacy with foreign powers grows greater and closer every day, so that our treaties bear important relations not only to commerce, but to our own political administration. And all the while the complex nature of our commercial position necessitates an immediate change in our mutual status. So that, *if friendly treaties of a permanent nature are to be*

confounded with commercial treaties, which, in accordance with circumstances require frequent alteration; and, if these two treaties are both to undergo modifications at one and the same period, serious disadvantages and inconveniences will inevitably be the result. Despite this very evident fact, no distinction is made in our treaties between commerce and amity, so that whenever we wish to modify any of the tradal stipulations we are forced to deal with the whole. Even a proposal for the revision of one single clause or provision can only be brought forward under the high-sounding heading of "treaty revision." If an accurate and precise distinction had, from the outset, been made between friendly and commercial stipulations, and if the period for modification had been different in the case of either, no such intricate complications as those which have now arisen could ever have occurred: the tradal conventions as well as the question of extraterritoriality might each have been separately discussed. Had this been the case, treaty revision might have been effected with much less difficulty. We can thus reasonably assume that the confusion of the two treaties at the very outset is the direct cause of our present troubles.

THE ADVANTAGES OF MIXED RESIDENCE.

It is unquestionably true that were foreigners to enjoy the privilege of residence in the interior such an arrangement would prove beneficial to the nation. Aliens are far superior to the Japanese in point of intelligence, wealth, and stubborn perseverance. Their active lives stand in strong contrast to the happy-go-lucky characteristics of our countrymen. And so, were these wise, rich, and energetic aliens to carry on trade in the interior, they would certainly acquire overwhelming influence over our own merchants, and derive large profits therefrom. Yet their actions would just so surely arouse this careless and antiquated generation from its long, unhealthy years of lethargy. Our countrymen would soon perceive the necessity of enterprise when they saw the full force of the activity of foreigners; were they to lose their means in the commercial contest with aliens, they would have to devise some method of regaining them; were they exposed to insults in social intercourse with aliens, they would speedily contrive to wipe out their disgrace. Although they ran the risk of losing their money in trading with foreigners, their losses would be counterbalanced by the development of their intellectual capabilities, as well as their dormant energies, which could be aroused only by actual contact with their rivals. Moreover, were foreigners to reside in the interior they would carry with them an immense capital, in order to engage in some industry or trade; so that those manufactures and commercial enterprises which have been abandoned or fallen into desuetude from want of funds would quickly revive, while the local authorities, who, accustomed to deal with a submissive and indolent people, fulfill their administrative functions after a most listless and hap-hazard fashion, would find themselves face to face with the audacious, overbearing foreigner, and they would thus have to make a mighty alteration in their policy. The removal of all restrictions placed upon mixed residence will certainly cause an influx of foreigners; it will tend to arouse our apathetic countrymen from their long slumbers; it will cause our industries and commercial enterprises to prosper, and will give a decided impetus to the improvement of administration. Is not all this highly beneficial to the country? Yet it is worse than childish to consider the matter of mixed residence solely from the standpoint of the probable consequences; nor can we conscientiously treat the subject in this light alone. Some eight or nine years ago, our thinking men, trusting in their own abilities, discussed the question of mixed residence at great length; but some confined their arguments solely to the advantages of the proposed system, while others could talk of nothing but the attendant disadvantages. Public opinion has, since then, made remarkable progress, and the intellectual classes now direct their whole attention to practical social phenomena, and have ceased to express vague and useless opinions on far-fetched themes. So that, in conclusion, it is absolutely necessary to consider all the relations that mixed residence may bring to bear upon society before we can determine whether it is to our advantage or to our disadvantage.

THE ADVISABILITY OF PROHIBITING MIXED RESIDENCE UNTIL THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION BE IMPROVED.

Although mixed residence is attended with certain advantages, the time has not yet come to remove the restrictions imposed upon foreign sojourn in the interior. The imperfect development of our internal administration is a serious obstacle. Any reckless removal of the present restrictions will considerably impede the progress of administration, and tend also to jeopardize our national

prestige. Foreigners are already only too willing to despise us, and if they are permitted to enjoy the same privileges as do the Japanese, even the authority of the Central Government will prove ineffectual in keeping them under control. The difficulty of enforcing their observance of the local administration can be easily imagined. Careless of the authority of our Executive, and despising us at heart, their haughty selfishness will reach a most extravagant pitch. Whatever inconveniences they may suffer will be at once laid to the door of the local authorities. And should they fail in their demands for redress, they will at once endeavour to evade the enforcement of the local administration, in proud reliance on the strength and power of their native countries. Granting even that they would treat our countrymen with respect and readily submit to the authority of our local administrations, they would naturally feel a high degree of dissatisfaction upon entering our country and perceiving that the rights enjoyed by us are not to be compared with those which they possess under their own liberal Governments. This feeling would eventually lead them to criticize adversely our administration, and to complain of everything on all occasions. *Should we not grant these complaints an audience, they would inevitably attempt to evade the enforcement of the administration; while if we listened to them out of sheer timidity, our national prestige would be irrevocably lost.* We may thus logically conclude that, were we to grant aliens the privilege of residence in the interior before the improvement of our internal administration is actually completed, formidable political obstacles would arise, and our honour as a nation be endangered. If it is impossible for us to set about improving our domestic administration without bearing the brunt of foreign opposition and menace, let us meet these administrative exigencies with fortitude, and suffer our disgrace in silence. *If we fear the immediate consequences, we must still remember the ultimate advantages of mixed residence. Yet we confidently assert that both the Government and the people are able to improve the domestic administration without encountering the ill-will and menace of our allies.* Before we sanction foreign residence in the interior we must introduce considerable reforms into our internal administration, in order to avoid national disgrace and political deadlocks.

THE NECESSITY OF PROHIBITING MIXED RESIDENCE UNTIL THE COMPLETE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHTS OF JURISDICTION AND TARIFF REGULATION.

If we once remove all restrictions imposed upon foreign residence in the interior, we will become virtually unable to revise the present treaties, to restore the one-time reputation of our nation, and to keep the selfish instincts of our allies within bounds. All the hope we have of treaty revision is based solely on the prohibition of mixed residence. We can only make a demand of the Treaty Powers when we have something which they wish to possess. *International relations can be maintained on an equal footing only when mutual demands present no marked degree of difference.* If one nation ask a favour of another, without receiving a request in return, their rank is perforce vitally different. What we now have to request of the Treaty Powers is the revision of the customs' tariff and the abolition of extraterritoriality. These are truly no insignificant requests. *Should aliens see that we have nothing to give them in return, they would never accede to our demands, even though we appealed to them in the name of justice and humanity, and without exercising the authority of an independent nation.* In the prohibition of mixed residence we have, fortunately, a barrier which keeps them from trading freely in the interior. They have already expressed their earnest desire to see this barrier removed. Whenever we ask them to do us a favour they are always ready to request in return the removal of restrictions upon residence in the interior. But if we accede to their demands before our requests are granted, we should have nothing more to give them, and so be the sole petitioners. The only alternative left to us would then be to postpone the revision of the treaties until the strength of the country would intimidate them. *As this case is by no means purely hypothetical, we urge that the prohibition of mixed residence should be maintained as a security for the restoration of our rights.* To permit mixed residence before the complete abolition of extraterritoriality would be to let so many ravenous wolves loose in the interior of Japan; for these aliens might then commit what ravages they liked without fear of punishment on the score of this nation's law. *We might just as well sanction the formation of a number of independent states from end to end of the Empire.* While we fully recognize the advantages that are likely to result from mixed residence, we still urge the maintenance of the present restrictions so long as matters stand as they do.

THE ENGAGEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGES.

Our Government is well aware of the necessity of abolishing extraterritoriality and of maintaining the restrictions upon mixed residence until its complete abrogation. But the foreign correspondence which has reached us intimates that the Government proposes establishing Courts of justice, where suits involving foreigners are to be tried by tribunals composed of Japanese and foreign judges; that the latter jurists are to be engaged by the Government in foreign lands; and that, if the Treaty Powers agree to this arrangement, the country will be thrown open. Whether these statements are correct or incorrect, we know not. Nor are we able to find out whether the so-called opening up of the country means simply the permission to travel and trade in the interior, without the right of residence; or whether it includes the right of possessing landed property in the same manner as do the Japanese themselves. At all events, it is certain that there are great difficulties in obtaining the approval of our allies to the schemes we have mentioned. So many nations have entered into treaty relations with us, that were we to engage judges from each the entailed labour and expense would be truly formidable. And yet, were we to engage jurists in one country and not in another, those countries not represented in the legal contingent would be extremely discontented. Among all the seventeen Treaty Powers, Great Britain, France, and the United States are the most intimate of our allies, and it may be supposed that the engagement of judges belonging to these three nations would satisfy all the rest. Granting this even, obstacles would be found in the imperfection of our legal system, and the ignorance of foreigners with regard to Japanese Law. What we desire to see established are not mixed courts of this description, but we hold that foreign lawyers should be engaged, who, in conjunction with Japanese judges, might examine into the merits of the cases brought before our Courts of justice. These lawyers would be required to administer Japanese Law; but what should we do when cases arose which must be tried in accordance with codes which we do not yet possess? The imperfect condition of our legal system could not fail to make many difficulties, even though the law were administered by excellent judges. *If the judges engaged in foreign lands were free from prejudice and thoroughly impartial, matters might run on smoothly; but if they show favour in behalf of their compatriots, or incline towards partiality, our foreign relations would at once become critical.*

Placing ourselves for a moment in the position of foreign judges thus employed, we see that the object of their presence in our Courts would be the protection of their countrymen's interests, and that being thus required to safeguard their own people, they would ultimately come to regard themselves as advocates rather than judges. Under these circumstances, a spirit of partiality would necessarily be engendered, and any attempt on the part of the foreign judges to be equitable and disinterested would probably beget troubles between themselves and their nationals, since the latter would be content only with judgments favorable to their own cause. Partiality and prejudice would, in short, be unavoidable features of such a system. Yet, on the other hand, it would be incumbent upon us to set our face against any display of favoritism, and disputes calculated to disturb our international relations might easily be the outcome. Further, if we consider the arguments advanced by foreigners in support of the maintenance of extraterritoriality, it appears that those arguments are invariably based on the supposed incompetence of our judiciary and on the reluctance of westerners to submit to Eastern Laws. There can be little doubt that such pretexts are in the main prompted by arrogance and ignorance. Yet even granting our inferiority and the incompetence of our judges, it cannot be pretended that judges engaged in foreign countries would have any knowledge of our laws or be in any degree familiar with our social conditions. How would it be possible for foreigners to feel secure in the hands of officials administering laws with which they have no acquaintance? Considering that westerners never cease to find fault with our jurists, dubbing them all incompetent and inexperienced, it is difficult to see how their own high standard of judicial attainments would be satisfied by judges administering strange and alien statutes. Unless we are much mistaken in the views we have set down here, it appears to us that the scheme for the employment of foreign judges ought not to be carried out without grave consideration. Should foreigners urge the removal of restrictions upon mixed residence and at the same time refuse to restore our judicial autonomy, their demand must be set down as wholly unreasonable, and our Government ought not for a moment to think of complying with it.

KOREAN CORRESPONDENCE.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Cho Hi-sik, the Magistrate of Inchhōn, has been appointed Commander of the Northern Troops, and has been instructed to strengthen Korea's military position along the northern frontiers. The Government will despatch a number of students to Japan in order to study the method of vaccination, which they will afterwards practice on a large scale throughout the Kingdom. Although the Koreans have, as a rule, large families, half of their offspring die from small-pox in their infancy, and the bereaved parents, strange to say, do not mourn the death of their darlings from small-pox as much as they do when they fall victims to some other diseases. So soon as a case of the fatal epidemic has made its appearance in a household, the inmates clean and decorate the rooms with the usual *shime*, or straw ropes, as if entertaining a guest. In fact, small-pox is generally called *sonnin*, i.e. a respected guest. It seems that the parents would not look upon their sons as worthy scions of the race unless they had at some time passed safely through all the stages of this fearful disease. There are no dykes, water-wheels, or similar contrivances in Korea, and long drought or continued rain is invariably followed by agricultural distress.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

The inhabitants of Sōul, though not particularly virtuous, are not particularly fond of games of chance. Even coolies who spend their idle moments in petty gambling, rarely let the stakes exceed three or four *sen*. The daily wages of the street-savengers and their congeners are from 30 to 40 *mon*. Carpenters and paper-hangers get one or two *riyo* a day. Female servants can be hired without paying wages, and they consider themselves lucky if they get a dress now and then. Three soldiers of the Chinese Garrison were recently condemned to death for smoking opium. Despite strict military regulations and the probability of capital punishment, every member of the Chinese troops will smoke opium whenever occasion offers. The death penalty inflicted upon the three unfortunate hedonists was meant as a warning to their comrades, and yet this abominable practice remains the one favourite luxury of the soldiers. A Russian man-of-war is in the harbour at Inchhōn, and brings, it is supposed, the envoys who are to conclude a treaty with Korea.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—TUESDAY,
3rd June, 1884.

P. BOHM V. G. BUTLAND.

This was a petition to obtain possession of the books, vouchers, monies, and a statement of accounts of the business carried on under the name of George Butland.

The plaintiff in his petition stated that he had engaged the defendant as manager of his undertaking business. That the defendant agreed to pay to him all monies received, and afterwards receive his remuneration. The books were to be kept at plaintiff's office. That he had frequently applied to the defendant to keep to the agreement, and he had refused to do so. Finally he demanded from the defendant all the books, vouchers, goods, utensils, and money, also a statement of the accounts up to the date when the defendant left his premises. This he refused to do. The petition therefore prays that the defendant may be ordered to comply with plaintiff's demands, and also pay the costs of this suit, and that plaintiff may have such further relief as the nature of the case may require.

The defendant, in his reply, stated that he did not under the circumstances, consider himself manager of the undertaking business. By mutual consent, as the carrying out of the agreement was found inconvenient, he was allowed to keep the books in his office, which was in plaintiff's compound, where they were always open for his (plaintiff's) inspection. Plaintiff also agreed that that he should collect all monies and pay all the accounts. The plaintiff had supplied goods at most exorbitant prices. The business was carried on in defendant's name, but he denied that the plaintiff had ever asked him to act up to the

agreement dated 30th January, 1883. He admitted receiving a letter dated 25th April, 1884. All the articles applied for excepting the books and vouchers had always been in the plaintiff's possession. He considered that as the business was in his name he was personally responsible, and he therefore held the vouchers. A true statement of accounts up to the 31st March, 1884, had been made up, which showed a balance of \$217.28 in plaintiff's favour, of which \$100.00 had since been paid, and balance would be paid as soon as collected.

Plaintiff stated that the defendant had been engaged in his service since 1878. In 1882 the defendant handed him an account current dated 31st October, which was made up to cover a fraud which had been committed upon him by removing his property out of his reach. He applied then to the British Consul, and through his influence the defendant was brought to his senses and an amicable arrangement was arrived at by which he received a promissory note for \$800.00 in settlement of everything. Plaintiff stated that on the 30th January they made a new arrangement (letter produced) by which defendant agreed to act as his manager, the books to be kept in his office, and the defendant to hand over all monies collected. The defendant was to receive a half share of the profits, a quarter of which was to go towards paying off the promissory note and a quarter for defendant's private use. Defendant was also to be paid \$2.00 per diem for all work outside of the undertaking business. After this he wrote several letters demanding the accounts and vouchers (put in), and on the 15th April he dismissed him. The only letter he received from defendant was one denying that he was his servant, and stating that, if he did not wish it, he would use no more of his goods. The defendant having been his manager, he thought that when he dismissed him he was entitled to the books and vouchers so that he could check them, as he believed the books had not been properly kept.

Defendant thought he had a right to keep the books and vouchers till the case was settled. He had no objection to the books being examined.

His Honour thought it would be better to have the books put into Court and examined by a person appointed by the Court.

Plaintiff said this would be a great expense, whereas if he did it money might be saved.

His Honour said the plaintiff might look at the books, but he could not order them to be handed to him till it was decided whether the defendant was his manager or whether he was in business on his own account.

Defendant said he could not be Mr. Bohm's manager, or he could not have put the advertisement in the paper transferring the business. He had been charged 350 per cent. profit on all goods used. He was forced to sign the letter of agreement, as Mr. Bohm locked him up till he did so.

His Honour said he would go through the books himself, and the case would stand adjourned till there was a settlement as to accounts.

THE SAME V. THE SAME.

This was a claim for the sum of \$800.00 on a promissory note which the defendant had given to the plaintiff in settlement of all accounts between the parties up to the 30th September, 1882.

The plaintiff in his petition stated that defendant had given him the bill of exchange and since then had acted as manager of his undertaking business. He would have been satisfied to receive it in small payments, but the defendant, in spite of frequent demands, had not paid him anything whatsoever on account.

His Honour said that it appeared that no answer had been put in, there had been some question of a counter claim but that also had not been put in.

Defendant said he had sworn an affidavit and was prepared to show that he had worked for the plaintiff for four years without any remuneration.

He applied for an adjournment of the case that he might obtain legal advice.

Plaintiff thought the evidence was so clear that it would be only a useless delay, and if Mr. Litchfield took up the case he might be asked to deposit costs.

His Honour granted the application for adjournment on condition that defendant instructed Mr. Litchfield not to apply for security for costs, and adjourned the case till Thursday the 5th instant.

THURSDAY, 5th June, 1884.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Litchfield wished to be allowed to put in an answer to the petition, and also to file a counter

claim. In accordance with rule of the Court No. 46, the summons had been returned and an affidavit stated that the defendant was employed in various capacities by the plaintiff, for which he had received no remuneration. It was only on the plaintiff promising to pay him for this work that he was induced to sign the bill of exchange, believing that there was a much larger sum due to him. He thought he ought to be allowed to answer, especially after the evidence adduced in the previous case. The matter was really a question of accounts, and he thought justice would not be done if, through a technical objection, the answer were not allowed. The answer was to the effect that defendant denied his indebtedness of \$800.00. He admitted giving the note, but at the time plaintiff owed him \$280.00, and it was only on plaintiff's promising to pay him that amount that he was induced to sign the note. He had not yet received the money, and desired to have it set off. Counsel asked that the answer might be allowed to be filed, or that plaintiff show good cause why it should not. As to the counter claim, assuming that the answer had been filed by leave of the Court, the Order in Council of 1881, gave this Court power to hear and determine suits between Englishmen and persons of other nationalities where the foreigner had obtained in Court and filed in writing submission to the Court. He would ask that the defendant be examined as to the nature of his claim, and how it had arisen, so long as it was shown that it was not made for vexatious delay. It would be a great hardship for the defendant to have to carry his counter claim into the German Court, as the plaintiff had been a constant litigant in this Court, and even if the defendant got his case in the German Court it was very doubtful whether the plaintiff was solvent.

His Honour said that, with regard to the counter claim, in the plaintiff's petition there was a promissory note in final settlement of accounts, and he did not know how the defendant was to get over the wording of it. The only relief the Court could give would be to suspend execution till the defendant had a chance of bringing his case in the German Court. As to the filing of the petition, he did not wish technicalities to interfere, but the defendant had been very negligent. Ten days before he had brought an affidavit and a similar answer, and Court had given him plenty of time to put them in order. The only condition on which he would grant the motion would be if the defendant paid into Court the \$800.00 and the costs, otherwise the case must proceed.

P. Bohm stated that on the 30th of January he received the promissory note in settlement of all accounts to the 30th of September, 1883. He was willing to receive it by small instalments. The arrangement was that Mr. Butland should pay half his earnings against the bill of exchange, but he had not done so. He had demanded the money several times, and, receiving nothing, brought this action on the 25th of April. He finally demanded payment in presence of a witness. He asked his Honour to give judgment in his favour.

In reply to Mr. Litchfield, plaintiff said—The promissory note was given to him on the 30th January, the agreement was given the same day. He could not say whether it was in the morning or evening. The agreement was signed in Mr. Clark's room. He did not know whether the agreement and promissory note were both signed at the same time. Mr. Butland made up his account and plaintiff his; it was an arrangement between the two. On the 30th January the defendant owed him for rent; this was included in the account. He claimed the rent when it was due, but as an account was running between them he allowed it to stand. The rent was for No. 119. At first it was \$15.00, afterwards \$25.00, and subsequently \$20.00. He did not know whether he had sent in an account for rent before the 30th December, 1882. He received an account from the defendant up to the 30th October, claiming \$4,900, being 49 months at \$100.00 per month. He had worked for him landing lumber, coal, etc., but not the whole time. He agreed before signing the promissory note to pay him a heavy amount for the work he had done outside of the undertaking business. He had paid him by allowing for it in the settlement arrived at on the 30th January something about \$1,200. This he deducted from the total amount of the accounts which he owed him. The account made up by defendant was to cover a fraud. The fraud was that the defendant ran away with his hearse and some other things. The property had not been sold by him to Mr. Butland in 1878. The advertisement transferring the business was not put in with his knowledge. He did not remember having seen the advertisement in the papers. In July, 1878, he thought he ceased to manage the undertaking business himself, and became a merchant. There was no arrangement for the transfer of the busi-

ness. There was no verbal agreement that Mr. Butland should pay him the sum of \$2,500.00 in instalments, and when it was paid the business should be transferred. He had been in Yokohama 14 years, and 13 years ago bought the business from Laufenburg and another, he also bought the two lots No. 114 and 119. He forgot what he paid for them. There was no dispute about the transfer of the lots, and no claim had ever been made on him about their having been handed over to him on trust.

G. Butland said he remembered the 30th January, 1883, when he signed the bill of exchange. The balance of account was arrived at at 8 o'clock at night in Mr. Clark's room. Mr. Bohm had charged him in his account for goods of which he knew nothing and others that he had paid for, and Mr. Clark advised them to draw up the promissory note in settlement, as it would be better to come to terms there than go into Court. He was constantly working for Mr. Bohm between 1878 and 1882, discharging ships, selling lumber, etc. He worked for four years and one month. Mr. Bohm had often agreed to pay him for the work done. The amount that Mr. Bohm promised to pay him was not included in the account which was settled by the promissory note. No account was made up on the 30th January. He signed the promissory note on the understanding that he should be paid for the work done.

In reply to the Court, defendant said he had told him at a previous enquiry that the note had nothing to do with the undertaking business.

To Mr. Litchfield—The note was for work done outside of the undertaking business. The account included rent for No. 119, that was all he knew about. The claim from Mr. Bohm for rent was \$1,063.33 with interest, double interest, and compound interest. He did not know how the account was reduced to \$800.00.

To His Honour—Bills were sent in to him for \$1,967.87, which included the one for rent. This was the first time he had received a bill from Mr. Bohm, up to that time he understood he was living rent free. The bills were handed to him before he made out the account to the 31st October. He could not explain how it was that the bills were dated 31st December.

To plaintiff—On the 17th January plaintiff demanded in settlement the sum of \$1,000.00. It was not of his own free will that he signed the note. He signed it rather than have any legal difficulty.

To His Honour—He supposed that the reduction between the amount of \$1,967.87 and \$800.00 was payment for part of the work he had done. He did not know how he came to sign on the note "in final settlement of all accounts."

His Honour asked Mr. Litchfield whether it were any use carrying on the case. Both parties had stated that the promissory note had nothing to do with the undertaking business.

Mr. Bohm wished to say that he had not said it had nothing to do with the undertaking business, for a portion of the account settled by the \$800.00 referred to that business.

Mr. Litchfield said he did not think it was necessary to continue the case.

His Honour said that the verdict, so far as the promissory note was concerned, would be for the plaintiff. He would remind the defendant that according to the rules, he had ten days to pay it in, after which execution could be taken out, but he could apply for suspension of execution if he intended to bring his counter claim in the German Court.

FRIDAY, 6th June, 1884.

W. BELLAMY V. J. J. EFFORD.

This was a claim brought by the late steward of the *Ise Maru* for his passage home.

Defendant acknowledged that he had engaged the plaintiff on the 21st June, 1883, as steward of the *Ise Maru* at £8 per month with two months extra pay, but denied that he was entitled to a passage home.

Plaintiff stated that—He joined the ship in Middlesbrough and went in her to Glasgow and from there to Cardiff. He was engaged by the week at the rate of £8 per month. The officers signed articles on the 8th or 10th of June. After this the ship went to Cardiff where the Captain shipped his crew. He asked whether he should sign and was told to sign on board. He received his advance at 4 o'clock on the day of sailing, without having signed the articles. He spoke to the Captain who said he would see about it. He signed after they had been six or seven days out. The articles were on the cabin table. His son, the carpenter, and himself all signed at the same time. It was more like kidnapping than anything else, as he had no option. The Captain said that it was all right, he did not wish him to return home but to stop out in Japan with

him. He asked how it would be if the Company discharged him, and the defendant said he would see that he got a passage home, saying "do you doubt me, you have been with me long enough to know me." Having been with him in several other ships, he had implicit faith in the Captain. He did not ask for a passage for his son as no arrangement had been made. Whilst at Shinagawa, the defendant received orders to go home for another vessel, and told him to pack up and go with him, but the order was cancelled. The steamer arrived here on the 20th October, 1883. After being here some time, the carpenter and seamen were discharged. At Shinagawa the officers went ashore and signed articles, he also signed, but the articles being in Japanese he did not understand them. He was not asked to sign off the old articles. After one trip to the West some of the officers were discharged, and got their two months extra pay and passage money. He received \$43.00 per month under the Japanese articles. On the 10th April the Captain said that he had received orders to discharge him and his son, and that he was going to Tokyo and would see about his passage. The next day when they were going to sea he told him that there was no time to settle then, he must go this trip, he had seen Mr. Irwin about the passage, and Mr. Irwin had said that he was entitled to one. On the 3rd May the Captain discharged him and gave him a letter to the office asking them to give him a 3rd class passage, all the others had had 2nd class passages. He took the letter to the office, and five days afterwards was told by a Japanese gentleman in the office that the matter had been brought before the Directors, who declined to grant the passage, as he had not signed to that effect and blamed him for trusting anyone without a written agreement. He also said they had granted him \$50.00 for good service. This at first he refused to take, but the gentleman said it was a present and had nothing to do with the passage; he therefore ultimately accepted it. He gave a receipt for the \$50.00, and was told to look to the defendant for the passage-money. He applied to the defendant on the 27th May, and afterwards was shown a letter from the Company acknowledging one from the defendant and saying they could not grant the passage but had given him \$50.00. He thought that he had been badly treated in not being allowed to sign ashore when he would have had the option of refusing. He did not bring this case through any animosity, but simply as a matter of law.

Defendant stated—The plaintiff was attached to the ship for some time in England, when they went to Cardiff they loaded and left in a hurry. There were no articles before a shipping master as the ship cleared under the Japanese flag. The engagement was not made before the Japanese Consul or a shipping master of any kind. He told plaintiff to meet him at his agent's office, but being busy he did not come. The agreement was placed on the saloon table and he (defendant) having to go on the bridge to take the ship out, told his officer to see the plaintiff sign it. They had bad weather for two or three days, after which he found it had not been signed. He then told plaintiff he had better sign it and put the papers away, which he did. That was all he knew about it. As to the conversation about his finding him a passage should he be discharged, it seemed to be a concoction of his own, he denied any such conversation. On their arrival in Yokohama the term of the agreement expired. He paid off the crew and gave them two months' wages in lieu of passage. He told plaintiff that he might go and he would try and get him a passage. After plaintiff had received the two months' pay defendant told him that if he liked to stop in Japan he would keep him as long as the Company would and would do the best for him that he could. He agreed to stop and signed a new agreement.

After the plaintiff was paid off he did not hear from him for some time. He gave him a letter to the Company, but told him that he did not think they would give him a passage, they might make him a present, which they did. Since plaintiff left the ship he had found him situations on two ships to go home in the capacity of steward. One ship was the *Pactolus* and the other the *Sattara*, which only went to Kobe and which, had he believed, been sold since, but it appeared to him that he did not wish to go.

His Honour said there was an agreement in writing, and after that was signed it could not be added to by a verbal statement. Even if he believed all that the plaintiff had stated it could not affect the written agreement. The agreement being to serve in a Japanese ship the signing before a shipping master was not necessary. The agreement said two months extra wages, which he had received, and said nothing about passage money. Judgment for the defendant.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

TIME AND FARE TABLES.

The following table of times and fares for the Uyeno-Takasaki Railway has just been issued:—

DOWN TRAINS.

LEAVE.	TIME.			FARES.					
				S. CLASS.		1ST CLASS.		3RD CLASS.	
	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.
UYENO	6.20	11.35	4.50	—	—	—	—	—	—
OJI	6.35	11.50	5.05	—	25	—	14	—	7
URAWA	7.08	12.23	5.38	—	70	—	44	—	22
AGEO	7.43	12.58	6.13	1	10	—	68	—	34
KONOSU	8.14	1.29	6.44	1	50	—	92	—	46
KUMAGAI	8.49	2.04	7.19	2	00	1	20	—	60
FUKAYA	9.14	2.29	7.44	2	35	1	40	—	70
HONJO	9.37	2.52	8.07	2	70	1	60	—	80
SHINMACHI	9.58	3.13	8.28	3	00	1	78	—	89
TAKASAKI	10.21	3.36	8.51	3	38	2	00	1	00

UP TRAINS.

LEAVE.	TIME.			FARES.					
				S. CLASS.		1ST CLASS.		3RD CLASS.	
	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.
TAKASAKI	6.00	11.15	4.30	—	—	—	—	—	—
SHINMACHI	6.23	11.38	4.53	—	38	—	22	—	11
HONJO	6.44	11.59	5.14	—	68	—	40	—	20
FUKAYA	7.07	12.22	5.37	1	03	—	60	—	30
KUMAGAI	7.36	12.51	6.06	1	38	—	80	—	40
KONOSU	8.11	1.26	6.41	1	38	1	08	—	54
AGEO	8.42	1.57	7.12	2	28	1	32	—	66
URAWA	9.13	2.28	7.43	2	68	1	56	—	78
OJI	9.46	3.01	8.16	3	13	1	86	—	93
UYENO	10.00	3.15	8.30	3	38	2	00	1	00

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The Italian Minister, who is to return to Italy about the middle of this month, will give a farewell banquet to the Japanese and foreign dignitaries on the 7th inst. It is rumoured that His Excellency will receive a higher appointment after reaching Italy.

The Russian Minister left for Yukao on the 3rd instant, where he will spend three weeks.

Forty-one silver-brokers who were arrested on the 10th of last month on suspicion of specie speculation have been sentenced to fines ranging from 40 to 100 yen. The fines amount altogether to 2,775 yen.

Wrestling is a favourite topic of conversation in the metropolis. Matches are going on in two places, Kobiki-cho and Nagasaki-cho. The ardent devotees of the popular game are untiring in arranging matches and the like.

The favourable growth of the silk-worms in Mayebashi, Joshu, has been considerably retarded by the late heavy rains. The worms will spin their cocoons on or about the 10th instant.

NOTE.—This report is incorrect; specimens of Mayebashi silk are already in the market, and a good many bales are expected on the 16th instant.

At Tomioka, Gumma, Prefecture, large numbers of workmen from the adjacent prefectures are employed in rearing silk-worms. The men are at work night and day. The worms have gone into the third stage, but the rearers are much concerned about the irregularity of the weather.

Four hundred naval recruits are to be enlisted in the south-western provinces.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

It is said that the two-hundredth part of the salary of every official in the Finance Department is to be handed over to the Treasury, in order to swell the fund for the construction of railways in the Hokkaido. In the case of an official resigning his post, the money will be restored with interest.

One of our deified sages once remarked:—"Japanese spirit, Chinese wisdom." We now say, "Japanese spirit, German wisdom;" for the staff of the *Seido Torishirabe Kiyoku* is to be divided into two parts, the one of which will commence a series of investigations of the German constitution, while the other will report upon the customs and institutions of Old Japan. So much, at least, for popular rumours.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

A terrible murder took place at Mikacho, Tokyo, early in the morning of the 3rd inst. One Saze Kujiuro, living in the same ward, an old man, had a ruffianly son, at one time an official in the Military Department, but for some time dependent upon his father. The old man had severely reprimanded with his son, on the previous day, for pursuing a vicious and dissolute course of conduct, and this seems to have caused the younger man to resolve upon his heinous crime. While the neighbours were still asleep, the parricide killed his helpless father with a sword, wounded the latter's grandson, and then committed suicide by shooting himself.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 30th.

RESULT OF THE OAKS.

RENEWAL OF THE OAKS STAKES of 50 sovs. each, h. ft., for three year old fillies; 8st. 10lb. each; the owner of the second filly to receive 300 sovs., and the third 150 sovs., out of the stakes; about a mile and a half, starting at the New High Level Starting Post.—147 subs.

Busybody 1
Superba 2
Queen Adelaide 3

London, June 1st.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS IN LONDON.—GREAT EXCITEMENT.

Three explosions of dynamite, almost simultaneously, have occurred in St. James's Square, and another in Scotland Yard, causing immense damage. Several persons were injured, and the greatest excitement prevails throughout the Metropolis.

London, June 3rd.

DEFEAT OF THE REBELS AT BERBER.

The Governor of Berber has defeated the rebels, and the siege is raised.

SAFETY OF GENERAL GORDON.

News has been received from General Gordon, who continues to hold out.

London, June 5th.

EXPECTED ATTACK ON KHARTOUM.

It is reported that the Mahdi is encamped close to Khartoum, and the fall of the town is expected.

THE DYNAMITERS IN LONDON.

No clue has yet been discovered to the dynamiters.

London, 31st May.

Mid. Uplands Cotton, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Yarns, unchanged, but very firm. Shirts, unchanged and steady. Silk, dull; crop prospects favorable.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 21st May.

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY REFORM BILL.

In the House of Commons, during the debate on the Reform (County Franchise) Bill, an amendment having for its object the exclusion of Ireland from a share in the extension of the franchise was negatived by a very large majority.

London, 23rd May.

EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

The Premier, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that the system of dual control in the Government of Egypt would not be reverted to.

London, May 24th.

REPORTED SUICIDE OF A CLERGYMAN.

It is reported that the Dean of Bangor has committed suicide.

London, 26th May.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE ON EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

The negotiations between England and France to bring about a conference on the affairs of Egypt are progressing very favourably, and the obstacles which seemed to stand in the way of its being held are disappearing.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Peking, 23rd May.

IMPORTANT PROVINCIAL CHANGES IN CHINA.

Chang Shu-shêng, Viceroy of the Liang Kwang, has memorialised the Emperor to the effect that on account of ill-health and the too great arduousness of his duties he is compelled to resign his office. He can, however, still undertake the command of soldiers. The Empress accepts his resignation, and appoints Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, to fill his office *pro tem*. The Governorship of Shansi will devolve upon Kua Ping, the Provincial Treasurer. Chang Shu-shêng must await the arrival of Chang Chih-tung, and then assume charge of the Kuang-tung forces with a view to frontier defence.

Peking, 26th May.

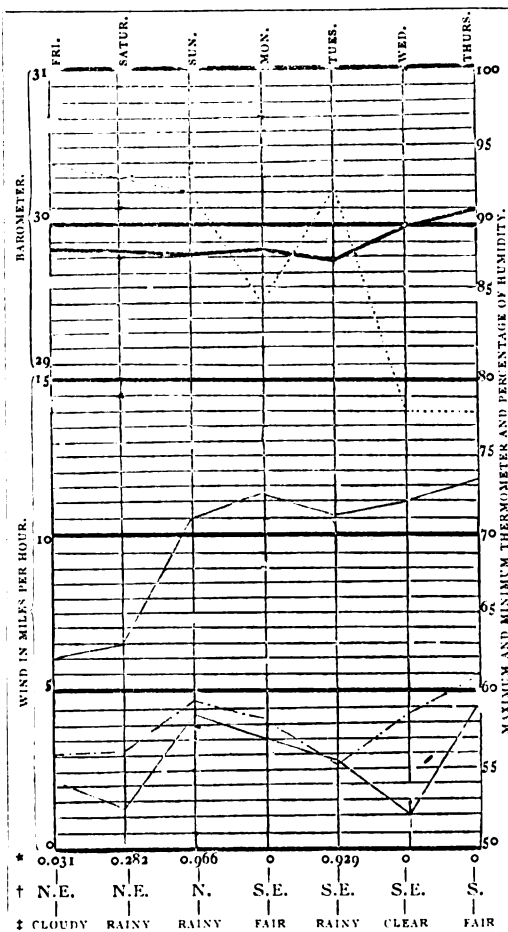
MINING OPERATIONS IN YÜNNAN.

A Decree has been issued by the Empress, ordering Ts'ên Yü-ying, Viceroy of Yün-kuei, and T'ang Chiung, Governor of Yünnan, to start a public Mining Company, the object of which shall be to open all the mines in Yünnan which produce gold, silver, copper, or any other minerals of value.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 30TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



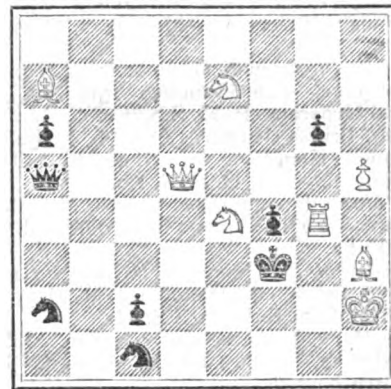
REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
..... represents velocity of wind.
..... percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 14.3 miles per hour on Thursday, at 5 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.122 inches on Thursday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.717 inches on Tuesday, at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 73.2 on Thursday, and the lowest was 52.4 on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 78.9 and 53.2 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 2.208 inches, against 1.018 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

CHESS.

By Mr. T. M. BROWN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 31st May, 1884,
by Mr. G. E. BARBIER.

White.

Black.

- 1.—Kt. to Q. R. 4. 1.—K. to K. 4.
2.—Kt. to B. B. 5. 2.—Anything.
3.—Mates.

Correct answers received from "K. OMORI,"
"TESA," and "W.H.S."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, }
Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. Thursday, June 12th.
Kobe }
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Monday, June 16th.*
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Monday, June 16th.

* Oceanic left San Francisco on May 27th. The *Principia* (with English mail) left Hongkong on June 5th, and will be due here on Wednesday, June 11th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, June 7th.
For Kobe per M. B. Co. Saturday, June 7th.
For Europe, via
Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 8th.
For America..... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, June 8th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, June 11th.
Nagasaki ... }
For America..... per P. M. Co. Wednesday, June 25th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,482, J. Clarke, 1st June,—London via Hongkong 25th May, Mails and General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 1st June,—San Francisco 13th May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Teheran, British steamer, 1,684, W. J. Nantes, 1st June,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 68, Masuda, 2nd June,—Yokkaichi 31st May, General.—Kowyekisha.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 2nd June,—Hakodate 30th May, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 870, Makihara, 3rd June,—Kobe 1st June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 3rd June,—Sagara 1st June, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 312, Nakasato, 3rd June,—Shimidzu 2nd June, General.—Seiriusa.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, J. Adair, 4th June,—Hakodate and Otaru 2nd June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 4th June,—Yokkaichi 1st June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 4th June,—Hakodate 1st and Oginohama 3rd June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 4th June,—Fukuda 2nd June, General.—Fukudasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 4th June,—Shimidzu 3rd June, General.—Seiriusa.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 5th June,—Yokkaichi 3rd June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 5th June,—Oginohama 3rd June.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 5th June,—Yokkaichi 3rd June, General.—Handasha.

San Pablo, American steamer, 2,113, E. C. Reed, 5th June,—Hongkong 30th May, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 5th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 5th June,—Toba 3rd June, General.—Handasha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 5th June,—Shimidzu 4th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 6th June,—Yokkaichi 4th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 6th June,—Oginohama 4th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 6th June,—Kobe 4th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 6th June,—Hongkong 31st May, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 6th June,—Shimidzu 5th June, General.—Seiriusa.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Shiroka, 6th June,—Shimidzu 5th June, General.—Fukudasha.

Electra, German steamer, 1,162, F. Nagel, 7th June,—Hongkong 31st May, 9,000 piculs Sugar and General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Fayui Maru, Japanese steamer, 70, Nakayama, 7th June,—Shimidzu 6th June, General.—Muratasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 5th June,—Yokkaichi 4th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,971, Steedman, 7th June,—Hakodate 4th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, Young, 31st May,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 1st June,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 2nd June,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 2nd June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,935, Donaldson, 2nd June,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Lucile, American ship, 1,329, C. M. Lawrence, 3rd June,—Namaimo, Ballast.—Corney & Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 3rd June,—Sakata and Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 3rd June,—Sagara, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 4th June,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Claymore, British steamer, 1,667, Gulland, 4th June,—New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,290, Drummond, 4th June,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 4th June,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusa.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 4th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 4th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusa.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 759, Streamer, 4th June,—Hakodate and Niigata, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 4th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusa.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 4th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tsusi Maru, Japanese steamer, 432, Toyama, 4th June,—Yokosuka Docks.—Unosha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 5th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 5th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Makihara, 5th June,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 5th June,—Toba, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 6th June,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, Adair, 5th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Daukaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 6th June,—Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisen Kwaisha.

Pembrokehire, British steamer, 1,717, D. Davies, 6th June,—New York via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Sakaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 151, Nakayama, 6th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 6th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 590, Thomas, 7th June,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Coffin, Messrs. A. E. Kent, T. H. Richardson, A. E. Phillipene, H. Osborne, A. F. Thompson, F. E. Lewis, J. O. Averill, and J. L. Hartshorn in cabin; and 2 Europeans in steerage. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. Ho Quong and child, Mrs. P. Saunders, and Mr. A. Rowe in cabin; 305 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Teheran*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mrs. Morris and family, Messrs. Reiff and Mayesono in cabin. From London: Mr. and Mrs. Reid, Messrs. Black, Hardy, Lalande, Strauss, Ginsburg, and E. Lancaster in cabin; 5 Chinese in 2nd class, and 12 Chinese and 14 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Hakodate:—25 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—48 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Hakodate and Otaru:—Mr. Dunn in cabin; and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—38 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—24 Japanese in steerage. From Oginohama: Mr. Ono in cabin; and 24 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—73 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Oginohama:—5 Japanese.

Per American steamer *San Pablo*, from Hongkong:—214 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Bishop and Mrs. A. W. Poole, Mr. and Mrs. Swire and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Hitch, Messrs. W. H. Hargart, E. Stollerfoht, C. A. Taylor, Ichiji, Kiwaki, and Shinowara in cabin; and 5 Europeans, 6 Chinese, and 168 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Toba:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Uke Maru*, from Shi:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—36 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Oginohama:—8 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Robertson and 4 Japanese in cabin; and 141 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Mantelin, Mr. Leopold Paulhan and servant, Messrs. Charles Steovey, L. A. Anderson, L. P. Michelson, and B. Kasakura in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—13 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Shimidzu:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Fayui Maru*, from Shimidzu:—14 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—54 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Hakodate:—2 Europeans and 35 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lestarer and 2 children, Miss Omasson, Messrs. Davidson, William Attwell, Garberoglio, Water Scott, and Okawa in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Judge Nakajima and Mr. Cho Jin Kei in cabin; and 30 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Ishii, Messrs. James Scott, T. Sakamoto, S. Shimidzu, M. Tatsuno, M. Togana, and S. Shibuya in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Ho Quong and child, Mrs. P. Saunders, and Mr. A. Rowe in cabin; and 305 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency General Saigo, Colonel Tadjima, Major Ota, Major Grilu, Mr. and Mrs. Hearst, Mr. and Mrs. Kawasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Takeda, Mr. and Mrs. Kitawo, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Coffin, Mrs. Murata, Messrs. F. E. Lewis, A. F. Thompson, H. Osborne, Wm. Bell, J. Calder, J. L. Hartshorn, P. Colombe, H. Budler, G. Hayashi, Miyaki, Yamamoto, Tanabe, Watanabe, Kobayashi, and Sakurai in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, for Kobe:—10 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Teheran*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—4,300 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$183,000.00.

Per American steamer *San Pablo*, from Hongkong:—Sugar, 3,083 bags; Merchandise, 73 packages; 2 Parcels.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—6,342 packages.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Benlarig*, Captain Clarke, reports leaving Hongkong on the 25th May, at 4 p.m. with moderate variable winds and fine weather to Rock Island; thence to port fresh to strong N.E. winds and thick rainy weather. On the 28th May in latitude 28° N. and longitude 125° 40' E. passed British bark *Chateaubriand*, from Takao to this port.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 1st June, at 10 a.m. with moderate S.E. winds and dense fog to Oginohama, where arrived on the 2nd, at 4 p.m., and left on the 3rd, at 6.10 a.m. with thick fog for three hours; thence to Inuboye variable winds and rainy weather; and thence to port N.W. winds and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 4th June, at 10 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

With hardly any country orders in hand and not feeling disposed to speculate ahead, few dealers have been giving much attention to business, and the tone of the Market is extremely dull, but we do not alter quotations.

COTTON YARN.—Trifling sales have been made daily, but there is no general demand, and prices are more or less nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—There has been very little enquiry for Grey Goods, and prices may be considered nominal. Turkey Reds have also been in less demand, but velvets are readily saleable at full prices.

WOOLLENS.—Mousseline de Laine continues to find buyers for fair quantities at the reduced rates, but nearly all other Goods are difficult of sale.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.25 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.00 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches...	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches...	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13½ to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Oil remains just as last advised. Sales are reported of a few thousand cases at a fractional reduction on last week's figures, but there is no life in the Market. Stock here is large (about 620,000 cases), and there have been heavy arrivals in Kobe. Deliveries here for the week do not exceed 12,000 cases.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.70
Comet	1.68
Stella	1.64

SUGAR.

There are no changes to make in quotations for White sorts, but an advance has taken place in Formosa, small parcels having changed hands at the rate given below. Stocks still remain heavy, and buyers are shy.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.40 to 3.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was on the 30th ult., since which date our Market has awakened slowly from its long sleep, and we have to report about 85 piculs purchased during the week. When last writing one large buyer was coquetting with a parcel or two of *Filatures*, which at last resulted in a purchase, thus reopening a Market which had been entirely closed for twenty-two days—a suspension of business without parallel since the great

"Kwaisha" agitation of 1881, at which time things were at a dead-lock from 15th September to 19th November.

Dealers are still anxious to sell, but their uneasiness is less marked since the market is once more open. All the business done has been in *Filature* and *Kakeda* sorts; but holders of other kinds profess their willingness to listen to any offers which may be made. A few New *Hanks* were shown at the *Maibashi* Market held on the 4th instant; price mentioned was 33 *momme*, equal to about \$485 per picul Yokohama, for ordinary first arrivals. A few native bales are expected on offer here by the 16th instant. This date is rather earlier than last year, the first purchase of *Hanks* being made in Yokohama on the 22nd June; it is to be expected that supplies will reach this port sooner and with more regularity, as the railway system extends.

Reports as to New Crop continue "all well." In Japan some little trouble was experienced through late frosts in *Shinshu* province; but this has passed away and we are promised an abundant crop of good quality. *Cocoons* are plentiful in the nearer provinces and reeling has begun. From Canton, the first crop is reported queer; but as there are six more to follow, the partial failure of one is not so very serious. From Shanghai the former estimate of 60,000 bales is confirmed, but we have not yet heard that the Market for New Silk is open. In France the *education* is reported finished with the result of 10 to 20 per cent. increase on last crop. In Italy all things progress, but the *raccolla* is not yet complete.

The M.M. steamer *Menzaleh*, which left this port for Hongkong on the morning of the 1st instant, had no Raw Silk on board. The Export figures to date therefore remain unaltered at 29,409 bales, against 27,511 bales last year, and 20,866 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—Nothing done for export. Some few arrivals have come to hand, but these have been more than counterbalanced by sales for internal use.

Filatures.—The *Koshu* mentioned in our last were finally sent back, the buyer taking in a large parcel *Shinshu* (fil. Tokosha) in their place. This lot was eventually weighed at \$630, and has been followed by a Settlement of *Koshu* Yajima, at \$570. *Nihonmatsu*, encouraged by the business done, asks \$650, but would no doubt accept something less.

Re-reels.—Owners asking \$610 for No. 1, but would, we think, be glad of an offer on that figure.

Kakedas.—Beyond a small parcel of Medium reported sold at \$530, there has been no business. A good parcel of 1 to 1½ could be had at about \$600.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3	Nominal
Hanks—No. 3½	Nominal
Filatures—Extra	\$640 to 650
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	610 to 615
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 2	570 to 580
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 6th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,214	13,942	10,687
America	9,556	9,275	6,667
England	2,639	4,294	3,532
Total	29,409	27,511	20,886

WASTE SILK.

Business has again fallen off, and Settlements recorded do not amount to more than 50 piculs. There are enquiries every day for *Good Waste*, but the required quality is not forthcoming, and in some cases buyers are beguiled into paying long prices for very inferior stuff. The first small parcels of New Waste may be looked for by the 15th proximo.

The French mail steamer *Menzaleh* on the 1st instant carried 85 bales for Europe; and the *Glenavon*, which sailed on the 2nd instant, is reported to have taken 4 sample bales to New York. These shipments leave the Export still about 1,000 piculs below last year's, the exact figures running thus:—Export to date 23,594 piculs, against 24,536 piculs last year, and 25,469 piculs in 1882.

Noshi-ito.—Some business done, including *Utsu-nomiya* fil. at \$155, *Hagiwara* fil. at \$135. Some *Foshu* inferior assortment reported settled, but the price has not been correctly ascertained.

Kibiso.—Nothing done beyond a few piculs *Filature* at from \$110 to \$115 according to quality.

Sundries.—A little *Kuzuito* noted at \$65. No business in *Neri*, prices asked being far above the ideas of buyers.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 180

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 6th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	21,393	21,242	21,231
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,294	4,238
Total	23,594	24,536	25,469

Exchange.—No change to report: Bankers would like to sell their dollars at higher rates, but have not been able to command any advance. LONDON 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have been worked up to something better than 109 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock, 6th June, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	490	Pierced Cocoons	13
Filature & Re-reels	310	Noshi-ito	120
Kakeda	160	Kibiso	360
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	90
Taysam Kinds	10	Sundries	117
Total piculs	1,070	Total piculs	700

TEA.

Buyers continue to roll the ball as briskly as ever, notwithstanding that the latest wire quotations from New York still show a drooping Market. All grades of Tea have been represented, and the Teas grading Good Medium and Fine sorts have come in for the greatest share of attention. During the first part of week, the Market had an upward tendency and prices were fully half a dollar higher than the quotation given below. For the past few days, purchases have been less and as the receipts from the country exceed the Settlements by 1,500 piculs daily, the Market has again resumed its natural position and to day Teas can be bought at least a half dollar lower than our quotations indicate. The aggregate Settlements are 15,565 piculs, and the total Settlements since the commencement of the present season show an excess of about 5,000 piculs over the previous year at the same date. The steamship *Glenavon*, sailed on the 2nd instant for New York, via Amoy, with the following:—1,104,489 lbs. for New York, and 222,802 lbs. for Canadian Markets, making a total of 1,331,291 lbs. Tea from this port. The steamship *Claymore* sailed on the 4th instant and the steamship *Pembroke-shire* on the 6th instant, the former took 7,079 packages, and the latter 5,598 packages, all for New York. Weights of these shipments will be given in our next Market Report. The Market closes easy at the undernoted quotations:—

QUOTATIONS.

Good Common	\$13 to 15
Medium	17 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 22
Fine	23 to 24
Finest	25 to 28
Choice	32 to 35
Choicest	38 & up'ds.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained extremely steady throughout the week, and close firm at the following quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
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17.



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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal

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May 1st, 1883.

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 24, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 14TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

“FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!”

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the “JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL,” must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH, 1884.

DEATH.

On the 11th June, 1884, on board the Mitsu Bishi Steamship *Kumamoto Maru*, FREDERIK WILHELM IVERSEN, chief engineer, aged 40 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Russian Minister has gone to Yukao.

THE suspension of the *Choya Shimbun* has been removed.

A CASE of cholera is said to have occurred in Tokiyo.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO has joined the *Hiyei Kan*.

MR. ITOHEI, a well known merchant of Tokiyo and Yokohama, died on the 8th instant.

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTER and Mrs. Plunkett have returned from a short excursion to Nikkwo.

A DEMONSTRATION in honour of liberty was made by a number of youths in Nagano on the 1st instant.

THE Arsenal at Osaka has turned out two Krupp guns which are to be mounted on the fort at Kanonsaki.

MR. ANDO TARO, the new Japanese Consul at Shanghai, left Yokohama on the 11th instant for his new post.

IT is stated that the draft of the new commercial code has been submitted to the Council of State for final revision.

A TOLERABLY severe shock of earthquake was felt in Tokiyo and Yokohama at 11 o'clock on the night of the 11th instant.

THIRTY-ONE young noblemen (*Kwazoku*) have

been admitted to the Preparatory School of the Military College, Tokiyo.

SERIOUS disturbances are reported to have occurred at Kiyoto on the occasion of a lecture delivered by Japanese Christians.

A RECENTLY published return shows that the total value of the coins struck at the Osaka Mint since its opening is 15,292,633 *yen*.

THE Bureaux of Inland Revenue and Customs Revenue have been abolished and their functions assumed by the Revenue Bureau.

REGULATIONS relating to the registration and use of trade marks have been published by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORTY-ONE brokers of Yokohama have been sentenced to fines amounting in the aggregate to 2,775 *yen* for illegal transactions on 'Change.

THE proprietor, editor, and manager of the Tokiyo Punch have been fined 50 *yen* each for publishing a cartoon intended to defame His Excellency Ito.

A new carriage road over the Usui range of mountains in Nagano has been completed, and was opened by the Minister of Home Affairs on the 22nd ultimo.

THE ceremony of awarding diplomas to the graduates of the Gymnastic School, Tokiyo, came off on the 7th instant. Seventeen graduates received diplomas.

THE statement of traffic receipts upon the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway for the week ended 8th instant is \$10,322.11, against \$10,470.17 for the corresponding week last year.

NEWS from Korea is to the effect that post roads are to be constructed between Söul, Wonsan, Pusan, and Inchoon, and that the Government proposes to enter the postal union.

CONSIDERABLE distress is reported to prevail among the agricultural class in the district of Shimashita, province of Settsu, and an allowance of money has been made to them from the Agricultural Relief Fund.

THE British Consular Trade report of Kanagawa has been published. It shows a total decrease of 2½ million dollars in the trade during 1883, but says that, on the whole, profits and losses have about balanced each other.

A PLANT of machinery for the manufacture of sugar has arrived in Yokohama, and will be immediately forwarded to the Hokkaido, where it will be erected and worked under the superintendence of German *employés* of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

A BAZAAR in aid of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital for women and children was held by the ladies of Tokiyo in the *Rokumei-kwan* on the 12th, 13th, and 14th instant. About fourteen thousand tickets of admission were sold, and the affair was in every way a remarkable success.

NOTES.

THE Fancy Bazaar, of which we spoke in a recent issue, in aid of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital, is to be held at the *Rokumei-kwan* on the 12th, 13th, and 14th instant. Owing to the loss of a certain measure of support which the Hospital previously received from the Tokiyo Municipality, much difficulty is experienced in extending a sufficiency of medical aid to sick women and children among the poorer classes of the people. An appeal has therefore been made to the ladies of Tokiyo, with the result that they have entered heart and soul into the work, and prepared a number of simple but very beautiful articles to furnish a Bazaar. We believe that the handiwork of almost every lady of position in the capital will be represented, and as the handsome apartments in the *Rokumei-kwan* have been placed at the disposal of the Committee and decorated with remarkable taste, the Bazaar will offer exceptional attractions. It will also derive a special interest from the fact that it is the first enterprise of the kind in Japanese history. The ladies of this country, though individually their names have been frequently associated with acts of benevolent devotion and heroism, have, as a class, occupied a comparatively insignificant position, and there is, perhaps, no surer sign of the vitality of Japan's progress, than the improvement their status is now rapidly undergoing. Their habits were never governed, indeed, by those rules of strict seclusion which disgrace the civilization of some Oriental peoples. The Japanese lady was always expected to be sociable and unaffected. But she received an education based on the hypothesis that her sphere of influence and usefulness must necessarily be limited, and that beyond her household duties she had no interest in the events of her time. Many years must doubtless elapse before a radical change in these respects is accomplished, but the gentle sex in Japan has, at all events, one advantage; it has never been trained to think that sociability is immodest. Were not this the case, it is doubtful whether the liberal codes of recent years, even when supplemented by a charitable appeal, could have induced the ladies of Tokiyo to come forward with the unanimity they have displayed in the present instance. We confess that, although the wonderful metamorphoses this country has undergone since the Restoration have pretty well fortified us against surprise, it does require some stretch of credulity to believe that in two or three days the people of Tokiyo and Yokohama will have an opportunity of visiting a Fancy Bazaar and purchasing articles made and sold by the aristocracy of Japan in aid of a charity hospital. That the enterprise will be a success there can be very little question. Its novelty alone must secure a large attendance. It is under the patronage of their Imperial Highnesses the Princesses Taruhito and Takehito; the President is Madame Oyama, and the Vice-Presidents are Madame Ito, Madame Inouye, and Madame Mori. These ladies, assisted by about

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It will be remembered that a telegram, dated London, May 9th, informed us of an open breach between the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord Randolph Churchill, in consequence of the latter's desire to reorganize the Conservative Party on a popular representative basis; and that another message, twenty-four hours later, described this political difference as "arranged substantially in accordance with the views of Lord Randolph." Everybody who has followed the recent course of English politics with any attention must have seen that Lord Randolph Churchill was purposely playing the rôle of a free lance, and that his apparent violence and indiscretion were, in the main, assumed for the purpose of preserving his independence. At Birmingham, on the 15th of April, he allowed his hand to be seen distinctly for the first time. He showed, as the *Pall Mall Budget* pithily observed, that the Conservatives are resolved to compete with the Liberals on their own line, and to be "better Radicals than the Radicals themselves." In fact, there are no longer two parties in England separated from each other by a barrier of principles. There are only two congregations of politicians, occupying different camps because both cannot hold office together. There were, of course, doubts as to the wisdom of the programme—peace, retrenchment, and reform—mapped out by the Conservative Thersites, but there could be no doubt that the great party needed a programme as well as some vigour in pursuing it. Lord Randolph, at any rate, having made his profession of faith, showed no symptom of wavering. He had been very recently elected president of the Union of Conservative Associations, and his election was regarded as an unmistakeable evidence that the Conservative rank and file were dissatisfied with Sir Stafford Northcote and Lord Salisbury, both right men enough, in their way, but in the wrong places. On the 5th of May Lord Randolph withdrew from the Conservative Union. His co-seceders were Mr. John Eldon Gorst and the Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes, and the aim of the secession was to form a new party, on a "Conservative democratic" basis. We cannot tell what may be the exact import of this new method of wheedling "the great democratic beast," but it does not appear to have immediately commended itself to the Marquis of Salisbury's judgment, as the telegram of May 9th shows. Lord Churchill asked the Marquis to consent to the establishment of a Central Council, which should "guide the electoral organization, advocate free education, and prepare measures having in view the subordination of the land question to social topics." The Marquis rebelled at first, but the prospect of a fatal split in the camp evidently forced his hand, and from the 10th of May the Conservatives set out on their travels by a new route to popular favour. They have at last a compass, such as it is, and its cardinal points are—the caucus; a large stride in the direction of what Herbert Spencer calls the "Coming Slavery," and a sort of left-handed recognition of Mr. Henry George's lunacy. A portion of this programme they can claim as their own, but of another portion it will unquestionably be said that they have paid their adversaries the compliment of borrowing an advanced leaf out of the Radicals' book.

QUITE a sensation appears to have been produced in English social circles by the marriage of the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt to the

Countess Alexandrine Czapski, daughter of a Russian Chamberlain. Louis IV. of Hesse-Darmstadt is now 47 years of age and has seven children, five of whom are living. He became a widower in 1878 by the death of the Princess Alice, whose daughter, the Princess Victoria, was married on April 30th to Prince Louis of Battenberg. It appears that the Grand Duke's marriage took place immediately after that of his daughter. His new wife is described as a lady thirty years old, of extraordinary beauty. She was formerly the wife of a Russian Secretary of Legation—de Kalemine—from whom she was recently divorced. The particular feature which lends interest to this affair is that the Grand Duke was the intended husband of the Princess Beatrice of England, whom, however, he was prevented from espousing by the rejection of the bill permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister. He is by no means an opulent potentate, his whole income, so far as Hesse-Darmstadt is concerned, being derived from a civil list, amounting to some £60,000, out of which he has to pay allowances to other princes, his brothers and uncles. It was hinted, therefore, that his marriage with the Princess Alice was a welcome assistance to his treasury, as it brought him a dowry of £30,000 and an allowance of £6,000 per annum. He would probably have been glad to take another English Princess on the same terms.

THE Italian press laws appear to be sometimes enforced in a manner scarcely worthy of European civilization. A journalist was recently sentenced to a month's imprisonment for some display of disrespect to his country's institutions. The sentence does not seem to have excited any indignation. On the contrary, more than one of the culprit's *confrères* hinted that he had only been served as he himself desired. But the method of carrying out the judgment was not so satisfactory. The indiscreet writer was taken off to a prison called the Carceri Nuove, which is described as one of the most terrible dungeons conceivable, a veritable jail of the middle ages, hideously dirty, and constructed so that the persons incarcerated there never breathe a breath of fresh air. The journalist obtained a separate cell, which is a luxury that any prisoner can procure by paying nine francs a month, but when he asked permission to purchase some insecticide as a protection against the hosts of vermin that shared his seclusion, his request was peremptorily refused; and to augment his pleasures, he was not permitted to have pens, ink, paper, books, or newspapers. The Italian Code provides that the prison where journalists are confined for violations of the press laws shall always be different from the prison for ordinary malefactors, but it would seem that the code is not invariably followed.

THE Consular and Diplomatic Bill reported by Mr. Randall in the House of Representatives on the 26th of April, appears to be a very strange measure. The *New York Herald* thus sums up its provisions:—

First—It cuts off entirely the fund out of which the State Department has hitherto paid for the necessary official journeys of Ministers, and thereupon abolishes the mission to Bolivia and joins it to Chile without increasing the compensation of the Minister to that country. That is to say, it imposes on the Minister to Chile expensive journeys and troublesome duties, involving protracted absences from his important post, and requires him to pay the large extra expenses.

Second—The item for "foreign intercourse," which means contingent expenses, which has long been eighty-five thousand dollars, is cut down to fifteen thou-

sand dollars, and the bill provides that this shall be expended only for stationery, seals, flags, &c. It thus forbids payment for office rent, furniture for official work, care of archives, expense of moving, cost of telegrams, postage and travel, whereas in several cases, a Minister is accredited to two countries. If this section should pass as it stands, every Minister will have to pay out of his salary the postage on his despatches and the cost of his official telegrams, and the Secretary of State will have to pay out of his own pocket postage and telegraph money whenever he finds it necessary to communicate with a Minister abroad.

Third—All secretaries of legation who are not abolished are cut down in salary, so that hereafter, under Mr. Randall's ingenious plan, only men of wealth can afford to take such places. That, we suppose, is democratic. Second secretaries are cut down from eighteen hundred to fifteen hundred dollars. There are just three of these in the service, and Mr. Randall effects in this item the magnificent saving of nine hundred dollars.

Fourth—The bill also obliges consuls to pay official postage out of their own salaries, and by forbidding vice consuls to receive any money whatever, forces these officers to pay official postage out of their own pockets.

Fifth—The bill with singular liberality provides for marshals for four consular courts in China, "including Hongkong." Mr. Randall ought to ask the first schoolboy he meets, who will tell him that Hongkong is a British possession, where we can have no consular court.

Sixth—The appropriation for enforcing the neutrality laws is entirely omitted by Mr. Randall, who thus proposes to disable the State Department from taking measures to prevent new descents on Cuba and other attempts to violate neutrality.

Seventh—The bill abolishes consular jails in China, Japan, Siam, and Turkey, and allows seventy-five cents a day for the "keep" of each prisoner. Mr. Randall seems to be under the impression that in those countries consuls or Ministers having judicial powers may easily get their prisoners "boarded out." If this clause should pass, it would strike a blow at the very important extraterritorial jurisdiction on which rest safety and justice to American citizens in the countries named.

Eighth—Legation buildings at Peking and Tokio are rented for a term of years under an existing law. Mr. Randall in this bill refuses to pay the rent contracted for.

The Secretary of State has fortunately set his face against this cheese-paring policy. In a long report addressed to the President, he points out, with great force and clearness, the high functions which Ministers are called on to perform. "Ministers," he says, "represent to other Governments the interests of their own. Their powers, duties and privileges are fixed upon the basis of long existing general assent forming the law of nations. They are the necessary channels of communication between Governments. Nor are their duties confined, as has been somewhere stated, to the formal communication of instructions from their Governments, or to formal written documents. A Minister who so understands his duty is, to say the least, not a valuable officer. On the contrary, written official communications form but a small and comparatively unimportant part of his labours. * * * The duty of a diplomat is to seek to avoid issues by procuring a satisfactory settlement before a subject of formal discussion is presented. The essence of any such arrangement is its informality and secrecy. * * * The successes of diplomacy are, therefore, usually known but to a few, which, perhaps not unnaturally, has led to the belief held by many that with the introduction of the steamship and telegraph the duties of a Minister have ceased. But, however fast the mail or efficient the telegraph, neither can ever supply the place of the diplomatic agent, who advises his Government of the disposition of the other and conducts the personal negotiations under general instructions from home. The important duty of diplomacy is the daily work which attracts no attention, and is, in fact, successful in proportion to its silence and apparent repose." Mr. Frelinghuysen then combats the idea of combining Consular and Ministerial functions in one individual, and contends that, having regard to the important and multifarious duties discharged by Consuls at

such places as Shanghai, the Consular fees are in many cases inadequate. Few persons, we imagine, who have lived in the East will be found to deny this. The Secretary of State finally recommends that no action should be taken in the direction recommended by Mr. Randall's Bill, until the whole subject of the simplification and improvement of the Consular system shall have been investigated by a Commission, and the *New York Herald* hopes that "there are democrats in the House intelligent enough to see that their party cannot afford to adopt such curious rubbish" as the new proposals. If the Government of the United States were under any necessity to economize, the case might be different, but seeing that the difficulty is, not to accumulate funds, but to dispose of the present yearly accumulations, one fails to see why congress should be invited to put the screw upon a service already far underpaid.

It is plain that the recently concluded Congo Treaty is not likely to add much glory to the foreign policy of Her Majesty's present advisers. What is meant by "the Congo," Mr. Jacob Bright explains very succinctly in the *Daily News*:—"The region with which this treaty with Portugal deals lies between 5 deg. 12 min. and 8 deg. South latitude on the South-West Coast of Africa. It embraces both banks of the Congo, and has become of extreme importance, owing to the knowledge we now possess of this greatest of African rivers, whose flood is said to freshen the surface of the ocean for seventy miles. Cargo-carrying vessels can, according to the statement of Liverpool merchants, ascend the Congo as far as Bull Island, 12 miles from the mouth, and here goods have to be transhipped for trade beyond. At Vivi, 115 miles, navigation is closed by rocks and cataracts. From Vivi to Stanley Pool, a distance of 200 miles, there is difficult communication, partly by land and partly by water, and then commences free navigation for nearly 1,000 miles. The river has large tributaries, also navigable, and the productive character of the country is said to be great." On the Lower Congo are established many trading factories, the great majority of which belong to British, French, German, and Dutch houses, and the policy of Her Majesty's Government has always been to prevent the course of trade throughout the region being impeded by the imposition of burdens such as Portugal imposes on all her subjects. Yet by the new treaty, Portugal virtually acquires the power to do as she pleases on the Congo. Among the three declared objects of the Treaty, the second is "the complete extinction of the slave trade," and concerning this Mr. Jacob Bright pertinently remarks that "the slave trade is the only trade for which the Portuguese have shown a marked aptitude." Lord Mayo, no later than last year, was able to declare, as the result of personal observation, that a regular traffic in slaves is carried on between Angola and the island of St. Thomas under the auspices of Portuguese officials. "I do not know," says Mr. Bright, "where we could find greater credulity than that which would seem to exist in the Foreign Office, if they believe that anything on paper is likely to make Portugal suppress slavery in Africa." But the third object of the Treaty is, if possible, a greater burlesque:—"To promote the development of commerce and civilization on the African continent." Whatever commerce and civilization exist there at present, are due,

according to Mr. Bright, to the absence of the Portuguese. Mozambique is a specimen of Portuguese devices to promote commerce. Since 1877 the burdens imposed upon traders have been so tremendous that only one English house remains. Mercantile establishments have to pay from £1,000 to £1,500 a year for the right to exist there, and each employé in an establishment must pay a tax of £15 or £20 annually. No wonder that to be handed over to the Portuguese is regarded by the British merchants on the Congo as the worst fate that could have befallen them and the last thing they could have foreseen."

A REMARKABLE speech was delivered before Congress by Mr. Hurd, of Ohio, on April 29th, during the debate on the Tariff Bill. Mr. Hurd is an earnest opponent of protection, and his eloquence seems to be worthy of his logic. "On what ground," he asked, "should the Government interpose to help the business of one citizen at the expense of another? If a man's business were a profitable one, it did not need the protection of the government. If it were unprofitable, that was a good reason why he should not put his money into it, but no reason why he should compel his fellow citizens to pay two prices for the article he made in order to make good his losses. If he (Mr. Hurd) were compelled by legislation to pay \$150 for what would otherwise cost \$100, then the seller had been armed with the taxing power of the government to take from him \$50." Of course there is not much that is new to be said of the general doctrines of free trade. They have been set forth again and again by the ablest writers in terms that compel assent. Even protectionists themselves, in a majority of cases, do not pretend that there is any weak spot in the free trade theory. They admit that protection is contrary to the dictates of reason, yet still they protect. Mr. Hurd's statement, however, of the effects of protection on the United States themselves is well worth reproducing:—

The present American tariff was a high protective one. It increased the price of articles imported into this country more than forty-three per cent. It was perfectly manifest that its influence on our foreign commerce could only be deleterious. Trade was merely mutuality of exchange, and foreign trade was the exchange of products between citizens of different countries. Every hindrance to the importation of foreign goods was an embarrassment to commerce, for to the same extent it prevented the exportation of American goods. The country could not have a large exportation without having a large importation. Every tariff duty was a burden on foreign commerce, and it was doubly so, for it gave foreign nations an excuse for keeping out American goods. More injurious still was this system on the carrying trade, and it was the question of only a little time when, under this policy, the American flag would entirely disappear from the high seas. The tariff prohibited the importation of foreign vessels, and American capital, when it desired to engage in the carrying trade, must do so under a foreign flag. On the shipbuilding interest protection had been most disastrous. Nothing was clearer to his mind than that the destruction of the foreign carrying trade was the result of the prohibition of an American registry to foreign built vessels and the high price of raw material to shipbuilders. The oceans were free to all; any person might sail whithersoever he pleased; but in this free for all where was America? The skill of the sailor of every nation was there asserting itself except ours; fortunes were being built up for people of all nations except ours; and yet this was an ocean-bound Republic. Every ripple of the waters on the sea-shore was an invitation to enjoy the wealth of foreign nations, and every stormy wave that beat upon the crags spoke in thundering denunciation of a policy that would lock America out of the markets of the world.—(Loud applause.)—God speed the day when the divine thought of man's brotherhood to man would succeed the degrading and humiliating one of national isolation and foreign exclusion.

What was the effect of the ruinous system on the farmer? It increased the price of all articles which entered into his daily consumption, and this increase amounted to an annual sum of \$450,000,000. For this there was absolutely no compensation in the protective system. The system operated to increase the price of

the transportation of grain from the West to the seaboard and from the seaboard to Europe. When the grain of the American farmer reached Liverpool it came in competition with the grain of every other farmer of the world. The protective tariff of America was unable to help him there, and every dollar of increase of price which transportation occasions to him diminished the profits of his sales. But the protective tariff did more injury to the farmer in the injury it occasioned to his foreign market. It had already robbed America of one-half of the markets of the Old World. England, because the American tariff prohibited practically the importation of English goods, had sought to find food supplies elsewhere, and under the impulse of the necessity the most amazing fact of modern times had been developed. India, old and effete, had become to Great Britain the country from which her grain might be obtained. The effect of this on the markets of the United States within the last nine months had been a decline in the exportation of American cereals of more than \$47,000,000, and wheat had gone down in Chicago to less than eighty cents. And this development of the wheat production of India was entirely the result of the protective policy in America. I say, continued he, to the farmers of America, the prospect before you is not encouraging now. With elevators and granaries and warehouses all full of the old crop unsold, with vast fields greening to the coming harvest, with a crop unexcelled in India, with a splendid promise among all wheat growing nations, and with the price of wheat at less than eighty cents, the result will be inevitable that the price of wheat before January next will not pay for the price of production, and the corn raised on the Western prairies again will be burned for fuel. In that day the farmers will be beggars in the midst of their own plenty, paupers by the side of their own golden gathered sheaves. There is absolutely no relief except in foreign markets for agriculture.

The Morrison bill as it stood proposed a small reduction of the tariff, which must satisfy for the time the great agricultural interests of the people; but if the protectionists would not listen, would not accept a compromise, in less than a year the farmers would rise from the lethargy in which they were slumbering and would overthrow in an hour the whole protective system.

He went on to argue that the effect of the system was not beneficial to the manufacturing interests, but, on the contrary, was detrimental to them, in that it prevented them from securing free raw material. Oh! if I could burn into the brain of the manufacturers of America one sentence—he burst forth—it would be this:—"Turn from this constant introspection to the nations of the world. Down with the walls! Out to the sea! There are 2,000,000,000 people who want to buy what you make. Rise up to the truth of the great thought that these immense peoples can be supplied by you with all of the instruments of husbandry and the tools of artisanship. But they will not take your goods unless you take theirs. Let your tariff disappear, and then, O manufacturers! your attention will be diverted from the home markets to the generous rivalries of foreign trade, in which a wealth will come to you of which you do not dream to-day.—(Applause.)

It has been said that there is a mysterious but inevitable force which impels the civilized peoples of Europe to conquer and reduce to subjection the so-called barbarians of the Orient. And certainly this is true, if a general law may be deduced from a long series of unvarying experiences. At the same time, it is curious to note that the agent of this inexorable law is almost always chance. England's intervention in Egypt was due to causes which, most assuredly, were not contrived by herself; France was directed towards Africa by the blow of a Dey's fan, and the basis of the empire she is founding in the Orient was the obstinacy of an officer who chose to ignore his instructions. Moreover, all these aggressions are taking place in despite of public opinion at a time when that opinion is supposed to be supreme. The expedition to Tonquin was never popular in France until its success reconciled the people to it. So, too, an English Government supposed to be most *en rapport* with the masses, will probably fall because it refuses to annex Egypt, though if the national vote were taken, it would certainly be against annexation. The civilized world, in short, seems to be directed by accident in a sense contrary to its wishes. It would fain be just and conscientious, but circumstances are too strong for it, whether they take the form of a vertigo like that which at present possesses a

section of the French people, or a defiance, like that of the Mahdi and his fanatic followers. In many respects the Old Chinese philosophers were profoundly shrewd. They did not, perhaps, recognise that their fossil systems must crumble into dust at the first touch of the free air of Western civilization, but they understood plainly enough that isolation was the surest way to preserve the integrity of their country. There is another way, which Japan has chosen: namely, the adoption of Western civilization, and consequent admission into the family of militant nations. But China still sets her face against any such choice. Her statesmen have lost their touch of the times. In the very presence of facts which their ancestors only divined, they do not yet perceive that Europe has two consciences—a conscience of profession and a conscience of performance. The dictates of the former are wholly altruistic; those of the latter, equally egoistic. The one says, “love your neighbour as yourself;” the other, “trample your neighbour under foot, in obedience to a providential law which decrees that the inferior civilization shall be forced by the superior into the path of progress or annihilation.”

AMERICAN mob law, though by no means a national disgrace, inasmuch as it is motivated by a desire to punish crime, threatens to become indiscriminate in its action. Its latest performance was the lynching of a negro lad in Kentucky, whose crime was a theft of \$150. It was, certainly, a theft committed under very aggravated circumstances, inasmuch as the victim was an aged pensioner. But violence was not used, nor was there anything to distinguish the crime from many others that are thought to be sufficiently expiated by six months or a year in prison. The Burlington lynchings thought differently, however. About a hundred of them, mounted and masked, presented themselves before the jail in Burlington on the 4th of May, and received the boy from the jailer, whose resistance was merely of a formal character. Half-an-hour later, the corpse of a negro, aged eighteen, was dangling from the limb of a dead sycamore tree.

THE *Manchester Guardian*, quoting the *Japan Gazette* as its authority, says that foreigners, if they submitted to Japanese jurisdiction, would be “liable to imprisonment and fine if they engaged in larger transactions in exchange than usual.” We cannot tell whether the former journal has misinterpreted the latter, but the statement, as it stands, is singularly incorrect. The impression conveyed is, that the nature of the exchange transactions which a Japanese may carry on, depends entirely on the caprice of the authorities, and that if he speculates so largely as to attract attention, he is liable to be arrested and imprisoned. The truth is, that exchange transactions, of whatever magnitude, are not forbidden in Japan, nor is anybody arrested for carrying them on, provided only they are *bond fide* transactions. Speculating in margins is illegal, and certain taxes have to be paid by persons engaging in the business of exchange, but for the rest, there is no liability whatsoever to either fine or imprisonment. Everybody knows, too, or ought to know, that even these restrictions are imposed by special legislation to which the Government has resorted in the hope of checking currency fluctuations. We do not believe that the theory is sound, although financiers of the United States pursued a similar

course with regard to greenbacks. But that is neither here nor there. The law is intelligible enough. It offers no obstacle to legitimate business, and exposes no one to danger except those who deliberately violate its provisions. Foreigners may gamble in margins now as much as they please. They are beyond the reach of Japanese law, and they enjoy the privilege of being able to engage, with impunity, in transactions which the Japanese authorities have forbidden in the public interest. True, they would forfeit that privilege if they came under Japanese jurisdiction,—just as publicans would forfeit the privilege of selling spirituous liquors without a license,—and to some, perhaps, the forfeiture might seem a hardship. But we do not believe that such persons would receive much sympathy even from the journals which permit themselves to ventilate this baseless and laughable grievance.

* * *

The same paper, on the same authority, says that, under Japanese laws, foreigners would be “liable to have their premises broken into and all persons therein arrested on suspicion, and to have their newspapers confiscated or suppressed, with the incarceration of proprietors, editors, and printers.” The first part of this statement is diametrically opposed to the truth. The Code of Criminal Procedure explicitly provides that, except in case of flagrant offences, nobody may be arrested without a warrant, and that no house may be entered for purposes of arrest without preliminary measures analogous to those adopted in Europe. As for people being arrested on suspicion, we are not aware that any nation in the world enjoys immunity from that practice, nor is there a tittle of evidence to show that it prevails in Japan more than in Great Britain or the United States. Any criminal process may be made to sound terrible according to the way it is stated. Thus, under Japanese jurisdiction, foreigners would be liable to be hung, to be transported, to be forced to work on the road in chains, and to be kept in solitary confinement; all of which might be very inconvenient, and very disagreeable—to criminals. But the trouble is that criminals are liable to precisely the same misfortunes everywhere. Extraterritoriality is not a device to save foreign lawbreakers from the consequences of their wrong doing; and inasmuch as law-abiding individuals are just as secure in Japan as in any other country, the vicarious anxiety of the *Manchester Guardian* seems a little superfluous. With regard to the Press Regulations, the case is different. It is a great misfortune for Japan that she cannot yet enjoy freedom of speech. Very few of her treaty friends, however, may justly cast that reproach in her teeth, since many of them are no happier themselves. Still, it is a reproach, and by their persistent allusion to it, the advocates of extraterritoriality have made it quite clear that they expect Japan to attain, not the general, but the highest, standard of European excellence before her autonomy can be recognised.

THE Southern States of America are to hold their first Exhibition this year. The enterprise appears to be on a stupendous scale. It was originally intended to be confined to cotton exhibits, the idea of its inception having been suggested in connection with the centennial anniversary (1884) of the first exportation of cotton from America. Ultimately, however, it developed into “the World’s Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition,” and judging from the pro-

spectus, a copy of which we have received from the United States’ Consul-General, it will probably be the largest undertaking of the kind that has ever been seen on the continent of America. Every variety of agricultural and industrial specimen finds a place in some of the groups, and under the heading of agriculture are included all classes of animals and birds associated, directly or indirectly, with farming pursuits. We observe that a leading feature of the Exposition will be a display of women’s work, intended “to practically develop and illustrate the field of women’s employment, and to enlarge the sphere of usefulness of the sex in the domestic economy and industry of the world.” Japan might send some very interesting contributions to this section. The first Monday in next December is fixed as the opening day, and it is provided that the Exposition shall not remain open longer than the 31st of May, 1885. Foreign applications for admission are to be made in accordance with a special form furnished by the Director General to foreign commissions, but the rules to be observed in making these applications do not appear to have been issued as yet.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* alludes in the following strong terms to the judgment recently delivered in the Swiss Consular Court in the case of Ludwig and Trüb:—

A pretty sample of the sort of justice that is served out in far Eastern settlements under the system of consular jurisdiction is reported from Yokohama. By an arrangement made in 1878 with an English local bank, a Swiss firm of good repute had been allowed to cash cheques for the purchase of silk, on condition of holding the bank fully covered by the silk so acquired. At one time the advances on these terms approached to £50,000. Every month the firm had to furnish storage notes detailing the silk held to the bank’s order, but the unsuspecting manager took no steps to verify the accuracy of these documents. It was ascertained, however, in January last, that the storage notes were fraudulent, that while the firm owed the bank some £38,000, their warehouses were nearly empty and their secured assets of small amount, and that, in fact, the two partners had been carrying on a deliberate swindle since 1879 or 1880. Yet, though nothing could be said for them, except that they had not absconded, and that when concealment was no longer possible they had made a clean breast of the whole affair, the penalty awarded to this precious pair by the court of the Swiss Consul-General, for monstrous and systematic frauds extending over a series of years, was—six months’ imprisonment!

The fact is that the judge and assessors who heard the above case were not only fellow-mortals, but friends and fellow-traders of the culprits, some of that half-educated huckster class, as Sir Edward Reed has called them, who deal out “justice” for the smaller European Powers in the treaty ports of China and Japan. But what must be the standard of commercial probity among men who can thus lightly punish an outrageous and gigantic swindle, and what the influence of such a sentence upon the rest of the foreign community, and upon the granting of banking facilities to business men? To the Japanese this latest absurdity in the shape of European justice must be very edifying. It will also be encouraging to them, for their efforts to get the present system of consular jurisdiction extensively modified could scarcely be better strengthened than by such displays in a consular court in the chief of their treaty ports. The system is plainly too rotten to last. Most persons in Yokohama were probably quite prepared to find that the report of this extraordinary case would evoke some such comments as the above from the English press. It remains to this day an insolvable problem why the Swiss Court delivered a judgment so eminently calculated to strike at the root of commercial credit, and so strangely disproportionate to the magnitude of the crime. It has, indeed, been stated that the Bank ought to have divined the nature of the defaulters’ security, since merchants do not keep silk lying for months in their godowns. Even supposing that this argument were valid—which we do not at all believe—to convert it into a mitigating plea would be equivalent to asserting that the degree of guilt attaching to a fraud varies inversely with the facilities for perpetrating

it. The *Pall Mall Gazette* is scarcely justified in the epithet it applies to the Judge and Assessors in the Swiss Court, but it cannot be denied that to those who take the English Bench as a standard, some of the judicial arrangements in Yokohama must look a little farcical.

THE assassin of M. Ducros de Sixt created quite a sensation in Paris, first by his violence and then by his obstinacy. When taken to the condemned cell, he was visited by an access of fury such as the guardians of the prison had never seen before, and under the influence of this excitement his enormous strength was multiplied to such a degree that half-a-dozen men barely succeeded in putting him into a straight waistcoat. It was known that the name he gave himself—Campi—was fictitious, but nothing could induce him to reveal his real name; he was resolved, he said, to preserve it from dishonour. This obstinacy, commendable enough in itself, had a curious effect on the public. Even those who were opposed, on principle, to capital punishment, declared that the sooner the murderer was executed, the better, since if he were suffered to live, his name would certainly become known, and then his brother who was understood to be an officer of rank, must of necessity commit suicide. The code of honour which condemns a man to shoot himself because his brother has stabbed somebody else, is no familiar to everybody outside France. Yet it has been acted on ere now. A notable case was that of a man called Thomas, who in former times was condemned to death for attempting to kill a fruiteress. Asked to give his real name, he refused, saying that his father was an old naval officer widely respected. This evidence of paternal respect touched the French King and Thomas's sentence was commuted. A year afterwards, however, in a moment of carelessness, he let his jailors discover the truth, and the newspapers published it, whereupon his father blew out his brains, and his sister, who was just about to be married, died of grief. Guided by this precedent, the good people of Paris declared that Campi ought to be guillotined without loss of time.

At a recent session of the French Chamber of Deputies, some interesting facts were elicited *à propos* of a proposal that the Government should interfere in the strike of the Anzin miners. The men had been on strike from February 21st to April 8th, and during that time the wages they had forfeited amounted to 1,200,000 francs, in addition to their allowance for fuel. Moreover, the loss to the proprietors by the partial cessation of the works amounted, during these 43 days, to 217,000 tons, valued at 2,604,000 francs. Such an account is calculated to disturb people's minds. It seems to have turned the heads of some of the Radicals completely. M. Clémenceau, for example, got it into his mind that the causes which led to the strike were only additional evidences of the hostility of the whole wealthy class in France to Republican institutions. We cannot follow this reasoning, but the unfortunate wealthy classes may be compelled to feel its force.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* reprints from the *Mai-shiu Shimpō* an account of some lectures on Christianity recently delivered in Kiyoto. It appears that party feeling runs very high in that city, for the missionaries barely escaped with

their lives, and the mob was rife for any amount of violence. On the evening of the 22nd of last month, Messrs. Green, Omiya, Ono, Sugita, and Kato commenced a series of addresses in a theatre at Omiyadori, Kiyoto, in the presence of more than 500 auditors. Almost from the outset the audience was a most unquiet one, and loudly called out most offensive remarks. The addresses for the evening were no sooner over, than a Buddhist arose and began interrogating the lecturers. One or two points were discussed when the priest began decrying his opponents after a most unpriestly manner. The audience dispersed, however, in tolerable order. The next evening a far larger number of listeners, composed chiefly of workmen and labourers, flocked to the theatre. Mr. Yebihara, who first addressed them, was saluted with a shower of abusive epithets, and Mr. Baba, who followed him, had to curtail his lecture in consequence. The third lecturer, Mr. Tsuji, was compelled to stop on account of the utter indifference of his listeners, who kept up their noisy disturbances, until it was deemed necessary to call in the police. No sooner had the last speaker concluded, than about twenty rioters leaped on the platform, put out the lights and surrounded the little band of missionaries, crying "Beat the Christians! Kill them! Betrayers!" Just at this moment, a police inspector accompanied by two constables arrived on the spot, and ordered the crowd to disperse; but, in spite of all commands, it was more than an hour before the lecturers managed to leave the hall. On their way home they were surrounded by a riotous mob, the streets being completely blocked up by their foes. Sign-boards, stones, and bricks were hurled at the missionaries, besides their being directly attacked by some of the rioters. The lecturers received, without exception, many wounds, and reached their homes finally in a most exhausted condition. The next evening, some Buddhist lectures were delivered in the same theatre, and the lecturers reviled Christianity and its followers in the most outspoken manner. It was a religion, said they, which one might attack with impunity; while recommending their hearers not to use stones or bricks, they added that all Christian preachers were intolerable offenders, and would receive severe punishment at the hands of the Buddhists, were it not for the Government. Shortly afterwards, one of the audience remarked that some twenty adults were prepared to attack the Christians at any moment. All carried stones in their handkerchiefs, and one was seen with a knife in his hand.

THE House of Commons would probably have hesitated about rejecting the bill for licensing cremation had it been in possession of some statistics similar to those accidentally made public by the recent experiences of a lady in New York. Miss Savillar Berkley, *alias* Downing, having followed to the grave the body of her baby, and seen it buried very humbly, at a cost of \$2, afterward found herself in circumstances that suggested a more demonstrative funeral. She therefore set about having the coffin exhumed. But here an unexpected difficulty presented itself. The grave, about two feet wide or seven or eight feet long, when opened was found to contain thirty-nine coffins, in which were bodies of children, some as much as four years old, some still-born infants. The coffins, according to Miss Berkley's evidence, were placed one on the top of the other, and the thickness of

earth over the uppermost was only a couple of inches. Further enquires at the churchyard itself elicited the fact that twenty-five coffins were an average number to place in one grave, and that the practice of piling up the shells indiscriminately was not confined to the case of children but was also pursued with the bodies of adults. There is, in fact, no legal limit to the number of corpses buried in one grave, and as the coffins are often of the flimsiest construction—infants' bodies are sometimes brought in cigar cases—while the quantity of earth placed over them is a mere make-believe, some idea may be formed of the health-promoting character of such a cemetery in the midst of a thickly populated city. The *New York Herald*, writing upon this subject, pertinently observes:—"In times of war or pestilence human remains may be crowded into graves in this fashion, but that the same custom should prevail in large cities is horrifying to general sentiment regarding humanity's last resting place. It is shocking, too, to think of the contents of such a grave being disturbed, removed, and replaced whenever relatives want to reclaim the remains of a loved one for better burial. Cremation would be far less offensive to human feeling, besides not menacing the public health, as the interment of a great number of persons in a single small pit is likely to do."

In the surgical dispensary of the Philadelphia Polyclinic, Dr. Roberts has been using with satisfactory results Japanese paper handkerchiefs for drying wounds. Sponges are so seldom and with such difficulty perfectly cleansed after being once used that they are never employed in the hospital. Ordinary cotton or linen towels are much preferable to sponges, which, if dirty, are liable to introduce septic material into wounds. The paper towels, however, answer the same purpose as cotton ones, and are so cheap that they can be thrown away after being used.

THE proposed Congressional appropriation in aid of the development of silk-growing has been subject to sundry vicissitudes in the Senate, and if it is cut down in the same proportion in the House, there will be little of it left when the President comes to sign the bill. As the bill was originally prepared in this city, it proposed to create a Bureau of Silk Culture in the Department of Agriculture, and to appropriate for the first year \$150,000, with which to establish five silk culture stations, including filatures, one of such stations being in California. Senator Miller had the bill attached as an amendment to the Agricultural bill, but the committee reduced the amount of the appropriation to \$30,000, with the understanding that the California silk-culture station should be the only one established for the present. The \$30,000 has now been halved, giving but \$15,000 for the first year's operations. The appropriation of \$15,000 may serve to keep alive an interest in the subject and thereby stimulate private enterprise, but it cannot accomplish much directly toward booming the business of growing silk in the American Italy. We have had enough six-penny experiments in silk culture. In fact, it ought to have ceased to be an experiment and become a business long ago. As an experiment, silk culture in what is now the United States, began more than two hundred and fifty years ago in the settlement at Jamestown, Va. The earliest settlers in the colonies brought over

silkworm eggs, and both the home and colonial Governments made the most vigorous efforts to promote the Silk-growing industry. Every settler was required to plant mulberry trees, under penalty of a heavy fine, and the amount of public money which was spent in trying to develop the business was great enough to put to shame an appropriation of \$15,000 by Congress. In 1725 a gown made of silk grown in Georgia was woven for the Queen of England and worn by her on the King's birthday. It is a hundred and fifty years since the first silk filature was established in the country, and we are still trying, in a petty, experimental way, to begin where our great-grandfathers left off. It is true that in California we have more perfect conditions for silk culture than are found in the States east of the mountains, but this fact being conclusively established, the experimental stage of the industry should have been passed a long time ago. We know as well as we need to know that we have the right climate for silk-growing; that the mulberry tree flourishes and the silkworm thrives in California; that California silk is as fine as any in the world, and that there are unlimited facilities for its production. Why, then should we need to experiment further? Why does the industry need nursing? The only apparent reason is because it is not an easy industry in which to make a start on a large scale. It requires a liberal expenditure of capital and time before the industry is placed on a paying basis. If Congress can help us to do that, well and good; but if a small appropriation is made and a station started only to show that the climate of California is admirably adopted to the mulberry and the silkworm, the gain will be very small, for we knew all that before. What is wanted is sufficient inducement for people to go into the production of silk, not as an experiment, but as a remunerative business. If the regular market rates for the product will not do that, the best stimulant would be a system of bounties for the production of cocoons and home-reeled silk. Possibly the day is passed when the Government will pay any more bounties, but if so private enterprise should supply the lack of public. A syndicate of silk manufacturers strong enough, and public-spirited enough, to offer liberal inducements for the production of the raw material of their industry, would be the thing needed. In fact, any organization that can afford to put money into the enterprise and wait a number of years before getting it out would fill the conditions of the element that is now lacking to the success of silk culture.—*Alla*.

A CURIOUS story is going the round of the Japanese social journals to the effect that Umegatani, the champion of the wrestling ring, having been defeated twice in succession by Odate, has committed suicide. The rumour, romantic enough in itself, is surrounded with elements which add to its effect. Umegatani is an universal favorite. As intelligent and modest as he is strong and skilful, he has hitherto held his own easily against all comers, and being still in the very prime of life, the idea that a rival would deprive him of his laurels seemed untenable. During the past year wrestling sprang into public favour with that suddenness which occasionally marks the growth and decay of a national fancy in Japan. The Emperor himself witnessed several matches and bestowed rewards upon the victors. On these occasions Umegatani was always a central figure, and nothing appeared

more improbable than that his colours should be lowered within a few months. His rival Odate, on the other hand, though a man of immense physical strength, has the reputation of being both ignorant and arrogant. Whatever popularity his prowess might have won for him, was reduced, the other day, to a vanishing quantity by an act of rudeness of which he was guilty to the celebrated actor Ichikawa Danjiuro. Wrestling in Japan had its origin in an incident many centuries old, when among the guards of the Palace—men selected, on account of their strength, from all parts of Japan—there was one, a species of Odate in his way, who, presuming on his thews, made himself particularly obnoxious to everybody. A levy of strong men was called with the special object of finding some one capable of bringing this truculent Kehaya to his bearings, and fortunately among these new comers was Nomi no Sukune, who threw Kehaya and killed him by a cleverly planted kick. Nomi no Sukune afterwards attained a position of considerable eminence at Court, and the science which he elaborated, and which has remained ever since pretty much as he left it, naturally bestows on its votaries something of the rank of its founder. The social status of actors, on the contrary, used formerly to be of the very lowest. Not that there was supposed to be anything degrading in the profession itself, or that its followers were originally taken from a degraded class, as has sometimes been stated, but simply that, by an unfortunate choice of locality, the first theatre in Japan came to be associated with the resort of the Kiyoto mendicants, and its company received a nickname which gradually passed into a description. Since the Restoration all this has been altered. The actor now receives something of the recognition due to his talents. But fifty years ago, the wrestler was the better man of the two both socially and physically. Odate, the gentleman whose victories are supposed to have unhinged Umegatani's mind, is foolish enough to forget that the times are changed. Being invited recently to an entertainment at which Ichikawa Danjiuro was among the guests, he had the insolence and bad taste to place a wine-cup on his foot and offer it to the great actor. Danjiuro was inclined, at first, to treat the affair as a joke. He did not indeed, accept the cup, but laughingly explained that though Odate's proceeding might have been well enough twenty years ago, it was a little behind the present age. Odate, however, took care to show that he was in earnest, and a serious quarrel was with difficulty prevented. Of course the good people of Tokiyo were highly indignant at the wrestler's rudeness, and when his defeat of their favourite champion was followed by the latter's disappearance and supposed suicide, their regrets became very loud. But it turns out, after all, that Umegatani has not laid violent hands on himself at all. He has simply gone to Osaka to visit his mother, who is dangerously ill, and so everybody is now praying that on his return he may completely reverse the previous record. We reciprocate the wish, for certainly a wrestler who could venture to look down upon such an artist as Ichikawa Danjiuro, does not deserve to be champion of the Japanese ring.

THE fastest railroad speed on record is recalled to mind by a correspondent of the *Engineer*, who sends that journal a card, which has been preserved since 1848, on which is printed:—The Great Western Railway broad-gauge engine,

Great Britain, accomplished the fastest journey on record, viz., from Paddington to Didcot, fifty-three and a quarter miles, in forty-seven minutes. The train was the 9.45 express to Bristol, and consisted of four carriages and vans, and was driven on May 11, 1848, by J. Michael Almond, driver; Richard Denham, fireman. The correspondent adds that the fireman, Denham, is still living, superannuated. At the time this run was made the battle of the gauges was raging, and the advocates of the seven-foot gauge were anxious to show that the highest speed could only be obtained on their line, the Great Western, laid out by Brunel. The engineers therefore had orders to run the trains as fast as possible, regardless of time-tables. When the superiority of the broad gauges as regards high speed had been fully demonstrated this practice was given up, but as late as 1862 the schedule time of this train, the Flying Dutchman, was fifty-seven minutes for fifty-three and one-half miles. The line is practically level, the mean grade is, however, nearly three feet to the mile against the train.

THE *Alla* of the 7th ult. thus refers to the defeat of the Tariff Bill:—Morrison's revenue reform bill has been defeated by a majority so small that three votes would have turned the scale the other way. A hundred and fifty-nine members voted for the bill to a hundred and fifty-four against it. Much might be said of the possible effects of this result on the Presidential election, but it is sufficient to say that the attempt to pass a tariff bill at this session was ill-advised and ought not to have been undertaken. It was ill-advised, not because the bill was not a righteous one—for it was—but because it was folly to attempt its passage when the necessary strength was lacking. No step should have been taken looking to revival of the tariff discussion this year until there was absolute assurance that it would result in something definite so far as the House of Representatives was concerned. Once more the party has neglected the salutary maxim to be sure you are right before you go ahead. This is the utmost, however, that can be said against the management of the bill. In its favor it can be said that no other tariff debate was ever conducted with so little interruption to the other business of the House, and that the fight has been made in a dignified and honorable manner which is an agreeable contrast to the similar contest in the preceding Congress.

THE *Fiyu Shimbun* furnishes, in a recent issue, the truly astounding intelligence that Yokohama and New York are to be connected by submarine cable, said cable to probably run around one or both of the Capes. And after unburdening its soul of this intelligence in the most innocent manner, the *Fiyu* goes on to state that "it is proposed that Japan should bear the expenses for the benefit of the United States." No wonder that people speak of the reduction of the land-tax when such magnificent schemes are on foot.

It is not good to have a black skin in the United States of America. One inconvenience of the thing is that when mobs are out on negro-whipping-or negro-lynching expeditions, they are apt to fall into errors of identity. Something of this sort happened in Calloway county, the other day. A negro called Julius Patterson had been tied to a tree and severely flogged for circulating slanderous reports about respectable ladies. The men

who flogged him were arrested and tried, but acquitted. Emboldened by this result, another mob went after Julius on May 3rd, and seizing his brother by mistake, riddled his body with bullets. No arrests had been made in connection with the affair up to the date of latest advices. After all, it was only an error of judgment. Had Julius himself been forthcoming, his brother would not have met with any accident, and the hand of inexorable justice would have been duly recognised.

AN imitation of the Collie frauds, says the *Whitehall Review*, has just come to light at Yokohama. So far back as 1878 a firm of Swiss silk merchants had been getting advances from an English bank on goods supposed to be deposited in the merchant's godown. It apparently never entered into the brain of the bank manager to inspect the stock on which he was advancing money, nor to test the value of his security. Needless to say, as was the case in the Collie discrepancies, when the bank did eventually wish to see the security, it was not to be found. Like the Spanish fleet in "The Critic," it could not be seen, because it was not in sight. Of course, the bank is a heavy loser. More remarkable, however, is the punishment which the Swiss Consul-General has imposed upon the perpetrators of this gigantic swindle. They have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment! Swindling will be at a premium in Yokohama, for if a man can live in affluence at a bank's expense for some five years, and then only have to rest on his oars in the prison for six months—the game is quite worth the candle.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL is a singularly frank politician. He told the Birmingham electors, the other day, that he had long ago adopted Mr. Gladstone's motto, "Trust the people," and then, anticipating the obvious rejoinder, "Well, if you trust the people why did you vote against the Reform Bill?" he proceeded to explain that "the Government of England is Government by party, and under that system it is the general duty of the followers of Sir Stafford Northcote to resist the legislation which may be proposed by Mr. Gladstone." This is doubtless true, but it looks a little startling when stated in such naked terms. Government by party is a very fine thing, so long as by "party" is understood English Liberals or English Conservatives, but when Irish Home Rulers are added to the company, Government of this sort becomes decidedly difficult.

IN the last issue of the Caucasian *Izvestia* appears the following new information on the Merv oasis, due to M. Alikhanoff:—"Its surface is about 2,150 square miles, which area could be increased by irrigation, the whole of the oasis having its origin due to the irrigation of the sand by canals drawn from the Murgab. This river, being dug at Kaushut-khan-bend, two canals, subdivided into numerous *aryks* (smaller canals), issue from it, taking in nearly all the water of the river which does not flow beneath the dam. Notwithstanding the southern position of the oasis, it has a cold winter, and there falls every year some snow, sometimes 2 feet deep; it soon disappears, however, as the temperature rises rapidly, and reaches occasionally 30 deg. Celsius in February. During the summer, strong hot winds, which bring masses of hot sand, blow, mostly from the south-west. Still the climate is healthy enough, healthier than that of Akhal-tekke; but the

mortality is very great, owing to the poverty of the inhabitants and the dirtiness of their habits; the *kara masta*, or black disease, a kind of pestilence, and the *merghi*, a kind of cholera, are endemic. The population is estimated at 32,700 *kibitkas*, which M. Alikhanoff considers to represent no less than 194,000 or 200,000 inhabitants. This population is, however, too numerous for the oasis, the average area of irrigated land being only six acres per inhabitant. M. Alikhanoff considers the Merv as the least attractive of the Turcomans, and discovers in them only one good feature—their hospitality."

As an example of the way newspapers are managed now-a-days, the issue of the London *Mail* of Friday, April 18th, is worth noticing. Sir W. Harcourt made a speech at Leeds on the evening of April 16th, Lord Randolph Churchill read that speech at Birmingham on the afternoon of the following day, and replied to it the same evening. *The Times* correspondent at Cairo received a *précis* of it on the same day, and replied to it immediately. The *Mail* of the following morning published Sir W. Harcourt's speech, Lord Randolph's reply, and the comments of the Cairo correspondent. Thus we have a triangular debate carried on at Leeds, Birmingham, and Cairo, and published verbatim in London, within the space of twenty-four hours. Pretty smart journalism, that.

ALTHOUGH Blaine and Logan are the Republican Nominees for President and Vice-President, it is still possible that the election will fall to an outsider after all. Candidates are certainly not wanting. As a train from the Eastern States arrived at the Union Depot in Chicago, the other day, a man yelled out, "Hurrah for the next President!" Five prominent politicians instantly lifted their hats in acknowledgement of the compliment.

THERE was a grand turn-out last night, says the *Hongkong Telegraph* of the 24th ult., on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Alarakia, assistant master in the Government Central School, to a young Indian lady, daughter of the late Mahomed Arab. An imposing procession, in which five carriages, and some half a dozen horses ridden by friends of the happy pair, figured, started from the residence of the bridegroom in Gage-street shortly before nine o'clock, traversing Wellington and D'Aguilar streets, then proceeding down Queen's Road Central, and turning again into Wellington-street at the corner below No. 5 Police Station, thence wending its way up Graham-street and finally reaching the bride's residence in Peel Street. Banjos, violins, drums, concertinas, &c., played by a number of experts, served to enliven matters generally as the procession pursued its course, and some 250 Japanese colored lanterns, all alight, carried on two bamboo poles from which they depended, together with numerous blue-lights, lent additional splendor to the display. A conspicuous figure was the bridegroom himself as he appeared mounted on a lofty Pegasus, arrayed, in Arabian style, in a long crimson colored satin dress and turban. Talk about floral embellishments! The to-day happy man literally revelled in flowers, garlands hanging down in great profusion from the top of his head to the soles of his feet, both in front and rear. A Mahomedan priest made the couple fast at the bride's house, where the processionists and other friends were regaled with refreshments and music

until four or five o'clock this morning. The redoubtable MacBean, of the Supreme Court, appeared in the procession driving one of the carriages, and wore an expression almost as solemn and impressive as that of Sir George Phillippo when sentencing a prisoner for libel. Mr. Kennedy of the Horse Repository must have made a good thing out of the affair, as we understand the horses and carriages were all obtained from his stables.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* states that some *toshiyori daumo* (superannuated wrestlers) in the capital have entered into negotiations with several showmen in New York, and that a troupe of Japanese athletes will probably start for the United States before long. The unprecedented success of Sadakichi "the champion wrestler of Japan(?)" is at the bottom of this sudden demand for Eastern athletes; but we are inclined to think that anything outside of "champion wrestlers" will prove a losing venture.

OUR readers are requested to make the following correction in the first paragraph of the "Preliminary Remarks" of the Financial Estimates, a translation of which appeared in our columns last Saturday:—

For, "On the other hand, there is a decrease of *yen* 3,169,990 in the redemption of the Domestic Loan, of *yen* 1,621,513 in *Gunbibu Kuriire*, and of *yen* 3,825,756 in the Contingency Fund of the Imperial Household Department, Cities and Prefectures; the total being *yen* 8,617,259."

Read, "On the other hand, there is a decrease of *yen* 3,169,990 in the redemption of the Domestic Loan, of *yen* 1,621,513 in *Gunbibu Kuriire*, and of *yen* 3,825,756 in the expenditure for the Imperial Household Department, Cities and Prefectures, and Contingency Fund."

THE *Daily News* says:—"A movement is on foot to enlist a body of volunteers, some two hundred strong, to go to the relief of General Gordon. The idea originates in a high social circle, and it is understood that the volunteers are to be able to subscribe their quota of the cost of the expedition. The Secretary of State for War is, in the first instance, to be asked to sanction the undertaking, but his refusal (not unanticipated) is not to be accepted as a bar to carrying it out.

THE new conscription regulations would appear to have been slightly mutilated before they reached the English paper which publishes the following:—Women's rights have taken another turn in Japan. The conscription flourishes, and its last decree is that women between the ages of eighteen and twenty-eight are to be enlisted as soldiers. The Japanese war party has spent a deal of imperial money on arms and ships of war. Soon they will be singing their ballad of war—

We don't want to fight, but, by Daibuts, if we do,
We've got the ships, we've got the men—we've got the women too!

ON WEDNESDAY evening a fire broke out in Nishicho, Shitaya, Tokiyo. The flames spread to Minami-Inaricho and Kami-Karumazakacho, destroying about thirty houses. Two men were slightly injured.

MR. ANDO TARO, the newly appointed Consul at Shanghai (successor to Mr. T. Shinagawa, who is expected to return to Japan shortly), left for his post on Wednesday evening by the Mitsu Bishi Mail steamer *Hiroshima Maru*.

MR. A. R. COLQUHOUN, the correspondent of *The Times*, left Shanghai for Yokohama on the 28th ultimo.

THE SUPPOSED RETROGRADE MOVEMENT IN JAPAN.

READERS of the vernacular press must have been struck by discussions occurring in its columns, from time to time during the past year, on the subject of a retrograde tendency which Japanese society is supposed to have developed. On the whole it cannot be said that these discussions have been characterized by more than the average depth of thought which commonly inspires ephemeral literature. Broadly speaking, there has been on the one side a vague note of complaint that the people are reverting to their old grooves of philosophy and æstheticism, and on the other, a general denial that such is the case, unaccompanied, however, by any satisfactory explanation of indications which certainly exist, and which, to a superficial observer, plainly suggest a renaissance of old fashions. The article which we reproduce from the *Hochi Shimbun* to-day does not throw much light on the situation, though the line taken by the writer is at least intelligible. He makes no attempt to deny that a section of society appears to have turned its face backwards, but he argues that the wave of progress cannot be checked by any partial obstructions of this nature, and that, so long as material civilization advances, no fears need be entertained of the general result. This contention appears to us superficial and unsatisfactory. It is superficial, because material civilization may not properly be regarded as any index of the condition of a nation which, having borrowed that civilization in a ready-made form, cannot be credited with any share in its development. It is unsatisfactory, because it leaves wholly untouched the true motives of this apparent reaction. Upon the former point we need not dwell at length. Outward evidences of an exotic civilization no more indicate the true condition of the national mind, than the whitewash of the Jackdaw which intruded itself into the dove-cot suggested the character of the trespasser's voice. If the writer in the *Hochi Shimbun* means, that so long as the adjuncts of Western civilization remain popular in Japan, its spirit also may be supposed to prevail, his testimony does not contribute much to the discussion one way or the other. It becomes necessary to look a little deeper if we desire to discover the truth.

The signs which pessimists adduce in proof of their contention are of two kinds: first, a reversion to the social observances, and more especially to the æsthetic grooves, of former times; secondly, a revival of the ethical philosophy of the old Chinese school. With regard to the first, we took occasion to express our opinion at some length in a recent article, and to point out the extravagance of attributing a retrogressive character to a

movement which derives its motive from thoroughly sound sources. There were born among the exceptional social conditions of Japan in the middle ages certain art tendencies, which attained a very high state of development, and which bequeathed to posterity results of a most admirable character. European nations have shown themselves at least as highly appreciative of these as Japan is of Western civilization, and this reciprocity of appreciation has brought about the curious spectacle of an Oriental people borrowing from the Occident all the features of practical civilization, and lending in return a grammar of ornament such as is generally associated with the highest stages of refined culture. If, during the first strong impulse towards Western systems, Japan seemed for a time to loosen her hold upon the products of her own civilization, it is as natural as it is fortunate that she should turn to them again in her calmer moments. This renaissance may be, and probably is, carried needlessly far in certain directions, but in the main it is a matter of congratulation not of apprehension. The second point—the revival of Chinese ethical philosophy—has, we believe, a more significant and an incomparably more important bearing. The writer of this article recently heard a prominent Japanese statesman relate an incident which excellently explains the origin of that revival. Some years ago, the statesman collected a sum of money sufficient to endow a school in his own province, but owing to absence in Europe and other causes, he was prevented from taking any personal share in the direction of the establishment. Ultimately, when he was able to visit the place, he found, to his surprise, that, side by side with Western languages and sciences, the students were receiving instruction in the philosophy of CONFUCIUS. On enquiring the reason of this apparent anomaly, he was told that not only the discipline of the school but also the relations of every-day life could not be comfortably preserved without the assistance of Chinese ethics. A moral code which inculcates unreasoning obedience to seniors, unwavering reverence for teachers, and staunch fidelity to feudal chiefs, became, he was assured, more than ever necessary when the young generation was growing up to the possession of knowledge and accomplishments in which its elders had no share. The experience furnished by this school is common throughout the whole of Japan. Everywhere youths, educated according to the new system, are required to serve under men far inferior to themselves in useful attainments, and deficient even in the very technical knowledge essential to the prosecution of the business they are appointed to direct. Respect, which is the germ of all discipline, is impossible under such circumstances. It is impossible, for example, that a student who, having graduated with honours at the Tokio University or the

Engineering College, has passed half a dozen years in Europe or America acquiring practical skill in the details of his profession, can come back to Japan and settle down quietly to construct railways, assist in mining industry, or take part in other industrial enterprises, under the direction of officials whom he knows to be virtually ignorant of the science of their duties. Equally perplexing is the position of a child which, at school, is taught that to believe in enchantment or sortilege is an evidence of barbarism, and, at home, sees its parents tremble at the supernatural powers of a fox or hurry off to consult a necromancer about every entanglement in the thread of household affairs. We question whether many people pause to think about these things: whether they appreciate the disturbing elements that have been introduced into Japanese society by grafting Western sciences and Western acquirements upon a stock that has its roots in Chinese philosophy. Assuredly the Japanese journalists who have hitherto undertaken to discuss the problem fail to recognise its most essential features. Did they look a little below the surface, they would see that the tendency to revert to Chinese ethics, the tendency which they mistake for a pause in the nation's progress, is in reality a protest against the rapidity of that progress. It is not young Japan that turns its face backwards, but rather old Japan that would fain preserve its touch of the times by the aid of those reverend talismans which the new philosophy has robbed of their virtue. The spectacle commands our sympathy. History does not offer any examples by which we can forecast the issue of such strange conditions, or gauge the force of the disturbing elements which this national metamorphosis has brought in its train. But we may at least avoid the error of misconstruing, into an evidence of universal reaction, what in truth is mainly an instinctive effort on the part of the dying generation to re-establish the influence it cannot yet reconcile itself to surrender.

ECHOES OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE last English mail brings us some feeble echoes of the discussion which filled our local press four months ago. The *Manchester Guardian* and the *London and China Express* take the matter up, and ventilate it after a fashion which recalls the least happy features of the controversy. Mr. A. J. WILKIN's speech in the Chamber of Commerce constitutes the basis of both journals' articles, and it seems to us that the treatment his utterances receive is not of a nature to enhance their value. There are some things which become more and more grotesque the longer they are examined, and undoubtedly one of these is the apprehension, that if a foreigner submits to Japanese jurisdiction, he acquires

the "privilege of being able to tell his wife she may go; he does not want her any more." A keener satire could scarcely have been published on the fidelity of Western husbands. The law alone keeps them faithful. Relax its restraints, and they will lose no time in adopting the worst Oriental precedents. What they are afraid of is, not the severity of Japanese codes, but the weakness of their own morality. Only give them a chance to snap the conjugal ties, and they will immediately avail themselves of the "privilege." If the libellous nature of this comical fear did not strike Mr. WILKIN and his fellow-thinkers, one could scarcely expect them to appreciate the absurdity of supposing that a British subject, by submitting to Japanese jurisdiction for purposes of temporary residence in Japan, would be absolved *de facto* from all the obligations he had previously incurred as an Englishman. This we could scarcely expect, but certainly there was even less cause to anticipate that reason and common sense would be similarly outraged by a newspaper like the *Manchester Guardian*. The writer in that journal, unless he is remarkably ill-informed, must know that there are States in America where divorces can be procured with almost as much ease as in the Orient. Does he suppose that, living in those States and not naturalized there, he could avail himself of local processes to obtain the dissolution of a marriage contracted in Great Britain? How, then, can it possibly signify to an Englishman whether or no the laws of Japan sanction a license of which he may not avail himself so long as he remains an Englishman? If he changed his nationality, then indeed the case might be different, but that is purely a matter of choice. Truly the very frivolity of such an argument secures it against serious contradiction. Its worthy context is also quoted gravely by the two English journals: the question is again asked in solemn tones, "shall I be liable to be browbeaten by a policeman if I walk on the Bund without a lantern, even under the gas lamps?" According to the *Manchester Guardian*, "the mere fact that a man like Mr. WILKIN is unable to speak positively on the state of Japanese law and its administration makes it apparent that the grounds of confidence in Japanese jurisdiction do not exist." We apprehend that a very different inference is to be drawn from this "mere fact." None so blind as those that will not see. Mr. WILKIN might have objected with equal accuracy that to walk on the Bund in high-lows is illegal. There is no regulation, either local or imperial, requiring a person on foot to carry a lamp. Mr. WILKIN is a very old resident, and we are not surprised that he mixes up reminiscences with realities, but he carries this confusion a little too far, perhaps, when he complains, in the year 1884, of a custom which was abolished in 1870. Reading on, we find

the *habeas corpus* bugbear raising its terrible head once more. "Is there any *habeas corpus*? Is it not still the case that a man can be thrown into prison on a mere suspicion, and kept there for weeks without trial?" Nothing of the sort is possible, unless the provisions of the Criminal Codes are wholly ignored, in which case the sufferer's remedy is simple and complete. But Mr. WILKIN's statement is quoted, "I know for a fact that comparatively recently this has been done." When we remember that in the matter of lamp carrying this gentleman has not yet learned to distinguish between the Tokugawa Government and that of the Restoration, his expression "comparatively recently" assumes a bewilderingly vague character. In the House of Commons, the other day, a member called attention to the case of a commercial traveller called FITZGERALD, who declared that, having been arrested in London without a warrant, he was carried off to Dublin, and thence to Sligo, without being shown any copy of the charge against him or permitted to communicate with either his friends or his solicitor. Another member was very violent about one JAMES COMMINS, of Waterford, who having been lodged in prison, was there strapped up in a strait waiscoat with no clothing but a nightshirt, after a fortnight of which treatment he died of congestion of the lungs. The two honorable members who ventilated these grievances were doubtless quite as firmly persuaded as Mr. WILKIN that justice had been outraged, yet, on investigation, it turned out that they were quite mistaken. With all respect to Mr. WILKIN, we could wish that he, too, had given us some better evidence than his own knowledge, or at least that his knowledge in this particular instance had not been accompanied by such a display of ignorance in other directions. The Criminal Codes, which were promulgated in July, 1880, are accessible to anyone who will take the trouble to consult them. Their provisions are perfectly plain. Except in the case of flagrant felony or misdemeanour nobody may be arrested without a warrant.¹ Such warrant must contain a statement of the offence, and at the time of execution its original must be shown to the accused and a copy delivered to him.² After arrest, the accused must be immediately conducted before an officer of judicial police:³ his examination must take place within 48 hours, and he must then be released unless placed under warrant of attachment.⁴ Ten days from the execution of the latter warrant, he must either be liberated on bail or recommitted.⁵ When it is suspected that the accused is hidden in his own house or that of another, the agent charged with the execution of a warrant, draws up a deed of search, which is signed by himself and the Headman of the District, or, failing the latter, by two neighbours, after which the search—which cannot be made before

sunrise or after sunset—is conducted in presence of the Headman or the two neighbours.⁶ If the person against whom a warrant is issued is already under detention, a copy of the warrant is delivered to him in person.⁷ Except in cases of solitary confinement, a prisoner is entitled to receive, in presence of an officer, visits of friends, relatives, or attorney, in conformity with the prison regulations,⁸ and in every prison a copy of the Criminal Codes must be placed at the disposal of the prisoners.⁹ Finally, a prisoner may be set at liberty on bail, for which either he himself, his relatives or his representatives may apply,¹⁰ and means of opposition are duly provided¹¹ against the delivery of an illegal warrant, the non-delivery of a legal warrant, and against the illegal concession, or refusal, of bail. These provisions furnish a complete answer to Mr. WILKIN's question, and at the same time demonstrate the absurdity of his complaint that *habeas corpus* does not exist. *Habeas corpus* is simply a device to supply defects which do not disfigure the Japanese Codes: all the privileges it confers are amply provided by the latter in a different form. There are some persons, however, who, like Mr. WELLER Senior, regard the *habeas corpus* as a species of panacea against all legal wrong-doing, and imagine that no criminal procedure can be perfect without it. This is another phase of that worthy but exuberant conservatism which induced the Chinese tailor to ornament a new suit of clothes with copies of the patches he found on the pattern.

It is scarcely necessary, we trust, to observe that our object in making these remarks is not to criticise Mr. WILKIN, but to clear away misapprehensions which by no means promote foreign interests in Japan. All men are under an equal obligation, in the abstract, to be accurate and fair, but the obligation weighs with special force upon a gentleman like Mr. WILKIN, whose deservedly high reputation entitles his public utterances to the fullest confidence. He can now see for himself the errors into which he has betrayed the *Manchester Guardian* and the *London and China Express*, and he will doubtless recognise the necessity of correcting such false impressions. It will probably give him more pleasure than pain to be able to confess that he was mistaken: that though *habeas corpus* does not exist in that form in Japan, the rights it confers are one and all embodied in the Criminal Codes; that a man can *not* be "thrown into prison on a mere suspicion, and kept there for weeks without a trial," except in direct contravention of those Codes, in which case the law provides a simple and thorough remedy: that no pedestrian in Japan is obliged to carry a lantern, or can be "browbeaten" by the police for not doing so; that as this

¹ Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 102. ² Ditto, Art. 130. ³ Ditto, Art. 103. ⁴ Ditto, Art. 122. ⁵ Ditto, Art. 127. ⁶ Ditto, Art. 133. ⁷ Ditto, Art. 139. ⁸ Ditto, Art. 140. ⁹ Ditto, Art. 142. ¹⁰ Ditto, Art. 210. ¹¹ Ditto, Chap. IV.

"small matter" has no existence save in Mr. WILKIN'S memory of fifteen years ago, the extensive inferences he desires the public to draw from it are equally unreal; that Englishmen submitting to Japanese jurisdiction would not acquire the "privilege" of dismissing their wives at will; that the first written code of laws was *not* formed in Japan within the past three years, but that the present Criminal Codes, promulgated four years ago, are the fourth of their kind, having been preceded by the *Taihorei* (A.D. 702), the *Shinritsu-korei* (1870) and the *Kaitei-ritsurei* (1873); and finally, that Japanese statesmen do frankly admit the deference due to foreign opinion—though not to foreign prejudice—in this matter, as well as the fact that things are not yet "ripe for an immediate and complete solution" of the extraterritorial problem. Nothing can be more important than that all imaginary difficulties should be removed from the threshold of a question presenting in itself so many perplexing aspects, and it is to men like Mr. WILKIN that the public looks for trustworthy and exact information. Unfortunately, however, Mr. WILKIN has very seriously misled the public, and since his reputation as an upright gentleman has given weight to his unintentional misrepresentations, we trust that for the sake of that reputation he will lose no time in undoing the mischief.

GROWING UNANIMITY.

THIS seems to be the season for general peace-making. Everybody appears to be getting quite easy in his mind under the influence of a conviction that extraterritorial privileges are not about to be swept away root and branch, but that they will only undergo such curtailment as is judicious and beneficial. It has taken the public a long time, a strangely long time, to discover this. People were resolutely bent upon persuading themselves that nothing but the most drastic measures would satisfy the Japanese Government, and that unless Japan's judicial autonomy were restored *in toto* and *instanter*, there would be no peace for either the wicked or the good. Of course it was a part of this unreasoning panic to denounce every one who ventured to have a contrary opinion. When men imagine themselves in serious peril, what they want is willing aid not cold logic. He that is not with them heart and soul is against them. We speak from experience. The *Japan Mail* had the temerity to think and say that foreigners could never be prosperous or happy in Japan unless they consented to modify a system outgrown by their opportunities, and no longer suited to the radically altered conditions of the times. The *Japan Mail* was accordingly denounced in terms of unmeasured invective as a traitor to the cause of its own nationals; a journal which had sold itself body and soul to the enemy. The better to portray the tremendous depth of infamy

to which its editor has fallen, his previous career as a servant of the QUEEN was contrasted with his supposed enlistment under an alien flag, and persevering efforts were made to discredit the course he advocated by declaring him unworthy to advocate any respectable course whatever. This species of invective fortunately absolves its subject from the necessity of replying. Public opinion is provided with unerring capacities of self adjustment. It may sway for a time in a wrong direction, but, in the long run, it will inevitably recover its equilibrium. All considerable changes, too, are accompanied by more or less agitation, and their promoters must expect to be exposed to something of the odium which, in ancient times, attached to the man that moved his neighbour's landmark. Yet reform is achieved sooner or later, justifying its advocates' foresight and disarming its opponents' prejudices. It is well, of course, that those prejudices should be treated tenderly. Caution is a very admirable quality, and when it crystallizes into the form of grey-headed conservatism, clinging fondly, for old-acquaintance sake, to the ills it knows, lest the very effort of uprooting them should be attended by a novel shock, it commands a measure of the respect that belongs to everything venerable and steadfast. But it needed little prescience to perceive, long ago, that without some change the circumstances of the mercantile communities at the open ports must become intolerable. Whatever the inherent vitality of Japan's foreign trade, it must eventually languish under such conditions. And it has languished into a state closely resembling inanition. There is no need to demonstrate this unhappy fact: everybody recognises it. Two years ago, the whole mercantile community, with one or two exceptions, placed on record a weighty protest against the permanence of restrictions which are gradually choking commerce. One of the exceptions afterwards came forward, and published an *ex cathedra* opinion diametrically opposed to that of his fellow residents. He did not even take the trouble to explain that he differed from them. This was a little perplexing. People enquired whether it was possible that the merchants of Yokohama could openly advocate a certain trade policy in 1882, and as openly denounce it in 1884. But the merchants of Yokohama were not really guilty of any such inconsistency. Unable to control, they could not be held responsible for the vagaries of every one of their number. The unanimity of their verdict was disturbed by a solitary voice which unfortunately happened to be a very voluble and very self-asserting voice. The verdict itself, however, remained unshaken and virtually unanimous: namely, that increased trade facilities are essential to the development, nay to the very existence, of Japan's foreign trade. Now this, strange to say, is the ground where people are beginning to discover that they

occupy a common position with their supposed opponents. They are opening their eyes to the fact that, after all, both sides are travelling towards the same goal; but being naturally reluctant to acknowledge that so desirable a state of affairs existed from the first, and was only obscured by their temporary inability to perceive it, they comfort themselves with the notion that the soundness of their policy is at length receiving recognition, and overcoming resistance. We do not propose to disturb this satisfaction. We have long anticipated it. For in truth the only difference that ever existed was one of method, not of object. Everybody has for years been persuaded that what Japanese trade wants is a wider market and larger liberties of conduct. The former is to be obtained by increased transport facilities; the latter, by raising the seige of the open ports. But while one side confined itself to complaining that things were not as they ought to be, the other set forth what it believed to be the only method of putting them right. That was the sole difference. It was doubtless true, in the main, that Yokohama was surrounded by monopolists whose selfish greed was gradually narrowing the paltry margin of possible profit remaining to foreigners. But of what avail was it to cry out against this, so long as the Treaties rendered every effectual remedy impossible. The Government could not interfere between the *Saitori* and their foreign victims without arrogating functions which the latter would have been themselves the first to condemn. Equally true was it that while foreigners were confined to the open ports, their association with the Japanese could never be placed on a satisfactory footing. But of what avail was it to denounce that confinement, so long as the Treaties upheld it? Unrestricted trade and residence in the interior could not be permitted without some new provision for the exercise of jurisdiction over foreigners, and foreign Governments would neither make that provision themselves nor consent to the Japanese making it. Equally true was it that exports might be stimulated by allowing foreign vessels to load cargoes at unopened ports. But of what avail was it to condemn the folly of withholding this liberty so long as the Treaties and the Orders in Council withheld it? And so on, through the whole list of troubles. The one side saw the troubles plainly enough and naturally inveighed against them, but without suggesting a feasible remedy; the other saw the troubles equally plainly, but without confining itself to complaints, steadily pointed out the only radical remedy; namely, a revision of the treaties in a sense opposite to the obsolete and barbarous notion that the Japanese are not fit to associate with us on equal terms, and that in order to carry on the common processes of commerce in Japan, it is necessary to preserve for ever a system clumsy in itself and wholly incapable of being extended so as to suit a broader and more liberal intercourse. Nevertheless, the recognition of both parties that they are travelling on convergent, not divergent, lines, is a very great gain. So soon as sensible and clear-headed people agree that they have a common object, one can be tolerably sure that they are not very far distant from its accomplishment.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR KANAGAWA FOR 1883.

BRITISH CONSULATE,

Kanagawa, May 20th, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward Returns of the Trade and Shipping of this Port for the year 1883, together with a Return of the duties and fees paid into the Custom House, and a Return of the number of British and Foreign Residents and Firms actually in residence and in business on the 31st of December last.

The following figures exhibit the trade of 1883, as compared with that of 1882:—

	1883.	1882.
Exports.....	25,691,215	26,661,889
Imports.....	18,618,612	20,208,802
	\$44,309,827	\$46,870,691
Decrease in Exports		970,674
Decrease in Imports		1,590,190
Actual Decrease in Trade.....		\$2,560,864

Commencing with the Import Trade, I proceed to pass in review the articles that call for more particular mention.

COTTON MANUFACTURES show an Import of \$6,240,138, against \$8,518,658 in 1882, being a decrease of \$2,278,520.

Taking Cotton Manufactures in detail, it will be seen that the figures for Chintzes and Printed Cottons are 2,460,808 yards, valued at \$147,165, as compared with 1,118,241 yards valued at \$70,218 for the previous year. These goods have held a fair position throughout the year; the varieties of quality and style, as noted in my previous report, are great, and prices vary accordingly. The deliveries for the twelve months amounted to \$135,541.

DRILLS.—The Import figures are 393,810 yards, valued at \$31,917, against 1,161,057 yards to the value of \$101,079 in 1882. The same remarks, as made in my Report for 1882, will, doubtless, equally apply to the past year; namely, that these goods have almost ceased to be an article of foreign import, and their mention is attributable to their importation, through Japanese firms, for Government use.

LAWNS (CAMBRICS AND LAWNS).—These exhibit a return of 1,728,202 yards, valued at \$83,578, against 463,857 yards to the value of \$24,034 in 1882. These have run a fair course of business during the season, which is in the first few months of the year, and with moderate stocks and supplies, prices have been in accord with the demand.

Starting in 1883 with a range of seventy to seventy-five cents., prices improved during the spring some five cents per piece; but, at the close of the year, had receded 10 to 15 cents. In respect of this class of goods it is a noticeable feature that Corea has been the destination of a good many sold here. The deliveries at this port for the past year are estimated at \$70,204.

SATINS (COTTON).—The figures do not call for much comment. 509,950 yards, valued at \$45,265, were imported in 1883, against 426,086 yards of the value of \$39,600, in the previous year.

I am informed that there is little demand now for these goods, and they would seem to have almost dropped out of the category of staples of current sale. The deliveries are put at \$72,193.

SHIRTINGS, GREY.—The figures are 19,059,268 yards valued at \$876,780 for 1883, as compared with 43,232,071 yards of \$2,070,728 in 1882.

The business of the year in this staple has been described to me as a "miserable one," and the above figures fully justify this expression. The deliveries of 8½ lbs. are little more than one-third of those of 1882, or of one-half those of 1880 and 1881, and of 9 lbs., about one-half of the three previous years. In March, and again in May, there were short-lived spurts in 9 lbs., and in September some 80,000 pieces were placed in a few days; otherwise the market has been in a deadly condition. Prices of 9 lbs. have ranged from \$1.87½ for common to \$2.45 for

best. At the close of the year best quality could not be quoted at more than \$2.27½.

The Chamber of Commerce gives the deliveries of 8½ lbs. at \$185,154, and of 9 lbs. at \$708,018.

DYED SHIRTINGS show an import of 1,823,012 yards, value \$151,780, against 608,436 yards to the value of \$54,787 in 1882. As regards this article, I have only to mention that the famine price of \$2, reached at the end of last year, gave place, in due course, to the more moderate quotations of \$1.50 to \$1.75 according to quality; these goods have been in fair request, but towards the end of the year were very heavy. \$150,658 represent the value of the deliveries for the year.

TAFFACHELAS.—The consumption in these goods is very slight; small lots of suitable patterns at one time sold fairly, but old patterns could not be placed, except at very low rates; the figures are 151,200 yards, valued at \$24,334, against 206,400 yards, to the value of \$33,509, imported in 1882. Deliveries for the year \$21,832.

T.-CLOTHS.—There has been a moderate and steady business with no great variation in values, but, towards the end of the year, sharing the prevailing weakness. The stock includes a good many of Bombay make. The returns are 2,430,476 yards, valued at \$128,553, against 1,937,829 yards, valued at \$102,671, imported in the previous year. Deliveries \$104,259.

TURKEY REDS.—Show an import of 1,456,897 yards valued at \$103,030 in 1883, against 5,911,037 yards valued at \$338,720 imported in the previous year. The decrease is very marked, though, as the deliveries indicate, there has been a respectable current of business throughout the year with no more variation in price than has been exhibited in shirtings. Deliveries are estimated at \$196,746.

VELVETS.—The trade has been dull and dragging in spite of small stocks. The lower qualities have ranged between \$5.80 and \$6. Good between \$6.50 and \$6.75, and best between \$8 and \$8.25. In December, however, some demand setting in for New Year requirements, it became apparent that stocks were exhausted, and common qualities rapidly advanced 50 to 75 cents. The deliveries amounted to \$249,296, and the import figures are 1,256,795 yards valued at \$199,315 in 1883, against 1,272,856 yards valued at \$212,505 in 1882.

YARNS.—Imported during the past year, 173,503 piculs valued at \$4,262,631, against 207,593 piculs valued at \$5,340,562 in 1882.

The record of the year is made up of long periods of extreme dullness relieved now and again by fair business doing for some days, followed by a relapse into calm. The closing months of the year were the very worst of all.

There has been little variation in the course of prices of 16/24's;—taking as a standard Good Mock, of which the spinning "Jos. Byrom" is one of the best known, prices may be quoted as starting in January at about \$29.50, fluctuating between \$29 and \$29.75 till towards the close of the year, and then declining to \$28.25.

Low qualities 16/24's, and Bombay yarns have not regained favour.

28/32's suffered more in price towards the end of the year. Taking the same spinning "Jos. Byrom," which was worth \$32.75 in January, it could not be quoted better than \$30.50 in December.

Neither 38/42's nor doubled 42's have exhibited any special features. In reverse 16/24's, the consumption has, apparently, been very small, due, possibly, to the depression in the branch of trade in which it is used. Doubled 32's have also been in small request, in part owing to the same cause, and partly in the competition of yarn doubled by natives.

The deliveries for the year were \$4,890,678, the diminution being most marked in 16/24's, in Reverse, and in double 32's.

IN WOOLLENS, AND MIXED COTTON AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES, the imports show a value of \$2,261,032 against \$1,924,031 in 1882.

As regards Blankets, I am informed that it is

difficult to trace the business in them, owing, doubtless, to the circumstance that a great many are imported to Government order.

Prices have ruled low, and the market has been a quiet one.

The figures for 1883 are 5,052 piculs, valued at \$227,473, against 3,282 piculs, valued at \$144,151, imported in 1882. Deliveries estimated at \$198,764.

CLOTH.—Imported in 1883, yards 283,876 valued at \$225,786, against 141,613 yards valued at \$166,111 imported in 1882. This market, I am informed, is so disorganized that it is difficult to give any precise report on it. Certain qualities, at times, find buyers at low prices, but good quality staple goods, formerly in vogue, have only been saleable at ruinous prices. Thus for Presidents, formerly in demand at 60 to 65 cents per yard, have been difficult of sale at 45 or even 40 cents. The partial destruction of the Tōkiō mills at Senji has, I believe, improved the position of Army Cloths. The Chamber of Commerce Statistics give the deliveries of Cloth at \$99,524. There is a marked increase in the deliveries of Blankets for 1883 as compared with the previous year, the figures being \$198,764 against \$128,760.

This increase is, I understand, to be accounted for by sales actually made in 1882, but made, for the most part, towards the end of the year, and goods were, probably, not taken delivery of until January or even February of 1883. It might happen, and probably did occur, that sales were entered as at date of clearance or delivery, and this would very materially alter the figures. Moreover, the early months of 1883 were marked by exceptional cold, causing a great demand for wraps, especially Cloth and Blankets. This circumstance would tend to swell the figures of 1883.

ITALIAN CLOTH shows an import of 3,890,199 yards valued at \$821,490, against 2,646,875 yards valued at \$566,128 imported in 1882.

One of the features in this business has been that the market has been suffering under the incubus of heavy stocks of the higher qualities—goods chiefly contracted for, but which buyers have for one reason and another delayed to clear. The trade has been largely done by contract; a few "chops" or marks commanding the supply of the most important channels for the year. Under pressure of this stock the quotations for good qualities declined severely, say, 3 to 4 cents per yard on qualities ranging 27 to 30 cents per yard. Lower qualities at from 21 to 23 cents have been better maintained; price, rather than quality, being the object with buyers. The deliveries are estimated at \$520,683, but these are, doubtless, largely out of old contracts.

LUSTRES AND ORLEANS.—The market for these seems to have ceased to exist. In the summer and autumn, however, some enquiry came from Kōbē at from \$3.75 to \$4.25 for current qualities.

MOUSSELINE DE LAINE.—The Returns give 5,780,145 yards valued at \$790,856 imported in 1883, against 5,286,424 yards valued at \$696,942 imported in the previous year. The business done has partaken of the general character of the trade of the year—for the most part slow and dragging. Towards the end of July a better tone set in, and as stocks of suitable goods had been low, the price of standard colours advanced one cent per yard. Supplies, however, became more ample, and by October the buoyancy had passed, and from that time values have declined.

The year closed very much as it commenced, namely, 14½ to 14¾ cents for aniline, assorted in scarlet and purple. In August and September these colours were saleable at from cents 15½ to 15¾, according to quality. Various colours have, according to season, been in special demand, but with no marked feature.

The scarlet cochineal for printing purposes has ruled even lower than aniline; and the latter, both in German and French goods, carries the day. Native printers continue to work patterns on the latter. In printed goods the business has been exceedingly depressed, owing, in some degree, to the above fact, and, partly, to the general neglect of expensive luxuries. The deliveries amounted to \$987,691.

SILK FACED SATINS.—These goods, though finding a place in the Tables under the heading of Miscellaneous Foreign Imports, may, appropriately, be mentioned at this stage before passing from Staple Piece Goods.

The importation of Satins and Silk and Cotton Mixtures in 1883 was 598,332 yards valued at \$348,466—in 1882 it amounted to \$416,983. I have only to remark of these goods that, like others which may be described as articles of luxury and ornament, they have been very dull throughout the year, exhibiting only some slight improvement in December. Best goods at from 70 cents to 80 or 85 cents per yard have generally been more saleable than the lower qualities at from 42½ cents to 60. The deliveries are estimated at \$198,663.

METALS show an Import of \$1,185,581, against \$1,036,274 imported in 1882.

The most noticeable features of the Trade in Metals for the past year have been the comparatively small fluctuations in prices of manufactured Iron and Steel, the continued fall in prices of Pig-iron, and, with the exception of a period of a few weeks in the autumn, the total absence of any buoyancy in the market.

The fluctuations of native currency make calculations difficult, and the risk considerable; Japanese dealers, therefore, averse to holding large stocks, have bought with caution, and have been content to supply their wants sparingly.

NAIL ROD IRON.—A fair business was done for the first six months of the year at prices ranging from \$2.75 to \$3.00 per picul, advancing, subsequently, to \$2.85 and \$3.15 which were about the current rates at the close of the year. Deliveries for the year estimated at \$18,603.

BAR IRON has shown a steady rate of \$2.60 to \$2.90 per picul for ordinary assortments. From September to November there was a slight rise of about ten cents in consequence of a more general enquiry, but prices again receded in December. The market may be generally described as a lifeless one with sales very difficult to make, except for special assortments. Dealers were able to secure large concessions in order to induce business in other than readily saleable assortments. The year closed with weak prices and moderate stocks.

PLATE AND SHEET IRON may be said to have maintained a quotation of \$3.00 to \$3.50 throughout the year. The business in these has generally followed the course of Bar Iron. Deliveries of Bar Iron &c. and Plate and Sheet Iron are estimated at \$409,986.

PIG IRON.—The quotation in January, 1883, for No. 3 quality North Country Iron, commenced at \$1.45 to \$1.50, but has shown an almost uninterrupted downward tendency till it reached, in December, \$1.25 to \$1.30. Deliveries given at \$35,439.

STEEL BARS.—The quotation for ordinary qualities has remained steady throughout the year at \$3.75 to \$4.00. The difference in price between this article and Bar Iron is comparatively slight, but Japanese buyers hesitate to pay it, notwithstanding the fact that for many purposes its durability should more than compensate for the difference in price and additional expense in working. Deliveries \$21,808.

TIN PLATES.—Prices have remained fairly steady at \$5.30 to \$5.60 per cwt. box. From September to November, notwithstanding small stocks, there was an advance of 20 to 25 cents, but prices again receded to \$5.20—\$5.40. Tin Plates have attracted more attention during the year in consequence of Kerosene oil tins, which Japanese tin-men have relied on for some years past, being now largely used for the export of Fish Oil.

WIRE NAILS.—These continue an important branch of the Metal Trade; but, owing to the difference in cost of the various sizes, are scarcely quotable, though, in sympathy with lower prices in the home markets, the course of values here has been a gradual decline during the last six months of the year.

GALVANIZED IRON, both plain and corrugated, continues to be fairly dealt in, and the use of this kind of iron is becoming more general.

SPELTER, ZINC SHEETS, and YELLOW METAL SHEATHING have exhibited unsatisfactory prices throughout the year, and but little business has been done.

PIG LEAD has almost disappeared from the market as an article of Trade.

In my Trade Report for 1882 the excessive demands by buyers in respect of sea damage to Iron and Steel in bulk were touched upon, and reference was made to the arrangement come to in the Trade, by which a per centage allowance of 10 per cent. should be made, the buyer taking the risk to that extent. Buyers still make the slightest additional damage an excuse for claims which have to be met, unless an opportunity for sale elsewhere affords itself; a remote contingency, having regard to the paucity of buyers and the absence of any competition amongst them, the tendency being rather to combination than competition.

Complaints are still made as to the absence at the Custom House of the necessary accommodation for the Metal Trade; the accommodation, as at present provided, is altogether short of the requirements of this port, and the Metal business, which demands considerable space for sorting, weighing, and delivering on arrival, has still to be carried out in ill-protected and inconveniently crowded sheds.

Copies of a correspondence on this subject between those interested in the Trade, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Superintendent of Customs at this Port, is appended to the Annual Report of the Chamber of Commerce for 1883. Under date the 18th of July, 1883, the Superintendent of Customs, in a letter to the Chairman of the Chamber, promises to provide better accommodation and to prohibit the bringing into proximity goods that may be deleterious to metals.

KEROSENE.—The Import of this attained to 13,076,020 gallons valued at \$1,351,947, against 9,007,925 gallons valued at \$1,007,169 imported in 1882.

The year opened with a quiet market, a stock of little more than 100,000 cases, and with a range of prices from \$1.90 to \$2.10 per case according to brand, "Devoe's" oil commanding the highest prices. The prevailing features of the first six months of the year, a brief period of activity from the middle of March to the middle of April excepted, were the moderate amount of business done, the extreme caution of native buyers, a gradual and almost uninterrupted decline in prices, and a steady accumulation of stocks: by the end of June prices had fallen to \$1.52 to \$1.70 per case, and stocks had increased to about 600,000 cases.

In July a revival of business took place causing a slight recovery in prices, which was lost in August, the market having relapsed into quiet. Towards the end of the month the dealers again purchased freely, but heavy arrivals in the first half of September raising the stock to about 770,000 cases prevented any advance in values; about this time speculative purchases by foreign buyers helped the market a little, but the native dealers were not disposed to follow suit and continued to pursue their cautious policy of buying only for actual requirements. In November the lowest point of the market was reached, prices then standing at \$1.48 to \$1.66 per case, but they gained a little strength during December, and by the close of the month had advanced to \$1.60 to \$1.73 per case, stocks, having, meanwhile, decreased to about 650,000 cases.

The results of the past year have, undoubtedly, been unremunerative, and, therefore, unsatisfactory; losses more or less severe must have been incurred by the generality of Importers; the trade has been a dragging one throughout, and the persistently downward tendency of prices has been most monotonous.

Notwithstanding the prevalence of low prices, no further expansion of the trade has taken place, the year's consumption showing, on the contrary, a falling off, judging by the Chamber of Commerce statistics, which put the deliveries at 790,075 cases against 900,050 cases delivered in

the previous year. The estimated value of the deliveries for 1883 is \$1,346,546.

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN figure for \$3,929,302 against \$3,623,781 in 1882.

The more prominent items in this List are

Arms and Munitions of War, which were imported to an amount of	\$ 89,845
Beer and Porter	\$ 69,667
Canvass and Duck	\$ 81,347
Clothing and Haberdashery	\$202,022
Coal	\$ 98,354
Coral and Coral Beads	\$ 65,518
Drugs, Medicines, and Chemicals	\$446,458
Dyes and Paints	\$305,883
Window Glass	\$ 66,080
Leather	\$171,647
Machinery and fittings	\$122,677
Paper and Stationery	\$125,573
Provisions, stores, etc.	\$211,000
Watches and fittings	\$135,228
Wines and Spirits	\$148,642

Of these I select the Trade in Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals, as also in Dyes and Paints, as calling for more than passing comment. The business in Drugs and Chemicals during the year has not been satisfactory, although in some few articles the business has slightly increased: it has, however, been far from profitable. It may be said of these, as of other goods, that the depressed condition of trade has generally affected them, and further I am informed that the tax on patent medicines has also seriously interfered with the expansion of the Chemical trade.

An increased tax was, as you are aware, notified by a Government Notification of the 27th of October, 1882, and came into force from the 1st of January, 1883. As an instance of how the imposition of this tax has interfered with the trade, it may be noted that Santonine, an article much in request amongst the Japanese, shows, for the past year, a reduced consumption of nearly 20,000 oz. as compared with the previous year, notwithstanding that the average price ruling in 1883 was 23 cents instead of 30, the average price during the year 1882. The sale of Santonine attained to only 72,800 ounces, prices throughout the year having really been below cost of Import, and at the close were as low as 20 cents per oz. in 1 ounce bottles, and, indeed, very few sales were effected at that price.

In **QUININE** the consumption has somewhat increased, some 27,000 ounces having been disposed of.

BROMIDE OF POTASSIUM has been sold to the extent of about 37,000 lbs.; prices have fluctuated very little, and 45 cents per lb. was the average price in 1 lb. bottles. The trade in this article may be said fairly to hold its own.

CAUSTIC SODA.—The consumption of this is steadily increasing, and sales were made during the year to the extent of about 1,450 tons. At the commencement of the year prices were about \$3.70 to \$3.80 per picul, and gradually hardened towards the close of the year, when the quotation was \$4.

IODIDE OF POTASSIUM has been sold to a considerable extent, about 28,000 lbs. having changed hands. The low prices ruling in Europe have tended to increase consumption.

MORPHIA has been sold to an average extent, but generally below import cost.

BISMUTH SUBNITRAS has exhibited a much restricted business, owing to the difficulty in getting the manufacturers to supply an article that will meet the requirements of the Japanese Government laboratory. Stocks are in consequence very scarce, as importers do not care to run the risk of a condemnation of their goods.

It may be said that some of the leading articles have fairly well held their own, more particularly as applicable to chemicals required for technical and manufacturing purposes.

A subject worthy of note is the starting of a manufactory of Pharmaceutical Chemicals on a large scale in Tōkiō as an incorporated company with a capital of 200,000 yen. The Government, I am informed, contributes 100,000 yen of the capital, free of interest for a period of 20 years; a free grant of land is also given, and the necessary buildings erected free of cost. Another enterprise about to be undertaken is the formation of a Company with a capital of

250,000 *yen* having for its object the manufacture of alcohol out of waste "Saké" from the native Breweries; and it is noteworthy that the manufacture of Bleaching Powder on a large scale has been commenced at the Insatsu Kiyoku.

DYES.—The trade in Aniline Dyes is increasing, goods under this heading coming, for the most part, from Germany: the business done during the year comprises 410 piculs of Chinese Blue, 300 piculs of Ultramarine, and 168 piculs of Methyl Violet. Extract of Logwood, a few special brands excepted, has met with a small sale. Generally the trade in Dyes was a more satisfactory one than last year.

SUGARS, which find a place between the Import list of Miscellaneous Foreign and Miscellaneous Eastern, figure to \$3,230,849, as against \$3,099,874 imported in 1882.

Under the heading MISCELLANEOUS (EASTERN), the total of which is \$419,763 as compared with \$999,015 in the year previous, the most prominent items are Raw Cotton, \$128,051, Drugs and Chemicals \$59,896, and Tortoise shell \$59,207. A glance at the returns of 1882 will show why the figures under the heading of Miscellaneous Eastern have dropped to less than half in 1883. It will be seen that in the former year Raw Cotton figured for \$200,445, Drugs and Chemicals \$93,432, Dyes and Paints \$56,983, and in many other items, the contrast is as great, as for instance, Beans, Peas and Pulse which were imported to the value of \$37,456 in 1882, whereas the figures for 1883 were only \$9,272. Also Bean and Pea Oil, \$15,419 in 1882 against \$1,126 in 1883.

The general aspect of the Import trade for the past year has been far from cheerful. In some of the staples there have been times of fair activity, but, on the other hand, there have been long periods of stagnation, and demand for goods in general has been dragging. In my Report for 1882, when writing of the staple Yarns, I remarked on the falling off in deliveries in this article, as compared with 1881, and turning now to 1883, the figures show a falling off of some 30,000 piculs on those of the previous year, a circumstance not a little startling.

In SHIRTINGS too, the statistics, which exhibited some increase, and not a falling off in 1882, now show that considerably less than one-half was delivered in 1883, as compared with 1882.

Ten thousand bales of Yarns, and ten thousand bales of Shirtings taken out of a trade like that of Yokohama, in which Yarns and Shirtings play such an important part, cannot fail to leave a considerable blank, and to give an air of depression to the general character of business. The trade, however, has been free from some of the miserable features of the preceding year; the stocks of old goods, costing very dear, and showing ruinous losses, have not formed such an encumbrance, having been, to a great extent, worked off. New importations have cost more moderately, and there has not been the disparity between cost and selling price; on the whole, to importers the year has probably been neither good nor bad, small profits have been made at times, and in some directions losses, but not heavy ones, have ensued. Speaking roughly, the business may be said to have cleared itself; but this is, after all, an unsatisfactory result to merchants, who naturally seek remuneration for their labours.

The persistent complaint of native dealers throughout has been that their country customers did not buy, in fact that the consuming classes held their hands, and from all accounts it seems pretty certain that the domestic weaving trade has been in a state of prostration; a remark which applies to the silk, as well as to the cotton-manufacturing industries. Rice and all other produce of the kind have ruled at very low rates, and to this fact, equally as it held good last year, is attributed the attenuated condition of the purchasing power of the country. Meanwhile the continued and gradual appreciation of currency has marked the reaction from that period of inflation of years past, which appears to have been productive of such a heritage of distress.

As before, the deliveries of goods appearing

in the Chamber of Commerce Returns do not altogether bear out the general impression of such bad times, but the record confirms the impression that 1882 included much that had been sold some time before.

Fluctuations in price have not been large; the low range, to which most articles had come down, has proved so far a source of security to the importer in that he has not been subject to severe losses; stocks, moreover, have, for the most part, been moderate, and it has been strange to notice that in goods considered to be staples, stocks reach the verge of exhaustion without in the least stimulating demand for them.

EXPORTS.

The Custom House Returns give under the heading of Raw Silk an Export of 31,220 piculs to the value of \$16,183,540, against 28,841 piculs to the value of \$16,232,150 exported in 1882.

The Chamber of Commerce figures for 1883 are 34,143 bales valued at \$15,990,366.

The figures are the highest that have been attained since the opening of the Port, and, indeed, the increase is actually greater than would appear by a mere reference to figures, for whereas prior to 1880 the average weight of a bale was only 80 catties, it has been the custom of the trade of recent years to make up bales to an average of 92 catties. The export has been much influenced by the low consumption of the raw material in native manufacture, and it is to be regretted that there are no reliable data on which to found an approximately accurate estimate of the amount of raw silk actually consumed in the country. There can be little doubt that ordinarily the annual consumption is large, much larger, indeed, than is generally supposed, for Japanese engaged in the trade place it as high as from 13,000 to 15,000 piculs, indeed in 1881 it is said to have reached 21,000 piculs, which would account for the low export in that year. During 1882 consumption is said to have fallen off to 13,000 piculs, while in 1883 some 5,300 piculs only were required, which would amply account for the unusually large export of 1883. In fact last year the manufacturing industry passed through a period of unprecedented depression, from which there are only quite recently any signs of recovery. This is borne out by the fact that amongst the coarse silks placed on the market were a number of classes of the old-fashioned sorts such as "Nagahama," "Echizens," "Sodais," which had been thought to be extinct. These have, of late years, been prepared only for native consumption, but the native weaving trade has apparently been crushed out, and, consequently these silks have been sent forward to Yokohama for sale.

In its results to foreign merchants the trade of the year has probably been, on the average, like that in Imports, neither good nor bad: at times losses have been made, but there have also been occasions of fair profits.

The range of prices has been moderate, and the fluctuations not severe. Quotations at the commencement of the year were as follows:—

Fair Hachioji Hanks,.....	about	\$450
Good 2½ Maebashi,.....	about	\$500
Good Maebashi,.....	about	\$520 to \$540
Good Kakida,.....	about	\$570 to \$580
Extra Kakida,.....	up to	\$625
Good filatures,.....	about	\$600
Best filatures,.....	up to	\$640
Hamatsuki.....		\$450 to \$490

The business from this time to the end of May was of a quiet character, and prices had then become rather lower, but the season of course was nearly closed. In June the new season was opened at \$540 for the first Maebashi silk offering, being an advance of \$60 per picul on the closing rates of the month. At the commencement of June the telegrams from Europe were to the effect that the European crop was not turning out as well as had been expected, and advices from Shanghai were to the like effect as regards the China crop.

The Lyons and London markets were, of course, affected by these reports; and when, on the 22nd June, the first lot of new season's

Maebashi came down it was, as mentioned above, eagerly taken at the high price of \$540.

These reports of the unsatisfactory nature of the crops did not altogether prove correct, and, as regards Europe, it may be noted that the crop has turned out to be an unusually large one; the China crop did, on the other hand, turn out to be a small one, though the export has been somewhat augmented beyond the lowest estimates by the shipment of inferior sorts. Prices here towards the close of June suddenly lost \$40 of their advance, the next arrivals of Maebashi 2½ bringing only \$510/520. In July prices still further declined \$20 per picul, but became steadier towards the middle of the month. Filature silks now began to arrive, and, the quality proving good, they were freely taken for America, chiefly at \$625/635. Settlements during July were 1,400 piculs.

Throughout the greater part of the month of August prices were well maintained, but weakened \$10 at the close. Holders at first attempted to raise prices, as the Exchange rate of *Kinsatsu* (Japanese paper currency) was against them, but large arrivals and scarcity of money at last obliged them to follow the market and sell currently. September witnessed a continued drooping of prices, and buyers operated largely, Filatures and Oshiu sorts having the preference. Settlements were about 4,900 piculs, leaving a stock of 5,000 piculs. A large business was continued in October in all classes of silks, holders being disposed to force sales; during this month 5,400 piculs were settled, yet stocks had increased to 5,700 piculs, prices were as follows:—

Maebashi 2½.....	\$450 to \$460
Maebashi 3.....	\$430 to \$440
Filatures 1.....	\$580 to \$610
Kakida 2.....	\$535 to \$545
Hamatsuki 1 and 2.....	\$470 to \$480

The downward course of prices continued in November until about the 20th of that month; business, however, being still maintained on a large scale. Maebashi 2½ was obtainable at \$440/453, then the large settlements began to tell upon stocks, and sellers regained courage. Transactions for the month were 6,000 piculs, Stocks at the close 4,600 piculs. From this to the end of the year the position of the market steadily strengthened, arrivals fell off, and the native manufacturing trade showed symptoms of revival. Prices advanced and closed at about \$450 for Hachioji, fairly good Maebashi \$485 to \$500, with a corresponding advance in most other sorts.

A peculiar feature marked the silk business in October; during that month silk men were pressing to sell, and some small concessions were obtainable, the supplies being so large, and money evidently wanted. Towards the end of October money became exceedingly tight; in fact, the treasuries of the foreign Banks were so far depleted that they could buy but little of the paper which foreign merchants wished to sell against their shipments. At the same time the news from the European silk markets was very bad, and prices there continued to give way before the pressure of the heavy supplies of both Italian and Japan silk. For a short time business in this market came to a stand-still; silkmen, however, seemed to be in no mood to hold out against the course of affairs, and they became pressing to sell on buyers' terms. Arrangements were now made by which funds were obtainable from the Japanese Banks, and this furnished an opportunity to the *Sho-kin Gin-ko* or "Yokohama Specie Bank" to enter the field as a competitor with foreign Banks for foreign Mercantile Bills of Exchange. This Bank had, for some time, been anxious to engage in business of the kind, but foreign merchants, as might be expected, did not readily leave their accustomed channels. Now, however, with plenty of specie in its treasury, with willing buyers, and offering, as it did, a better rate of Exchange by ½ to ¾ per cent. than could be obtained from the foreign Banks, its proffers met with acceptance, and it secured considerable quantities of private paper. The connection thus secured has been since maintained; and agencies of the Bank are also in operation in Lyons and London. It may be

asked how the Bank can afford to part with dollars at a price so much below the rates of the open market: to this no definite reply can be given. Of the large shipments this season on Japanese account it is understood that a large portion is on behalf of the Government, and it would seem that both Bills and silk go to provide funds for disbursements abroad. Equally difficult of explanation is the fact that the Specie Bank does not make use of Bank Bills in preference to private paper for its purposes.

To turn again to the general features of the silk trade for the year it will be seen that the total value of silk exported in 1883 was slightly below that of 1882, though the quantity shipped was larger by 2,379 piculs. This was due to the very low range of prices ruling throughout the year. Another point of interest is the altered course of shipments, as appears from the subjoined table which has been kindly furnished me.

YEAR.	TO ENGLAND.	FRANCE.	UNITED STATES.	OTHER COUNTRIES.	TOTAL.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
1874...	5,669	5,810	244	262	11,985
1875...	5,362	8,781	53	402	14,598
1876...	10,287	11,013	117	849	22,266
1877...	9,928	7,896	699	1,201	19,724
1878...	4,583	9,927	2,336	394	17,240
1879...	5,969	9,309	4,511	146	19,935
1880...	2,748	7,584	5,788	58	16,178
1881...	3,937	11,698	4,590	45	20,270
1882...	4,621	16,065	10,244	343	31,273
1883...	4,104	19,196	10,549	294	34,143

The foregoing table exhibits how silk shipments are now made directly to the markets of consumption, and that the trade to England in this staple has become of small importance. The rapid growth and extensive proportions of the silk trade between this country and America, reached in such a short time, is most remarkable; and there can be no doubt that it is capable of still further extension. The qualities mostly in demand for New York are Filatures, Reeled Hanks, and Kakida sorts. Speaking generally of the course of prices throughout the year, it may be observed, with the exception of a slight spurt in June of very short duration, the movement of prices has been continually retrograde, greater firmness on the part of holders only manifesting itself at the close of the year: this decline was brought about by causes that had their origin here, and not from any anticipated further fall of values in Europe or America, where, at the commencement of the year: prices were already so low that few people looked for any further fall. The chief cause, undoubtedly, was the gradual appreciation in Exchange value of *Kinsatsu* (Japanese paper currency) with the Mexican dollar. The dollar, which in February could be exchanged for 1 *yen* 40 *sen Kinsatsu*, was in December exchangeable only at the rate of 1 *yen* 10 *sen*; and the unfortunate owner of silk, who receives payment in Mexican dollars, hurried the sale of silk as soon as it came on the market, as each day's delay brought with it increased losses. The absence of native consumption, and consequent very heavy supplies, increased the pressure to sell, and prices were forced down to an unexpectedly low level, the lowest point being reached in November; extensive purchases by foreigners, and large direct shipments by Japanese then relieved the market, and from that time matters began to improve.

Shippers have had to contend with the low prices and large quantities of Italian silk which throughout the year have been persistently pressed for sale in Europe and in America, and have interfered with the sale of Japanese. Fashion has favoured a variety of articles, but there has been no steady enquiry for any one class of silk goods, excepting Velvets, in the manufacture of which little pure Silk is required. It has been stated to me, and the opinion is one in which I cannot but agree, having regard to all the information that has been kindly placed at my disposal, that this rich industry (silk) is yearly growing, and there is no reason why it should not be further extended by the planting of mulberry trees in new areas. As to the quality of the crop of 1883 there is little special to remark beyond what has been already mentioned as to the abundance of coarse sorts.

SILKWORM EGGS show an export of 75,091 cards, valued at \$55,287, against 177,240 cards, valued at \$122,486, exported in 1882. The trade in these may be looked upon as finished.

TEA, according to Custom House Returns, shows an export of 138,356 piculs, valued at \$3,620,564 in 1883, against 142,168 piculs valued at \$4,405,841 exported in 1882.

The Chamber of Commerce Returns give 153,574 piculs valued at \$3,684,163: this, doubtless, includes all kinds of tea, inclusive of Bancha, Tea Dust, etc.; and, as the total Returns furnished by the Custom House, give an export of \$3,688,307 the discrepancy is but trifling.

As is generally the case, the year 1883 opened with little or no life in the tea Market. Stocks still in native hands consisted principally of teas shown before the close of the preceding year, and but few good quality parcels had remained unsold. The business transacted offers but few features of interest to report on. Settlements up to 30th April amounted to 10,675 piculs and consisted principally of Good Common to Good Medium grades at prices ranging from \$13 to \$19 per picul, and bought chiefly for the Canadian and Californian Markets.

By the first of May a few musters of new crop teas made their appearance, and "Choice to Choicest" parcels commanded \$31 to \$34 per picul; these were the only grades in supply until about the 20th of May, when "Finest Teas" also came in, and were in good demand at \$28 to \$30 per picul. During June the Market was fully supplied with grades as under, and prices ranged as follows:—

Medium.....	\$17 to \$20
Good Medium.....	\$21 to \$23
Fine.....	\$24 to \$26
Finest.....	\$27 to \$30
Choice }.....	\$31 and upwards.
Choicest }	

The settlements during the month were by far the heaviest for any one month of the year, amounting to the large total of piculs 49,878.

Fully one-half of the new season's crop had come to this market, and though the quality on infusion was good, yet the leaf, on the average, was markedly inferior as compared with the crop of the year preceding, there being a very evident want of care bestowed on the manipulation of the leaf, though, perhaps, the spring weather, which was cold and inclement, may, in a measure, have contributed to the evil.

In July business was somewhat checked by wire advices of the adverse state of the American tea market created, in a measure, by the inferiority of the crop, but more by the large amount of tea shipped from Japan which was considered to be much in excess of the immediate wants of American consumers. Buyers in consequence either withdrew, or considerably reduced their offers, and though native merchants for a few days stoutly resisted, about the middle of the month they gave way, and business was resumed on a moderate scale, fair quality "Good Medium" commanding \$17 to \$18 per picul, and other grades in proportion. This may be considered the lowest point of the Tea Market during the year under review, the teas being of good quality in the cup, fragrant in the hand, and the leaf well-suited to undergo the re-firing process without great loss in weight.

The amount of Tea settled during the months of August and September was moderate, averaging about 12,000 piculs per month, and arrivals coming in showed a very apparent falling off in quality. This market was now almost denuded of "First Crop" Teas, and the few parcels remaining were mostly spoiled by heating. The most eligible "chops" of Second Crop had generally found buyers, and but little Tea grading over "Good Medium" was obtainable.

But slight business was transacted until the opening of November, when fresh orders coming to hand, purchasing recommenced on a basis of \$17 per picul for "Good Medium," and the demand continuing, by the end of the year an advance of fully \$2 per picul was

established on all grades obtainable, which consisted of—

Common.....	\$12 and under
Good Common.....	\$13 to \$14
Medium.....	\$15 to \$18
Good Medium.....	\$19 to \$22
Fine.....	\$26 nominally

other grades without supply.

The following Table gives the Comparative Settlements of Tea during the twelve months in the years 1883 and 1882 respectively:—

1883.		1882.
3,937 piculs.....	January.....	2,884 piculs
2,671 piculs.....	February.....	3,252 piculs
3,203 piculs.....	March.....	3,408 piculs
864 piculs.....	April.....	3,478 piculs
41,835 piculs.....	May.....	56,303 piculs
49,878 piculs.....	June.....	34,506 piculs
20,580 piculs.....	July.....	17,163 piculs
12,284 piculs.....	August.....	12,628 piculs
12,794 piculs.....	September.....	11,119 piculs
6,370 piculs.....	October.....	5,096 piculs
6,684 piculs.....	November.....	5,260 piculs
3,086 piculs.....	December.....	5,679 piculs

164,186 piculs 159,776 piculs
Increase, 4,410 piculs.

The Teas were distributed as follows:—

1883.		1882.
10,039,021 lbs....	New York, Boston, etc.	11,109,476 lbs.
4,044,855 lbs....	California, Oregon, etc.	3,730,189 lbs.
3,043,998 lbs....	Canada.....	2,526,279 lbs.
2,937,596 lbs {	Chicago and Western States }	3,297,495 lbs.
75,532 lbs....	England.....	214,560 lbs.
20,141,002 lbs.		20,877,999 lbs.

Decrease in 1883, 736,997 lbs.

The above Table of distribution has been furnished to me privately, but it is as well to give the distribution, as appearing in the Returns for 1883, supplied to the Chamber of Commerce, which are as follows:—

To New York.....	10,171,617 lbs.
To San Francisco.....	4,095,979 lbs.
To Boston, Chicago.....	6,117,444 lbs.
To England.....	91,562 lbs.

20,476,602 lbs.

The teas during 1883 were shipped as follows,—the comparative figures of 1882 being also given:—

	1883.	1882.
By Suez steamer, English bottoms.....	9,757,691 lbs.	8,370,390 lbs.
By Occidental and Oriental Company, English bottoms.....	4,007,257 lbs.	8,693,211 lbs.
By Pacific Mail Company, American bottoms.....	3,899,892 lbs.	2,870,805 lbs.
By sailing vessel to San Francisco, American bottoms.....	2,365,580 lbs.	729,033 lbs.
By Suez steamer to London, English bottoms.....	110,582 lbs.	214,560 lbs.
	20,141,002 lbs.	20,877,999 lbs.
Total in English bottoms.....	13,875,530 lbs.	
Total in American bottoms.....	6,265,472 lbs.	

20,141,002 lbs.

Before closing my remarks on the export trade of this Port for the past year, I would beg your attention to the comparatively large export of Fish Oil which figures for \$108,483, as against \$87,811 in 1882. Cod Liver Oil, which would, doubtless, be embraced in these figures, is now a recognized article of commerce, and is shipped in considerable quantities to Europe and America. It is obtained in the northern island Yezo, and is made from the livers of the Cod fish frequenting the northern portion of the Main Island, and the shores of the Island of Yezo.

JAPAN OIL OF PEPPERMINT is forcing itself to the front as an article of export, and is said to be competing with the American production.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.—313 vessels, with a tonnage of 556,024 tons, entered this Port during the past year, as against 291 vessels, with a tonnage of 523,074 tons, entered in 1882, showing an increase of 32,950 tons for the year 1883.

Of the entries for the year under review, the number of British vessels is 172, with a tonnage of 339,618 tons, as against 169, with a tonnage of 351,633 tons, entered in 1882, showing an increase of 3 vessels, but a decrease in tonnage of

12,015 tons: the fact that three British Steamers, the *Coptic*, *Belgic*, and *Gaelic*, of comparatively large tonnage, have been withdrawn from these waters, and from their employment on the Occidental and Oriental line, will go far to explain the decrease. In Foreign Shipping there is an increase of 44,965 tons. Of this increase American shipping furnishes 37,186 tons, German shipping 5,941 tons, Russian shipping 6,286 tons, Norwegian shipping 307 tons; French shipping exhibits a decrease of 4,755 tons.

Of the British tonnage given above, Mail Steamers figure for 185,788 tons, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company contributing 65,178 tons, and the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company 120,610 tons. Of General Shipping (British), other than Mail Steamers, the entries show 115 vessels, of 153,830 tons, of which 62 vessels, with a tonnage of 124,079 tons, are steamers, and 53 vessels, with a tonnage of 29,751 tons, are sailing vessels.

Of the 62 steamers 32, with a tonnage of 64,116 tons, were from Great Britain, as also were 4 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 5,418 tons. The steamers carried general cargoes; two of the sailing vessels arrived with general cargoes, and two with coals.

Of the remaining 30 steamers, 16 were from Coast Ports, 7 from Hongkong, 3 from Shanghai, 2 from Antwerp, and 1 from Manila and New York respectively.

Of the remaining 49 sailing vessels, 10 were from Takao, 8 from Newcastle, N.S.W., 8 from Coast Ports, 6 from New York, 1 from British Columbia, 1 from Antwerp, 1 from Shanghai, 7 from North Pacific Islands, 1 from Auckland N.Z., 4 were purchased at this Port, and 2 re-entered. Of the 79 vessels thus arriving otherwise than from Great Britain, 62 entered with cargoes, viz.:—18 with general cargoes, 17 with coals, 11 with sugar, 7 with kerosene oil, 2 with timber, and 7 with furs and skins. Of the remaining 17 vessels, 11 entered in ballast, 2 re-entered, and 4 were purchased in Port.

175 British vessels of 343,029 tons cleared from this Port in 1883. Of these 123 were steamers with a tonnage of 312,229 tons, and 52 were sailing vessels of 30,800 tons.

Of the steamers, 57 with a tonnage of 185,788 tons, were Mail steamers with general cargoes, and of the remaining 118 vessels, 77 cleared with cargoes, and 41 were in ballast.

One British steamer, the *Patricio*, was sold here to Japanese purchasers in 1883 for \$150,000.

The Shipping report for 1883 would not be complete without mention of the Union Steam Navigation Company, a Japanese Company, which, projected in 1882, has now commenced active operations in Japanese waters.

The Capital of the Company is six million *yen* in 120,000 shares, of which, according to the latest report, 42,141 shares, representing 2,107,050 *yen* have been registered, 673,485 *yen* of this amount having been received on account. The number of shares subscribed for by the Government was 52,000, leaving 68,000 shares at the disposition of the public. With the Union Steam Navigation Company the following Companies heretofore in existence have been amalgamated: the Tōkiō Sailing Ship Company, the Hokkaidō Transportation Company, and the Yetchiu Sailing Ship Association.

The Company has made extensive purchases of steamers in England. The Company's fleet consists, at the moment, of some fifteen steamers ranging from 700 to 2,400 tons, and some eight additional steamers are, I believe, now in course of construction in England. Within a few months the Company's fleet will probably number some thirty vessels.

EXCHANGE.—During the first five months of the year the demand rate for Bank Bills on London ranged from 3/8 to 3/7½, fluctuating up and down with the telegraphed quotations for bar-silver from London, until June, when the money market here being very tight, exchange went up to 3/8½, keeping very firm until September, when a slight reaction took place, and the rate went down to 3/7½, but again rallied in

October, and during the last quarter of the year exchange was very firm, touching as high as 3/9½, but closing at 3/8½.

During November, when the rates touched the highest point, the Japanese "Specie Bank" (the *Shō-kin Gin-kō*) was a free buyer.

The foreign exchange for the year under review may be said to have followed the course of silver on the London market, with few exceptions, which latter were most marked in June and August when a great stringency took place in the money market here, and the tightness would have been much more exaggerated had it not been for the very unusual position of the Japanese Banks which were plentifully supplied with money, and were free lenders to the foreign Banks at first, but subsequently became strong competitors against them, buying largely of the merchants against shipments of silk to Europe, often as much as one per cent. under the foreign Banks, which materially helped to keep exchange lower than would otherwise have happened. It is uncertain, however, whether the Japanese Specie Bank is likely to continue to be a current buyer against the foreign Banks, and, indeed, its action in the past, which was also prominently mentioned in the course of this Report when treating of the Silk Export, is stated to be probably due to certain requirements of the Government which necessitated the placing of money in Europe.

The fluctuations in "*Satsu*," or Japanese paper currency, have been less than for many years past, and the tendency has been towards improved value, strangely enough, however, without a corresponding improvement in business. There is no doubt but that the enhanced value has been partially caused by the curtailment of the issue, but it is perhaps more likely to be due to the action of the Government in controlling Bourse transactions, and thus minimizing the evils arising from time bargains. At first this had a deleterious effect on trade because there was no confidence in the improved value, and neither Japanese sellers nor buyers could accommodate themselves to the new order of things, but there is every prospect of the current year witnessing a renewed confidence in the Government paper, and, with confidence, a revival of trade will, doubtless, follow. Such revival, if it is brought about, is likely to be more especially in favour of the Japanese, as the prices of Exports and the Commodities used by foreigners have not declined in the same ratio as the corresponding advance in *Satsu*. The improvement in paper will enable the Japanese to pay for his requirements in Imports from abroad, of which the interior is reported, and generally believed, to be bare, and, with the issue brought to within controllable limits there is not the same risk of violent fluctuations as in former years.

Satsu opened in January at 137 per \$100, declining to 144 until towards March, when an improvement took place. About this period heavy gambling transactions on time were frequent, until the Government stepped in, and from the 10th to the 28th of April the Exchange or Bourse was closed. Regulations were then issued having for their object the suppression of time bargains. From the beginning of May a gradual improvement began, which was maintained month by month to the close of the year. The following table will furnish information as to the steady appreciation of Paper:

	Per \$100.		Per \$100.
January	137/138	July	130/125
February	138/144	August	125/116
March	144/138	September	118/119
April 1st to 10th	138/140	October	119/112
May	130/132	November	111
June	132/130	December	105/109

The traffic receipts on the Yokohama-Tōkiō line of Railway for the past year, as compared with 1882, were as follows:—

	1883.	1882.
Passengers (No.)	2,221,210	2,238,802
Goods (tons)	22,025	40,520

The amount received on account of passengers in 1883 was 503,503 *yen*, and for goods 40,497 *yen*, against in 1882 the sums of 511,874 *yen* and 52,863 *yen* respectively.

The message traffic (Telegraphs) at Yokohama during the year was as follows:—

Japanese messages forwarded	129,418
Japanese messages received	100,011
Local foreign messages forwarded	10,341
Local foreign messages received	9,610
International messages forwarded	9,647
International messages received	10,021
	269,048

The Returns of Railway and Telegraph message traffic exhibit some decrease as compared with the previous year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

RUSSELL ROBERTSON.

The Honourable F. R. PLUNKETT,
&c., &c., &c.,

H.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary, Tōkiō.

1.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF THE PORT OF KANAGAWA FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

COTTON MANUFACTURES—\$6,240,138.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Chintzes and Printed		
Cottons	yards 2,460,808	\$ 147,165
Drills	yards 393,810	31,917
Ginghams	yards 17,260	1,919
Handkerchiefs	doz. 67,013	33,684
Lawns	yards 1,728,202	83,578
Satins, Cotton	yards 509,950	45,265
Shirtings (grey)	yards 19,059,268	876,780
Shirtings (white)	yards 934,299	59,841
Shirtings (figured)	yards 25,547	2,152
Shirtings (twilled)	yards 1,175,230	73,929
Shirtings (dyed)	yards 1,823,012	151,780
Taffachelas	yards 151,200	24,334
T. Cloths	yards 2,430,476	128,553
Turkey Reds	yards 1,456,897	103,030
Velvets	yards 1,256,795	199,315
Yarns	piculs 173,503	4,262,631
Sundries	yards 194,669	14,265

\$6,240,138

WOOLLEN AND MIXED COTTON AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES—\$2,261,032.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Alpacas	yards 10,083	\$ 1,517
Blankets	piculs 5,052	227,473
Buntings	yards 28,240	2,678
Camlets	yards 9,550	2,101
Camlet cords	yards 21,544	2,454
Cloth	yards 283,876	225,786
Flannels	yards 204,373	55,055
Italian Cloth	yards 3,890,199	821,499
Lastings	yards 23,098	6,127
Long Ells	yards 6,247	1,657
Lustres	yards 14,205	1,489
Mousseline de Laine	yards 5,780,145	790,856
Orleans	yards 119,070	10,888
Serges	yards 82,491	38,568
Spanish Stripes	yards 2,828	2,116
Woollen Yarn	piculs 45	2,154
Sundries	yards 243,553	68,623

\$2,261,032

METALS—\$1,185,581.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Antimony	piculs 195	\$ 2,265
Brass and Brass- ware	—	20,830
Copper and Copper- ware	—	33,393
Iron (bar, rod, &c.)	piculs 128,774	272,473
Iron (old)	piculs 14,747	13,866
Iron (pig)	piculs 57,177	49,964
Iron piping	—	13,192
Iron rail	piculs 20,157	42,784
Iron roofing	piculs 7,941	37,445
Iron plate and sheet	piculs 39,896	134,789
Iron nails and screws	piculs 33,729	134,181
Iron wire	piculs 7,236	30,258
Iron manufactured, unenumerated	piculs 27,150	71,137
Lead	piculs 8,328	37,673
Lead sheet and piping	—	9,681
Nickel	piculs 55	4,446
Quicksilver	piculs 822	39,645
Steel	piculs 6,620	46,524
Steel wire	piculs 518	6,362
Steel ware	—	10,578
Tin	piculs 509	15,563
Tin plates	cases 10,115	45,399
Yellow metal	piculs 1,670	30,424

Carried forward..... \$1,102,872

Brought forward.....		\$1,102,872	Brought forward.....		\$3,192,131	Brought forward.....		\$226,305
Zinc..... piculs	9,811	52,212	Stoves and fittings...		2,413	Coral and coral beads...	catties	63
Miscellaneous.....		30,497	Tar and pitch..... piculs	1,723	3,888	Drugs, medicines, &c...	No.	1,919,840
		\$1,185,581	Tea lead..... piculs	6,600	30,484	Fans.....	No.	29,172
Kerosene oil..... gallons	13,076,020	\$1,351,947	Tea firing pans..... No.	124	3,084	Fish oil..... piculs		12,077
MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN—		\$3,929,302.	Tin foil and tin leaf.....		1,707	Furniture.....		34,943
Arms and Munitions			Teeth (Narwhal and			Furs.....	No.	34,943
of War.....		\$ 89,845	Seahorse)..... piculs	45	5,076	Gold and silver ware...		622
Anchor and chain			Thread (unenum-			Ginger.....	piculs	52
cables.....		26,364	rated)..... piculs	194	6,958	Hair and wool.....	piculs	52
Barometers & Ther-			Textile fabrics (mis-			Iron ware.....		567
mometers.....		3,851	cellaneous).....		28,338	Isinglass.....	piculs	567
Beer and Porter.....		69,667	Timber and planks.		48,925	Ivory ware.....	No.	2,141
Blacking.....		5,160	Towels..... doz.	4,699	4,735	Jinrikisha.....	No.	2,141
Books..... No.	80,539	47,421	Table cloths.....		1,054	Lanterns.....	piculs	216
Brushes.....		1,510	Travelling rugs..... No.	3,004	9,966	Matches.....	No.	45,691
Candles..... piculs	741	14,792	Umbrellas, ribs, fra-			Mattresses.....	dozen	45,600
Canvas and Duck... yards	440,938	81,347	mes, &c.....		16,316	Mushrooms.....	No.	74
Carriages.....		6,099	Watches and fittings		135,228	Paper.....	piculs	1,925
Carriages, Railway..		9,049	Wines and Spirits...		148,642	Pictures & Photographs.		216,574
Clocks and fittings...		62,219	Wool..... piculs	2,674	88,898	Plants.....		3,907
Carpeting.....		42,218	Sundries.....		195,459	Potatoes.....	piculs	27,100
Clothing and Haber-					\$3,929,302	Provisions.....		7,479
dashery.....		202,022	SUGARS—\$3,230,849.			Rape seed.....	piculs	5,594
Coal..... tons	16,303	98,354	Sugar brown..... piculs	504,804	\$2,165,081	Rape seed oil.....	piculs	402
Cotton yarn (waste). piculs	223	2,234	Sugar white..... piculs	130,487	1,040,121	Red wood.....		10,327
Coral & Coral beads. piculs	37	65,518	Sugar candy..... piculs	2,572	25,647	Screens.....	No.	5,681
Cigars, Cigarettes,					\$3,230,849	Shippoki (cloisone).....		36,631
and Tobacco.....		48,272	MISCELLANEOUS (Eastern or Local)—\$419,763.			Silk piece-goods.....		22,780
Cordage..... piculs	4,177	49,978	Beans, Peas, & Pulse. piculs	3,564	9,272	Silk and cotton mixtures		18,340
Cutlery.....		9,247	Cattle.....		14,618	Silk manufactures (sun-		2,567
Corks.....		2,811	Cotton (raw)..... piculs	12,002	128,051	Soy.....	piculs	615
Cloth (oil cloth)..... yards	8,584	4,878	Drugs and chemicals		59,896	Tooth powder.....		2,674
Cotton thread..... piculs	215	12,788	Dyes and paints.....		2,954	Tortoise shell ware.....	No.	52,361
Cement (Portland).. piculs	23,676	15,056	Hoofs.....		1,045	Umbrellas.....	piculs	105,393
Drugs, medicines and			Horns (Buffalo)..... piculs	372	3,916	Wheat and Barley.....	piculs	10
chemicals.....		446,458	Horns (Rhinceros). piculs	6	6,467	Sundries.....		142,573
Dyes and Paints...		305,883	Horns (Deer)..... piculs	103	1,156			\$1,547,205
Engines (locomotive)		5,884	Hair.....	760	18,928			
Elastic webbing..... yards	7,950	2,325	Molasses (syrup)..... piculs	6,727	8,295			
Fish line gut..... piculs	5	1,510	Matting (packing)... No.	962,300	34,053			
Fire Engines and fit-			Matting (miscellane-					
tings.....		3,752	ous).....		1,176			
Fowling pieces..... No.	92	2,945	Oil (bean and pea).. piculs	239	1,126			
Furs..... No.	13,026	5,208	Oil (ground nut)..... piculs	458	3,779			
Furniture.....		11,406	Oil (palm)..... piculs	211	2,283			
Flax, Hemp and Jute piculs	989	9,080	Paper (Chinese).....		32,599			
Gold, Silver, and			Rattans..... piculs	1,528	11,418			
plated ware.....		9,721	Red wood..... piculs	1,367	2,025			
Glass (window)..... cases	28,018	66,080	Seeds.....		2,401			
Glass ware.....		37,385	Teeth (Elephants')... piculs	21	6,366			
Glasses (opera and			Tortoise shell..... piculs	154	59,207			
field)..... No.	687	3,236	Sundries.....		3,798			
Gunny Bags..... No.	96,635	8,405			\$ 419,763			
Gunpowder..... piculs	342	20,984	RECAPITULATION OF IMPORTS.					
Handkerchiefs (li-			Cotton Manufactures.....		\$6,240,138			
nen)..... doz.	1,834	4,871	Woollen and Mixed Cotton and Wool-					
Hemp rope..... piculs	397	4,506	len Manufactures.....		2,261,032			
Iron Safes.....		2,081	Metals.....		1,185,581			
Implements & Tools.		4,169	Kerosene.....		1,351,947			
India rubber (sheet			Miscellaneous Foreign.....		3,929,302			
and ware).....		27,978	Sugar.....		3,230,849			
Instruments (scienti-			Miscellaneous Eastern or Local.....		419,763			
fic).....		31,379			\$18,618,612			
Instruments (sur-			Re-exports.....		\$ 372,659			
gical).....		8,117						
Instruments (mu-			II.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF					
sical).....		11,219	THE PORT OF KANAGAWA FOR THE					
Jewellery.....		2,508	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.					
Lamps.....		23,721						
Lead Type..... piculs	387	1,613						
Leather..... piculs	4,079	171,647						
Linen and linen and								
cotton mixtures...		12,330						
Machinery and fit-								
tings.....		122,677						
Matting (cocoa)..... yards	8,575	2,358						
Mosquito netting...		2,772						
Oil (castor), for ma-								
chinery..... piculs	2,008	16,422						
Oil, Cocoa nut..... piculs	754	6,121						
Oil, Turpentine..... gallons	12,100	6,540						
Oil (miscellaneous).		9,838						
Paper and Stationery		125,573						
Perfumery and Cos-								
metics.....		8,305						
Pictures.....		1,675						
Porcelain and earth-								
enware.....		6,468						
Provisions, &c.....		211,000						
Saddlery.....		1,052						
Satins..... pieces	1,437	29,006						
Satins, Silk and cot-								
ton mixtures..... yards	598,332	348,466						
Silk piece goods (sun-								
dry)..... pieces	17,909	39,315						
Scales and Balances.		2,073						
Soap, bar..... piculs	1,525	9,340						
Soap, toilet.....		17,370						
Sugar, loaf..... piculs	956	8,554						
Carried forward.....		\$3,192,131						

RECAPITULATION OF EXPORTS.

Silk.....		\$18,270,912
Silk worm eggs.....		55,287
Cocoons.....		219,232
Tea.....		3,688,307
Copper ore.....		355,607
Tobacco.....		77,660
Wax (vegetable).....		4,804
Coal.....		43,680
Dried fish.....		568,452
Rice.....		59,472
Earthenware and porcelain.....		309,741
Lacquered ware.....		420,773
Seaweed.....		70,083
Miscellaneous.....		1,547,205

Re-imports..... \$ 5,973

III.—RETURN OF ALL BRITISH AND FOREIGN SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT THE PORT OF KANAGAWA DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

NATIONALITY.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British, general.....	115	153,830	118	157,241
British, Mail steamers...	57	185,788	57	185,788
American, general.....	33	39,118	36	38,095
American, Mail steamers	24	112,723	24	112,723
French, general.....	3	1,800	3	1,800
French, Mail steamers...	26	35,080	26	35,519
German, general.....	38	18,909	38	20,710
Russian, general.....	16	8,194	16	8,298
Norwegian, general...	1	582	1	582
Total.....	313	556,024	319	560,756

IV.—RETURN OF TREASURE IMPORTED AND EXPORTED AT THE PORT OF KANAGAWA DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

Imported.....	\$2,801,645
Exported.....	1,905,516
	\$4,707,161

V.—RETURN OF DUTIES, SHIPPING FEES, STORAGE CHARGES AND MISCELLANEOUS CUSTOMS FEES COLLECTED AT THE PORT OF KANAGAWA DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

Import duties.....	\$ 898,337
Export duties.....	1,016,541
Shipping fees.....	8,115
Storage charges.....	9,748
Miscellaneous.....	2,229
	\$1,934,970

VII.—RETURN OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND FIRMS AT THE PORT OF KANA- GAWA ON THE 31ST DECEMBER 1883.

NATIONALITY.	NO. OF RESIDENTS.	NO. OF FIRMS.
British.....	595	55
Austro-Hungarian	8	1
Belgian	7	—
Chinese	2,681	180
Danish	20	—
French	109	15
German	160	22
Hawaiian	—	—
Italian.....	18	4
Netherlands	28	2
Peruvian.....	—	—
Portuguese.....	35	—
Russian	11	—
Spanish	5	—
Swedish and Norwegian.	5	—
Swiss	33	6
United States.....	253	27
	3,968	312

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Certain persons have lately expressed an opinion to the effect that our country, ceasing to pursue the path of progress, is beginning to retrace its steps; that old-fashioned and previously abandoned social customs and usages are in process of revival; that ancient creeds which had apparently been swept away by the tide of Western civilization, are again attracting disciples, and that all these recently discernible phenomena cannot fail to be detrimental to the interests of the nation. It would seem that these views are shared by a great many. Even men of erudition and intelligence have expressed apprehensions for the future of the country. It may be advisable, therefore, to comment briefly on the actual condition of the empire, with a view to correcting these erroneous impressions.

Great excitement, such as that experienced by Japan of recent years, is generally followed by a reaction, but not necessarily such a reaction as to alter radically the course of events, or check the progress of society at large. Causes connected with foreign intercourse gave rise, some time ago, to an extraordinary national agitation, which was followed by changes that well nigh revolutionized our social organization. Against the steady progress that ensued a slight reaction subsequently set in, which, however, cannot be regarded as anything more than a temporary phenomenon affecting a mere fraction of society, and having no relation to the whole body of the people nor any connection with the permanent progress of the country. There is no power or influence capable of seriously obstructing the progress of human knowledge, nor is it within the compass of man's abilities to check the activity of mental faculties. Even though he possessed such ability, it would still be beyond his strength to affect the results accomplished by the previous exercise of those faculties. If, then, the progress of human knowledge cannot be effectually obstructed or the activity of human faculties checked, it follows necessarily that social conditions, in the presence of ameliorating influences, must continue to improve. Look back, for example, at the state of affairs which existed in this country during the epoch *Keiō* (1866). Can it be pretended for a moment that the present condition of Japanese society is in any respect inferior to the condition existing in that epoch? Or again, if we consider a still shorter interval, and recall the social conditions of ten years ago, can we doubt that large improvements have taken place, and that many admirable elements are to be found now which did not visibly exist then? This progress is to be regarded as the direct consequence of the development of the nation's intellectual faculties, and assuredly, unless some hitherto unknown scheme be discovered for checking the growth of human wisdom, there is no danger of our progress being exchanged for stagnation. Even the most bigoted conservatives do not deny that steamers can travel faster than sailing vessels and locomotives more rapidly than *jirikisha*. Nor is the utility of steamboats and trains recognised more thoroughly than the advantages of telegraphs and the penny post. True, the Conservatives, while they use the locomotive may be ignorant of its mechanism as well as of the principles of its motive force, and while they have daily recourse to the telegraph, they may have no acquaintance with the art of applying electricity to practical

purposes. None the less is it certainly due to the development of their intelligence that they have been able to appreciate the utility of both the former and the latter. It cannot be said, perhaps, that these men contribute directly to the progress of society. Only the higher orders of intellect are capable of initiating the impulses by which the lower profit. Setting aside this distinction, however, it may be asserted generally that the degree of social progress is a measure of the growth of knowledge, and that the temporary stagnation which sometimes occurs in a particular part of the social body can by no means obstruct the development of the whole, or be regarded as a state of permanent inertia even so far as that part is concerned.

This reasoning can be comprehended by all persons of ordinary sense, yet it does not seem to have appealed to some of our countrymen, or to have modified their curious views. They know that steamers and locomotives serve for the rapid transport of passengers and goods, but they fail to discover any relation between these wonderful agents and the extension as well as the interchange of knowledge. They appreciate the utility of telegraphs and posts, but they appear to overlook the principle that the convenience of these devices is in itself a factor of intellectual development. They recognise the fact that the steamers and railway cars now employed in Japan have been imported from the West, but they do not comprehend that these steamers and railway cars came to us freighted with indestructible elements of social progress. Do not our steamers increase in number every year? our railways and telegraphs in length? our postal system in efficiency? If these questions can be answered in the affirmative, it must be admitted that what may be called the invisible impulse of progress is always in operation, and constantly gains momentum. When it is shown that there has sprung up among the people a feeling of indifference to all these products of civilization and a willingness to dispense with them, then perhaps it may be asserted of our social conditions that they are inert, or even retrogressive.

We might point, too, in this context, to the growth of literature, of journalism, of political activity and of public discussion, and we might analyse the various signs of a gradually developing intelligence which preceded, and prepared our countrymen for, the advent of Western civilization. To oppose an effectual barrier to all this steadily evolved impetus, a device for checking intellectual growth must first be discovered. No such device has been, or can ever be, discovered, and so long as evidences of material progress are discernible, it is childish to allow our attention to be distracted or our apprehension aroused by partial and temporary phenomena, inseparable from the necessarily irregular nature of all social development.

THE OPENING OF THE CHARITY BAZAAR.

(Translated from the *Mainichi & Choya Shimbun*.)

As had been announced before, the Bazaar in aid of the Tokiyo Charity Hospital was opened the day before yesterday. The entrance to that grand building, the *Rokumei-kwan*, where the Bazaar is installed, was decorated with two large national flags, and on either of the doorway ample curtains were hung. Several tents had been erected in the garden, where the attendant officials took their rest, and numbers of chairs placed everywhere for the convenience of visitors. On ascending the main staircase, one met with the first three stalls, on which the exhibits were arranged in admirable order. The fourth stall was under the direction of the Princesses, while the fifth and sixth stalls were in the hands of the lady Vice-Presidents and Committee. On the lower floor, visitors were welcomed at the fourteenth and fifteenth stalls, or in the refreshment room, where fragrant tea, delicious ice-cream, and lemonade, were served at the request of the guests.

At 7 o'clock on the morning of the day in question, ninety-five ladies, dressed in European and Japanese costume, took their seats at the different stalls. The Princesses Arisugawa, accompanied by Madame Oyama, then personally inspected all the exhibits. Their Highnesses were followed by the Privy Councillors, officers of *Chokunin* and *Senin* rank, and Foreign Ministers accompanied by their families. The other Prince and Princesses were prevented from coming owing to the period of mourning for the death of the Prince Kashi-no-Miya not having expired. Both the Japanese and foreign dignitaries bought many of the exhibits, and are said to have refused to take "change." In the afternoon, crowds of people provided with tickets made a rush for the Bazaar, so much so that many constables had to keep guard at the entrance and exit of the building. Altogether, 3,060 persons visited the

Bazaar on the first day. No less than 300 articles were for sale at each stall, eight-tenths of which were sold in a few hours. Madame Sasaki's stall was literally besieged, and everything sold before four o'clock; Madame Oyama was equally fortunate, but her energetic charity was amply proved when a number of reserved goods made their appearance in her stall later in the afternoon. The high officials and Foreign Ministers were the most liberal patrons of the Bazaar. It is a matter for universal admiration that ladies of such high rank should show themselves perfectly *au fait* in conducting the sale of the exhibits; and their kind and earnest manner left a most pleasing impression on all who visited the Bazaar.

IN THE TOKIYO COURT OF APPEAL (KOSO SAIBANSHO).

Before NISHIKATA TATSU, Esq., Judge, and Two Judges Assisting.—FRIDAY, June 6th, 1884.

In the matter of a Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Akitsu-shima Maru*.

Between Johannes Frahm, Danish subject, late master of the steamship *Akitsu-shima Maru*, by his attorney P. Frahm, of No. 149, Bluff, Yokohama, Appellant; and the Kwansen Kioku of the Noshomusho, by its Minister H.E. Saigo Tsukumichi, Respondent.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossettsu appeared for the appellant, and Captain G. E. O. Ramsay for the respondent.

On resuming, Mr. Ramsay addressed the Court as follows:—I now ask this most honourable Court to re-confirm its statements as made on the 16th of April last, viz., that the present hearing of the case was by order of the Daijokwan.

The Court replied that it was so ordered.

Mr. Ramsay—Now I ask the judges of this most honourable Court to confirm their ruling as pronounced on the 17th of May, that Mr. Rossettsu should comment on Captain Young's evidence, and Mr. Ramsay's statements and conclude his case, after doing which I gathered from the ruling that I should finally address the court. Will the court kindly do so, and cause the decision to be recorded on its minutes?

The Court said Mr. Uchiyama had been told to conclude his remarks, but he was not told that he could not put in a final argument in writing.

Mr. Ramsay remarked that Mr. Uchiyama had had ample time already and he did not think he ought to have the privilege of replying to what he (Mr. Ramsay) might say to-day. If he were allowed that privilege Mr. Ramsay would claim the right to reply. Mr. Uchiyama might then wish to again speak, and so the case would become interminable.

Mr. Uchiyama said he did not think he would wish to say anything further. Mr. Ramsay, however, had not yet commented on the evidence of Captain Young. When he had heard Mr. Ramsay he would be able to say if he wished to reply.

After some further discussion the Court ruled that Mr. Uchiyama could put in a final written argument, to which Mr. Ramsay could reply in the same manner.

Mr. Ramsay, continuing—All Mr. Rossettsu's statements of error I have refuted entirely and directly by the evidence as given in the lower Court. Had I failed to do so it certainly would not imply that his statements had been substantiated. I am not going to comment further upon any one of his remarks. Now, I must ask the Court to permit me to hand in Mr. Johannes Frahm's report to the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company on the conduct and qualifications of his officers, and further, a copy of a testimonial given to Mr. Werner by the master, Johannes Frahm, asking the Court to return me the original after having compared it with the copy, so as to benefit Mr. Werner.

The testimonial read as follows:—Steamship *Akitsu-shima-maru*, December 24th 1881. This is to certify that Mr. John C. Werner, during the last ten months, has served on board this steamer as second officer, and always conducted himself to my satisfaction, as a strictly sober, trustworthy, and good officer. Johannes Frahm, commander. The quarterly report sent in by captain Frahm to the directors of the Mitsui Bishi Mail Steamship Company was also handed in to the Court and, regarding Mr. Werner, read:—"qualifications good, conduct, strictly sober."

Only for the information of this most honourable Court, I will briefly assign some of the reasons for the members of the marine Court arriving at their judgment (I am not bound by law to do so), and which it was not at all necessary to enumerate in detail in the summing up, all points having been considered. Regarding the navigation of the ship,

page 4, 2nd paragraph of summing up. "The irregular manner in which the navigation of the ship has been apparently habitually conducted, &c." How proved? First, compass so placed that bearings by it could only be taken over an arc of $8\frac{1}{2}$ points on each side, that is, from 2 points before the beam to $1\frac{1}{2}$ points on the quarter; and this was the only compass used by the master in navigating his vessel and the one by which the vessel was steered. Second, the log-book being useless is proved by the fact that no one could (nor even can now) work up this vessel's position at any time, particularly as the master had no private record of ship's proceedings. Third, officers had not access to chart-room in order to consult charts, or to note the barometer, or to ascertain the errors of the compass on courses steered. Fourth, no night order-book was kept. It is in this book that the master's standing orders are usually written. Fifth, the master disdained to consult with his officers about the navigation of the ship at any time. Sixth, no bearing taken of the light either at time of sighting, or subsequently. Seventh, the master did not point out on the chart to the chief officer the supposed position of the ship ere he left the deck. Eighth, he never attempted to verify the light as that of Siriya-saki, nor to ascertain his position, even by bearings, before finally shaping his course. To prove her unseaworthiness. First, she was not so on account of construction, nor of equipment, except in one most vital point, and that is the compass, for the reasons before assigned, all borne out by evidence. Second, regarding the trim, she was not seaworthy owing to the fact that in case of encountering bad weather the vessel would be unmanageable (corroborated by Captain Young), as she was on two occasions. Not being in trim the ship was exposed to imminent danger, namely: being in the trough of the sea there was every probability of staving in hatches, washing away engine room skylight, either of which might cause the ship to founder; and sweeping houses off the deck, and every risk of smashing the rudder with a quartering sea, it, the rudder, being hard down. Third, after the stranding of the vessel no strenuous measures were made to haul her off, nor even to float her, by jettisoning the bricks from the after hold, or by pumping out the after tank, until he (the master) was advised to do so by the chief engineer. These facts cannot be disproved by any subtleness of discursive argument, either legal or illegal, for they are based on the foundation of truth, being in accord with the evidence.

Regarding Captain Young's report. The document I now hand into the Court will prove that the same was duly considered as part of the evidence in the lower Court; and to verify the same, I also hand into this Court a copy of the letter forwarded to the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company acknowledging the receipt thereof, the copy now to be compared with the original as in the letter book.

This was done, the document reading as follows:—"We, the undersigned members of the Marine Court of Enquiry, who sat on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of November last to enquire into the loss of the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, do hereby certify that Captain Young's report as to the resemblance of the light sighted from the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, to that of Siriya-saki, was submitted to us as a part of the evidence in the case and received due consideration." Captain Young's report was here read and handed into Court.

It is now my duty to justify the procedure of the Noshomusho, namely, in rejecting the appellant's petition of appeal. In the first instance, it was owing to the fact that the appellant in that petition failed to prove that fresh points of evidence had been discovered since the judgment of the Japanese lower Court had been delivered. How should he have proceeded? By law, and only in accord therewith, or in other words his petition of appeal should have clearly and indisputably set forth that he, the appellant, had discovered fresh points of evidence bearing on the case, upon such discovery he should have made application in the first instance to the Japanese lower Court for a new trial; and had the lower Court through the Noshomusho rejected his application, then and then only would he have been justified in petitioning this most honourable Court to exercise its judicial functions in regard to this case. Here I must state that this is the first case of appeal ever known, so far as it relates to the suspension of a man's certificate by the Department of State which granted such certificate, consequently, Mr. Uchiyama's quotations from the English merchant shipping act and newspaper reports have no bearing on the case at all, especially as there is no precedent to quote from, and more particularly, Mr. Uchiyama must know that the venue has not been changed to England, as one would suppose from his quotations. What the administration of justice in England has to do with Japan I know not. Now I have to ask this most honourable

Court to confirm and to uphold the judgment of the Japanese lower Court on the previous remarks, and on the following grounds, viz:—That the legal adviser of the appellant has not the slightest idea how to conduct this case of appeal in the interests of his client, for he is not conversant with the law in this matter, as is proved by the fact that he was not prepared to conduct the case in a legal manner, which he should have been, more especially as the judges of this most honourable Court informed him, as well as the attorney for the respondent, that the present bearing of the case was by order of the Daijokwan. Therefore, it was his bounden duty, being a practitioner in the law Courts of this empire, to have shown forth that he was one worthy of such honour, being by birth an alien, instead of which, his proceedings have been most illegal throughout. First, in not being in possession of copies of evidence as given in the Japanese lower Court, nor a copy of that Court's summing up and judgment. He never, I believe, applied for them. Second, by conducting his case entirely relying on the cuttings from newspaper reports, without first obtaining the sanction of this most honourable Court to do so; by not handing into this Court copies of such paper, also, in not asking (through the Court) the consent of the respondent's attorney to such a proceeding (my consent would not most assuredly have been given). Third, his procedure was in direct opposition to law, as he sought to vilify the characters of certain individuals; and he spoke in defamatory language of one of the judicial Courts of this empire and sought to bring the actions of the said Japanese lower Court into disrepute. The proceedings thereof were conducted as specified by notification No. 75, 28th day of the 12th month of the 14th year of Meiji, which was issued by His Majesty's command, and which notification I now hand into this Court, together with the agreement all enter into before their application for a certificate is entertained, not for its enlightenment, but simply to prove that the proceedings of the Japanese Marine Court have been in accordance with the laws of this empire. Fourth, through not having substantiated any one of his statements addressed to this Court direct, by the evidence as taken before the Japanese lower Court. Fifth, in not having brought forth any new evidence. As a rule new evidence cannot be offered in a Court of appeal, but in this case most graciously did this honourable Court accord him the privilege of so doing, and of this privilege he did not avail himself (though he thought he had) and to this favour I did not, nor could I, object. Sixth, most assuredly it was his bounden duty, as a lawyer, to argue solely on the judgment, and to prove by the evidence as brought in the Japanese lower Court, that the said judgment was in direct opposition to the evidence, and to these points only should he have confined himself. But he has signally failed to do so, consequently, I again ask this Court to confirm the judgment of the Japanese lower Court for reasons before assigned, and so as to confirm that judgment I would ask the honourable judges of this Court to entirely exclude from their consideration any statement addressed to the Court by Mr. Rossettsu, inasmuch as all his statements have been opposed to the evidence and by it refuted entirely, and are contrary to law. I desire, with the sanction of the Court, to make a few quotations from this standard work, viz., *The Law relating to Shipmasters and Seamen*, which is universally adopted. Part 2, chapter 2, page 31: "The qualifications of the master. The master of a ship is entrusted with the care of the ship, &c., he is required to conduct the navigation with skill," &c. Which the appellant did not, as proved by evidence and log; and through not so doing he caused her loss. Chapter 6, section 6: "No certificate shall be cancelled or suspended under this section, unless a copy of the report or statement of the case upon which the investigation is ordered has been furnished to the owner of the certificate before the commencement of the investigation," &c. This was done, and also section 10, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd paragraph and section 13, were read over from the general regulations for the examination of and granting certificates to masters, mates, and engineers, therefore the procedure of the Japanese Marine Court was in accordance with the law. Chapter 7, page 60. "Any master, &c., who by wilful breach of duty, or by neglect of duty, &c., does any act tending to the immediate loss, &c., of such ship, &c., or omits to do any lawful act proper and requisite to be done by him for preserving such ship from immediate loss or destruction, &c., shall be guilty of a misdemeanour." The master showed great neglect of duty in not verifying the light, by not taking bearing's of it, by not ascertaining his position. He did not make any strenuous efforts to haul or float her off. The master's general duties, &c. Part 3, chapter 1, page 75. "It is the duty of a master to obey the written instructions of his owners, where they have given any" &c. The

Marine Court was precluded from taking into consideration this neglect of duty on the part of the master, as the regulation book of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company was not put in as evidence. But the respondent, through his attorney, was justified in quoting from that book in his reply to the petition of appeal, to show how utterly the master ignored the safe navigation of the vessel and also his owner's instructions. Chapter 2. His duty to see that the ship is seaworthy. Section 1. page 77. "It is the duty of the owner and master to take care, at the commencement of the voyage on which the ship is about to sail, that she is in a proper condition to perform that voyage," &c. The appellant had not the vessel in proper condition. 1st, owing to trim, and in encountering severe weather she was unmanageable. 2nd, owing to position of compass she was not in proper condition. For these points the appellant was solely responsible. What documents the master must procure and keep. Chapter, 7, page 127, No. 6. The log-book. "If the master keeps an ordinary log of the daily occurrences, &c., it is his duty to make those entries correctly," &c. The log-book of the *Akitsu-shima Maru* has not been so kept. With respect to the cargo. Part 4, chapter 1, page 259. "When there is danger of a total loss, &c., so imminent and conclusive, as in the view of a judicious and skilled mariner to admit of but one alternative, and that a sacrifice, it is not only justifiable but the duty of the master, as agent for all, to make such sacrifice." I must here draw the particular attention of the Court to this fact, viz., that the vessel grounded at 4.45 a.m. 10th of October, 1883, that no attempts were made to jettison the cargo; but when the boats came at 8 a.m., the cargo was discharged into them; no efforts were made to carry out a bower anchor and chain, though the sea was comparatively smooth, proved by evidence and boats coming off; and it was not until 18 minutes past 10 that the fires were put out. Consequently, the master wasted 5 hours and 23 minutes. Had he but at once have jettisoned the bricks from after hold, and pumped out the after tank with engines going astern, she must have come off, as when the vessel was abandoned the main and fore holds were dry (as in evidence and by log) "Monday, 15th October, 1883, p.m. 5 o'clock, all hands left the ship and went on board of the steamship *Takasago-maru*. No water in main hold." Does not such a man deserve to have his certificate suspended? In his own country I do not think he would have been so leniently dealt with. Now, I must here state that the proceedings of the Noshomusho in suspending the appellant's certificate have been in accordance with the universal law relating to shipmasters and seamen. Consequently, and finally, it only remains for me to ask this Court to ratify the proceedings of the Japanese lower Court and to confirm its approved judgment.

In concluding, Mr. Ramsay handed to the Court a written summary containing the points of his argument, drawing particular attention to what he called the ridiculous statements of Mr. Uchiyama, as recorded in the minutes of the Court, one of which he said was drawing a comparison between a master carefully navigating his ship, and a general drawing maps, &c., when his enemy was attacking him, without making any attempt for his defence. He, the general, Mr. Uchiyama had said would assuredly be killed through drawing a map. Mr. Ramsay maintained that the master lost the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, through not ascertaining his position by careful bearings; even as the general would be killed through not being prepared to receive his enemies' attack. Again, Mr. Rossettsu's remarks upon drawing triangular forms and expecting these triangles when drawn to tell the master the name of the light to which his ship was approaching was only worthy of himself and deserved no further comment. There was also the story of the robber entering his house when he, through taking bad aim, missed the robber. Mr. Uchiyama's aim, Mr. Ramsay remarked, was now no better, for he had enabled him (Mr. Ramsay) to cut him down and hold him up to the ridicule, which he deserved, he being non-conversant with the law and the technicalities of the case at issue, for he had invariably applied for the same to the gentleman on his right, who had so ably interpreted for him (Mr. Ramsay).

Mr. Uchiyama said that after hearing Mr. Ramsay's address he would waive his right to reply in writing, but desired to make a few remarks. If the object of Mr. Ramsay's labours had been to demonstrate to the Court his vindictiveness to him (Mr. Uchiyama) he would acknowledge he must have succeeded, but if it was intended to influence the Court in its decision he felt convinced that he had failed. Mr. Ramsay had stated that he (Mr. Uchiyama) had proved nothing. If so, wherefore the animosity displayed. The reason was that he had shown that the decision of the lower Court was wrong. Regarding the testimonial given Mr.

Werner by Captain Frahm, he had no doubt it was authentic, but Werner was not a servant of Captain Frahm and under those circumstances everyone knew it was seldom that unfavourable testimonials were given without some special reason. Mr. Werner's general conduct had nothing to do with the case. The important question was had he been careless or neglectful on the occasion when the vessel was lost and was the ship lost owing to that neglect? Mr. Uchiyama maintained that it was and in support of that contention referred the Court to Captain Frahm's letter to the directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company, wherein he had said that if the mate had called him when the light disappeared the vessel would not have been lost.

Mr. Ramsay, replying, said Mr. Uchiyama's remarks were a slur on the whole mercantile marine. It was too bad to say that a shipmaster would put his name to an untruth, as Mr. Uchiyama suggested Captain Frahm had done when giving the testimonial to Mr. Werner. Mr. Werner had certainly contributed to the loss of the vessel, but had been sufficiently punished by having his certificate suspended for six months.

This concluded the case, judgment being reserved.

THE YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In commenting, some months ago, on the anxiety of the Japanese Government to obtain the assent of foreign Powers to a revised tariff, we remarked that higher duties do not always mean increased revenue, and that the restraint imposed by existing treaties had not perhaps been prejudicial to the best interests of the Japanese themselves. This impression is certainly not weakened by the statistics quoted in the report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. It is hardly at a moment when imports show a decrease of two and a-half millions, and exports a decrease of one and a quarter million, of dollars from the preceding year, that a wise financier would risk depressing a languid trade still farther by imposing higher rates of duty. But, although there appears to be still some obstacle to the imposition of the revised scale which has been virtually agreed on in deference to the urgent wish of the Government, it does not seem to arise from any hesitation on this score. It is consistent with the extreme sensitiveness Japanese statesmen have lately shown, on points of international punctilio, that technical considerations as to duration and mode of determination should exercise them seemingly more than the financial problems involved. They may possibly find some consolation for the shrinking figures of the grand total, in the reflection that they at least show a balance in favour of Japan of nearly nine million dollars; though, if the reflection of the Chamber be true, that the great export of silk which mainly contributes to this result is partly due to the depressed condition of the native manufacturing industry, the result is not one for unqualified satisfaction. It is curious to note this one among other causes which contributed to raise the supply of Eastern silk to something near the normal level, despite the great falling off in the China crop.

It was natural that the subject of extraterritoriality should come up for reference, at a time when the Japanese are forcing it so prominently upon public notice; and Mr. Wilkin offered some temperate remarks which agree in the main with comments we have ourselves made, from time to time, on the question. There is evidently a willingness in the abstract to concede the point for which Japan manifests such extreme anxiety, so soon as it is felt the concession can be made with safety to the rights and privileges of foreign residents. Mr. Wilkin shows, however, that despite the willingness shown to bring the native codes and jurisprudence into harmony with Western notions, the abandonment of extra-territorial rights would, as yet, be very premature. "Is there," he asks, "any *habeas corpus*? Is it not still the case that a man can be thrown into prison on a mere suspicion, and kept there for weeks without trial? I know for a fact that comparatively recently this has been done. Shall I be liable to be browbeaten by a policeman if I walk on the bund without a lantern, even under the gas-lamps?—a small matter, perhaps, but the representative of a good deal. Or, take a more serious question the marriage law, or rather marriage customs, of the country; for I suppose there are no marriage laws. Is the foreigner to have the power or the privilege of being able to tell his wife she may go; he does not want her any more?" Such incidents may not seem outrageous to people with whom they are habitual; but Japanese who have lived in England will admit that Englishmen could

not readily submit themselves to a *régime* so different from their own. We have always cordially admitted the great advance already made in the principles and practice of judicial administration, since the earlier days of our intercourse; but it is not to be expected that a new code and new system could be brought into perfect working order, during the two or three years which have elapsed since their introduction. Even a nation so remarkably adaptable as the Japanese cannot so rapidly modify its preconceived ideas. The whole body of magistrates will not at one stroke comprehend and admit the new restrictions placed upon their action—the extreme guarantees enjoyed by Englishmen against interference with their personal liberty. Mr. Wilkin probably does not exaggerate, in saying it will "take a generation before a state of thought and feeling can be developed which will place Japan in consonance with the platform of the West." The interval may, not improbably, be bridged in the manner we recently suggested—by an extension of the Mixed Court system, which will at once help to educate Japanese magistrates and facilitate the transmutation; but it is clear that matters are not yet ripe for the immediate and complete solution which the anxious pride of Japan would lead her to desire.

Though trade is not altogether prosperous, and many facilities are still lacking which the more highly organised Governments of the West afford, there is one element in the report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce which no amount of research can detect in the utterances of its colleagues in China. There is an admission, a foreshadowing—nay, a certainty—of progress. The new code may not be perfect, nor its administration yet assured; but it is an immense improvement, in both respects, upon the ancient system. Trade has not settled down into a condition of normal and healthy progress; but the Government is at least willing to encourage development by facilitating the means of transport. Railways are being gradually constructed and extended; and the hope expressed in the studiously-guarded language of the Committee's report—that their ultimate effect, in conjunction with the increased facilities for coast transport afforded by the numerous additions to the native mercantile marine, may be to give an impetus to the trade and commerce of the country—can hardly fail of eventual realisation.—*London and China Express*.

The speech by Mr. A. J. Wilkin at the recent annual meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce puts in a very clear light the practical objections to a sudden abolition of foreign jurisdiction in Japan. Mr. Wilkin is one of the oldest foreign residents in Yokohama. For nearly a quarter of a century he has been engaged in business there, and hence may claim not only to speak with some knowledge of the country and the working of its institutions but also to represent the opinions of the more experienced of the foreign residents. He is, moreover, credited with an active participation in most good movements, public and private, in Japan. His remarks on the occasion in question were characterised by a tone of fairness and conciliation which justifies hopes that a question which naturally affects the *amour propre* of both sides may be adjusted without leaving any sense of wounded pride. He freely admitted the perfect reasonableness of the claims of the Japanese to be masters in their own country, and deprecated any selfish or sentimental considerations being allowed to influence the foreign community with respect to the partial or complete abolition of extraterritoriality. At the same time he submitted that the Japanese ought to admit that the foreigners have rights also which Japan in her own interest should regard in a spirit of justice. In the first place, foreigners would never have invested their capital in the country had they not been guaranteed against the consequences of the absence of any written law in Japan, the utter dissimilarity formerly of European and Japanese thought and feeling, despotic treatment, the prevalence of torture, and "a code of morality of a unique pattern." Admitting that the judicial conditions may have been changed, Mr. Wilkin pointed out that such a change cannot be three years old. Within that period a written code of laws has been formed, and it is said to be already working to some extent. But, leaving out of the question the character of the code itself, it would be an unprecedented thing if a code so recently compiled should already be perfectly administered throughout the country. There has been a good deal of exaggeration on both sides, according to Mr. Wilkin. Thus the "oppression" of Japan by foreign nations has been spoken of; whereas practically there has been really very little friction in the relations of Japan with foreign Powers. The Japanese are admittedly, a sensitive people, and this fact has been taken advantage of to develop in them a strong sense of injury. On the other

hand, no doubt, foreign residents, have made the most of alleged cases of cruelty by the Japanese police, in which abuses even high officials are said to have been concerned. But the mere fact that a man like Mr. Wilkin is unable to speak positively on the state of Japanese law and its administration makes it apparent that the grounds of confidence in Japanese jurisdiction do not exist so far as the foreign community are concerned. Is there any Habeas Corpus Act asks Mr. Wilkin. Is it not still the case that a man may be thrown into prison and kept there indefinitely? Then, are there any marriage laws in Japan, or are foreigners to have the right or "the privilege" of dismissing their wives at will? In addition, the *Japan Gazette* asks whether foreigners are to be liable to imprisonment and fine if they engage in larger transactions in exchange than usual, to have their premises broken into and all persons therein arrested on suspicion, and to have their newspapers confiscated or suppressed, with the incarceration of proprietors, editors, and printers? It is really not a question as to whether Japanese laws and customs are as intelligent or wise as European laws or customs, or whether or not the Japanese are as just and high-minded as the foreign residents. It is quite sufficient to know that Eastern and Western ideas and practice are traditionally different. Now it is the boast of Japan that she has rapidly developed institutions in accordance with Western ideas. In using this plea for the abolition of extraterritoriality her advocates justify the unwillingness of the foreign residents to submit to Japanese jurisdiction until they can have reasonable confidence that not only in intention but in fact there is no serious divergence between the native and Western systems.—*Manchester Guardian*.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

A private meeting of local Police Inspectors was recently held at the offices of the Home Department, when a certain Minister, whose office is closely connected with Foreign Affairs, is said to have addressed the officers present, and in the course of his remarks to have intimated that, "in the execution of Police duty it was not necessary to pry into the political opinions of citizens, or to attempt to unveil their private affairs or interfere with their movements in any way, providing they conducted themselves with becoming propriety. Police duties he said, would be amply performed if officers took such measures as would conduce to public tranquillity; but what he particularly desired to draw the attention of the Inspectors to, was that they should observe the utmost care to be prudent as well as zealous in the performance of their functions, which were frequently of a delicate nature, and that their movements and manner of speech in addressing others should be such that they would be capable of bearing the strictest investigation upon enquiry, in the event of complaints being lodged against members of the force for the way in which they had performed their duty. This was necessary in regard to their conduct before their own countrymen, and it was also to be desired that the contact of the police with foreigners should be above reproach, as foreign intercourse was daily becoming more complicated and a greater number of foreigners were moving about in the interior than heretofore. He (the speaker) trusted the officers present would bear his remarks in mind, and remember that their good conduct generally would tend to assist the authorities in carrying out the laws of the land." We cannot answer for the truth of this rumour, inasmuch as the meeting being a private one, no reporters were present. We give it for what it may be worth, but there can be no question, presuming that such remarks were addressed to the Police Inspectors, that the speaker set forth some most undeniable truths.

The bricks made by the Oriental Company (*Toyo-Gumi*) have been frequently reported upon as of a very superior quality, and the company has recently turned out a variety of water and drain pipes of great strength and durability. Some of the latter, similar to those in use in England, have been sent to the International Sanitary exhibition, London.

His Imperial Highness Arisugawa Takehito has joined the *Hiyei Kan*, this vessel having been ordered on a cruise round the coast of Japan.

Two Krupp guns, which have been manufactured at the Arsenal at Osaka, are destined to be mounted on the Kanonsaki Fort.

The suspension of the *Choya Shimibun* recently ordered by the authorities, has been removed.—*Fuyu Shimibun*.

A tea grower at Uji, Kiyo, has lately been fined 10 yen by the Tea Association in that place, and

large quantities of spurious tea found in his possession have been destroyed. It seems that this is the third time that he has been detected manufacturing worthless teas. He used to employ a large number of tea firers, each of whom fired from 10 to 12 *kwamme* daily. The process was as follows:—As soon as the fresh leaves had been steamed, they were put between large mats and thus chafed. The leaves were then dried by means of boxes, the upper sides of which were made of paper over which the leaves were strewn, the inside of the boxes being filled with glowing charcoal. This ended the whole procedure, except that the leaves were afterwards twisted by hand.

A rumour is going the round of our literary circles that the new ceremonial uniform of Professors will be partly in Ancient Japanese, and partly in European, style.

The local police expenses supported by the Central Government will be attended to by the Home Department, instead of the Finance Department as heretofore.—*Choya Shimbun*.

It is rumoured that the recent application for permission to establish the *Riyo-gaye Gumi* (Exchange Company) has been refused by the authorities.

The Chinese Consul at Yokohama will return to China during the present year.

The inspection of the cash-books of the merchants of Yokohama has been commenced at the Town Hall (*Machi-gwaisho*).

A man named Sekiguchi, 33 years of age, living at Haneda-mura, Yebagori, Tokiyo, broke into Igarashi's, at Okazaki-cho, Kiyobashi, on Tuesday night, and killed his daughter with a sword, also severely wounding the father.

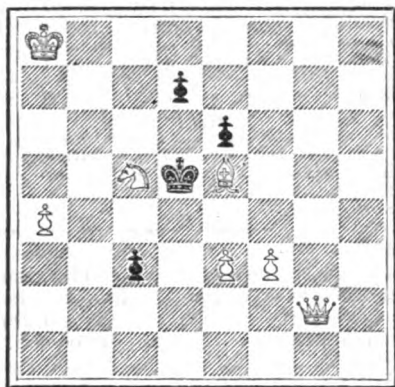
Messrs. Illies & Co., of No. 45, Yokohama, have applied to the Naval Department through their manager, Fukuma, for a contract for all the foreign goods required by the Department.

For about a month past, small pebbles have every night fallen upon the roof of a house occupied by a carpenter named Sato, at Motomachi, in Yokohama, and neither the occupants nor the neighbours could find any clue to the mystery. On Monday night last, while the intimates were asleep, a board was fastened to the door, bearing the characters, "To-morrow night this house will be burned." The matter was reported to the police, and, notwithstanding that a watch was set, the house was fired on Tuesday night, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that the flames were extinguished.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

CHESS.

By Mr. H. J. C. ANDREWS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 7th June, 1884, by Mr. T. M. BROWN.

White.

Black.

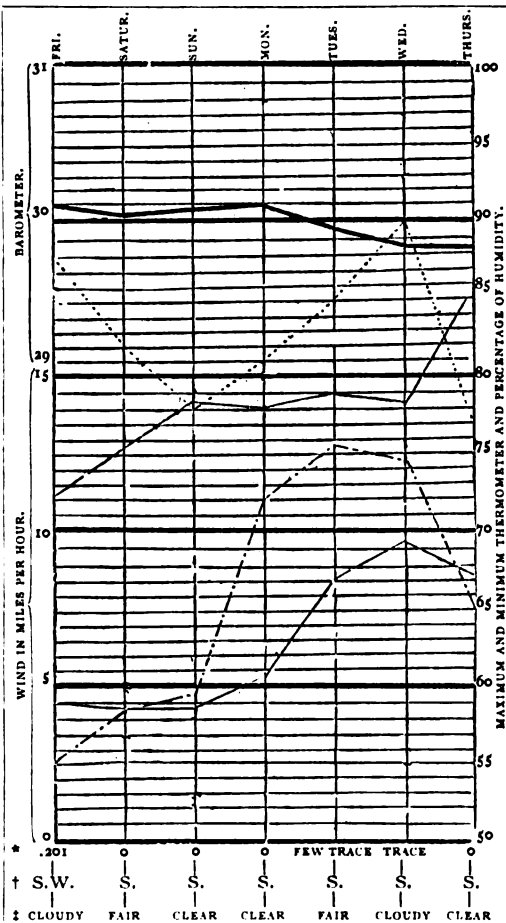
- 1.—Q. to Q. B. 4.
- 2.—Kt. to K. B. 5.
- 3.—Kt. to K. Kt. 5, mate.
- if 2.—Q. takes Kt.
- 3.—K. to Q. 2, mate.
- if 1.—Q. to Q. 4.
- 2.—Kt. takes Q.
- 3.—Q. takes Kt., mate.
- or 2.—Any other move.
- 3.—Kt. to K. Kt. 5, mate.
- if 1.—Q. to Kt. 3 or B. 4.
- 2.—B. takes Q. and mates as before.

Correct answers received from "TESA" and "W.H.S."

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 34.2 miles per hour on Monday, at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.125 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.771 inches on Wednesday, at 6 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 85.3 on Thursday, and the lowest was 58.7 on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 74.2 and 49.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 0.202 inches, against 0.383 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 15th.*
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Monday, June 16th.†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, June 19th.
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, June 24th.

* *Thibet* left Nagasaki on June 12th. † *Oceanic* left San Francisco on May 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, June 14th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, June 15th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, June 18th.
For America ... per P. M. Co. Wednesday, June 25th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, July 11th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 22nd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 8th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

The preparations at Cairo for the Autumn campaign are suspended. All the Marines at Port Said and another Egyptian battalion are ordered to Suakin.

New York, Sunday, June 8th.

THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

The Republican Nominees are:—

BLAINE for President.

LOGAN for Vice-President.

London, June 11th.

MASSACRE AT BERBER.

A further report states that the Governor and garrison, including the Europeans, at Berber, have been massacred.

London, June 12th.

TURKEY AND THE CONFERENCE.

The Porte will abstain from taking any part in the Conference, unless the whole Egyptian question is submitted or the previous understanding between England and Turkey adhered to.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, June 3rd.

THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE FAILURES.

Messrs. Fisk and Hatch have resumed payment

[FROM "LE SAIGONNAIS."]

M. BLANCHE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL.

Paris, 23rd May.

SAIGON TO BE THE CAPITAL OF INDO-CHINA.

I had an interview yesterday morning with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. I am partly reassured as to the intentions of the Ministry that Saigon shall shortly become the capital of Indo-China.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

M. Harmand will probably be appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to Siam, replacing the Comte de Kergaradec.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Peking, 29th May.

PROMOTION OF CHANG P'EI-LUN.

An Imperial Decree has been issued, raising Chang P'ei-lun to the rank of officer of the Third Degree. His position on the Censorate will be taken by Hu Jui-lan.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsu-rumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.38; First-class, yen 2.00; Third-class, yen 1.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,017, A. Haine, 7th June,—Kobe 5th June, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Chateaubrind, British bark, 409, J. Edwards, 9th June,—Takao 17th May, 10,500 bags Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, J. Adair, 10th June,—Kobe 9th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,490, Drummond, 10th June,—Kobe 8th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hakodate Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Yataro, 11th June,—Hakodate 9th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 11th June,—Hakodate 7th and Oginohama 9th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 991, Spiegelthal, 11th June,—Nagasaki 4th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 11th June,—Yokkaichi 10th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 11th June,—Yokkaichi 10th June, General.—Handasha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 12th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,778, Gedge, 12th June,—Hongkong 5th June, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Principia, British steamer, 1,790, Kennish, 12th June,—London 13th April and Hongkong 5th June, Mails and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 12th June,—Oginohama 10th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Toyoshima, 12th June,—Yokkaichi 11th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Shiroka, 12th June,—Shimidzu 11th June, General.—Fukudasha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 13th June,—Yokkaichi 11th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 13th June,—Toba, General.—Handasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 13th June,—Sagara 11th June, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, Frahm, 13th June,—Kobe 11th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Carrew, 13th June,—Kobe 11th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 13th June,—Shimidzu 12th June, General.—Seiriussha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 14th June,—Yokkaichi 12th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 14th June,—Kobe 12th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 14th June,—Yokosuka Docks 13th June.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,482, J. Clarke, 7th June,—London via ports, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 7th June,—Sakata, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Minerva, German brig, 319, P. Duhme, 7th June,—Chefoo, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Yetchiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Burgoyne, 7th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

San Pablo, American steamer, 2,113, E. C. Reed, 8th June,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sapphire, British corvette (12), Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, 8th June,—Nagasaki.

Teheran, British steamer, 1,684, W. J. Nantes, 8th June,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mail and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 9th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,497, J. Potter, 9th June,—New York via ports, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 9th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Toyoshima, 9th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,971, Steedman, 9th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,216, Christensen, 9th June,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 10th June,—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 590, Thomas, 10th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,017, A. Haines, 11th June,—London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 11th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Lord of the Isles, British steamer, 1,384, Felgate, 10th June,—Shanghai, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsu-moto, 11th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 11th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Channel Queen, British bark, 609, William Le Lacheur, 12th June,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Earl Koenig, German bark, 456, Nauseh, 12th June,—Guam, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 12th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,490, Drummond, 12th June,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 12th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 12th June,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.

Sakaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 151, Nakayama, 12th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 13th June,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Electra, German steamer, 1,162, F. Nagel, 13th June,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 13th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, Adair, 13th June,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Nonaka, 13th June,—Sagara, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, Frahm, 13th June,—Sakata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Carrew, 13th June,—Otaru, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Flintshire*, from Kobe:—Messrs. H. MacArthur and Sale in cabin; and 22 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe: 39 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Mahmann and Anderson in cabin; and 99 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakodate Maru*, from Hakodate:—3 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Miss Hampton, Miss Hamesfaer, M.D., Captain Ibiko, Messrs. Tosawa and Shiratsuka in cabin; and 1 European, and 93 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—63 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Sir John Sinclair, Mr. and Miss Colt, Mr. and Mrs. Date, Mr. and Master Kitabatake, Mrs. Tei, Lieutenant F. P. Gilmour, U.S.N., Dr. S. H. Dickson, U.S.N., Messrs. B. J. Gorman, W. Harker, Lester, A. Greppi, R. Dubuffet, A. Meyer, P. Colomb, Yoshida, Hodzumi,

Arimura, Sugiura, and Takagi in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. A. H. Dawbarn in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 225 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—56 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Shimidzu:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—76 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Oginohama:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikai Maru*, from Sagara:—19 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Kobe:—50 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—62 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. J. Calder, Isobe, Yamamoto, Nishimura, and Okamoto in cabin; and 86 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Teheran*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Surgeon-Major and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Sow Sum and child, Mrs. Thurburn, Dr. MacLay, Dr. Cottell, Mrs. J. Wong and child, Messrs. T. Hogan, F. Hill, and A. MacIver in cabin; and 1 Portuguese and 9 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Yema, Mrs. Yema, Messrs. T. Goto, S. Moriyama, A. Uyeda, and M. Yatabe in cabin; and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—55 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. and Mrs. S. Inouye and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. Takahashi, and Mr. Kojima in cabin; and 40 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. M. Kawano in cabin; and 95 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Consul Ando Taro, Colonel and Mrs. Kumaoka and child, Colonel and Mrs. Fukuhara, and child, Rev. C. F. Warren, Dr. Reifsnyder, Messrs. E. R. Brigg, F. Boyes, J. T. Esdale, C. P. Woolworth, A. Kodama, T. Sagawa, M. Kaka, K. Nakagawa, S. Kobayashi, K. Tsukigata, Y. Kambara, T. Kubo, K. Kawakami, S. Ijichi, Asada, G. Matsuda, and Kawauchi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Morse and son in cabin; and 105 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *San Pablo*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong	187	1,483	890	2,560
Shanghai	—	944	155	1,099
Hiogo	515	2,600	4,025	8,140
Yokohama	1,463	4,052	9,954	15,469
Total	2,165	9,079	16,024	27,268

	SILK.			TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong	—	63	—	63
Shanghai	—	28	—	28
Yokohama	—	100	—	100
Total	—	201	—	201

Per British steamer *Teheran*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 3 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$10,000.00.

REPORTS.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Bishop and Mrs. Poole, Messrs. B. Hashiguchi, H. Yamada, and 3 Germans in cabin; and 135 Japanese in steerage.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 7th June, at 10 a.m. with light variable winds and foggy weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 9th, at 1 p.m., being detained for 22 hours off Kinkwazan by the dense fog, and left on the same day, at 7.45 p.m. with fresh south breeze cloudy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 11th June, at 3 a.m. On the 7th June passed British bark *Omega*, off Hakodate head, bound in.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 12th June, at 6 p.m. with beautiful weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 14th June, at daylight. On the 13th June at 0.30 a.m. passed the Company's steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, and on same day, at noon, the steamer *Niigata Maru*.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Extreme dullness is the chief characteristic of the whole Market, and most of the dealers have been absent. Prices are in most cases quite nominal, as holders seem satisfied to wait for business so long as Manchester continues on its present level and dealers are indisposed to operate except at lower rates.

COTTON YARN.—Trifling sales have been reported in English Yarns, and a fair business in Bombay 16's, of which rather a large line has been taken on speculation by Chinese.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Scarcely anything doing.

WOOLLENS.—Business has almost been restricted to a few sales of Mousseline de Laine.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.25 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.00 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13½ to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Oil remains just as last advised. Small sales are reported at a fractional reduction on recent quotations, but the Market remains dull. Stock here is still large. Deliveries here have only been for immediate requirements.

	PER CASE.
Devoo	\$1.70
Comet	1.68
Stella	1.64

SUGAR.

We are unable to record any improvement in the Market, which is in a very unsettled condition. The recent advance in Formosets has not been sustained, and the quotation for these kinds has dropped back to the figures given below. Rates quoted are asking prices, and buyers continue to hold off.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.20 to 3.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated the 6th instant, since

when there has been a little doing in old Silk at about former prices. Settlements amount to about 50 piculs, and the available Stock is somewhat reduced by parcels being taken off the market for native use. Buyers are very cautious—looking for low rates here in sympathy with Shanghai, where the market has been opened at Tls. 350 for "Blue Elephant" Tsattees:—fully ten per cent. lower than the price paid at the opening of last season.

Dealers here are still anxious to be moving off their old Stock, but now begin to realise the fact that foreigners generally will not operate before there is a good supply of New Silk on offer. Crop news remains as before; there are conflicting reports from various parts of Italy, but so far nothing serious; and in a few days' time we shall doubtless have reliable information as to the outcome of the Silk-harvest there. In Japan all goes fairly well, the recent hot weather in the neighbourhood of Yokohama does not seem to have been felt up in the hill-districts.

Our Market for New Hanks was opened on the 11th instant by the purchase of two bales *Maibashi* (ordinary first arrivals) at \$475 per picul. This price shows a loss to the middleman upon the up-country quotations, and the next price at the approaching *Maibashi* market is expected to be somewhere about 35 *momme*. These would lay down in Yokohama, with the present high rate of *Kinsatsu*, at from \$465 to \$470 per picul. The two bales mentioned above were of white colour, fine size, but knobby, as is usual with a small parcel hurried in to be the first in the market. The season would seem to be exceptionally early, the first Hanks last year being settled on the 22nd June.

Yesterday two boxes new *Filatures* from *Koshu* province, fil. *Shinshosha* arrived. These were shown round the trade and offers were talked of at about \$570 to \$580, the small parcel being eventually settled at \$575. Buyers as a rule, are not quite ready for business, preferring to wait a little until they can see more clearly ahead.

The P. & O. steamer *Teheran*, which sailed for Hongkong via ports on the 8th instant, carried 3 bales only for Lyons; while the *San Pablo*, leaving on the same date for San Francisco, took 110 bales, of which 32 bales were Direct shipments. The Export figures to date, now stand at 29,522 bales, against 27,835 bales last year, and 21,078 bales in 1882.

We withdraw all quotations, pending further arrivals and more transactions in New staple.

Hanks.—Nothing done in old Silk. The first purchase in New *Maibashi* was made on the 11th instant, as noticed above, at \$475 per picul.

Filatures.—Following up the purchases noted in our last, there has been some business done in Old Silk; about 40/50 piculs finding purchasers on the basis of \$615 for *Kaimeisha* and *Hikune*. *Ise* done at \$590, and *Hagiwara* at \$580. The parcel of *Nihonmatsu* still remains on offer.

In other sorts there has been absolutely nothing done: a parcel of *Re-reels* (*Stork* chop) were shipped on native account by the last American mail.

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 13th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,217	14,050	10,687
America	9,666	9,416	6,833
England	2,639	4,369	3,558
Total	29,522	27,835	21,078

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more done in this department, and Settlements for the week are returned as 100 piculs. The assortment on offer is very poor, but some fresh buyers have come in and put a little more life into the market. Arrivals from the interior have nearly ceased, and the Stock is somewhat reduced.

The steamer *Pembroke*, which left on the 6th instant, had a few sample packages for New York, and the English mail of the 8th instant (*Teheran*) took 44 bales for Europe. The Export figures to date are now 23,730 piculs, against 24,644 piculs last year, and 25,484 piculs to 13th June, 1882.

Noshi-ito.—A little done in *Filature* sorts at \$130, \$120, and \$110. Some fine *Foshu* at \$95, and a few sample purchases complete the list.

Kibiso.—The bulk of the trade (80 piculs) has been in this class; the transactions comprising *Tokosha* fil. at \$118½, with *Zaguri* at \$75, ordinary *Foshu* at \$25, and *Bushu* at \$17½.

Sundries.—Nothing beyond one small parcel *Kusuto* at \$50, and some *Neri* at \$10.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	125
Noshi-ito—Oshiu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 180

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 13th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	21,529	21,350	21,246
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,294	4,238
Total	23,730	24,644	25,484

Exchange is quoted firm at last week's rates. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., 4.77½. *Kinsatsu* have continued their upward march, until they range between 105 and 106 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock, 13th June, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	450	Pierced Cocoons	13
Filature & Re-reels	290	Noshi-ito	100
Kakada	150	Kibiso	300
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100	Mawata	90
Taysam Kinds	10	Sundries	97
Total piculs	1,000	Total piculs	600

TEA.

As anticipated, considering the wretched condition of the American Markets, we did not expect to see such a large business in Tea during the week now under review as the previous one. Medium, Good Medium, and higher grades have declined fully one dollar all round since our last Market Report. Receipts during the past week have been steady, and they aggregate about 12,950 piculs, against 14,450 piculs at the corresponding date in 1883. The total Settlements since last issue are 12,960 piculs as compared with 10,920 piculs last year. Estimated Tea in Stock at this port is 6,000 piculs, against 8,200 piculs in comparison with 1883. The shipments of Tea during the interval are as follows:—For New York, 342,213 lb.; for Chicago, 165,522 lbs.; and for Canada, 17,033 lb.; total 524,768 lbs.; per steamship *Claymore* (sailed June 4th). For New York, 361,940 lbs.; and 11,788 lbs. for Canada, total 373,728 lbs., per steamship *Pembroke* (sailed June 6th). For New York, 281,085 lb.; for Chicago, 489,906 lbs.; for Saint Paul, 66,488 lbs.; for Saint Louis, 18,000 lbs.; for Saint Joseph, 15,000 lbs.; for California, 72,565 lbs.; and for Canada, 69,391 lbs.; total 1,012,435 lbs., per steamship *San Pablo* (sailed June 8th). For New York, 271,544 lbs. per steamship *Benvenue* (sailed June 9th), making a total of 2,182,475 lbs. Tea shipped by these four steamers from Yokohama. The following is a list showing the various grades of Teas settled at this port since last issue:—Common 1,006 piculs, Good Common 1,385 piculs, Medium 2,575 piculs, Good Medium 3,985 piculs, Fine 1,850 piculs, Finest 1,454 piculs, Choice 485 piculs, and Choicest 130 piculs. The Market closes weak at the undernoted quotations:—

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	13 to 14
Medium	15 to 17
Good Medium	18 to 20
Fine	22 to 24
Finest	25 to 28
Choice	30 to 33
Choicest	35 & up

} Very scarce and not freely offered.

EXCHANGE.

There have been no fluctuations in rates during the week and the business transacted has been small—closing quotations are:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

Saturday, June 14th 106

E. P. & W. BALDWIN,

TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS,
Works:—Wilden, near Stourport; Swindon,
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For the excellence of our Manufactures, we
have received following AWARDS:—

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South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.

Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*

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* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

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May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated
constitutions will discover that by the use
of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for
all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its
purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia,"
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Faker that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at
the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time
I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of
Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as
possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an
undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of
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SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds.
It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in
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No. 25, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 21ST, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 21ST, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SWARM of locusts is reported from Wakayama prefecture.

A LARGE whale, 100 feet long, has been captured off the coast of Hizen.

A COMPANY is in process of formation for the purpose of constructing a dockyard at Uraga.

A CENSUS taken in December of last year shows that the militia in Kagoshima prefecture numbers 27,729 men.

HIS EXCELLENCY SANJO, First Minister of State, returned to Tokiyo from Kiyoto on the morning of the 18th instant.

A CONSIDERABLE discharge of ashes and scorice took place from the volcano Asoyama, on the 7th, 8th and 9th inst.

It is announced that His Majesty the Emperor will pay a visit to the hot springs at Atami towards the end of this month.

It is stated that an oil well has been discovered at Omine, in the province of Yechigo, and that its yield is about 77 hogsheads per diem.

THE Japanese merchants of Yokohama have established an association for improving the facilities of commercial education in Japan.

TRADAL stagnation in Yokohama is, if possible, more accentuated than before, and the vernacular press speaks of the situation in a most desponding tone.

Two workmen were killed, and two others severely injured, on the 13th instant, by the falling of a bank on the line of railway now in course of construction between Shinagawa and Kawaguchi.

A HEAVY fall of hailstones took place in Ibaraki Prefecture on the 7th instant. Some of the stones are said to have been as large as rifle-bullets.

THE tea producers of Iyo, in the prefecture of Yehime, have formed themselves into a company for the purpose of improving the method of firing the leaf.

MESSRS. KUROKAWA and Komatsubara, Secretaries to the Foreign Department, have been appointed to the Japanese Legations in Rome and Berlin respectively.

It is said that a considerable demand for toys of Japanese manufacture has sprung up in China, and that large quantities have recently been shipped to that country.

AN Association called the *Riuchi-kwai*, for the promotion of the fine arts, has been formed in Tokiyo, and will meet, hereafter, once a month, at the Yunnin-ken, Wadagura.

THE statement of traffic receipts on the Tokiyo-Yokohama Railway for the week ended 15th inst., shows a total of \$9,956.81 against \$11,483.02 for the corresponding period last year.

THE statement of traffic receipts on the Kobe-Otsu railway for the week ended the 15th instant, shows a total of \$14,069.70, against \$18,481.11 for the corresponding period last year.

THE applications for Nakasendo Railway Bonds sent into the Osaka branch of the *Nippon Ginko* before the 10th instant, amounted to 1,400,000 *yen*; those presented at the Kiyoto branch to 750,000 *yen*.

THE officers of the Specie Bank in Yokohama, in combination with several of the leading Japanese merchants of Yokohama, are endeavouring to raise capital for the construction of a new wharf at that port.

TRADE-MARK REGULATIONS and By-laws have been promulgated by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. An office for the registration of trade-marks has been established in the same Department.

It is stated that a project is on foot to construct a carriage road over the Hakone Pass. The expense is estimated at *yen* 150,000, of which the Government contribute one-half, and the inhabitants of Shidzuoka Prefecture the other.

THE weather in the early part of the week was wet, cold, and unseasonable, and though on Wednesday the usual damp heat of June asserted itself with unpleasant force, the season, on the whole, has been exceptionally cool up to the present.

THE associations recently formed for the purpose of introducing improved methods of growing and preparing tea have taken their first repressive action by fining a producer of Uji who was discovered attempting to sell spurious and ill fired leaves.

ANOTHER case of cholera is reported to have

occurred in Tokiyo. The victim was an old man of 82 years. Twenty cases of apparent cholera are also said to have taken place in Ibaraki Prefecture, six of them ending fatally. Such sporadic cases have been less numerous than usual this season, and there is every reason to hope that an epidemic will not occur.

THE Japanese Ladies of Tokiyo, to the number of nearly 300, have formed themselves into a Benevolent Society. Their first charitable undertaking was a Fancy Bazaar which was held at the *Rokumei-kwan* on the 12th, 13th, and 14th instant. The net proceeds were about six thousand *yen*. They were handed over to the Tokiyo Charity Hospital.

It is stated that measures are in progress to render the medicinal properties of the hot springs at Atami more available for the treatment of patients. The chief feature of the scheme is the erection of a large chamber into which vapour from the main spring will be carried by means of pipes, so that the atmosphere may be constantly impregnated with it. We believe that the idea of this project was suggested by the distinguished German physician, Dr. E. Baelz, and that the cure of consumption is the principal object in view.

AN Extraordinary General Meeting of the Public Hall Association of Yokohama was held at the Club Hotel on the 16th instant. No change had taken place in the financial circumstances of the Association since the previous meeting. The Committee reported that a further sum of \$13,000 was required to complete the building and to furnish it; that the annual cost of maintenance, including interest on this sum, was estimated at \$1,500, and the annual income at \$1,800. The Meeting decided that the Committee should be authorized to raise \$13,000 by endeavouring to induce the subscribers to double the number of shares placed against their names.

NOTES.

THE news of the treaty between France and China was received, as might have been anticipated, with great jubilee in France. The official journal of Paris, in publishing the text of the treaty, explained that France's abandonment of any claim to an indemnity was due to the conciliatory attitude taken by China and to the patriotic wisdom of Li Hung-chang. As soon as the intelligence was conveyed to President Grévy, he summoned a Cabinet meeting (May 13th), when it was decided to gradually recall a portion of the troops in Tonquin, and to form two regiments of Tonquinese sharpshooters with French officers. At the same time, it was asserted by the Parisian press, that the provinces of Kwang-si, Kwang-tung, and Yunnan would not be opened to general trade, as was at first reported, but only to the French. This statement, of which some confirmation comes from Shanghai, appears to have received a measure of credence in London, for, if the telegrams may be credited, Lord Granville, on the 14th of May, instructed the English Embassy at Peking to enquire into the

report concerning the terms of the treaty, and to intimate that Great Britain would demand equal privileges with France to trade with Chinese Southern provinces. With the exception of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the London journals' opinions are not wired, but if the *Gazette* may be taken as a sample the treaty has not evoked much pleasure in England. "If the news shall be confirmed," says that paper, "Prime Minister Ferry will be much stronger and will be able by his energy to regain the position once held by France in Egypt." On the whole, however, the *Gazette's* remarks are not happy. It expresses astonishment at the fact that the treaty should have been signed by Li Hung-chang, "who had been disgraced," whereas, in point of fact, and as we explained at the time of Prince Kung's removal, the great Viceroy was the pivot upon whom the whole situation turned. Of course German influence is credited with some share in the arrangement. Wherever France is concerned, rumour is sure to drag Germany in somehow or other. In this case there emanates from that mysterious region called "political circles" a whisper that Prince Bismarck moved China to give France favorable terms, because he thought that the chances of European disarmament would thereby be increased. The public pays a better compliment to Prince Bismarck's heart than to his head when it credits him with such a visionary design as the disarmament of Europe, and, for the rest, the great Chancellor is too wise a man to waste his time interfering in a situation of which the French were completely masters. In our opinion the true solution of the enigma called Chinese foreign policy may be found much nearer home, and is very well set forth in the following account furnished to the French press by a Chinese gentleman residing in Paris:—"By a system of military despotism the Ta T'sing dynasty still exists, though in a very critical and precarious state. The history of China for the last hundred years is a history of insurrections and rebellions, till it seems to have reached a climax in the Taiping Rebellion of twenty-five years ago. The Taiping rebels conquered fourteen provinces out of the eighteen which go to make up the whole of China, and if it were not for the frustrating influences of such men as "Chinese" Gordon, Ward and other foreigners, the rebels would have undoubtedly gained their cause. The preceding bit of Chinese history is necessary to show the relation that exists between the Chinese Government and the people, and will enable the reader to appreciate the action of the Chinese Government in the Tonquin affair. The insulting and unjust pretensions of France roused the Chinese populace to the highest excitement, and, spurred on by the daily papers, the people, in many parts of China, were actually wild—notably in the provinces of Kwang-si and Kwang-tung. The Chinese Government saw that something must be done to quell the dangerous excitement of the people, and consequently issued decrees for a grand military movement. All this demonstration and preparation was meant, however, only as a sedative to the people, as the Government knew too well the consequences of an actual war with France. She knew that the people would at the first grand opportunity rise up *en masse* against the Government and wipe out the present dynasty. And what better opportunity do the people want than the impaired condition of China after a protracted war with a foreign power? However cowardly the action of the

Chinese Government in signing the last treaty may seem to those not acquainted with the internal affairs of China, it is, nevertheless, the most politic thing she could do. It was disgrace or annihilation, and she chose the former."

THE vernacular press speak in very gloomy terms of trade at this port, and, to do them justice, things do seem rather unpropitious at present. The *Bukka Shimpō*—oracle of the mercantile fraternity—states that almost nothing is doing in foreign goods, and that trade is at a still lower ebb than it was last month. Silk, too, is spoken of in a very despondent way; for the fact that quotations average some 12 per cent. lower than in 1883—says the *Fiji Shimpō*, weighs heavily on the minds of the sellers. The reason of all this the domestic journals find in the depreciation of silver, but it may not unreasonably be ascribed, in part at least, to the fact that the large sums invested in Railway Bonds have taken a great deal of ready money out of the market. The demand for foreign commodities is necessarily weaker when buyers have invested their capital wholly or partly in securities which promise to yield them a comfortable and certain annual interest, for the domestic debentures have proved even more attractive to the capitalists of this country than the "sweet simplicity" of the 3 per cents. prove in Great Britain. Tea, on the contrary, whatever may be the present demand, stands a fair chance of doing well in the future. Never were the leaves more carefully prepared, a fact due principally to the recent enactment of the Tea Association Regulations. The once universal practice of drying the young leaves by simply exposing them to the sun obtains no longer. Every now and then one hears of confiscations of large quantities of adulterated or carelessly prepared tea, and it is very evident that the local Associations are in dead earnest. The *Ise Shimbun*, however, notices that certain producers in the province of the same name still continue the objectionable practice of mixing pomatum—of all things in the world—with freshly-fired leaves. This is said to give them a bright, seductive colour for the time being, but they are certain to wither, if not to decay, in warm weather. But this and other injurious methods of treating tea is certain to be done away with if the new broom of the local Associations keeps on sweeping as cleanly as heretofore.

THE *Kiyoto Shiga Shimpō* states that burglars and highway robbers are rapidly becoming a perfect pest in that hardly-treated country, Korea. In the neighborhood of Niu Liang (near Fusan) no one dares to venture forth alone even in broad daylight, and travellers are forced to go in companies in order to protect themselves and their belongings. There are said to be no less than fifty bands of highwaymen, each under the command of a captain, often a mere stripling. These knights of the road are well armed, many carrying firearms, and have no fear of the troops stationed in the various districts. A little while ago, a company of tax collectors were surrounded by a number of these outlaws near Ryang-san, and were forced to disgorge the monies they had wrung from the peasants. The magistrates in many of the districts are recruiting volunteers, in order to make an organized and powerful raid on the offenders.

It appears that during the month of January last there were fires in the United States and Canada which swept away 12,000,000 dols. worth

of property. In February, also, fires destroyed property to the extent of 7,000,000 dols. In the first two months of the present year, therefore, the losses by fire aggregated 19,000,000 dols., as compared with 17,000,000 dols. for the corresponding two months of 1883. The inference consequently is that the vice of carelessness is a growing and a costly one. In February, 1884, there was but one really large fire the United States, but the number of fires where the reported loss ranged between 10,000 dols. and 200,000 dols. was 181. The larger fires of February, where the reported loss reached or exceeded 100,000 dols., numbered only eight, and included Philadelphia, with 500,000 dols. But there were, in addition to these, no fewer than twenty-six fires, the destructiveness of which ranged from 50,000 dols. to 100,000 dols.

THE haste with which the Government of the United States has recognised the African International Association, suggests an idea that the equitable lines upon which America's foreign policy is modelled at present might, perhaps, become a little more devious under different circumstances. The purposes and proceedings of the International Association will, doubtless, be variously judged, but beyond all question its ultimate object is the acquisition of sovereign rights over an immense tract of country, to the possession of which it has no better claim than superiority of interprise, intelligence, and organization. The story of Stanley's operations on the Congo is very simple. On his return from his exploring expedition in 1878, he was met at Marseilles by ex-Minister Sanford of Florida, who in the name of the King of the Belgians, President of the Association, asked Stanley to revisit Africa for the purpose of carrying out the Association's plan; namely, the establishment of a continuous line of stations extending from the east to the west coast of the continent. Stanley consented, and in April of this year it was officially reported that he had accomplished the great undertaking, having united Banana Point, at the mouth of the Congo, by a through route of communication, with Zanzibar, an island in the Indian Ocean, on the east coast of Africa, six degrees south of the Equator. The successive steps by which this result was achieved are thus detailed:—"In 1880 Stanley founded Vivi, the first international station in Western Africa. Before the end of the third year Leopoldville, a station on Stanley Pool at the head of the lower cataracts, and the key of the Upper Congo, was founded, and four steamers were launched on the great river. In December, 1883, the station of Stanley Falls, 1,000 miles up the river, was founded, and from this point letters from Mr. Stanley have lately been successfully transmitted through the intermediate stations to Karema, the end of the line of stations stretching from Zanzibar on the east coast into the interior. Arab merchants have also safely come through from Zanzibar to Leopoldville, thus proving the connection perfect at both ends." The effect of this chain of stations is that two thousand six hundred miles of river transit, on the Congo and its tributaries, are opened up to commerce, and the tradal consequences may be imperfectly estimated from the fact that the imports to the west coast of Africa alone were last year \$22,000,000, while the exports amounted to \$27,000,000. The special interest of the United States in the enterprise, apart from the fact that its leading spirit is an American, must

be sought in the fact that the imports consist mainly of articles which America can supply. It cannot be denied, however, that the Association, in its present form, promises to be a great civilizing power, from which no Western State need withhold recognition but for the ugly fact that the possession of this line of stations by Europeans signifies virtual sovereignty over 44 millions of people. That the Association means to exercise this sovereignty in a very practical manner may be gathered from a telegram, dated London, May 6th, which says:—The African International Association has given Captain Stephens, an Irishman, who was expelled from the British army, a commission to enlist 2,000 Houssas for service in the Congo country. Stephens is hopeful of great results from the acceptance by the United States of the flag of the Association and from the alliance of the society with France which is about to be effected." The nature of this "French alliance" may be gathered from an apparently authentic rumour, that the complaisance of the Cabinet at Paris was to be purchased by a promise of reversionary interest in the territories ruled by the Association, should circumstances compel the latter's dissolution—a promise which would certainly be very tempting to France in her present humour. The Brussels correspondent of *The Times*, writing on May 16th, said that the text of the treaty between France and the Association had been published, and that the document, if authentic, showed that Belgium had abandoned English sympathies. Germany, on the other hand, has declined to assume any definite attitude towards the Association, pending the receipt of reports made by a special mission sent to the Congo under Dr. Nachtigall. Speaking of this, "the *Norddeutsche Zeitung*" states that the mission was caused by the increase in German commerce with the West African coast, which necessitates the replacement of the present honorary consuls by official agents. Dr. Nachtigall has been instructed to report on the matter, and in the meantime to look after German interests generally. By his own wish he will be accompanied by the African traveller, Dr. Buchner, and by Herr Moebius, at present a secretary to the German Embassy in London. The *Norddeutsche* further states that German war ships are to be permanently stationed in West African waters, whither the gunboat *Moeve* will at once proceed." Meanwhile the German press comments severely on America's action with regard to the Association, and Portugal is about as angry as possible. A despatch from Madrid to *The Times*, dated April 29th, says:—"The American recognition of the flag of the African International Association, with the evident intention of ignoring Portuguese rights, has caused great irritation in Portugal. Such recognition looks like a piece of very sharp practice, novel in international relations, and hardly contemplated by international law. If sovereign rights should be ignored because slavery has been carried on and high protective duties been enforced, America would stand badly, as she was Portugal's best customer in the halcyon days of African slave trading, and her protective duties are four times higher than those stipulated by England in the Anglo-Portuguese treaty." Portuguese wrath will not signify much, perhaps, but it is difficult to think that the world will look calmly on while a company of adventurers, under the auspices of a royal philanthropist,

establishes an independent State with 2,690 miles of river communication and a population of 44 millions.

SOME time ago, says a Newcastle paper, we noticed the launch, from Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co.'s works, Low Walker, of the sister vessels *Yamashiro Maru* and *Omi Maru*, which had been built for the Japanese Steam Navigation Company, of which Admiral Ito is the president. The vessels are 300 ft. long, and are 2,500 tons gross register. They have been built to the highest class at Lloyd's, have teak decks, and their twin decks are fitted from end to end for passenger accommodation for the first, second, and third classes. The steamers are fitted up in the most complete manner, including electric light. The machinery for both ships has been manufactured by the Wallsend Slipway Engineering Company, and consists of a pair of compound surface condensing engines, having cylinders 42 in. and 78 in. by 54 in. stroke, with four steel boilers, working at 85 lbs. pressure. The trial conditions laid down were very stringent, two trial trips having to be made, one to ascertain the speed, the other to show the consumption of fuel at the contract speed over a run of many hours duration. The trials of the *Yamashiro Maru* took place respectively on Saturday, the 19th, and Monday, the 21st April, and were in every respect of the most satisfactory character, the main speed attained being 13.6 knots, which is considerably in excess of the contract, whilst the consumption of fuel was much less than the amount specified. Altogether the performance of the vessel was highly satisfactory. The construction has been superintended by Captain A. R. Brown, the company's representative, assisted by Mr. J. Brown, resident inspector. The *Yamashiro Maru* has completed her coaling, and will proceed to Japan under command of Mr. J. M. James, formerly of the Japanese Navy.

MR. JOSEPH MENGES, writing from Aden in the *Cologne Gazette*, gives some interesting information as to the arms used by the Soudanese. He says:—"The principal weapon of the insurgent tribes is not, as some suppose, a spear or javelin which is thrown at the enemy, but a lance. The only tribe which uses the javelin is that of the Mahommedan Jakruris, who are very small in number, and are settlers on the Abyssinian frontier from Darfour. The best lances are those used by the Bedja and Khaza races, which fought under Osman Digma in the late engagements near Suakim. These lances are rarely thrown, being much too heavy for this purpose, and the Bedjas are not provided, like the Abyssinians and Somalis, with a number of extra lances which they can use to replace any they have lost. The lances of the Baggara tribe, who are the principal supporters of the Mahdi in Kordofan, are entirely different from those used by the men under Osman Digma. They are upwards of 5 metres long, and have a head, which is very sharp both at the point and the sides, about 80 centimetres long and 12 wide. The Baggara are well mounted, and are very skilful in the use of their lances. Next to the lance, the weapon most used by the Soudanese is the straight double-edged sword, about 90 centimetres long and 4 wide, mostly made in Solingen and sold all over Northern Africa. A good sword is highly prized in the Soudan, and the people are careful to keep the swords sharp and clean. The scabbards are mostly made in

the country, either of wood covered with leather, or, for hunting swords, of elephants' ears. Swords, daggers, and oak clubs are also used; bows and arrows have almost entirely gone out of fashion. The shields used by the Soudanese are made of the skins of elephants, rhinoceroses, giraffes, and buffaloes. They are generally round and of about 50 centimetres diameter; but the Shukrieh and other tribes on the Blue Nile have long shields which cover the whole body. Armour is also used by the leading men of most of the tribes. It consists of an iron helmet and vizor, and a coat made of thin steel rings, which covers the whole body down to the feet. The chief's horses are also protected in a similar manner; but such suits of armour are very expensive, and are not used by more than six hundred persons in the whole of the Soudan. Fire-arms are not very common, but they are a good deal used in the hunting districts. The worst shots in the Soudan were among the men under Osman Digma, while in Kordofan the Mahdi has among his supporters many hunters who, if armed with Remington rifles, would be formidable even to Europeans.

THE feeling in England about General Gordon had evidently grown into something very formidable before the Government resolved to send an expedition to his rescue. At the opening of the Health Exhibition at Kensington Mr. Gladstone was greeted with groans and hisses. Even Exeter Hall protested against the programme of desertion, an audience of 3,000 people, who had assembled to hear a speech by Canon Hoare, rising to their feet and tumultuously cheering the speaker when he said that England was ashamed to see Gordon left without support or means of defence. It was expected that Mr. Gladstone would meet the vote of censure in the House by officially announcing that a military force would be despatched as soon as possible, but the expectation was only partly realized. The Prime Minister went no further than an admission that "it might be the duty of the Government to plant a British force in that terrible country," and that he fully recognised the obligations he was under both to General Gordon and to the country. At what particular moment this recognition took the form of action, our advices do not enable us to determine. It will be remembered that the *Pall Mall Budget's* announcement of an expedition in the autumn reached us by telegram under date May 22nd, but it is plain that some such measure had been resolved on before then. At all events, steps had been taken to push forward a portion of General Wood's force. As early as May 13th, fourteen hundred Egyptian troops were ordered to advance a few days' march beyond Assouan, so as to be in a position to support Korosko in the event of an Arab attack upon that place, and measures were then in progress at Cairo for forwarding the plant of seventy miles of railway to be laid beyond Wady Halfa. Earl Granville telegraphed, on the 24th of April, to General Gordon, asking what force would be required for the relief of Khartoum, but the answer this question elicited was not known apparently up to the date of our latest newspaper advices; if, indeed, it had reached Gordon at all,—for 17 days after its despatch from London we find that attempts were still being made to forward it by all possible routes, including Massowah. Meanwhile the rebellion was steadily spreading northwards. By the

12th of May the whole province of Dongola was reported in a state of panic, and the Mudir's appeals for aid were becoming urgent. The only response the British Government made was to tell the Mudir that if his forces were not sufficient to cope with the enemy, he was at liberty to withdraw. He, however, declined to withdraw, and asked again for reinforcements, saying that with more troops he could reconquer the Soudan. At this point it becomes a little difficult to follow the course of events. On the 12th of May, we are told that the Government forbade the advance of any Egyptian troops by themselves beyond Wady Halfa; yet on the 16th of May, the news from Assouan was that the force destined for the relief of Berber and Khartoum had begun its advance, that half of the battalion at Wady Halfa had set out, and that the second half was about to leave Korosko, accompanied by nine hundred Arabs. From this it would seem that, pending the despatch of an English force, General Wood's Egyptians were to be employed in an attempt to keep open the route from Korosko to Berber, and, if possible, to Khartoum. In pursuance, apparently, of this programme, 431 Egyptian regulars started for Assouan, on May 17th, from Cairo, where also, at that time, preparations were busily proceeding for the English expedition in the Autumn. A London telegram, dated May 18th, says:—"Cairo advices of to-day state that the preparations for the Khartoum expedition for General Gordon's relief include equipments for 12,000 men, 40 steam launches, 400 shallow draught boats and several thousand camels. It is doubtful whether the expedition will be ready to start before the end of August. The officers of the army of Egypt are getting furloughs until the end of July." Sir Gerald Graham, not Lord Wolseley, is to command this force, should his health permit. But if our latest telegrams be trustworthy, it seems that different counsels have temporarily prevailed, since on June 8th, the news was that preparations for the Autumn campaign had been suspended at Cairo, and that the Marines from Port Said, with another Egyptian Battalion, had been ordered to Suakim. Probably the key to this enigma is to be found in the renewed activity of Osman Digna, who, having defeated the friendly tribes at Tamanieb, turned up before Suakim on May 19th, bombarded the place for an hour, and got off with a thousand sheep. There is no reason whatever to suppose that the relief expedition has been abandoned. On the contrary, everything combines to show that without a resolute effort on England's part a solution of the trouble can never be found. Briefly, the situation at the end of May was this—Abu-Hamed (the next place of importance to the North of Berber on the Nile) was virtually in the hands of the rebels, who were advancing towards Wady Halfa, where a considerable force of Egyptians, as well as the Nile surveying party under Captain Molyneux, were stationed, while Suakim was again seriously threatened. General Gordon, however, was safe, and, so far as we know, still holds out, though Khartoum's investment must be regarded as complete.

THE telegraph reports that Mr. Brenstedt, a Danish journalist, after having been confined in prison at St. Petersburg for several weeks without a trial, has finally been banished from Russia, leaving his family in a destitute condition in St. Petersburg. Another journalist has been

deported from Germany for too freely criticising the anti-social laws, and in Cuba the Republican paper *El Palenque* has been suspended for an alleged fault against the press laws committed nine months ago. Journalistic enterprise is heavily handicapped under such circumstances. Nowhere, perhaps, have newspapers multiplied and their circulation increased under rigorous official censorship so much as in Japan. What they would become were that censorship removed, may be gathered from the story of the press in Paris, where, in 1867, when the Napoleonic reign was at its zenith, there were only eighteen political papers published—seven in the morning and eleven in the evening—whereas the number now is 70, of which forty-nine have a circulation of over three thousand. The following list shows the names and respective circulations of these forty-nine:—

MORNING PAPERS.

NAME.	CIRCULATION.	NAME.	CIRCULATION.
Journal des Débats.	10,000	Siècle	20,000
Dix-Neuvième Siècle	20,000	Soleil	44,000
Evénement	20,000	Verité	10,000
Figaro	80,000	Voltaire	16,000
Gaulois	19,000	Constitutionnel	4,000
Gil Blas	26,000	Petit Caporal	23,000
Intransigeant	40,000	Citoyen	13,000
Justice	20,000	Lanterne	140,000
Moniteur Universel.	25,000	Petit Journal	593,500
Mot d'Ordre	25,000	Petit Moniteur	100,000
Paix	54,000	Petit National	53,000
Paris Journal	9,000	Petit Press	23,000
Peuple Français	23,000	Petit Parisien	47,000
Rappel	34,000	Petit Republicain	10,000
République Française	30,000	Petite République	198,000

AFTERNOON PAPERS.

NAME.	CIRCULATION.	NAME.	CIRCULATION.
France	40,000	Ordre	6,000
Liberté	25,000	Patrie	8,000
Civilisation	4,500	Pays	9,000
Défence	4,800	Soir	19,000
Français	9,000	Temps	26,000
Gazette de France	9,800	Télégraphe	9,600
Monde	10,000	Union	7,500
National	15,000	France Nouvelle	14,000

THE telegram which announces that the Mahdi is marching upon Dongola with a force of 35,000 men, ought probably to be read in connection with a previous message, which announced that, on receipt of the intelligence of Osman Digna's disasters, the Mahdi immediately left El Obeid. In other words, he doubtless felt that the effects of the blow his prestige had received from the crushing defeats of his lieutenant could be averted only by some resolute and successful action of his own. To remain shut up in El Obeid while the men over whom he had thrown the ægis of his divine mission were falling by thousands before infidel bullets would have been a confession of weakness fatal to his influence. It is, of course, impossible to speak with any certainty of events happening at such a distance and fragmentarily described by the telegrams. But if we may hazard a conjecture, it would be that the Mahdi is taking advantage of England's inaction to strike his final blow in the Soudan. Should the province of Dongola—his native province—fall into his hands, the country in the direction of Suakim and Abu Hamed being already in his possession, his authority would be paramount throughout the whole Soudan, with the solitary exception of Khartoum. As for that place, he will probably let it alone for the present. An extensive forward movement is seldom undertaken in offensive warfare while the advancing force's line of communications is commanded by places of strength in the enemy's possession. But no such consideration applies to Khartoum. The Mahdi can well afford to leave that city unmolested on his flank and rear, for he knows to a certainty that Gordon dare not again trust his Egyptian poltroons in the open. There are not many practicable routes in Kordofan. An attempt to get between

the Arab army and its base, El Obeid, would require a very different combination of men and material from anything Gordon can command. Moreover, each forward step taken by the Islamic Mahdi will render the position of the Christian General more untenable. It is scarcely possible to hope that the garrison at Khartoum will remain faithful while the tide of rebellion rolls past it and blocks up every route of retreat or success. To be sure, the Egyptians cannot run away. There is some comfort in that reflection. But they can capitulate, and the fact that surrender has not hitherto ensured safety will not deter them, since cowards know only the resource of submission. One does not like to reflect upon the situation in which Gordon finds himself now. It seems plain that a part of the Mahdi's plan is to occupy the attention of the English on the Red Sea littoral while he himself pushes on to Dongola and with this object Osman Digna has probably been directed to renew his operations against Suakim. On the other hand, the increased activity of the rebels between Berber and Suakim may be nothing more than a secondary effect of the principal operations on the Nile. However this may be, it is evident that with the Mahdi himself, at the head of a powerful army, marching down the Nile towards Wady Halfa and Korosko, it would be impossible to make arrangements for the passage of a relieving force by that route. If Khartoum is to be saved at all, it must be by Suakim, Sinkat and Berber, a route that bristles with difficulties, though it is far shorter than that by Dongola. There remains, of course, the possibility that Abyssinian aid may be enlisted. Captain Speedy, whose acquaintance with King John and his subjects is intimate and recent, is firmly convinced that the Abyssinian braves, in consideration of the territory which the British government is about to concede to them and the freedom of the port of Massowah, will be willing and quite capable of dealing with the tribes on the Blue Nile, and even of carrying aid to Gordon himself. But in truth it seems like leaning on a bruised reed to hope for anything of the sort.

THE electric light in the House of Commons has proved so satisfactory, says the *Daily News*, that it is the intention of the authorities to have it extended to all parts of the building.

HOME papers recently to hand, says the *Hong-kong Telegraph*, state that the Government have offered Lieut.-Colonel Palmer, R.E., the post of Director of Public works in Ceylon, but the gallant Colonel, preferring to remain by his crops, has declined the appointment. We believe the appointment offered to Colonel Palmer is the most important engineering post, as well as the most lucrative, in the gift of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and it is a great satisfaction to us to see this graceful tribute paid to the high scientific attainments of an officer who lately served in this Colony with so much credit to himself and advantage to the Service. Whether as commanding the Royal Engineers here, or as second in command, or in his capacity as Aide-de-camp to Governor Sir J. Pope Hennessy, or in connection with the Observatory, Colonel Palmer earned a reputation for energy and ability which will not soon be forgotten, and his courtesy and good feeling made him deservedly popular. His popularity has followed him to Manchester, where he now commands a detachment of his corps.

THE half-yearly report of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, for the period ended December 31st, 1883, was recently submitted to the twenty-sixth annual general meeting of the shareholders at the Banking-house, Old Broad-street. The net profits for the half year amounted to £46,331 os. 9d., to which was added £4,154 5s. 1d., brought forward from the preceding half year. Of this total, £24,973 19s. 8d. was added to the reserve fund, bringing that fund up to £50,000; a dividend for the half-year, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, absorbed £18,750, and £6,761 6s. 2d. was carried forward to the current half-year. The Report appears to have given great satisfaction. The depreciation of silver is a terrible difficulty in the path of successful banking enterprise in the East. To this cause is attributable a corresponding depreciation in the capital of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, and the directors have wisely resolved, with the entire approval of the shareholders, to build up their reserve fund till it reaches £200,000—which amount will not only cover the loss by depreciation of silver, but will also include a reserve against the ordinary business of the bank. Until this object is achieved, they have determined, as the Report shows, to declare no dividend larger than 5 per cent. It certainly redounds greatly to the credit of the management that while adding so largely to the reserve fund, they should, at the same time, be able to declare a satisfactory dividend. Even at the present rate of proceeding, the reserve-fund will reach the desired dimensions in about three years, when a dividend of from 10 to 14 per cent. may be confidently looked for. As, however, all indications go to show that the bank has now surmounted the worst difficulties connected with silver depreciation, and is entering upon a period of greater prosperity, it seems probable that the objects of the directors will be accomplished in a still shorter time. In offering our congratulations on such a pleasant state of affairs, we take the opportunity of placing on record the feelings of high esteem and respect universally entertained by this community towards Mr. L. C. Masfen, Manager of the Yokohama branch of the Bank, whose approaching departure was recently announced. Mr. Masfen has been called on to direct this Agency during a time of unparalleled commercial distress; a time when, as a rule, money-making was quite out of the question, and men counted themselves fortunate if they found that their capital had not been largely invaded in the effort to keep their business going. That such an experience may never again visit Japan, is a hope devoutly entertained by all, and doubtless not least by the Banks, since upon their shoulders fell a major part of the difficulty and anxiety. It is natural that the residents of this Settlement should feel warmly towards those whose skill, courage, and sympathy were always ready to lighten the burdens of so evil a period, and to this fact may be attributable something of the popularity Mr. Masfen enjoys. But old residents' appreciation of his remarkable industry and ability dates from many years back, and inspires a sincere hope that we shall soon have the pleasure of welcoming his return to a post which must always be associated with his name.

WŌNSAN, like all the rest of the Korean ports, is suffering from the unpleasant consequences of financial embarrassment. Started on too large a scale, trade has drooped and declined

everywhere, so that once-hopeful mercantile adventurers are pulling long faces and calculating with considerable anxiety the cost of a return ticket to their respective homes. The Japanese residents in Wōnsan number no more than 200, while the floating population of actors, singers, and the like, have given up the place altogether. Most of the branches of Tokiyo and Osaka firms have been closed, only the office of the First National Bank and a few petty stores remaining open. The postal communication with Japan appears to be in a very unsatisfactory condition. From April to December of last year, the Japanese residents were not able to send more than eight mails to this country. "In winter, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the dwellers in Wōnsan are completely shut out from the world; the official never dips his pen in ink, while his drowsy head finds a comfortable pillow on the *soroban* (abacus)."

A VERY enthusiastic mass meeting of Catholics was held at the Cooper Union, New York, on the 28th of April, "to protest against the spoliation of the Propaganda by the Italian Government." There were a great many strong speeches, the speakers being generally unanimous in describing the conversion of the College property into Italian rents as virtually a measure of confiscation. Mayor Edson, who evidently appreciated the necessity of warming his audience, since sentiment was their principal excuse for meddling with the business at all, took occasion to contrast the vastness of the United States, and the consequent magnanimity of their citizens, with the smallness of Italy and the pettiness of its people's notions; after which fine example of psychological reasoning, he went on to speak of the depth to which the anchor of religion strikes its flukes into American soil, and then proceeded to his peroration:—"All our world stands up to protest against this act of spoliation, and refuses to stand tamely by and witness in silence this savage butchery of so great and Christian an institution done in the name of law." "Savage butchery" suited the mood of the Mayor's hearers, and they cheered him to the echo. But they did not yet know quite, where they stood, so the ex-Postmaster, Mr. James, reminded them that "their natural instinct as a free people gave them a right to protest against robbery under whatever form of law," and then, having discoursed a little about the "removal of pillars," and the "Fall of the Fabric of Society," he rapidly descended from theory to practice, and asked the meeting what they were going to do about it. Thus suddenly reminded of their impotence, the audience burst out laughing, but were sternly re-called to business by the ex-Postmaster, who told them that what they had to do was to "call the attention of the world to this act of international injustice; and if persisted in, to hold the Young Kingdom of Italy up to the execration of mankind." The speaker did not go on to explain how this "holding up" process was to be effected, but the meeting set about it by passing the following exceedingly grammatical and clearly expressed resolutions, which the President will doubtless have much pleasure in forwarding to the Italian Government:—

Resolved.—That the Italian government, in the conversion and spoliation of the property of the Propaganda, is guilty of despotism and crime, and of not only an outrage upon liberty, civil and property rights, but of an act calculated and intended to be a blow at religion and civilization and to furnish opportunities for that government's interference with and hampering the freedom of the Catholic Church.

That the Italian government is seeking, not only to ruinously affect the Propaganda by reducing the nominal value of its property by more than one-third and placing entirely at its mercy all that great department or bureau of the Papal administration, but it is an attack upon the liberty of the Pope in the exercise of the functions of his office, upon the Christian religion, and the highest and noblest interests of civilization.

That we solemnly protest against the conversion and confiscation by the Italian government of the property of the Propaganda, as contributors to and *cestuis que trust* in which we have not only religious but property interest, and deny the right of that government to deprive us by confiscation of one-third of its proceeds, or by force to change its condition.

That the action of the Italian government in connection with the Propaganda is as unwarranted, illegal, and unjust as would be the confiscation or conversion by the government of the State of New York of the property of the Trinity Church Corporation, Columbia College, the American Bible Society or the Theological Seminary.

That President Chester A. Arthur, Secretary of State Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, and Minister W. W. Astor are entitled to the gratitude of the American people for their prompt and effective action by which the rights and dignity of Americans were asserted and sustained in obtaining the exemption of the American College in Rome from confiscation and conversion.

That a copy of this preamble and these resolutions be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State and Minister Astor, and to each Senator and Representative in Congress, and that the President be requested to transmit a copy thereof to the Italian government.

THE *North China Herald*, speaking of the ignorance that prevails among the people of China, tells a story of one of the *litterati* who wanted to know how much the Queen of England paid the Marquis Tseng for coming to London and acting as Her Majesty's governmental adviser. This gentleman thought Chinese assistance too valuable to be deliberately neglected by any one in a position to have recourse to it. "In the belief of the *litterati*," says our contemporary, "foreigners come to China because they are attracted by its many physical and moral beauties, by its wonderful civilisation, its charming cities, its vast literature. The Emperor, in his manifold grace, kindly permits them to settle on his shores, and by so doing is good enough to patronise the little kings and queens of the West who are, unhappily for them, so far removed from the centre of light and influence." Absurd as all this sounds, it is of a piece with the political mummery that goes on in the Middle Kingdom when the Government desires to hide from the people the true import of such humiliations as the Tonquin affair. Sagacious and crafty as the Chinese are in many respects, it really seems as though they derive a species of inane satisfaction from self-deception. In a recent decree published by the *Peking Gazette*, vials of Imperial wrath are poured upon the heads of the Governors and Generals who might have saved Bac-ninh and Sontai as well as the reputation of their country, if they had had the means and the instructions. That they had neither the one nor the other, was owing to the Government's vacillation and incompetence; but the Government, none the less, goes through the solemn farce of punishing them, because it is simpler to blame men for not accomplishing impossibilities, than to admit that the Ministers of the Dragon Throne can by any possibility be at fault. Hsü Yen-hsü, Governor of Kwangsi, is the first victim. He was ordered, it is said, to cross the frontiers and secure the approaches of the country, but instead of doing so, he contented himself with occupying Liang-shan, and sent two Generals to hold Bac-ninh. Of course the Generals "retreated in a disorderly fashion" when they saw the French, and for this "scandalous conduct" they are cited before a Court of Enquiry, which is instructed not to take the trouble of sending them to the Board of Punish-

ments if they are found guilty, but merely to forward a report asking for their "condign punishment." A Brigadier-General who lost a fort, and a Colonel who "loitered in the rear with his troops," are to be "summarily beheaded in the presence of the army," while the Governors of Kwangsi and Yunnan, as well as the Governor-General of Canton, are to be dismissed, arrested, and sent to Peking for punishment. It is tolerably certain that any Chinese troops which came within sight of the French behaved in a disgraceful fashion, but that they were really intended or expected to fight seriously, no one believes. Nothing can be more absurd than this comedy of pretending that the French could have been kept out of Bac-ninh and Sontai if such and such an official had not "failed to comprehend the urgent state of affairs," and such and such a General had not "withdrawn at the moment of danger." The language of the Imperial decrees reminds us of a certain waggish military riding-master who used gravely to reprimand his pupils for getting off without orders on the wrong side of their horses when they were shot over the animal's head or found clinging to his neck on the other side of the jumping bar.

The *Sōul* correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* writes under date of the 31st ult. as follows:—The Chinese are all-powerful in the capital at present. The chief commercial classes, and, as a matter of course, all the official body, are actuated by what is known as "Chinese principles." The *Jun Pao* lately reported the murder of some Koreans by certain Chinese residents, much to the indignation of the latter's compatriots, who ascribed the statement to the Japanese on the editorial staff of the journal in question. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro's position on the staff on the *Jun Pao* was rendered most unpleasant in consequence, and he has since been forced to return to Japan. The meddlesome policy of the Chinese Government has become completely unbearable since the conclusion of the Annamese affair. The Hermit Kingdom is doomed to become a dependency of China in reality as well as in name.

Our private advices fully confirm the report of Chinese supremacy in the Korean Capital. It is stated that the lawless behaviour of the Chinese soldiers is something almost incredible. Their swaggering deportment too well betrays their knowledge that the Korean King is forced to play second fiddle to Ch'un and his satellites. The latter's party is now thoroughly in the ascendant; Li Hung-chang has, according to the *Jiyu Shimbun*, sent in his resignation at last. It seems that his action with regard to the conclusion of the provisional Treaty with France has been severely criticized in Peking, and that the Court has censured him in no measured terms. His has been a life of remarkable and unprecedented success, though *atra cura* must have followed him closely during the last year. But he cannot drop out of the ranks of Chinese diplomatists in so unceremonious a fashion, and may yet be destined to hold the sword of Damocles over Prince Ch'un and the Ta T'sing Dynasty.

THE Agricultural and Commercial Department, says the *Jiyu Shimbun*, has published the following report on the aborigines of Nemuro Prefecture:—In Nemuro Prefecture there are, at present, 820 houses inhabited by aborigines. There were formerly many more, but the number has fallen

off rapidly of late years. Fishing and hunting are carried on more energetically than ever before, owing to the constant and increasing influx of people from the main island. This fact, together with the disappearance of a great number of deer during the severe winter of 1878, has caused a lamentable scarcity of the supplies upon which the inhabitants chiefly depend. The adult aborigines dress themselves in hides, but the children run about naked even on the coldest winter days. Their condition is truly deplorable. An officer of the Industrial Bureau went thither in May of last year, taking with him a quantity of seeds and some agricultural implements. He stopped at Ashiyose-gori, Kujiro, one of the most deserted of the northern districts, and set the natives reclaiming the waste land, sowing the soil with potatoes, Indian corn, beans, *daikon*, *komatsuna*, and barley. The long-continued dry weather has been of the greatest benefit to the young plants, all of which are doing well, with the exception of the Indian corn, which was severely frost-bitten in the early part of the year. The natives, though fully aware of the great importance of agriculture, did not, at the outset, put much heart in their work, being very doubtful as to its results. The abundant harvests already reaped have, however, greatly encouraged them, and they now go about the work with alacrity. The land is good meadow-land; large arable tracts, irrigated by clear, pure streams and covered with grasses which are rarely hidden by the snow for any length of time. All sorts of trees and plants abound. The inhabitants are all victims to a sort of chronic low fever, and there seems to be little prospect of their ever enjoying perfect health. According to a recent investigation, out of every 130 people ten only were not liable to periodical attacks of this enervating malady.

We reported a little while ago, says the *Bukka Shimpō*, that most of the gold fish exported to America die on the journey. A resident of Nagasaki, who has often safely exported large numbers of this beautiful denizen of the waters, has supplied us with the following valuable suggestions, which are the result of his own experience:—The tubs in which the gold fish are to be transported must be made of a wood containing as little resin as possible, and they should measure at least two feet (*shaku*) in diameter. A bag of some very soft material should be suspended in the tub, so that it completely covers the wooden walls. By so doing, the fish are not likely to strike their heads against the hard wood of the tub, which they do otherwise quite frequently, and herein lies the secret of their great mortality. By carefully guarding against the probability of sudden or frequent shocks, the fish may sent to great distances in perfect condition.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, the Chairman made the following remarks, which we reproduce on account of their special interest and applicability to Japan:—"You are probably aware that evidence on the subject of railways is now being taken by a Select Committee of the House of Commons. This is a matter of very great importance to the trade of India, for there cannot be a doubt that if the railway system is more fully developed, an enormous impetus will be given to the external commerce of India. The article of wheat alone, if it could be brought cheaply to the seaboard, would admit of an enormous extension of the external commerce

of India. * * * * * The difficulty, of course, is where the capital is to be raised for these enterprises. I think there cannot be any doubt that the capital must be raised in this country, for India is too poor a country to find capital for large enterprises of this kind. Besides, the value of money in India is usually so high that there is no inducement to fix it in investments at rates of interest which would be satisfactory to investors on this side. Of course there is the difficulty that the more you increase the foreign indebtedness of India the more you have to draw from her in the shape of so-called tribute to pay interest thereon. But I really do not think this need cause any serious anxiety, because if India was properly developed and fully opened up by railways, the increase of her export trade would be so prodigious that the mere provision of four or five millions a year which would be required, even if the capital required for railways amounted to 10 millions annually in the next ten years, would be so unimportant that it would be provided without any difficulty or any sensible effect on the exchanges." Japan is circumstanced exactly like India. Her route to wealth and prosperity is indicated by the experiences of other countries just as plainly as though she had already trodden it herself. Her only wants are roads and railways. If she would but set to work and build five or six hundred miles of railways every year, she would soon be able to command, among civilized nations, a position which she cannot hope to obtain otherwise. The greatest advantage placed within her reach by the improved condition of her fiat currency is that she can now, with perfect safety, borrow money abroad for the prosecution of these wealth-creating enterprises. While *kinsatsu* were at a discount of thirty or forty per cent., there were many weighty considerations to dissuade her from contracting large foreign obligations. But that state of affairs in happily changed, and she can now draw on the European money markets without any diffidence, and with the assurance that the burden not only of her new liabilities, but also of her old, would become almost imperceptible in the presence of the immense access of prosperity railways would speedily confer.

An interesting report on the mineral possibilities of the Hokkaido appears in the columns of the *Choya Shimbun*. A foreign mining expert has stated his opinion that there are several fine mines in the North, although the veins are in most cases very irregular and follow erratic courses. His statements have, however, received no further confirmation. Coal, sulphur, as well as oil-wells are to be found in many of the hilly districts. Hakodate has the honour of being the chief commercial centre, while the agricultural importance of Sapporo is rapidly increasing. Nemuro is not doing so well; the aborigines are steadily dying out, although the recent agricultural undertakings have infused a little fresh vigour into their lives. The emigration from the main island into Nemuro still goes on, but what the result of this great influx will be is hard to foretell at present. Both Hakodate and Sapporo enjoy a far more temperate climate than does Nemuro, where the severe winters tell hardly on the soil.

THE correspondence printed in the vernacular press with regard to the state of affairs in the Korean ports always harps on the same theme—financial depression. If one tenth of what the

"correspondents" write is true, it is almost incredible how the Government manages to hold together at all. And yet, every mail brings us news of some new Governmental undertaking, first a Mint, then a Post-office, then a Printing Bureau or a new barracks. Where the funds come from is an open question, but if, as we note elsewhere, the Government occasionally *does* draw on foreign capitalists, it may be that philanthropists are not wanting among the residents at the open ports. Wōsan could hardly be worse off; Sōul is only slightly better; while the latest reports from Inchhōn—published in the *Hochi Shimbun*—are very unsatisfactory. Prostitution flourishes rankly everywhere, and the moral tone of the middle and lower classes could not well be more corrupt. The Japanese residents in Inchhōn, says the *Hochi*, are suffering from *ennui*, and spend their time playing draughts and *go*. The *Flying Fish* and *Nishin Kan* are in port, besides two foreign merchant vessels, the latter being in ballast. The British Consulate is now located in the first floor of the *Boyeiki Kwaisha*, which has been leased to the English authorities. The Japanese Consul is on a tour of inspection in the western districts. On the 15th April last, most of the foreign residents moved into the new Settlement, which is considerably better situated than the older one. The Chinese still cling to the former Settlement, where they do a small trade in foreign goods, wines especially. The Custom House has been established in the former residence of a Korean official; all of the employees speak English, although they hail from half a dozen different nationalities. Mr. Von Möllendorff rarely visits the Custom House, and the staff find the time hanging heavily on their hands. Among other buildings now in course of erection are the new premises of the First National Bank, and the hospital. Mr. Tanaka is in charge of the latter institution, and enjoys a large and increasing *clientèle*. The Japanese residents number at present no more than 460, all told.

Min Yon-ik was received on his return to Sōul by a great concourse of foreign and native officials, the Japanese Consul alone being conspicuous by his absence. A large proportion of the Chinese soldiery have left the capital, but rumour states that they are to be replaced by the Manchurian troops under Tso Tso-t'ang. At all events, it seems certain that China has not abandoned her policy of interfering in Korean affairs, and people are always on the lookout for some unpleasant collision between the two governments. The *Chitose Maru* and the *Nam Yong*—a Chinese steamer—are now plying regularly between Nagasaki, Fusan, and Inchhōn.

THE *Hochi Shimbun*, after translating the comments of the *Whitehall Review* and *Pall Mall Gazette* on the Ludwig case, makes the following pertinent remarks:—The opinions of the English Press on this subject are unanimous. What do our readers think of it? We do not intend to discuss the decision of the Swiss Consul; but we do know that the adverse criticisms of English journals are not without reason, inasmuch as the plain facts prove the gross inadequacy of the punishment in comparison with the gravity of the offence. But what do Englishmen suppose have the inconveniences been from which we have suffered since the opening of the ports? Do they know, can they appreciate, how painful it is for the appellant to

have to appeal for justice to the law of the defendant's own country? Think of what we have undergone in this direction!

AMONGST the passengers by the O. & O. steamer *Oceanic* from San Francisco, which arrived here on Monday, we note the name of Mr. C. Gabriel, an old resident of Japan, and formerly in the service of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company. Mr. Gabriel will be remembered as having succoured a shipwrecked Japanese crew landed at Vancouver's Island from the British bark *Tiger*, Captain Newby. The latter having failed to induce the Collector of Customs to assist the Japanese whose lives he had saved at sea, Mr. Gabriel took charge of the men and lodged them at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Mr. Gabriel then telegraphed to the Japanese Consul at San Francisco, and the men were ultimately forwarded to their homes.

A RATHER singular story is going the round of the Japanese papers to the effect that an American resident in Fusan has brought a suit against the Korean Government for breach of contract. The data are slightly confused, and we give them for what they are worth. It appears that the Government had ordered 5,000 Snider rifles from Messrs. Okura & Co., and drew on the American in question for the payment of the sum, under the stipulation that the money should be refunded him upon the arrival of the rifles. The *Chitose Maru* arrived, in course of time, with the cases of firearms, but the Korean authorities failed to keep their part of the bargain; the American thereby being some \$25,000 out of pocket. He immediately took steps to force payment, *et hinc ille lacrimæ*.

THE following delectable account of the recent robbery on the Bluff appears in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*:—A few days ago, just after dark, a robber broke into the residence of an American at Yokohama. He was dressed in European clothes, and had his face tied up in a handkerchief. A Japanese woman living in the house was the first to meet him. He threatened her with a knife and told her to give all the money in the house to him. The woman, however, was clever enough to tell the ruffian that as the master was absent she knew nothing of the whereabouts of the cash, and asked him to call again after his return (!) She even offered him a cup of tea in compensation for the trouble he had taken in coming, but the robber refused her well-meant offer. The fellow shortly left the house, taking with him a pair of boots which stood near the entrance, but he was soon caught, and turned out to be an unemployed German (!) He was taken to his Consulate, and sentenced to a fine of \$10 and imprisonment for 24 days.

THAT insufficient physical exercise considerably retards the development of the intellect, says the *Choya Shimbun*, has been fully recognized by the Tokiyo Daigaku, and infantry drill is now included in the programme of the University. The pupils of one of the public schools in Chiba Prefecture have taken up military exercise with earnest enthusiasm, under the direct encouragement of the educational authorities. Their finely executed drills are said to be a sight worth seeing.

A WORKMAN in a gold mine at Mishima-gori, Niigata Prefecture, who, until the time of the

Restoration, was one of the richest men in this country, recently sent to a relative in Tokiyo a stone which he had found one day in the mine, and which he had kept on account of its dazzling lustre. His relative took it to an English resident in Yokohama who, to his unbounded amazement, found it to be a *diamond* worth upwards of 300,000 *yen*. The foreigner requested him to send for the original finder of the *diamond* in whose presence he proposes to submit it to the examination of experts. The fortunate finder is said to have left for Yokohama on the 2nd instant.—*Choya Shimbun*.

THE British bark *Kaisow* arrived on Wednesday from Takao, and reports having experienced unsettled weather with adverse gales, having had to beat the entire passage, notwithstanding which she managed to get up in 14 days. In heavy weather lost main topmast and fore top-gallant-mast, and whilst furling the foresail on the 16th instant a seaman fell to the deck, sustaining serious injuries; the unfortunate man, however, was removed to the hospital last evening, and is reported to be progressing favourably.

A NUMBER of "Notes on Korea," which originally appeared in the *Star in the East*, have been reprinted in pamphlet form and placed on sale at the various booksellers in Shanghai and Yokohama. The Notes contain interesting accounts of nearly all the principal places in the peninsula, besides a good deal of historical and general information which cannot fail to be very valuable.

THE Silk Market at Maibashi, Joshiu, opened on Saturday, when the market was fairly well attended, and from 20 to 30 piculs Hanks were differed considerably. Hanks offered 36, and until evening nothing was done. Some few settlements were then made at 35½ to 35¾, say \$450, Yokohama, for silk averaging 2½ to 3.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S ships *Kongo*, *Tsukushi*, *Teibo*, *Hiyei*, *Iwaki*, and *Seiki Kan*, left harbour on Thursday for a cruise outside, and on arriving off Tateyama will go through various naval evolutions and a course of target practice.

THE German brigantine *Nicoline* arrived here on Wednesday from Cronstadt, after a protracted voyage which has extended to 215 days. Calms and light variable winds have been the principal causes of the long voyage.

AMONGST the passengers by the Mitsu Bishi Mail steamship *Genkai Maru*, which left here on Wednesday, we notice the name of Count Zaluski, the Austro-Hungarian Minister.

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL SAIGO, Minister for War, who left here on the 4th inst. for Kobe, en route to Osaka, to inspect the Arsenal there, returned on Friday by the Mitsu Bishi steamship *Seirio Maru*.

THE German bark *Black Diamond*, 585 tons register, submitted to auction on Wednesday by Messrs. Cope & Co., was sold to Mr. A. Clark for \$2,125.

THE BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR KANAGAWA.

THE British Consular Trade Report for Kanagawa is, on the whole, a less gloomy document than might have been anticipated. We are confronted, indeed, by the unpleasant fact that the bulk of the trade shows a decrease of more than two and a half millions (dollars), the figures being \$44,309,827 for 1883, against \$46,870,691 for 1882. But the general verdict with regard to imports and exports alike is that things stood at a nodal point: if there were no considerable profits, neither were there any disastrous losses. Of the imports, Mr. ROBERTSON says:—"Ten thousand bales of Yarns, and ten thousand bales of Shirtings taken out of a trade like that of Yokohama, in which Yarns and Shirtings play such an important part, cannot fail to leave a considerable blank, and to give an air of depression to the general character of business. The trade, however, has been free from some of the miserable features of the preceding year, the stocks of old goods costing very dear, and showing ruinous losses, have not formed such an encumbrance, having been, to a great extent, worked off. New importations have cost more moderately, and there has not been the disparity between cost and selling price; on the whole, to importers the year has probably been neither good nor bad, small profits have been made at times, and, in some directions losses, but not heavy ones, have ensued. Speaking roughly, the business may be said to have cleared itself; but this is, as we naturally seek remuneration for their labours." Of the export trade, he writes:—"In its results to foreign merchants the trade of the year has probably been, on the average, like that in imports, neither good nor bad; at times losses have been made, but there have also been occasions of fair profits." It is cold comfort, to be sure, to learn that men of energy, enterprise, and capital have been toiling and moiling for twelve months with no better result than that the current of adversity has not swept them away, but left them clinging painfully where they were originally. Yet if this be the sum and substance of the grudge we owe the most disastrous year Japan's foreign commerce is likely to see for many a day, the case is not as black by any means as its circumstances would have led us to anticipate. There has been an apparently total loss of that which business men can ill afford to lose, time and talent. Yet we say unhesitatingly, that if the merchants of Yokohama succeeded in weathering the evil winds of 1883 without any disaster more serious than the unproductive sacrifice of much foresight and skill, the achievement is a most comfortable omen. Men who could do this may be trusted to show a very different record with more favorable opportunities. The Japanese, too, will doubtless appreciate the signi-

ficance of this result. From the moment their fiat currency began to depreciate sensibly, bringing with it the unwholesome commercial fever and speculative tendencies which are the inevitable concomitants of a fluctuating medium of exchange—from that moment they had to anticipate a season of sharp suffering and adversity, preceding a return to specie payments. Almost every country in the world has had to endure this trouble, and everybody foresaw a similar experience for Japan. But it seems now pretty clear that Japan is passing the crisis with comparatively little effort. On her foreign commerce, especially, the effects of the shock have been much less than many persons expected. There has, of course, been a period of stagnation, resulting disastrously in some cases; but the whole might have been far worse without exceeding anticipations based on Western precedents. It cannot be doubted that the chief mitigating factors have been the cleverness and versatility of the foreign merchants. They have saved the country's commerce from a shock which it could not easily have endured, and which would have added largely to the people's perplexities.

Mr. ROBERTSON, in his most exhaustive and painstaking Report, does not fail to allude to the state of the currency and its effects upon trade. "The fluctuations in *satsu*, or Japanese paper currency," he says "have been less than for many years past, and the tendency has been towards improved value, strangely enough, however, without a corresponding improvement in business. There is no doubt but that the enhanced value has been partially caused by the curtailment of the issue, but it is perhaps more likely to be due to the action of the Government in controlling Bourse transactions, and thus minimizing the evils arising from time bargains. At first this had a deleterious effect on trade, because there was no confidence in the improved value, and neither Japanese sellers nor buyers accommodated themselves to the new order of things, but there is every prospect of the current year witnessing a renewed confidence in the Government paper, and, with confidence, a revival of trade will, doubtless, follow. Such revival, if it is brought about, is likely to be more especially in favour of the Japanese, as the prices of exports and the commodities used by foreigners have declined in the same ratio as the corresponding advance in *satsu*. The improvement in paper will enable the Japanese to pay for his requirements in imports from abroad, of which the interior is reported, and generally believed, to be bare, and, with the issue brought to within controllable limits there is not the same risk of violent fluctuations as in former years." Mr. ROBERTSON'S expression of surprise that the improved value of *kinsatsu* was not attended by a corresponding improvement in business seems a little inexplicable, seeing that the very opposite result might have been ex-

pected. Given a demand for imports, and the consequence of a temporary appreciation of *kinsatsu* would be to facilitate, and therefore stimulate, purchases, by cheapening silver—the medium of exchange. But when that appreciation is general and continuous, its ultimate effect is to paralyze demand, so that the price of silver becomes altogether a secondary consideration to local buyers. Mr. ROBERTSON, in fact, expresses surprise that a declining trade should have accompanied conditions which have everywhere proved fatal to commercial prosperity. We cannot agree with him, either, when he says that the appreciation of *kinsatsu* is probably attributable in a greater degree to Governmental Control of the Bourse than to a contraction of the currency. "The general value of the national currency cannot be affected by local manipulation, any more than the general level of water in a pond can be altered by agitating its surface. Fluctuations, indeed, may be considerably accentuated by gambling transactions on 'Change, but to assert that a permanent and extensive appreciation of a country's fiat notes may be induced by forbidding men to speculate on their rise and fall, is like saying that a physician can reduce a sick man's blood to its normal temperature by feeling his pulse. The experiment has been tried elsewhere with results too marked to be misapprehended. In the United States, when the price of gold fluctuated, in one week, between 218 and 280, and every one who could beg, borrow, or embezzle a few dollars was rushing to the market to buy specie, stocks, commodities, anything, in short, at any price,—since an advance in gold might, within a few days, give a man back his investment with 30 per cent. profit—Congress hastily passed (on the 17th of June, 1864) a bill constituting it an offence punishable with fine or imprisonment to make any bargains relative to the purchase of gold except on terms of immediate delivery and cash payment. Subsequent economists, made wise, perhaps, by the event, described this as an attempt to put out a conflagration by pouring on it oil or turpentine. For the statute merely increased the premium on gold by the cost of insurance against the heavy penalty that might be incurred by speculating on its price. It raised this premium 33 per cent. in five days, and as the oscillations then continued more uncontrollable than ever, the law had to be repealed in less than three weeks after its enactment. There is no reason whatsoever to suppose that the attempts of the Japanese Government to restrain marginal transactions in *kinsatsu* have been attended with happier results than those recorded in the history of American finance. The true causes of currency appreciation, in our opinion, have been a contraction of the volume of *kinsatsu* in circulation by exchanging them for interest-bearing bonds, and a gradual accumulation of specie in the Treasury. It may fairly be hoped that

the depressing effects of this appreciation have now passed their climax, though some time must still elapse before trade entirely recovers its elasticity. During 1883, the range of fluctuation, as Mr. ROBERTSON shows, was from 144 to 109: during the first five months of the present year, it has been from 116 to 107—a degree of variability which can scarcely exercise any troublesome influence on commerce. On the whole, we believe that Yokohama has seen its worst days, and that with a comparatively stable medium of exchange and the increased tradal facilities which Treaty Revision will confer, we may look forward to results very different from those set forth in this report. The one cloud on the horizon is the unwise diversion of home capital to railway enterprise.

THE NEW TRADE-MARK REGULATIONS.

PERHAPS the most striking feature of the recently published Trade-Mark Regulations is their simplicity. We doubt, indeed, whether some error has not been made on the side of brevity, and whether, in practice, difficulties may not result from a want of greater clearness. Japan, however, in these matters of legislation has one great advantage over European nations: she can benefit by their experiences, while, at the same time, discarding the traditions which those experiences embody and by which their results are often confused and hampered. In England, for example, Bills brought into Parliament, session after session, for the purpose of regulating the law of trade-marks, had to be abandoned for lack of time to discuss their administrative details, and the Trade-Marks Registration Act of 1875 is said to have owed its success to its shortness. The plan adopted was to settle by the Act only the general principles governing registration of trade-marks, leaving details and ancillary provisions to be filled in by rules subsequently issued under the authority of the Lord Chancellor. It is, of course, similarly possible that the Japanese regulations may be supplemented; but there are, nevertheless, some points which might have been advantageously stated with greater distinctness from the outset. First among these is the meaning of the term "trade-mark," for the purposes of the Regulations. We are not told what a trade-mark is, but only what it is not. In some respects this method of definition has its advantages. The public in general may be supposed to know that a trade-mark is an arbitrary sign employed by a vendor to designate his wares. But the public in general may not be supposed to know, for example, that the name, colour, and general appearance of a line of omnibuses, the title of a magazine, and so forth, are also trade-marks, or, at least, have been recognised as such by English Courts. For the sake of comparison it will be worthwhile

to quote the provisions of the Act of 1875 on this point. For the purposes of that Act, a trade-mark consists of

1. A name of an individual or firm printed, impressed, or woven in some distinctive manner.
2. A written signature, or copy of a written signature of, an individual or firm.
3. A distinctive device, mark, heading, label, or ticket.

The Japanese Regulations exclude marks coming under the first and second of these categories, and in this they are peculiar. Based as they evidently are upon the French law of 1857, they do not follow that law, since it defines trade-marks as, "*les noms sous forme distinctive, les dénominations, emblèmes, empreintes, timbres, cachets, vignettes, reliefs, lettres, chiffres, enveloppes, et tous autres signes servant à distinguer les produits d'une fabrique ou les objets d'un commerce.*" In a country like Japan, where the same names, whether of individuals, firms, or places, recur over and over again, it is easy to understand the motive which inspires their omission from the category of trade-marks. But such omission, none the less, greatly invalidates the effect which may hereafter be given to the Regulations as regards foreign trade-marks. A large majority of English trade-marks embody names of individuals or firms, and since these do not come under the Japanese definition, difficulty may be experienced in affording them protection. An international convention, soon we trust to be concluded, would of course extend reciprocal protection to British and Japanese trade-marks within the territories of the two States; but it is obvious that British trade-marks could not be recognised by Japanese Courts unless these Regulations are supplemented by some special provision. Again, the whole question of civil remedies for infraction of trade-mark privileges is left virtually untouched. The fifteenth Article says that "the owners of registered trade-marks may claim damages from or lay information against any person who encroaches upon their privileges;" but nothing is said as to the nature and extent of the damages, or the form of procedure. These matters will probably form the subject of subsequent legislation, to which we look forward with considerable interest. Pending its publication, criticism of the recent Regulations is, perhaps, premature; but it certainly seems that more accurate phraseology would have been better. Art. XVII., for example, which we have translated literally, imposes a criminal penalty upon an act which, as there defined, may have been committed without any criminal intent whatsoever. The word "counterfeit," used in the preceding Article, plainly implies fraudulent intent, but it would be very difficult to determine whether an offender, indicted under Art. XVII., must, or need not, be proved guilty of fraud in order to obtain conviction. It is strange, too, to find no provision made for increasing the penalties in case of repeated offences—a point upon which the French law is very clear

—and to find, also, no limit of time assigned for the institution of proceedings. Art. XXIII., which requires that proceedings must be initiated by the parties whose rights are infringed, seems to have been suggested by the Austrian law, but we fail to see why the latter should have been curtailed, in so far as it provides that when a criminal act is involved, official prosecution shall take place.

We do not know how far it may be the intention of the Japanese authorities to extend protection to foreign trade-marks. It has been pointed out in this journal that Japan is somewhat peculiarly situated, inasmuch as her object is, or ought to be, the speediest introduction and utilization of foreign inventions, which introduction is not likely to be effected, to any considerable extent, except by native effort. So long as foreigners are confined within the present treaty limits, the advantages they might derive from enterprise of this nature, as well as their opportunities of appreciating Japan's wants, are so small that there is little likelihood of their travelling beyond the beaten groove. But if a Japanese knew that his intelligence in detecting a popular need and his trouble in supplying it from abroad, would be rewarded by some measures of protection similar to that enjoyed under a registered trade-mark, the knowledge might prove a very useful stimulus. Arrangements having this end in view might easily be made without tangible prejudice to foreign interests, and the subject will be well worth considering when the question of protecting European and American trade-marks comes upon the tapis. Meanwhile, Japan deserves to be congratulated on having added another stone to the edifice of highly civilized laws she is gradually building up.

THE TOKIYO CHARITY HOSPITAL BAZAAR.

THE Ladies' Bazaar at the *Rokumei-kwan* ended on Saturday in a deluge of rain. Very fortunately the two first days were everything that could be desired in point of weather, but the third made amends in a manner worthy of a Japanese June's reputation. The rain did not, however, deter the visitors. A great many people had doubtless put off going until Saturday, and knowing they should have no other chance of seeing this novel spectacle, they went in despite of the sky. To say that the Bazaar was a success would only be saying what everybody had anticipated. Yet the most sanguine never looked forward to such a success as it proved. At first, an addition of fifteen hundred or two thousand *yen* to the funds of the Charity Hospital was thought an extravagant estimate; but we believe we shall be within the mark if we say that six thousand *yen* were netted by the affair. The sales of tickets alone, at ten *sen* each, produced thirteen hundred *yen*, and at one time some anxiety was felt lest

the number of visitors should prove unmanageably large. This apprehension not having been realized, or, at all events, not realized to any serious degree, it is perhaps unnecessary to criticise the wisdom of placing the tickets within everybody's reach. There is always a good deal of timidity about charges in Japan, and it must be confessed that from what we have been able to see of the people's thrift, a small outlay exercises a marked effect in keeping them away from places of amusement. Still, when one remembers that the charge for admission to a Bazaar in England varies from half-a-crown to half-a-guinea, an entrance fee of three pence half-penny does seem excessively small. There is, however, one happy feature about a Japanese crowd—it is always quiet and well behaved. The genuine "rough" has not yet made his appearance in this country, though it must be confessed that his embryo is discernible in some of the students educated after Western fashions, whose saw-fangled ideas of the liberty of the subject assume, occasionally, an unpleasantly demonstrative shape. These risks were taken, at any rate, though not without qualms as the sales of tickets gradually mounted to more than double the original estimate, and on the morning when the Bazaar opened, a great many people prophesied all sorts of unpleasantnesses. From first to last, however, there was not one *contretemps*, if we except Saturday's rain. The people came in the most good-humoured, tractable mood possible, and though a majority of them had evidently proposed to themselves the pleasure of an exceedingly leisurely survey of the beauty and fashion of the metropolis, they were quite content to be admitted in batches of only 200 at a time, and to be gently "moved on" from their rapt contemplation of this or that stall, after the lapse of ten all-too-short minutes. A Bazaar would be a terrible fraud, but for its pious character. As a method of reaching the pockets of people who require to be cajoled into charitable impulses, it certainly has much to recommend it. But in very truth it cannot be regarded as the highest product of Western civilization. The ladies of Tokiyo set about it in the most business-like and upright fashion. The prime cost of the articles they had made, or caused to be made, was carefully estimated, and this having been increased by a small per centage—generally five, but in a few cases, twenty, per cent.—everything was, at first, legibly marked and honestly disposed of at its appointed price. But this system soon had to be abandoned, for the simple reason, that, whereas the Bazaar was to last three days, its contents had been sold out before the evening of the first day. Restocking became necessary, and there was obviously no time to mark everything as before. The ladies, too, had received some lessons and hints very early in the proceedings, and they proved themselves apt

scholars. People coming on the second day found that the amounts they had in their purses were, in most cases, the only true indication of the prices of the goods. This merry method of selling grew more and more familiar as the hours went by, and was attended by one admirable result; namely, that people who had put off visiting the Bazaar till the very last moment, in the hopes of finding everything sold, were exposed to the full force of the fair sellers' practiced skill, and had to pay large sums for plants which had done duty in the decorations or cigarettes which remained unsmoked in the refreshment room. The refreshment rooms themselves were not the least successful portions of the affair. The most modest beverage, from a cup of tea to a bottle of lemonade, cost twenty *sen*, and economical visitors who confined themselves to a glass of iced-water, without the proverbial tooth-pick, did not receive any change worth carrying away out of a ten *sen* note. Of course there was a great deal of pretty rivalry among the ladies, but we believe that the stall at which Madame INOUE presided carried off the palm, its takings on the second day alone having been upwards of six hundred *yen*. The benevolent naval officer, to whose medical services and untiring charity the Tokiyo Hospital owes so much, was to be seen everywhere assisting everybody, his delight at the help in store for his favorite institution seeming to render him wholly impervious to fatigue. And, indeed, we cannot speak in terms of too high admiration of the fortitude displayed by the ladies, the great majority of whom remained steadily at their stalls throughout the whole three days, successfully hiding every symptom of weariness and never allowing the spirit of the proceedings to flag for a moment. The Ministers of State and many high Government officials seemed to devote all the intervals of business to visiting the Bazaar, leaving it, of course, on each occasion with empty purses. Three leading Japanese merchants of Yokohama—gentlemen whose names were on everybody's lips at the time of the Ito-gwaisha trouble—fared, perhaps, as badly as anyone. Like MOHAMMED and the mountain, they probably thought that if they did not visit the Bazaar, the Bazaar would not visit them. They were mistaken, however. The Bazaar came to them in the person of a well known Minister, who invited them to sup with him at a tea-house in Yokohama on Friday evening, and there preached the virtue of charity so successfully that they ended by contributing 200 *yen* a-piece. As for the foreign residents, it is scarcely necessary to say that their sympathy was of the most substantial nature. Hard times do not appear to touch Yokohama's kind-heartedness in the least. Every charitable appeal meets with a ready response. The promoters of the Bazaar thought they were beyond the mark in estimating a foreign contribution of five hundred *yen*. Twice

that amount would probably have been within the truth. Yokohama alone took about a thousand tickets, and each of the Foreign Representatives put down his name for two hundred. Thus, in every respect, the affair was a signal success, and the Ladies of Tokiyo deserve to be heartily congratulated. Nothing could have been more auspicious than this initial effort of the Benevolent Society into which they have formed themselves, whether it be viewed by the light of its immediate results, or as a step towards the acquisition of that social influence which is woman's right in all highly civilized countries.

THE "FIJI SHIMPO" AND THE MISSIONARIES.

THE *Fiji Shimpō's* comments on the action taken by the Missionaries with regard to Treaty Revision do not seem to us particularly happy. Assuredly they are not marked by that journal's wonted discrimination. We can sympathise fully with our Tokiyo contemporary's radical sentiments in this matter. As a patriotic Japanese, his duty and his inclinations alike forbid him to rest content with anything less than the complete restoration of his country's autonomic rights. But, in our opinion, the course he advocates is not consistent with the promptings of a wise patriotism. Indeed, we are disposed to doubt whether he has given any serious reflection to the practical results of the sweeping change he recommends. The entire and immediate abolition of extraterritoriality must be considered from two standpoints: the standpoint of those who would be required to assume judicial authority over foreigners, and the standpoint of those who would be required to submit to that authority. Under the latter aspect, the first problem that presents itself is the temper of foreigners. The *Fiji Shimpō* will readily admit that every reform—and we do not hesitate to call the ultimate abolition of extraterritoriality a reform—can only be successful when it is suited to the conditions under which it is introduced. The reform, in this case, is an extensive modification of a system of Government, and its promoters are bound to consider not only the competence of the proposed governors, but also the disposition of the governed. It would, perhaps, be extravagant to expect that a Japanese journal should set out by admitting any doubts as to the former, and besides, our contemporary's article is not without evidence that he, at any rate, has entire confidence in the ability of Japanese officials to discharge functions unprecedented in the history of Oriental and Occidental intercourse. But what we would ask is, does this confidence extend to the possibility of immediately conciliating foreign prejudices? Does the *Fiji Shimpō* sincerely believe that if foreigners were compelled to-morrow to submit to Japanese jurisdiction in its

entirety, they could accept the change with any measure of that content which is essential to the smooth working of governmental machinery? We have always insisted that the fullest credit should be given to the motives which inspire Japan's dissatisfaction with the present system. We believe, also, and have frankly admitted, that the motives which prompt foreign opposition to any radical change are in great part the outcome of prejudice and ignorance. But however the former may be extolled and the latter condemned, the facts must be dealt with as they actually exist. Anybody can see with how much persistence and how little justice attempts are at present made by a section of the foreign community to prove that Japan is wholly unfit for the charge she would assume. Every rumour of official error, from the proceedings of a constable to the sentence of a tribunal, is magnified into an evidence of national incompetence. Childish and unfair as all this is, to ignore the temper it indicates would be an unfortunate blunder. This discontented and truculent section of the foreign residents is precisely the element with which the Japanese authorities would have to reckon were the course which the *Fiji Shimpō* recommends adopted, and the result could only be endless friction and mutual dissatisfaction.

Beyond this section, of which we have spoken first, because its disturbing influence is prominent at present and would be still more prominent under the new régime, there is a large body of foreigners who sincerely desire to be fair and liberal, but who are unable to reconcile themselves to the proposed change because they are influenced by sentiments precisely analogous to those for which the *Fiji Shimpō* claims consideration in its own case. This point has already received lengthy treatment in our columns, though in truth the necessity of addressing such arguments to a journal like the *Fiji Shimpō* did not occur to us. We did not think it necessary to remind the representative of educated liberalism in Japan that the instinct of freedom—the instinct which has worked out all the great progressive measures of Western civilization—is not more active in the promotion of personal rights than it is jealous in the preservation of those rights when once secured. If it is intolerable to a Japanese that the independence of his country should be impaired by the necessity of granting exceptional privileges to foreigners, he must remember that those privileges represent, in foreign eyes, the outcome of centuries of effort and suffering. Men are unwilling to abandon what has cost them a great deal to acquire. By an Englishman, security of life and property, the impartial administration of justice, and the several rights of a free-man, are regarded as the inalienable heritage of his nationals wherever they may be, and he believes that every British

subject is entitled to claim his Government's protection against any attempt to encroach upon that heritage. This faith is an integral part of his patriotic creed, and it deserves at the hands of the Japanese the same respect which they ask for their own efforts to obtain a complete recognition of their country's independence. True, we are in Japan, not England, and the assertion of English rights must therefore be secondary to the exercise of Japanese. But to admit this carries the question into the region of logic, and we are dealing at present with sentiment. Our purpose is simply to point out that even the most moderate and liberal foreigners have good cause for hesitation in this matter, and that the grounds of their reluctance to forego at once and altogether the protection of their own institutions are both intelligible and respectable.

Seeing, then, that the disposition of the governed would, at first, be quite irreconcilable, it becomes doubly necessary to consider the competence of the governors. Is our Tokiyo contemporary quite satisfied upon that point? Does he believe that Japan has codes sufficiently complete and a judiciary sufficiently experienced to assume immediate and entire jurisdiction over foreigners? If so, he differs from those among his own countrymen upon whom the direct responsibility of such a proceeding would rest. We need not enter into particulars. It is quite enough to point out, first, that when Japan set about reconstructing her legal institutions upon Western models she confessed the necessity of that measure; and secondly, that the reconstruction is only now approaching completion. It is impossible to admit that Japan would be consulting her own interests did she prematurely anticipate her readiness to undertake duties which, at the best, it will fully tax her abilities to perform without friction. She will be the first among Oriental States to obtain such a concession at Western hands, and however deliberate, however complete, her preparations, she must look forward to difficulties of no trifling nature.

Doubtless, the Missionaries of Tokiyo and Yokohama took all this into consideration when they wrote that "the immediate and entire abolition of extraterritoriality would be premature." Their *confrères* of the South, while not committing themselves to any explicit statement of the same nature, were evidently influenced by a similarly wise discretion. Both, however, agreed that the time was fully ripe for substantial concessions to Japan's just demands, and both expressed themselves in terms of unequivocal friendship and good-will to this country. But the *Fiji Shimpō* appears to despise sincere friends. It will be content with nothing short of blind partisans. We have no right, perhaps, to criticise our contemporary's choice, little as it partakes of his usual moderation. Some measure of justice, however, we do expect at his

hands, and in this instance he has been strangely unjust. So completely does he misinterpret the motives and miscalculate the obligations of the Missionaries, that he finds fault with them for failing to do the very thing which their enemies and traducers have accused them of doing—charges them with indifference to the interests of religion because they have not advocated the complete abolition of extraterritoriality for the sake of the increased facilities of propagandism such a step would confer. Further, as though this suggestion of half-heartedness were not sufficient, he indirectly twits them with allowing selfish fears for their own safety to mar their opportunities. "Japanese law," he says, "is more than capable of protecting the lives and properties of missionaries." It may interest the *Fiji Shimpō* to know that there is not one missionary, worthy of the name, who would not gladly have placed himself under Japanese jurisdiction fifty years ago, if by so doing he could have enlarged his sphere of usefulness; and that, apart from all questions of propagandism, there are probably not half a dozen missionaries in this country to-day who, for their own sakes, would desire to defer, for so much as an hour or even a minute, the entire restoration of Japan's judicial autonomy. But the missionary does not take his personal feelings for his only guide. He has to consider the feelings and interests of others also. In this instance he has shown himself both impartial and dispassionate; the representative of that middle course in which safety and success are certainly to be found, and which Japanese statesmen are fortunately willing to tread. His reward, so far as the *Fiji Shimpō* is concerned, is singular—so singular that we are almost forced to doubt whether our Tokiyo contemporary had read the memorial and declaration he undertook to criticise. If he read them, and then in good faith wrote as he has written, we can only say that there are in Japan journalists wholly incapable of distinguishing between their country's friends and its enemies.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BAZAAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL".

SIR,—I cheerfully obey the behest of the ladies of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, that I convey to you their best thanks for your support of their enterprise, the Bazaar that has just been so successfully held, and in giving such prominence to your announcement of it in your columns.

Please accept their sincere acknowledgments, and believe me, Sir, very truly yours,

MIYOJI ITO,

Hon. Sec. of the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

Our ladies would ask you, unless it is trespassing too much upon your good nature, to convey in your columns in a line or two, their thanks for the liberality with which foreigners contributed to the receipts of the Bazaar.

M. I.

Tokio, 16th June, 1884.

[We publish this letter as received, thinking that this course will best meet the writer's views.—Ed. J.M.]

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA FOR 1883.

BRITISH CONSULATE FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA,
Hiogo, May 5th, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to report on the Trade and Navigation of the Ports of Hiogo and Osaka for the year 1883, and inclose you the following Returns on this subject:—

Hiogo.

- 1.—Return of Imports from Foreign Countries.
 - 2.—Return of Exports to Foreign Countries.
 - 3.—Returns of Shipping, viz., (a) British and other foreign shipping. (b) Japanese shipping.
 - 4.—Return of duties and shipping dues collected.
 - 5.—Return of Import and Export of Treasure.
 - 6.—Return of Foreign Residents and Firms.
- OSAKA.
- 7.—Return of Imports from Foreign Countries.
 - 8.—Return of Exports to Foreign Countries.
 - 9.—Return of Shipping (Japanese).
 - 10.—Return of duties and shipping dues collected.
 - 11.—Return of Foreign Residents and Firms.
 - 12.—Statement showing return of Articles re-imported and duty repaid at the two ports.
 - 13.—Statement showing return of Articles re-exported and duty repaid at the two ports.
 - 14.—Comparative statement showing the Total Trade of the ports of Hiogo and Osaka for the year 1883 and the total for 1882.

The Returns of Imports and Exports are compiled from the revised Returns of the Foreign Trade of Japan for last year published by the Bureau of Customs; the Returns of Foreign Shipping and of Foreign Residents and Firms are compiled from memoranda furnished to me from the various Foreign Consulates here, and the Returns of Japanese Shipping from figures supplied from the agencies of the steamship Companies and from the Customs. I am also indebted for information, relating to the deliveries of imported goods, to the Returns of the local Chamber of Commerce and on other subjects to officers of the Government and to residents at this place.

The Returns of Foreign Imports and Exports show a total value of \$14,803,449, for the Foreign Trade of the two ports for the year, being a nett increase of \$122,994 over the value of the Trade for 1882. The value of Exports for the year amounts to \$6,473,757, being a decrease of \$288,906 from the value for 1882; while the value of Imports amounts to \$8,329,692, being an increase of \$411,900 over the value for the previous year. It may be observed that, the previous year, while the total trade of the Port showed an increase, the variation of increase and decrease, as between imports and exports was the other way.

IMPORTS.—The increase observable in the import return is distributed principally over the headings of Woollens and Mixtures and Metals. In Cottons generally there is a decrease. Notwithstanding the increase in the import return, however, the year has been by no means a good one. An examination of the Chamber of Commerce returns shows that there is a decrease in the total deliveries under each of the headings of Manufactures and under Metals. Taking the separate articles, I find that the deliveries of each article of cotton manufacture were less in 1883 than in 1882, with the sole exception of cotton yarns; that the deliveries of woollens were all less, except of Blankets, and of all mixtures the deliveries had likewise decreased. The following is a comparative statement of deliveries of manufactures for the two years:—

	DELIVERIES, 1882.	DELIVERIES, 1883.
Cotton Manufactures value	\$2,610,700	\$2,451,400
Woollen Manufactures value	1,525,000	1,079,300
Woollen and Cotton Mixtures } value	474,300	299,200

exclusive of what has been imported by Japanese merchants from Yokohama.

The value of manufactures imported by Japanese from Yokohama into this port has also materially declined during last year, the total being given at \$1,277,500, as against \$2,908,700 in 1882.

The cause of the dulness of the Import Trade has, without doubt, been the fluctuations in the value of Japanese paper, and the general depression accompanying the advance, which, as I shall mention further on, has taken place in its exchange value. Manufactures were, generally, unsaleable in the commencement of the year, but from the month of February they began to improve. Shirtings and other cottons began to be in request, and this continued until about the month of July. In particular it should be observed, that the demand for both English and Bombay yarns, but especially the latter, was for that period good; and, on the whole, this trade seems to be on the increase at this port. In October and November, the demand for imports was entirely checked by the advance in paper and the general depression continued until the end of the year.

Japanese merchants do not now buy imports in large quantities and on contract as in former years. Sales are made by Importers in smaller quantities and for cash. We hear less, consequently, of difficulties from unfulfilled contracts; and the trade is in this respect a more healthy one.

METALS.—An increase of deliveries of pig iron and nails appears in the returns for the year; but the market has been generally depressed.

KEROSENE OIL.—Deliveries were to the number of 566,826 cases, as against 684,697 cases in 1882. Stock increased from 195,460 cases in importers' hands, in the commencement of the year, to 586,800 cases in December.

EXPORTS.—Each of the headings of staple exports shows a decrease in value, last year, except in the cases of wax and tobacco, coal and lacquered ware.

TEA.—This staple shows a total export of 14,472,400 lbs.; being an increase of 434,800 lbs. over the export in 1882. The declared value \$2,350,111, of the export last year is, however, \$117,518 less than the valuation of the export in 1882. The Custom's Returns, being necessarily for the civil year, do not afford such a good basis for estimating the fluctuations of this trade as returns for the tea season would give. I have been favoured with an estimate of the average price of tea bought here during the seasons 1882-3, and 1883-4, from which it appears that while in the former season the average price was \$24.75 per picul, in the latter season the price has been \$20.25. The tendency on the American Market has been in favour of lower priced teas. The following comparison of the quantities of different priced teas bought here during the two seasons, exemplifies this in the most marked manner:—

SEASON 1882-3.		SEASON 1883-4.	
PER PICUL.	BOUGHT.	PER PICUL.	BOUGHT.
At \$ 5 to \$11.50.....	piculs 3,607	At \$ 5 to \$11.50.....	piculs 10,733
At \$12 to \$16.50.....	piculs 8,847	At \$12 to \$16.50.....	piculs 19,058
At \$17 to \$21.50.....	piculs 23,259	At \$17 to \$21.50.....	piculs 31,818
At \$22 to \$25.50.....	piculs 25,708	At \$22 to \$25.50.....	piculs 31,347
At \$26 to \$29.50.....	piculs 24,837	At \$26 to \$29.50.....	piculs 15,926
At \$30 to \$39.50.....	piculs 19,788	At \$30 to \$39.50.....	piculs 7,111
At \$40 upwards.....	piculs 1,402	At \$40 upwards.....	piculs 54

The averages given above are based on these figures.

Of the Tea exported all last year, it appears from returns with which I have been favoured by the United States Consul, that 14,042,425 lbs., or over ninety-seven per cent. of the whole, went to the United States and to Canada through the United States. Of this, somewhat less than one-third may be taken as having gone to Canada.

The Japanese Society for the advancement of the Tea Cultivation held their second meeting in the months of September and October of last year, in the Ken Assembly Hall at this Port. Exhibits from the various tea-producing districts in Japan were shown and adjudicated upon, the arrangements being under the auspices of the Agricultural Bureau.

TOBACCO.—The greater part of the export of last year went from the Port of Osaka, the quantity exported from there having risen from 808 piculs in 1882 to 2,380 piculs in 1883. This was principally owing to the shipment of a large quantity of Higo Tobacco brought from Nagasaki

and packed for export at Osaka. The total export from the two Ports amounted to 2,801 piculs, of a value of \$32,057, as against 1,537 piculs of a value of \$16,066 in 1882. Last year's crop is good, but, as in the previous year, short in quantity.

It may be interesting to remark that efforts are made by the Japanese Government, by introducing foreign seed, to encourage the farmers to grow a better class of tobacco. I am informed, however, that this is not having the effect desired. After a season or two, tobacco, originally raised from imported seed, appears to become, under the influence of soil and climate, undistinguishable from that grown from the native seed. It would, in the opinion of experts in this article, be better to endeavour to improve the native tobacco which, if the price is moderate, will always command a market in London, the chief desiderata being dryness, colour, and burning power.

The export of COPPER shows a decrease from \$606,828 value in 1882 to \$363,961 value last year. In the months of September and October some demand from Corea for this article for coinage purposes induced a rise in prices, which had the effect of checking transactions.

CAMPOR, although showing a decrease on the export in 1882, still shows a good average export value of \$535,291; Vegetable Wax an increase of \$64,928, the total being \$369,339. A large proportion of the latter was of inferior grade exported by Chinese.

RICE, for Australia, New Zealand, and Europe, shows a total of \$463,148, being not much more than half the value exported the previous year.

WHEAT, given in the returns under miscellaneous Exports, attains the considerable figure of \$198,407 value for the two ports. It may be remarked that the figures given in these returns do not always represent the entire export of rice from this part of Japan, as vessels occasionally load or fill up with rice at unopened ports for foreign countries.

EARTHENWARE and PORCELAIN and LACQUERED WARE remain at almost the same figures last year as the previous year.

ANTIMONY, classed here under miscellaneous Exports, reaches the amount of 29,210 piculs, valued at \$137,154.

BAMBOO WARE, BRONZE WARE, FANS, IVORY WARE, SCREENS, show an increased export.

RAGS were exported to the value of \$40,680 to the United States.

MATCHES, which figured largely the previous year have almost disappeared from the returns.

FISH-OIL, noted in last year's report as a new export, shows an increase.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.—The average bank rate of exchange at four months' sight, on London, for the year, was 3s. 8½d., the maximum being 3s. 9½d. and the minimum 3s. 7½d. The average sight rate was 3s. 8d.

There has been a notable rise in the value of Japanese paper during the year. The lowest rate quoted in the month of March was 145 yen per \$100, Mexican. In November, the rate had risen to 106. At the end of the year it was tolerably steady at about 109. The cause of this improvement of paper is understood to be the contraction of this part of the currency by the withdrawal by the Government of a part of the inconvertible issue, which they have been able to effect by the issue of certain terminable bonds. There is no doubt that this is a step in the right direction; but in the meantime the change causes considerable depression to the agricultural and trading interests.

THE MINT.—The Commissioner of the Mint, in Osaka, has kindly favoured me with returns of the bullion imported into the Mint, and of the amount of coins struck during the year 1883. They are as follows:—

Table showing the amount of Gold, Silver, and Copper Bullion imported during the year 1883:—					
DESCRIPTION.	GOVERNMENT.	JAPANESE.	FOREIGNERS.	TOTAL.	
Gold	Troy oz.	Troy oz.	Troy oz.	Troy oz.	
Silver	6,948.63	20,329.50	—	27,278.13	
Copper	749,388.43	496,221.48	1,700,387.95	2,945,997.86	
	27,323,254.00	—	—	27,323,254.00	
Total	28,079,591.06	516,550.98	1,700,387.95	30,296,529.99	

Table showing the amount of Gold, Silver, and Copper Coins struck during the year 1883:—

DENOMINATION.	WEIGHT.	NUMBER.	VALUE. Yen.
Gold Coins.....	29,165.88	108,858	\$44,290.00
Silver Coins	3,152,700.01	3,637,404	3,637,404.00
Copper Coins	24,620,676.50	119,419,393	1,070,791.91
Total	27,802,542.39	123,105,655	5,252,485.91

It appears from these tables that 2,022 ozs. more of gold were imported into the Mint in 1883 than in 1882 and 1,143,527 ozs. less of silver. The value of coins struck, of each metal, was less in 1883 than in 1882; the difference being principally in silver coins. The total decrease in value of coins struck, of the three metals, amounted to 1,601,222 yen.

The quantity of gold and silver refined at the mint during the year was as follows:—

	REFINED. Troy Oz.	PURE. Troy Oz.
Gold	47,559.68	47,440.13
Silver	662,007.79	660,471.25

Total..... 709,567.47 707,911.38

Some details of the quantities of Acids and other articles manufactured at the works in connection with the Mint I am giving further on in this report.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

British shipping entered at the port of Hiogo last year shows a total of 124 vessels of 159,298 tons, as against 120 vessels of 140,503 tons in 1882, being an increase of four vessels and 18,795 tons. Under the United States, German and other flags, there is a similar slight increase. The total increase, under the British and other Foreign flags, amounts to 21 vessels and 35,142 tons.

No ships, under Foreign flags entered the port of Osaka during the year.

Of British ships entering the port of Hiogo, 52 vessels of 75,810 tons were steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 57 vessels of 74,625 tons, were steamers of other lines, and 15 vessels, of 8,863 tons, were sailing ships. One steamer was wrecked on the passage to this port and the wreck afterwards sold here.

Again of British shipping the greater part was from and to England or British Colonies, via intermediate Japanese ports, principally with general cargoes. Two vessels entered direct from Hongkong, two cleared direct for Hongkong, and five for Australian ports, four of the latter with rice, the rest with general cargoes.

Of the remainder of the British shipping it may be noted that five vessels arrived direct from Shanghai with general cargoes, one from Amoy with sugar, two from Philadelphia, one with general cargo, the other with Kerosene. Twenty two British vessels cleared for Chinese ports, three of them with grain and nineteen with general cargoes, two cleared for Havre, with general cargoes, three for New York with general cargoes, and two for Manila, in ballast.

Of the shipping under other than the British flag, three vessels cleared for Hongkong direct, one for Melbourne, and one for Victoria, Vancouver Island. The Mitsu Bishi Company maintains a bi-monthly steam communication under the Japanese flag, between this port and Hongkong, their vessels calling at Nagasaki on the voyage each way. One only entered here direct from Hongkong last year.

The Return, which I enclose, of Japanese shipping entering the Port of Hiogo comprises only the seagoing vessels of the various lines maintained by the larger companies. In the return of shipping for Osaka are included the small steamers plying between that port and various places on the Inland Sea. These small steamers all, or nearly all, call at Hiogo, but I have not thought it desirable to repeat the enumeration of them in the Return for Hiogo.

NEW PIER.—The pier near the western camber, referred to in Mr. Woolley's report of last year as being in prospect, was commenced in December last and is now in course of construction. This work is the enterprise of a Japanese Company, called the Kobe Pier Company. The pier is being constructed of iron on the

plan of the Railway pier on the western side of the harbour, the iron used in its construction having been imported from England and the founding done at the Government Works at Hiogo. It will, when completed, be 450 feet long by 42 feet in width. The depth of water at the end of the pier, at low spring tides, will, it is estimated, be twenty-three feet. Along the pier are to be laid three lines of steel rails, for the purpose of conveying goods from and to vessels lying alongside the pier. It is intended to furnish the pier also with steam cranes capable of lifting about six tons, and the necessary mooring anchors and other gear. The whole cost of the pier and these appliances is estimated at \$100,000. It is anticipated that the works will be completed in September next.

In connexion with the pier, the company are also erecting a series of brick warehouses, on land adjoining the pier. These will for the present, consist of four buildings, each 102 feet by 42 feet and near the warehouses there is to be a large wooden shed 216 feet by 48 feet, which will be used for the examination of cargo by the Customs. The warehouses will be used as bonded warehouses under the supervision of the Customs.

The object of the Company is thus to provide facilities for the import and export trade of the port; and if they are able to arrange that the charges for the use of the pier shall be sufficiently moderate as to induce vessels to make use of it largely, the enterprise should certainly succeed and will be a material addition to the convenience of this harbour.

The Harbour Light on Wada Point has been re-erected in a position fifty feet to the west of its former site; the old wooden tower on which it was exhibited having been replaced by an iron one.

SHIPBUILDING.—Under this head, perhaps the most important works here are those known as the Kobe Iron works, situated at the village of Ono, close by this Settlement. In consequence of the death of the English proprietor of these works, in December of last year, they have subsequently become the property of the Naval Department of the Japanese Government, which has re-engaged most of the hands employed at the works, and is now carrying them on.

I am able to give the following details of ship and engine building accomplished, and of repairs executed at these works in 1883. Besides the two steamers noticed by Mr. Woolley in his report of last year, and launched on the Biwa Lake, for the purpose of running in connection with the Railway, an iron steamer 152 feet long on the keel and 23 feet beam, with compound surface condensing engines, 55 horse-power, and designed to carry 400 tons of rice in the lower holds and passengers between the main and hurricane decks, has been completed. Extensive repairs were done to two steamers, of the Japanese Companies, the woodwork and mainmast of one, and the engines and boilers of the other having been renewed. A set of twin screw surface condensing engines and boiler 25 horse-power, were made and delivered to a Hongkong firm, for a boat building there. A set of 35 horse-power compound engines and boiler were built, and another of 100 horse-power, were about half built towards the end of the year. A great many other repairs have been executed for steamers running to this port. In March of last year a contract was given by the Japanese Government to the late proprietor of these works for the building of a composite sloop of war, 201 feet on the keel, 35 feet beam, and about 1,300 tons displacement and 1,600 indicated horse-power. At the time of his death a number of the iron-plates had been erected, a low pressure cylinder, weighing 13½ tons and a great number of castings, had been cast and machined. The building of this vessel is now being proceeded with by the Naval Department of the Government. There have been usually in employment at these works, during the year, five hundred Japanese and thirty Chinese workmen; and eleven Europeans, in the capacities of superintending engineers, draughtsmen, foremen, and clerks.

Some account was given in last years Trade Report of the nature of the work done at the Government shipbuilding works at Hiogo, known as the Shinden Works. These works continue to be in operation, for the construction and repair of vessels; and an important addition to the appliances already in existence there, namely a slip, for the hauling up of vessels, is now in course of construction. The slip was commenced last year and is expected to be finished next. Its inclination is to be one in nineteen, it is to be provided with hydraulic appliances capable of hauling up a weight of 1,500 tons, the whole work being estimated to cost a sum of about 150,000 yen.

The following particulars of work done at Messrs. Hunters' Iron and Shipbuilding Works, at Osaka, during 1883, are condensed from a statement kindly furnished to me by the owners. Two wooden steamers were built at the works, one of 500 tons, with compound surface condensing engines of 230 indicated horse-power and boilers; the other for Inland Sea traffic, of 210 tons, with similar engines, of 128 horse-power and boilers, all made at the works. Two steamers of 400 and 650 tons respectively, and a foreign barque were docked and extensive repairs and refittings done to them, of engines, boilers, hulls, masts, under the inspection of the surveyors, and sundry repairs were also done to the hulls, engines, and boilers of thirty-two steamers, many of which were docked. There were also two compound surface condensing engines and boilers built at the works, one of 50 the other of 28 horse-power; and a great deal of other minor repairs executed on steamers, sailing vessels, and land machinery. A Dry Dock, which has been constructed at the works, is capable of docking vessels 220 feet long and drawing nine feet of water. The land occupied by the works covers nearly six acres.

POPULATION.—The population of the town of Kobe-Hiogo is given at 26,485 males and 27,936 females, or 54,421 in all. The population of the Prefecture of Hiogo may be taken as about 1,420,000.

The City of Osaka contains 147,652 males and 153,010 females, or a population in all of 300,662 souls. If to this is added the population of the country districts under the jurisdiction of the City Prefect of Osaka, we arrive at a total population of 1,601,404 within the Prefecture of Osaka. These figures show a slight increase over those given in last year's Trade Report.

The Foreign Population of Hiogo and Osaka, on the 31st December last, amounting in all to 460 Europeans and Americans, and 754 Chinese, shows no notable variation from that of a year previous. The difference observable, in the tables, in the number of the Mercantile firms at Hiogo, probably arises from a different method of estimating what constitutes a firm. Simple shops or stores, are not, in this years return of British houses, reckoned as firms. The foreign population of Osaka is largely composed of Missionaries.

INDUSTRIES.—I am not in a position here to give any comprehensive account of the varied industries carried on in this district. Of those more immediately connected with this port after the shipbuilding industry which I have already noticed, may be mentioned the manufacture of paper at Kobe. The Paper Mill here is owned by an American firm, but the hands employed in it, as well as the superintendent, are all Japanese. Last year there were manufactured at the mill 1,016,710 lbs. of white news and printing paper, and 47,393 lbs. of coloured paper. The sales were considerably over a million pounds, all of them either here or in Yokohama, for native consumption. The capacity of the mill is a production of about one and three quarter million pounds of news and printing paper in the year. The material used is chiefly rags, but some straw is also made use of. Besides the women in the rag-sorting department, whose number varies, there are fifty-three workmen and two superintendents employed in the mill.

The following details will afford some notion of the nature of the manufactures carried on at

the works in connection with the Mint, in Osaka. Of Acids, Soda, &c., manufactured at these works, there were sold during the year:—

Sulphuric Acid, various	lbs.	1,046,237
Muriatic Acid (a small quantity of which refined)		26,447
Nitric Acid (some refined)		1,488
Sulphates of Iron, Copper, Zinc, Ammonia, and Soda		91,824
White Ash and Soda, various		119,018

PUBLIC WORKS—RAILWAYS.

The following is a statement of the traffic and receipts of the Kioto, Kobe, and Otsu section of the Japanese Government Railways, for the twelve months ending the 31st December last:—

NUMBER OF PASSENGERS.	RECEIPTS FOR PASSENGERS. Amount Yen	PASSENGERS, LUGGAGE, PARCELS, &c. Weight Cattles	RECEIPTS FOR PASSENGERS, LUGGAGE, PARCELS, &c. Amount Yen
3,122,388	759,634	2,215,070	31,708
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR PASSENGERS, AND PARCELS. Amount Yen			
791,342	300,789,065	176,883	968,225

As compared with those of 1882, last year's returns show a decrease of 553,000 in the number of passengers carried over this line, the number for 1882, being 3,675,388, and a decrease in the receipts of yen 116,157. A decrease, amounting to 105,814 piculs also appears in the aggregate weight of parcels and merchandise carried and the receipts under this heading a decrease of yen 12,652. The total decrease on the receipts for the year thus amounts to yen 128,810. The cause of the decrease in the number of passengers is doubtless the straitened circumstances of the agricultural classes principally, the number of whom travelling on religious and holiday-making excursions has not been so great as in former years.

The total number of miles of railway now open in this part of Japan amounts to ninety-eight. Of this number fifty-eight miles compose the section running from this port, by Osaka and Kioto, to Otsu on the Biwa Lake, the traffic on which section, for the past year, I have just quoted. On the further side of the Lake there are two lines in operation. One of these runs from Nagahama, on the shore of the Lake, and terminates at the Port of Tsuruga, on the North-west coast. Until lately this line was divided into two sections, the tunnel, known as the Yamagase tunnel, which now unites them, having been opened for traffic only on the 16th ultimo. This tunnel, which runs through a hill some eight hundred feet high and is fourteen hundred yards in length, has been for the last four years in course of construction. Its completion now secures the continuity of this portion of the railways, twenty-six miles in length, forming the direct communication between the North-west coast and the Biwa Lake, and, by means of the small steamers plying on the Lake, with the Otsu, Kioto, and Kobe Railway. It is unfortunate, as I understand it is the case, that the larger steamers built at the Kobe Iron Works and launched on the lake last year, have been found to be too great draught to admit of their approaching the railway piers; and the smaller class of steamers are still, consequently, used to make the connection between the lines of railway on the opposite sides of the lake.

The second line beyond the lake is at present only fourteen miles in length. It also takes its departure from Nagahama and then follows a North-easterly direction. At present it terminates at Sekigahara, having been opened to traffic, thus far, in May of last year. Two trains a day pass over this section. Beyond Sekigahara, the construction of a further section, of eight miles, to the important trading town of Ogaki, was begun in September of last year. On the former section there are no works of importance, but, as it runs through a hilly district, some of the gradients are heavy, one in forty being the maximum. On the latter section there are two considerable bridges, over the Aigawa and Akazagawa respectively. This section, it is ex-

pected, will be open to traffic in the course of the coming summer and a further extension of nine miles, from Ogaki to Gifu, is now under consideration. This line it is intended shall form part of the main-trunk line, following the direction of the Nakasendo, which will ultimately connect the railway system of this part of Japan with that taking its departure from Tokio. I should add that these works have all been executed by Japanese engineers without foreign assistance.

The connection between Nagahama and Otsu, by means of the small steamers plying across the lake, is a comparatively imperfect one. From four to five hours are occupied on the passage, a distance of some forty miles, and there is the inconvenience of the transfer of goods and passengers between the railway and the steamers. The construction of a line alongside the lake, for which a survey was made some years ago, would obviate this inconvenience, and supply a link now wanting to connect the two systems of railway. Doubtless, as the line along the Nakasendo route, for which a loan of twenty million yen has lately been sought, progresses, the necessity for making this connection will be all the more felt, and it is all that now remains to be done to complete the railway connection between this port and the North West Coast of Japan.

At the railway works in Kobe there have been built during the year 101 carriages and wagons, and extensive repairs have been made to locomotives. In this department eight Europeans and twenty-two Japanese are employed. Four new locomotives, on order from a Glasgow house, are expected to arrive in June.

TELEGRAPHS.—Not much has to be noted in the way of telegraph extension in this neighbourhood during 1883. A cable was laid from Akashi, on the mainland, to the Island of Awaji, and the line opened for messages on the 1st July.

At the central telegraph office in Kobe, which is now situated at the railway station at Sannomiya, near the Foreign Settlement, there were received during the year, 7,976 domestic messages and 5,490 such messages were despatched; or, in all, there were 13,466 domestic messages passed through the office, being 395 less than during the previous year. The charges collected on domestic messages amounted to 19,817 yen, paper. The number of international messages received was 2,204, and the number despatched 2,240, total 4,444, or 348 in excess of the number received and despatched during the previous year. The amount collected on international messages was \$33,148, silver.

I have honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Signed) JAMES TROUP.

The Honourable F. R. PLUNKETT, &c., &c., &c..

H.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Tôkiô.

I.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF THE PORT OF HIOGO DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

COTTON MANUFACTURES—(Total value \$2,726,501).

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Shirtings Grey	yards 4,461,531	\$211,801
Shirtings White	yards 744,093	48,378
Shirtings Figured	yards 126,635	8,452
Shirtings Twilled	yards 134,524	8,498
Shirtings Dyed	yards 638,111	36,000
Cotton Velvets	yards 358,849	56,354
Cotton Sateens	yards 1,270,400	111,303
Cotton Yarns	piculs 71,354	1,863,857
Cotton Singlets	No. 22,578	8,369
Printed Cotton and		
Chintzes	yards 1,421,377	85,110
Handkerchiefs	No. 58,794	32,154
Duck and Canvas	yards 53,606	9,995
Drills	yards 249,600	11,795
Taffetaelass	yards 96,792	13,262
T-Cloths	yards 527,935	30,929
Turkey Reds	yards 1,813,592	123,428

Carried forward.....

\$2,659,745

Brought forward		\$2,659,745
Victoria Lawns	yards 910,456	46,100
Miscellaneous Cotton		20,656

\$2,726,501

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES AND WOOLLEN AND COTTON MIXTURES—(Total value \$1,258,067).

Blankets	piculs 1,149	51,385
Camlets	yards 18,418	3,432
Camlet Cords	yards 76,672	9,543
Flannels	yards 132,482	37,478
Lastings	yards 197,363	41,501
Long Ells	yards 27,410	7,215
Mousseline de Laine	yards 5,493,454	823,979
Serges	yards 437	323
Spanish Stripes	yards 2,439	1,560
Woollen Cloths	yards 18,632	21,006
Sundries		7,968
Italian Cloth	yards 855,800	172,771
Lustres	yards 40,147	3,909
Orleans	yards 230,400	22,507
Not Specified	yards	53,490

Total \$1,258,067

Kerosene Oil..... gallons 8,454,955 \$879,788

SUGAR—(Total value \$125,028).

Sugar Brown	piculs 33,718	110,871
Sugar White	piculs 1,643	12,481
Sugar Loaf	piculs 158	1,676

Total \$125,028

METALS—(Total value \$674,947).

Iron Pig	piculs 62,551	63,462
Iron Bar	piculs 58,530	135,677
Iron Hoop	piculs 1,309	3,904
Iron Nail rod	piculs 3,850	9,294
Iron Pipe and Tube		5,267
Iron Rod	piculs 16,594	37,640
Iron Roofing	piculs 426	1,927
Iron Plate	piculs 11,398	35,970
Iron Sheet	piculs 4,521	14,035
Iron Nails	piculs 29,417	134,187
Iron Wire	piculs 3,582	16,941
Iron Wire rope	piculs 4,246	7,163
Iron Ware not speci-		
fied	piculs	31,000
Steel	piculs 1,705	12,592
Steel Wire & Ware.		1,003
Tin	piculs 206	6,468
Tin Plates	cases 492	2,249
Tin Plates	piculs 200	1,162
Brass Tube		3,370
Brass Ware		2,116
Copper Sheet	piculs 46	1,051
Copper Tube		1,634
German Silver	piculs 983	45,583
Lead	piculs 9,581	42,505
Lead Sheet	piculs 406	1,796
Nickel	piculs 32	2,671
Yellow Metal		
(sheathing)	piculs 901	16,686
Zinc	piculs 5,948	34,754
Miscellaneous	piculs	2,840

Total \$674,947

MISCELLANEOUS WESTERN—(Total value \$1,115,818).

Ammunition and		
Arms		7,175
Anchor and Cables..		8,201
Butter and Cheese ..		3,057
Articles de Paris ..		2,184
Balances and Scales.		1,736
Boots and Shoes	pairs 745	1,269
Books		3,638
Blue (Prussian)		17,301
Buttons		2,270
Clocks	No. 26,204	60,837
Cutlery		1,488
Clothing		8,316
Carpets	yards 21,972	8,584
Carpets Felt, Jute, &c.		10,785
Cigars	piculs 95	10,932
Cement	piculs 7,557	4,752
Chloride of Lime	piculs 375	1,836
Coal	tons 451	1,856
Confectioneries and Preserves		1,701
Cordage	piculs 1,788	19,448
Coral	piculs 10	12,451
Coral Beads	piculs 25	42,817
Corks		1,134
Drugs, not specified.		6,100
Dyes-Aniline	piculs 321	39,127
Dyes, not specified...		4,206
Dynamite	piculs 75	3,160
Fau de Cologne and Cosmetics		3,495

Carried forward.....

\$289,856

Brought forward ...			\$289,856	Brought forward ...			\$77,452	Brought forward ...			\$524,040	
Flour.....	piculs	1,337	5,543	Ginseng	piculs	6	1,377	Iron Ware			5,993	
Furs	No.	17,043	4,952	Musk	piculs	131	11,673	Ivory Ware			13,606	
Furniture			2,505	Packing Mats.....	No.	387,200	12,639	Kanten	piculs	6,344	164,788	
Gloves	dozen	2,003	2,737	Peas and Beans.....	piculs	36,370	35,990	Lanterns, Paper.....			3,041	
Glass, Window	cases	25,750	68,965	Paper Chinese			1,235	Metals, Miscellane-			21,023	
Glass Beads			2,704	Rattans	piculs	459	2,850	ous			1,515	
Glass Ware			16,115	Sheep	No.	221	1,265	Matches			95,658	
Glycerine	piculs	57	1,265	Safflower	piculs	530	33,192	Mushrooms.....	piculs	2,191	1,142	
Handkerchiefs, Li-				Teeth, Elephant.....	piculs	9	2,784	Muscles, Animal ...			43,976	
nen and others ...	dozen	465	1,170	Teeth, Narwhal	piculs	4	1,901	Oil, Fish	piculs	10,155	4,074	
Hats and Caps	dozen	3,132	20,967	Tortoise Shells	piculs	41	10,089	Oil, Rape seed		753	6,141	
Hams and Bacon ...	piculs	38	1,150	Wood Aloes	piculs	15	2,068	Paper			1,013	
Hemp Yarn	piculs	102	3,556	Timber and Planks			2,713	Paper, European ...			3,162	
Hoofs	piculs	1,416	9,504	Sundries			1,248	Peony Bark	piculs	432	2,349	
Horns	piculs	17	5,756	Total.....			\$220,676	Pictures			3,910	
Implements.....			5,767	RECAPITULATION.				Potatoes			6,935	
India Rubber Ware.			10,283	Cotton Manufactures.....			\$2,726,501	Provisions			40,680	
India Rubber in				Woollen Manufactures and Woollen and				Rags.....	piculs	24,438	5,541	
Sheet	piculs	21	2,081	Cotton Mixtures			1,258,067	Redwood Ware			65,062	
Instruments Surgical			2,954	Kerosene Oil			879,788	Screens No.		10,618	2,250	
Instruments Scienti-				Sugar			125,028	Shells, Conch		856	4,298	
fic			2,761	Metals			674,947	Silk piece-goods.....			16,428	
Leather,	piculs	870	37,772	Miscellaneous Western			1,115,818	Silk Manufacture			3,447	
Liquors, Ale & Beer			23,778	Miscellaneous Eastern			220,676	not specified			12,599	
Liquors, Brandy.....			5,381	Total.....			\$7,000,825	Shell-fish not speci-			1,447	
Liquors, Champagne	dozen	672	5,625	II.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF				fied	piculs	3,447	4,348	
Liquors, Porter and				THE PORT OF HIOGO, DURING THE				Shippoki Ware	piculs	377	1,751	
Liquors, Stout.....			2,845	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.				Soap, Washing	dozen	5,160	1,065	
Liquors, Sherry			1,319	To FOREIGN COUNTRIES.				Salted Salmon and			2,620	
Liquors, Whisky ...			4,722	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE.	QUANTITY.	VALUE IN		Cod	piculs	611	7,518	
Liquors, Wine			10,079	TEA.—(Total value \$2,350,111).		DOLLARS.		Sulphur	piculs	4,852	25,240	
Liquors, Miscellane-			2,823	Tea Leaf	piculs	97,017	2,305,596	Sulphuric Acid	piculs	4,422	17,466	
ous			21,790	Tea Leaf Bancha ...	piculs	377	1,269	Timber and Planks..			4,238	
Lamps, and parts of	piculs	677	6,703	Tea Dust.....	piculs	9,792	37,567	Umbrellas	No.	79,745	182,353	
Logwood, extract of.				Tea Tama or Lump. piculs		1,357	5,679	Wheat.....	piculs	119,442	2,152	
Milk, condensed and				Total.....			\$2,350,111	Wax, Bees'	piculs	57	79,136	
dessicated	dozen	5,963	10,940	COPPER.—Total value (\$363,961).				Miscellaneous.....			\$1,379,158	
Mineral Waters	dozen	1,892	2,141	Copper Ore	piculs	609	11,413	Tea			\$2,350,111	
Machinery, Locomo-				Copper Bar, Slab ...	piculs	17,302	344,226	Copper			363,961	
tive			15,958	Copper Wire	piculs	350	8,322	Tobacco			4,257	
Machinery, Spinning			30,341	Total.....			\$363,961	Vegetable Wax.....			269,779	
Machinery, Sewing..			1,194	Tobacco	piculs	421	4,257	Camphor.....			509,879	
Machinery, Miscella-				Vegetable Wax.....	piculs	25,253	269,779	Coal.....			43,882	
neous			50,801	Camphor.....	piculs	33,460	509,879	Dried Fish			146,133	
Mosquito Net and				Coal	Tons	9,069	43,882	Rice			463,148	
Nettings			72,364	DRIED FISH.—(Total value \$146,133).				Porcelain and Earthenware.....			178,161	
Medicines and Chem-			1,120	Awabi	piculs	138	4,115	Lacquered Ware			85,327	
icals not specified			1,949	Cuttle Fish.....	piculs	6,915	78,119	Seaweed			34,157	
Morphine.....				Bêche de Mer.....	piculs	1,415	39,884	Silk, Waste			16,388	
Oil, Paint	piculs	1,751	13,030	Kaibashira	piculs	258	8,057	Miscellaneous			1,379,158	
Oil, Castor	piculs	372	3,319	Mussels	piculs	432	4,219	Total.....			\$5,844,341	
Oil, Cocoa nut	piculs	106	1,046	Shrimps dried.....	piculs	1,109	11,739	III.—RETURN OF SHIPPING.				
Oil not specified.....			1,246	Total.....			\$146,133	(A) RETURN OF BRITISH & ALL OTHER FOREIGN				
Provisions			31,389	Rice	piculs	194,927	463,148	SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT THE				
Paper			13,934	Porcelain and Ear-				PORT OF HIOGO DURING THE YEAR 1883.				
Porcelain and Ear-				then ware			178,161	NATIONALITY.	ENTERED.	CLEARED.		
thernware			1,930	Lacquered Ware ...			85,327	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
Quinine			12,829	SEAWEED.—(Total value \$34,157).				British.....	124	159,298	123	156,452
Pumps and parts of.			2,215	Seaweed	piculs	11,033	16,902	American	21	28,178	19	25,500
Santonine	piculs	3	1,443	Seaweed Cut	piculs	6,719	17,255	Danish	1	255	1	255
Shoe Blacking			1,265	Total.....			\$34,157	Dutch	1	241	1	241
Stationery not speci-				Silk	piculs	361	16,388	French	1	300	1	300
fied			17,140	MISCELLANEOUS.—(Total value \$1,379,158).				German	18	12,564	16	11,136
Socks and Stockings	dozen	3,093	8,297	Antimony	piculs	29,210	137,154	Russian	9	6,164	8	5,462
Satins	pieces	508		Awabi Shells	piculs	1,769	7,278	Swedish and }				
Satin, Silk and Cot-				Bamboo			4,111	Norwegian }	2	713	2	713
tons, mixtures.....	yards	157,830	81,423	Bamboo Ware			96,525	Total	177	207,713	171	200,059
Silk goods not speci-				Books	No.	16,169	3,009	(B) JAPANESE SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED				
fied	pieces	5,650	11,665	Bronze Ware			46,358	AT THE PORT OF HIOGO, DURING THE YEAR				
Spirit of Turpentine. piculs		45	2,591	Cloth for floor.....	No.	2,035	2,448	1883.				
Soap, Washing	piculs	464	2,840	Clothing			1,150		ENTERED.	CLEARED.		
Soap, Toilet			4,754	Coral	picul	1	3,005		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Sailing vessels	No.	1	5,800	Copper Ware.....			26,028	Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamers				
Tea	piculs	54	1,257	Cotton raw	piculs	2,039	25,022	Yokohama—Shanghai	51	65,826	52	67,086
Tippets	dozen	711	2,870	Cotton Undershirts, &c. No.		30,240	3,842	Kobe—Hongkong	28	33,490	29	34,730
Tobacco and Ciga-				Cotton Manufactures				Kobe and Corean Ports	19	7,420	20	7,978
rettes			1,470	not specified			13,047	Kobe and Vladivostok.....	9	5,331	9	5,331
Trimnings			10,493	Cubeba Officialis...			1,065	Kobe and Riukiu Islands.....	10	5,867	11	6,391
Travelling Rugs.....	No.	459	1,238	Drugs not specified..			6,449	To other places	307	235,837	324	246,225
Threads	piculs	118	2,455	Fans.....	No.	1,466,738	52,006	Kido Unyu Co.'s Steamers...	32	18,771	34	17,271
Tea, Lead	piculs	3,957	26,192	Fans, Round	No.	1,181,228	14,387	Sailing vessels of the Mitsu				
Towels	dozen	1,190	1,151	Furniture.....			5,910	Bishi Company.....	6	6,800	4	4,000
Utensils			1,408	Furs	No.	14,815	2,854	Total	462	379,342	483	389,012
Varnish			7,606	Fat and Lard.....	piculs	1,752	12,334	IV.—RETURN OF ALL DUTIES COLLECT-				
Watches and Fit-				Feathers	piculs	389	2,273	ED ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS				
tings			5,253	Gall Nuts	piculs	2,105	30,359	AND SHIPPING DUES, &c., AT THE				
Soda Bicarbonate ...			2,554	Ginseng	piculs	435	23,583	PORT OF HIOGO, FOR THE YEAR				
Soda Caustic			7,087	Hand Pumps.....			1,486	ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.				
Miscellaneous			53,168	Hides and Skins ...			2,357	Import duties				\$362,592
Total.....			\$1,115,818	Carried forward.....			\$524,040	Export duties				195,482
MISCELLANEOUS EASTERN—Total value (\$220,676).								Clearance and Entrance fees				7,051
Alum	piculs	3,056	5,037					Storage and Warehousing fees				1,503
Camphor	piculs	15	7,786					Miscellaneous				713
Chinese Liquor			1,008					Total...				\$567,341
Cotton, Raw	piculs	1,500	19,347									
Chikufu	pieces	8,272	8,513									
Boots and Shoes, Chinese			969									
Fishing Lines.....	piculs	53	20,523									
Gunny Bags	No.	159,293	14,269									
Carried forward.....			\$77,452									

V.—RETURN OF TREASURE IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM THE PORT OF HIOGO, DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

IMPORTED.

From England and other Countries.....\$2,466,528

EXPORTED.

To England and other Countries\$1,212,834

VI.—RETURN OF BRITISH AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND FIRMS AT THE PORT OF HIOGO, ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

NATIONALITY.	No. of RESIDENTS.			No. of FIRMS.
	Males.	Females.	Children.	
British	111	45	76	30
American	18	7	8	9
Austro-Hungarian	1	—	—	—
Chinese	478	35	104	33
Danish	5	—	—	—
Dutch	8	2	2	12
French	9	5	—	14
German	27	7	14	48
Portuguese	11	3	3	17
Swedish and }	3	1	2	6
Norwegian }	—	—	—	—
Swiss	1	—	—	1
Total.....	672	105	209	986

VII.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF THE PORT OF OSAKA, DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

(METALS.—Total value, \$111,641).

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Iron, manufactured . piculs	336	\$1,050
Iron, wire . piculs	576	2,475
Iron, all other . piculs	—	2,656
Iron, wire rope, old.. piculs	1,434	2,610
Tin plates . cases	980	4,421
Steel . piculs	825	8,239
Lead . piculs	11,447	48,998
Lead Sheet . piculs	301	1,451
Quicksilver . piculs	137	7,509
Tin . piculs	817	25,335
Zinc . piculs	322	1,339
Zinc, old . piculs	1,947	5,558
Total	—	\$111,641

SUGAR.—(Total value \$885,257).

Sugar, Brown.....	41,345	\$197,929
Sugar, White.....	87,053	660,531
Sugar, Rock	2,880	26,797

Total

MISCELLANEOUS EASTERN—(Total value \$192,230).

Alum	2,312	3,770
Camphor	15	7,353
Cloves	352	6,669
Cassia	798	3,321
Cotton, Raw	1,966	16,948
Chikufu	4,168	3,040
Drugs not specified .	—	22,310
Fishing Lines.....	7	2,090
Flax, Hemp and Jute	1,204	8,984
Flax and Hemp Yarn	66	3,051
Mangrove Bark.....	2,665	1,480
Mats for floor.....	—	1,770
Oil, Castor	213	1,845
Paper, Chinese	—	26,377
Putchuck	164	1,650
Peas and Beans.....	1,049	1,655
Rattans	3,456	22,113
Redwood	7,747	7,839
Safflower	34	1,950
Sapan Wood	1,313	3,058
Wood, Aloes	78	4,302
Wood, Sandal	439	2,387
Vermilion	368	23,468
Teeth, Elephant.....	13	4,762
Tortoise Shell.....	17	5,085
Spikenard	458	4,430
Miscellaneous.....	—	523

Total

MISCELLANEOUS WESTERN—(Total value \$139,739).

Carpets	1,459	—
Confectionery, &c....	1,119	—
Dyes and Paints not specified	6,200	—
Glass, Window	377	1,493
Gypsum	2,268	1,191
Hides	173	1,705
Horns, Buffalo and Cow	297	2,446
Horns, Rhinoceros... piculs	7	4,274
Instruments, Scientific	—	4,267
Lead, Red	169	1,642
Leather	1,665	48,774
Medicines and Chemicals	—	2,489
Machinery	—	5,375
Provisions	—	8,766
Rhubarb Root	469	4,034
Saltpetre	3,642	19,731
Stationery	—	1,740
Porcelain and Earthenware	—	2,034
Molasses and Syrup. piculs	2,721	3,260
Satins	94	1,201
Sundries	—	16,539

Total

RECAPITULATION.

Metals	\$111,641
Sugar	885,257
Miscellaneous Eastern	192,230
Miscellaneous Western.....	139,739

Total.....

VIII.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF OSAKA DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

TEA—(Total value \$3,372).

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Tea, Bancha	617	\$1,305
Tea, Dust	1,125	2,067

Total.....

COPPER—(Total value \$15,934).

Tobacco	2,380	27,800
Camphor	1,938	25,412
Copper, ore	211	3,630
Copper bar, slab	537	9,943
Copper wire.....	81	1,966
Copper, old and dust	—	395

Total.....

DRIED FISH—(Total value \$150,382).

Awabi	381	11,736
Bêche de Mer.....	122	2,639
Kaibashira	134	4,619
Cuttle Fish	10,341	117,530
Mussels	280	2,402
Shrimps, dried	546	6,075
Salted Salmon and Cod	1,596	5,381

Total.....

Wax, Vegetable.....

Porcelain and Earthenware	9,139	99,560
Lacquered Ware	—	2,937

SEAWEEDS—(Total value \$10,204).

Seaweed	5,409	6,872
Seaweed, cut	1,266	3,332

Total.....

MISCELLANEOUS—(Total value \$286,458).

Aniseed	922	2,145
Bees' Wax	74	2,760
Bronze Ware	—	2,420
China Root	315	1,306
Cornel	156	1,325
Cotton Raw	546	6,804
Cotton Piece-goods..	—	8,870
Drugs, Chemicals, &c.	—	8,759
Fans	166,645	4,407
Furs	10,092	1,078
Gentian	100	3,262
Ginseng	150	8,750
Glue	183	1,234
Hides	—	39,339
Kanten.....	2,538	58,982
Mushrooms	1,713	78,287
Muscles, Animal.....	502	3,549
Paper	—	1,181
Peony Bark.....	1,132	9,507
Provisions	—	6,886

Carried forward.....

Brought forward ...	\$251,841
Sharks Fins..... piculs	120
Sulphur	2,660
Wheat	9,742
Vermicelli	412
Miscellaneous.....	10,292

Total.....

RECAPITULATION.

Tea	\$ 3,372
Tobacco	27,800
Camphor	25,412
Copper	15,934
Dried fish	150,382
Wax, vegetable.....	99,560
Porcelain and Earthenware	2,937
Lacquered ware	7,357
Seaweed	10,204
Miscellaneous	286,458

Total.....

IX.—JAPANESE SHIPPING OF FOREIGN BUILD ENTERED AT OSAKA DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

Steamers.....84 of 7,950 Tons.
Sailing vessels10 of 1,568 Tons.

X.—RETURN OF ALL DUTIES COLLECTED ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AND SHIPPING DUES, &c., AT THE PORT OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

Import duties.....\$45,152
Export duties.....23,590
Clearance and Entrance fees15
Storage and Warehousing fees1,386
Miscellaneous89

Total... \$70,232

XI.—RETURN OF BRITISH AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND FIRMS AT THE PORT OF OSAKA ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1883.

NATIONALITY.	NUMBER OF RESIDENTS.			No. of FIRMS.
	Male.	Female.	Children.	
British.....	12	6	3	21
American	11	18	25	54
Chinese	121	2	14	137
Dutch	1	—	—	1
French	5	4	—	9
German	4	—	—	4
Russian	1	—	—	1
Swiss	1	—	—	1
Total... 156	30	42	228	23

XII.—STATEMENT SHOWING RETURN OF ARTICLES RE-IMPORTED AND ARTICLES DUTY REPAID.

Articles re-imported	HIOGO. \$5,676	OSAKA. \$607
Articles duties repaid	2,639	—

Total.....

Nett Total of Exports

Total of Exports as shown in

Tables 2, 8.

Gross Total of Exports of the

two Ports.....

XIII.—STATEMENT SHOWING RETURN OF ARTICLES RE-EXPORTED AND DUTIES REPAID.

Articles re-exported.....	HIOGO. \$51,051	OSAKA. \$6,004
Articles duties repaid	17,311	—

Total.....

Nett total of Imports

Total of Imports as shown in

Tables 1 and 7

Gross total of Imports of the

two ports

XIV.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE TOTAL TRADE OF THE PORTS OF HIOGO AND OSAKA FOR 1882 AND 1883.

Total Exports and Imports for 1882... \$14,680,455
Total Exports and Imports for 1883... \$14,803,449

TRADE-MARK REGULATIONS.

NOTIFICATION NO. 19 OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

It is hereby notified that Trade-Mark Regulations have been enacted as follows, and will come into force from the 1st of October, 1884:—

By Imperial Decree,

June 7, 17th year of Meiji (1884).

TARUHITO SHINNO,
Second Minister of State.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

TRADE-MARK REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—When trade-marks are registered at the Agricultural and Commercial Department in a book specially provided for the purpose, the owners of such marks may enjoy the exclusive privilege of employing them for a term of fifteen years from the date of registration.

Art. II.—Persons who are desirous of obtaining a right to the exclusive use of trade-marks, must apply for registration by forwarding specimens and a detailed account of the marks. This account will explain the nature of the marks and the manner of using them, and will give the name and classification of the articles to which they are to be attached.

When registration is permitted, a certificate will be granted.

Art. III.—Applications for the registration of trade-marks will be retained by the authorities for two months from the date of their receipt, after which time they will receive sanction should no conflicting applications have been received in the interim.

When two or more persons happen to apply for registration of the same marks, or of marks which closely resemble each other, with the intention of affixing them to articles of the same classification, the application, or applications, of later date will be rejected; and when they are under the same date, all will be rejected.

Art. IV.—Suitable measures will be taken by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce to exhibit the registered trade-marks to the public.

Art. V.—Registration of the following trade-marks must not be applied for:—

1. Trade marks which are exactly the same as, or are likely to be mistaken for, marks already registered, and which are designed to be affixed to articles of the same classification.
2. Marks which represent the name of a place, a person, a shop, or a company, and those representing the general name of articles, or national arms, either foreign or domestic.
3. Marks which are universally employed by a particular class of merchants, or which are used in accordance with the common customs of the commercial community.
4. New marks which are exactly the same as, or likely to be mistaken for, marks adopted prior to the promulgation of the present Regulations, and actually used up to the present time, and all marks of a similar character, intended to be attached to articles of the same class or description.

Art. VI.—When persons who have registered their marks, change their residences, their local jurisdiction, or their personal names, or abandon their trade, or suspend it for a year or upwards during the term for which the marks are registered, they must give notice of the said change, abandonment, or suspension, to the authorities, within three months.

Art. VII.—When heirs succeed to the business of their predecessors during the term of the exclusive use of the latter's trade-marks, they must report the fact to the authorities within three months after their succession.

Art. VIII.—When persons who have obtained registration of marks desire to assign, wholly or in part, the right of using such marks to other persons, they must apply for fresh registration. In such cases, the period of the exclusive use of the marks will be reckoned from the date of original registration.

Art. IX.—When it is desired to apply or transfer the same marks to articles of other classifications, or to introduce some alterations into them, application must be made for fresh registration.

In such cases, applications will be dealt with in accordance with Article III. of these Regulations.

Art. X.—When persons who have obtained registration desire to continue the exclusive use of trade-marks after the expiration of the registered term, they must apply for fresh registration three months before the expiration of such term.

Art. XI.—In the event of certificates of regis-

tration being lost or damaged, application must be made for fresh certificates.

Art. XII.—When, after the registration of trade-marks, frauds are detected in the original application for their registration, or in the specimens or detailed accounts furnished in accordance with these regulations, or when it is found that the original applications were carried out in violation of Article V., the registration will lose its validity, and the certificates will be cancelled by the authorities.

Art. XIII.—When the owners of registered trade-marks relinquish their business entirely, they will lose their right to the exclusive use of the marks from the date of such relinquishment. This provision also holds good in the case of the suspension of a trade for three years.

Art. XIV.—Applicants for registration of trade-marks must pay the following fees; provided that, in case their applications are rejected, the money will be refunded:—

1. The sum of ten yen must be paid for the registration of one trade-mark, and if the same mark is to be applied or transferred to articles of different classes, five yen must be added for each class.
2. Applications for transfer, wholly or in part, or for alteration of trade-marks, or for the continuation of their use after the expiration of the registered term, will involve a payment of five yen for every mark.
3. One yen must be paid for obtaining a fresh certificate of registration.

Art. XV.—The owners of registered trade-marks may claim damages from, or lay information against, any person who encroaches upon their privileges.

Art. XVI.—Persons who counterfeit registered trade-marks and employ them, will be punished by imprisonment with hard labour for a term of not less than one month and not more than one year, in addition to a fine of from four to forty yen. Persons who use registered trade-marks clandestinely will be liable to a punishment mitigated by one degree from the above.

Art. XVII.—These who make and use marks which are likely to mistaken for registered marks, will be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a period of not less than fifteen days and not more than six months, and to a fine of from two to twenty yen.

Art. XVIII.—Persons who, with full knowledge of the fact, undertake the sale of commodities bearing trade-marks of the nature interdicted by Articles XVI. and XVII., will be liable to a fine of from four yen to forty yen.

Art. XIX.—In the cases set forth in the three preceding Articles, XVI., XVII., and XVIII., the trade-marks will be confiscated, and when the marks are inseparable from the commodities, the commodities themselves will be destroyed.

Art. XX.—Those who fraudulently effect the registration of trade-marks, or falsely assert that they have obtained registration, will be punished by imprisonment with hard labour for a term of from fifteen days to six months, together with a fine of from two to twenty yen.

Art. XXI.—Persons who neglect to make a due report within a prescribed period, in accordance with Articles VI. and VII., will be liable to a fine of from one yen to 1.95 yen.

Art. XXII.—Persons infringing these regulations will not be dealt with in accordance with those provisions of the Penal Code which refer to the concurrence of several offences.

Art. XXIII.—Offences enumerated in articles XVI. to XVIII. inclusive, will be taken cognizance of only after information is laid by the owners of the registered trade-marks.

Art. XXV.—When such information is laid against offenders by the owners of marks, the judges may suspend the sale of all commodities bearing the marks in question, pending investigation.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ABOVE REGULATIONS.

Should any person desire to make exclusive use of marks which he employed prior to the publication of these Regulations, he must apply for registration within six months from the date of the publication of these Regulations. Application so made will be held by the authorities for eight months, calculated from the date of the promulgation of the new Regulations, and if no other conflicting applications are received during that interval, registration will be granted.

When two or more persons apply, under the preceding provisions, for a registration of marks which are precisely the same as, or are likely to be mis-

taken for, each other, and which are intended to be affixed to articles of the same class, and when the applications conflict with each other, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will grant registration to such marks only as he finds have been in use for the longest period, and will reject all other marks.

Applications which would otherwise be dealt with in accordance with Article III. of the main Regulations, will also be held for eight months from the date of the publication of these Regulations, and should it happen that such applications conflict with those made in conformity with the first clause of these supplementary rules, both the former and the latter applications will be rejected without regard to their dates. When applications are thus rejected in accordance with the two preceding provisions, the fees received for registration will be paid back.

NOTIFICATION NO. 13 OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

It is hereby notified that in connection with the Trade-mark Regulations, by-laws defining the mode of presenting applications for the registration of trade-marks have been established as follows:—

June 7, 1884.

(Signed) TARUHITO SHINNO,
Second Minister of State.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Agriculture
and Commerce.

BY-LAWS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF TRADE-MARKS.

Art. I.—Applications and reports relating to trade-marks must be presented to the Agricultural and Commercial Department through local offices.

Art. II.—Should any person desire to apply for the registration of trade-marks, he must send in five specimens of the marks, and the specified amount of fees, as well as applications and detailed accounts in duplicate.

Art. III.—When application for registration is made with the intention of applying the same mark to two or more descriptions of articles, or when application is made to transfer to one description of article only marks previously affixed to two or more descriptions, a separate application and a detailed account must be presented for every different description of article or for each mark.

Art. IV.—In preparing a report of succession, in conformity with Article VII. of the main Regulations, an heir must procure the signatures of two trustworthy persons as his sureties, when his succession is in consequence of the death of the original owner of the trade-marks; but if the succession takes place while the original owner of the marks is still living, the report must bear the signatures of the successor and the owner.

Art. V.—When application is made for the assignment of trade-marks, wholly or in part, in accordance with Article VIII. of the Regulations, such application must bear the signatures of the persons who assign the marks, and of those to whom they are assigned. Moreover, applicants must forward the certificate of registration, a copy of the contract of assignment, and two copies of their several applications as well as of the detailed accounts (three copies in case of partial assignment), together with the prescribed registration fees. When registration is thus effected, the person to whom the trade-marks are assigned will be furnished with a separate certificate of registration and a detailed account of the transaction; while the assignor will receive back the original certificate and detailed account endorsed and stamped on the back by the authorities.

Art. VI.—Applications for the transfer of trade-marks to other articles, or for their use upon more than one description of article, in accordance with Article IX of the main Regulations, will be made in conformity with Article II. of these Bye-laws.

Art. VII.—When application is made to continue the use of trade-marks or to obtain a fresh certificate of registration, in accordance with Articles X. and XI. of the Regulations, two copies of the application together with the prescribed registration fees must be forwarded.

Art. VIII.—When applications for registration are rejected by the Government, the causes of such rejection will be pointed out.

Art. IX.—Owners of registered trade-marks are at liberty to change the colour of their marks at will.

Art. X.—Owners of registered marks are, in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, required to present their trade marks, or copies of them, within thirty days from the date on which the certificate of registration was issued.

Art. XI.—Articles to which trade marks may be attached are classified as follows, and in the case of articles the classification of which is not determined by applicants for registration, a decision will be made by the Agricultural and Commercial Department :—

CLASSIFICATION OF ARTICLES.

Class I.—Chemical drugs, and medicines: acids, salts, alkalies, gums, mucilages, glue, phosphor, soap, spirits, glycerine, quinine, morphine, tinctures, syrups, decoctions, pills, ointments, medicinal oils, musk, cloves, bleaching powders.

Class II.—Dyes and pigments for painting the face: indigo and indigo-balls; *shikon* (a species of madder); rouge; cinnabar; red oxide of lead; verdigris; smalt; Prussian blue; white powder; powdered chalk; gamboge, &c.

Class III.—Materials for varnishing: lacquer; varnish; paint; *shibu* (juice expressed from unripe persimmons); blacking, &c.

Class IV.—Perfumery and incense: aromatic oil; hair-dressing oil; sacs containing perfumes; perfumed waters; burning incense; incense sticks; *neriko* (a species of incense), &c.

Class V.—Metals in ore or smelted: pig iron; wrought iron; steel; iron bars; sheet iron; iron plates; copper; copper plates; lead; lead plates; zinc; zinc plates; tin; alloys; copper and iron wire, &c.

Class VI.—Manufactured metals; moulded vessels; forged articles; engraved and chased articles, &c.

Class VII.—Cutting and sharp instruments: sickles; saws; chisels; gimlets; needles; nails; razors; scissors; knives; fire-hooks, &c.

Class VIII.—Valuable metals and articles made of these (articles made of aluminium and nickel are included in this class): gold; *Shibuichi* (composite metal made of copper three parts and silver one part); *Shido* (a composite metal consisting generally of 700 parts copper and 300 parts silver); *Kinshido* (a composite metal consisting of 600 parts copper, 250 parts zinc, and 150 parts tin); alloys of valuable metals; articles plated with metals; engraved metals; articles inlaid with metals; &c.

Class IX.—Jewels and articles inlaid with these: coral, pearls, agate, crystals, topaz, emerald, and all articles made in imitation of these.

Class X.—Minerals (coal belongs to Class LI.)

Class XI.—Stones, articles made of stone, and engraved or sculptured stones: slate, marble, whetstone, stone vessels, and imitations of these.

Class XII.—Plasters: common plaster, cement, plaster of Paris, &c.

Class XIII.—Porcelain and pottery: various sorts of porcelain and pottery; earthen wares; crucibles; tiles; bricks, &c.

Class XIV.—Enamel or porcelain wares manufactured after the fashion of enamel.

Class XV.—Glass and glass vessels: glass bottles; glass pipes; coloured or painted glass, &c.

Class XVI.—Machinery: looms; sewing machines; sugar manufacturing machines; printing machines; and machines used for various manufactures; steam engines and boilers, &c.

Class XVII.—Agricultural implements and mechanics' tools: spades; mattocks; Chinese *mino* (shallow baskets used for cleansing rice); rakes; nail extractors; iron hammers; carpenters' squares, &c.

Class XVIII.—Scientific instruments: chemical, medical, and surveying instruments, and others used for explaining natural philosophy.

Class XIX.—Weights and measures.

Class XX.—Vehicles used for the transport of goods: carts, carriages drawn by horses, *jinrikisha*, velocipedes, &c.

Class XXI.—Musical instruments: harps; guitars (samisen); violins; flutes, &c.

Class XXII.—Watches and clocks and articles appended to these.

Class XXIII.—Rifles, bullets, gunpowder, fireworks, &c.

Class XXIV.—Silkworm egg cards and cocoons.

Class XXV.—Floss silk and cotton.

Class XXVI.—Raw silk; silk thread; thread

obtained from natural cocoons: (strings for harps, and gold and silver thread belong to this class).

Class XXVII.—Cotton yarns.

Class XXVIII.—Woollen yarns.

Class XXIX.—Flaxen yarns.

Class XXX.—Silk textiles.

Class XXXI.—Cotton manufactures.

Class XXXII.—Woollen manufactures.

Class XXXIII.—Flaxen manufactures.

Class XXIV.—Woven goods other than silk; cotton, flaxen, and woollen manufactures; and other various fabrics interwoven with different sorts of thread.

Class XXXV.—Articles plaited or knit with thread: lace; braids; cords, &c.

Class XXXVI.—Clothing: costumes of all descriptions; hats and caps made of woven goods; gloves; socks; raincoats made of woven goods; hakama (loose trousers); any knit articles, &c.

Class XXXVII.—Brewages and beverages: all sorts of *sake*; vinegar; soy; sweet orange juice; soda water.

Class XXXVIII.—All sorts of sugar, molasses, honey, &c.

Class XXXIX.—Confectionary and bread: dried confectionary; steamed confectionary; foreign confectionary; *ame* (a kind of jelly); sugared fruit, &c.

Class XL.—Tea and coffee.

Class XLI.—Tobacco.

Class XLII.—Fruits, grain, and vegetable seeds: the five cereals; vegetables; mushrooms; fruits; their seeds; bulbs, &c.

Class XLIII.—Ground grain and flour, and food made of these: ground grain of all sorts; flour, all kinds of food made of flour; *yuba* (food made of beans); *kon-niyaku*, bean curd (*tofu*); &c.

Class XLIV.—*Miso* (sauce made of beans); pickles, and similar relishes.

Class XLV.—Preserved meats and seaweed, dried and smoked bonito; the *Onychotenchi*; Banksü; dried "sea-ear"; *nori* (edible sea-weed) *kombu* (the Laminaria); *tsukudani* (food boiled in soy for preservation); food preserved in sauce; all sorts of *uni*; and other picked food.

Class XLVI.—Food made of milk: condensed milk; butter; cheese; desiccated milk, &c.

Class XLVII.—*Fukuromono* (purses, pouches, &c.) and articles used for smoking: pipes of every description; tobacco-pouches; tobacco-pipe sheathes; purses, &c.

Class XLVIII.—Paper and paper articles: all sorts of paper; coloured paper; *tansaku* (slips of paper with pictures and poetry); paper manufactured like leather; oiled paper; paper smeared with persimmon juice; envelopes; paper boxes for putting ledgers in; *ikkabari* (papered articles); paper cords for binding the hair, &c.

Class XLIX.—Brushes and inks: red inks; marking ink; black ink; slate pencils; pencils; pens, &c.

Class L.—Leather and leather articles: harness; trunks; book-cases; girdles; shoes, &c.

Class LI.—Combustible materials: all sorts of coals and charcoals; lucifer matches; wicks, &c.

Class LII.—Oils and candles: all sorts of oils; wax; candles; grease, &c.

Class LIII.—Manures: dried sardines; intestines of herrings; dregs of oils; powdered bones; &c.

Class LIV.—Timber and bamboo.

Class LV.—Articles made of wood, bamboo, and Wisteria chinensis, and those lacquered or painted with gold; cabinet-ware, articles turned in a lathe; round boxes; tubs of every description; basket-work; &c.

Class LVI.—Articles made of horn; shell; or ivory.

Class LVII.—Articles made of straw and grass; matting, *Mushiro* (course mats), netted hats, cords, wheat-straw work, &c.

Class LVIII.—Umbrellas, canes, and *hakimono* (articles worn on the feet); clogs; straw sandals; thongs, &c.

Class LIX.—Fans of all sort.

Class LX.—Lanterns and lamps.

Class LXI.—Tooth-powder and *araike* (white powder used for cleansing the body).

Class LXII.—All kinds of brushes.

Class LXIII.—Toys: hair-pins; hand-balls; checkers (*Gô*); chess-men (*Shôgi*); tops made in the form of dolls; small bows; *Oshiye* (pictures in relief); artificial flowers; cards, &c.

Class LXIV.—Pictures and photographs, &c.

Class LXV.—Books, newspapers, magazines &c.

PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the above Association was held at the Club Hotel last evening, to receive the report of the Directors, in accordance with a resolution passed at the General Meeting held on the 30th April last.

The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. A. O. Gay (Chairman); D. Fitz-Henry (Hon. Secretary); E. Morriss and A. Langfeldt, Directors; E. Berger, R. Dross, S. Hepburn, O. Kiel, Geo. Rice, F. Pinn, W. J. Strome, Hooper, E. J. Geoghegan, General Van Buren, Durant, Vivanti, W. B. Walter, L. Masfen, Moberley, Reid, Austen Robertson, Rottmann, Lindsay, Merian, Biagioni, Dourille.

The CHAIRMAN, after reading the advertisement calling the meeting, said he hoped they would dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

Mr. GEOGHEGAN proposed and General VAN BUREN seconded, "that the minutes of the last meeting be taken as read," which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said they had the report of the Directors in their hands, and he did not think it would be necessary to read it.

Mr. PINN proposed that "the Directors report be taken as read."—(Carried.)

PUBLIC HALL ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS TO THE MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS, HELD JUNE 16TH, 1884.

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with a resolution passed at the general meeting held on the 30th April last, the Directors beg to report as follows:—

The present board was organized on the 2nd of May by the election of Mr. Gay as Chairman, Mr. Fitz-Henry as Hon. Secretary, *ad. in.*, and Mr. Morriss as Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Reimers, who was elected as one of the board, declined to serve.

The position of the finances of the Association is changed only by the payment of \$97.56, the amount due for land rent for the current year.

Your Directors have fully discussed the position and prospects of the Association at meetings held from time to time, and have endeavoured to obtain the promise of an amount of money on mortgage, sufficient to complete the building. Their efforts, in this direction, however, having proved unsuccessful, they have now to submit to the shareholders the following propositions:—

1st.—To raise the sum required by issue of Debentures of \$50 each, bearing interest at 8 per cent. per annum.
2nd.—To raise not less than \$5,000 upon Debentures of \$50 each, with interest at 8 per cent. per annum, and the balance upon mortgage of the land and building.
3rd.—To liquidate the affairs of the Association by a sale of the property.

The Directors favor the first proposition, because they think it well to make an effort to obtain the whole amount required, estimated at about \$13,000, upon Debentures. These would have a first lien upon the property, but if a mortgage were given, that would have the first, and the Debentures a second lien.

With reference to the building as it now stands, the Directors find the walls, so far as they can judge, have been well and substantially constructed, and of good material, and this opinion is borne out by the testimony of an experienced and disinterested authority.

Your Directors have gone carefully over the plans and estimates, for completing the building upon a reduced scale, and recommend, if the work is to be continued, that the concert hall over the vestibule, as originally contemplated, be dispensed with, and the height of the walls of the auditorium be reduced. This will make an important saving in the cost of the erection, and according to estimates submitted to the Directors, the hall can be completed with a substantial tile-roof, and including fencing, grading, &c., for a sum not exceeding \$10,000, but exclusive of furniture and the fixtures for lighting. For the latter items, and for contingencies, \$3,000 is considered to be a safe estimate, and we then have \$13,000 as the total requirements.

The Directors are assured that the estimate can be relied upon, and are given to understand that the building can be ready for occupancy in four months after the work is again resumed.

With regard to maintaining the establishment, the annual liabilities are estimated as follows:—

Interest on \$13,000 at 8 per cent.....	\$1,040.00
Land rent.....	97.00
Fire insurance \$10,000 at 1 per cent, less 20 per cent.....	80.00
Watchman, repairs, &c.....	283.00
	\$1,500.00

It will be necessary to cover the fire risk only upon the combustible part of the building, and for this \$10,000 will be sufficient. The item of repairs will be a small one for some time to come.

To meet the liabilities, it is generally believed that a gross income of at least \$2,000 per annum can be relied upon, and it seems safe to conclude that the income will be more than sufficient to cover the liabilities, even in the present depressed condition of affairs in Yokohama. Debenture holders ought therefore to feel assured that the stipulated interest will be regularly paid, and that the property offers good security for the investment.

If it should be decided to issue Debentures, they will be offered to present shareholders in proportion to the existing shares held by them, and any that are not taken up will be disposed of by the Directors as provided V. of the Articles of Association.

A. O. GAY,

Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The CHAIRMAN said that the report being before the meeting, it only remained for the shareholders

to discuss the three propositions put forward by the Directors.

Mr. DROSS said that the report before them was a very brief and exact one. It gave them clearly the opinion of the Directors as to the state of the Public Hall and they had recommended the adoption of the first proposition. The Directors had had six weeks to form their opinion and they estimated that \$13,000 would finish the building. This they thought could be raised on debentures and that they would be able to give the debenture-holders 8 per cent. interest. He would ask how far the Directors would back up their opinion, in fact how much they would head the list with so as to give courage to the shareholders to join and subscribe sufficient to complete the Hall.

The CHAIRMAN thought it was rather premature to ask such a question. If the shareholders would vote and adopt the proposition, the Directors would come forward and do what they could. He was not prepared to say exactly how much they would do but he thought they might be relied on for about a quarter of the amount required.

Mr. LANGFELDT thought Mr. Dross's question was not out of order. The Public Hall had been a long time on hand. He thought the Directors would take a fourth of the debentures, and if the shareholders would support them, within 24 hours the thing could be settled and in four months the Hall opened.

General VAN BUREN asked where the income of \$2,000 was to come from.

The CHAIRMAN replied that everyone knew the building would be required for various purposes. The estimate had been carefully drawn up from enquiries made from several parties, and was as follows:—

12 entertainments.....	at \$75.00 =	\$900.00
12 entertainments.....	at \$50.00 =	\$600.00
Bluff Club (per month)...	at \$25.00 =	\$300.00

This, together with rent received for private balls and entertainments, they calculated would bring it up to \$2,100.

In answer to Mr. HEBURN the CHAIRMAN said that the 12 entertainments included those of professionals who travelled through.

Mr. LANGFELDT remarked that they had consulted several people, and had a list of the returns obtained by Mr. Hegt's theatre.

Mr. BERGER said that Mr. Hegt's place would still be open, and it was not every travelling company who would go up the Hill. He thought that the receipts had been altogether over estimated.

Mr. PINN said that the troupes who came here always complained of the accommodation and said that if there was a better place they would eagerly pay more than they did for Mr. Hegt's place.

Mr. FITZ-HENRY thought the discussion was moving out of the groove. They all knew that the receipts of a steamer or a theatre depended upon the state of trade. They had taken great trouble in making up the estimate. They had consulted the local societies, and could get nearly \$1,000 a year from them. The feeling had been to estimate the expenses at the highest and the receipts at the lowest, but of course every one was liable to error in a matter of this kind.

Mr. RICE said it should not be forgotten that the local societies had agreed that all surplus funds should go towards the Hall, and as their expenses were small they no doubt would pay more rent than was estimated.

Mr. WALTER thought they should not separate the Directors from the shareholders. The Directors had done a lot of work for which the shareholders were obliged and it was not fair to ask them to subscribe a lot of money. It would be better to call on those present to subscribe at once and then canvass those who were absent, after which they might ask the new comers. It seemed only fair, as it was not a money making affair but for the benefit of the community, that every one should have a chance of subscribing.

Mr. DURANT remarked that, with shares selling at \$12 he did not think the general public would take them up at the original price.

Mr. FITZ-HENRY said the first estimate of the cost of the buildings was \$20,000, it now was \$25,000; the ground was there, and he thought the debenture holders' capital would be secure.

Mr. MOBERLY was of opinion that many of the shareholders would give the money they had paid as a present to the community, but would not give more.

General VAN BUREN said that the building as it stood at present was of no use; if finished it would benefit the community. If the original shareholders wished to get anything out of it they must finish the building. If the shareholders subscribed and the amount was not sufficient they must go out into the bye-ways and get the money.

Mr. LANGFELDT remarked that the mortgage would be drawn out in favour of the debenture holders.

Mr. MASEN said no provision seemed to have been made for the balance of the income, say about \$500. Would it go to the reduction of the debentures or to pay a dividend on the original shares?

The CHAIRMAN said that would be as the shareholders might decide, possibly it might go to form a reserve fund. There could be no dividend paid on the original shares without a special meeting, and that meeting could dispose of the balance as it thought fit.

Mr. DROSS then moved "that the proposition favoured by the Directors be accepted."

This was seconded by General VAN BUREN and carried.

Mr. WALTER proposed "that failing to secure the whole of the amount required, the Directors be authorized to raise the balance on mortgage."

Mr. LANGFELDT thought that if they went round and said if we cannot get the money we want we will put a mortgage over your head it would stop many people from taking up the debentures.

Mr. WALTER said that if it was the desire of the Directors to keep the two separate he would withdraw his motion.

Mr. LANGFELDT said the Directors had made enquiries which lead them to believe that they would be able to find the whole of the money.

General VAN BUREN remarked that it seemed to him that if the Directors had taken any steps to get the money or had agreed to take any number of shares it might have a beneficial effect if they would make some statement.

The CHAIRMAN said he had already remarked that the Directors were willing to do something. They had not put their names to paper, but amongst the six of them they would take \$2,000 worth of debentures. Still he thought it would be better to let all the shareholders have the opportunity of doubling their shares, after which the Directors could use their discretion.

General VAN BUREN said the purpose of his question was clear. If the list presented to the shareholders was headed by the Directors it would be a very great encouragement to them to raise the balance.

Mr. HOOPER remarked that, as he understood it, the debentures were to be offered to the shareholders in proportion to the shares they held and that if they were not all taken up the Directors would take the balance.

Mr. LANGFELDT thought it would be a good idea to send the list round at once.

After a vote of thanks to the Directors for their trouble and exertions, proposed by Mr. DROSS, the meeting adjourned.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE GROWTH OF JAPANESE ARTS.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Even in our own days there are countries where a pupil and a son are looked upon, both in word and in fact, in the same light. Though perhaps not exactly the same, our own architects still hold a similar doctrine. The apprentice carpenter still calls his master *oyakata*, as does also the apprentice mason. The implied meaning of the word *oyakata* (father) is not perfectly clear, but its literal force warrants us sufficiently in concluding that "teacher" and "father" were once synonymous terms. It is very probable, however, that an ancient canon taught that pupils should be regarded as sons, and sons as pupils, by those who taught and trained them. There seem to have been certain conditions in unenlightened nations which necessitated the assimilation of sons and pupils. Granting even that there were art schools in days gone by, the working classes would not have had the means to educate their children in these establishments. But if a landlord was at the same time the instructor of those living on his lands, the tuition fees would not have been a matter of any responsibility, and he could thus call his pupils his sons in deed. From some such arrangement as this have our domestic arts taken their origin, and, passed down as a precious heirloom from one generation to another, still proving the close paternal relations existing between teachers, and taught in the one comprehensive term *oyakata*.

Medical science is the outcome of human invention, and is of the first importance to every created being. The Confucianists, indeed, affirm that no medicine shall be taken by a sick person unless the prescribing physician be the representa-

tive of at least the third generation of a medical family. Physicians should truly be selected with care, for they hold our lives in their hands; but the simple fact of one man's ancestors having followed the same calling for centuries does not qualify him to practice the art of healing. That the so-called sage of China should have laid down such a precept only proves that he was incapable of inventing a sound doctrine of his own, and still clung to the antiquated notions of a barbarous age. Or else the law that the closest filial relations should be kept between teachers and taught was of overpowering influence during the life-time of Confucius.

The same principle runs through the entire range of Chinese literature, ancient and modern. Sons of great scholars, whether themselves wise or stupid, must needs be men of superior intellect, according to Chinese tenets. In the era of wars and widespread disturbance, learned philosophers had little or no part in the affairs of the every-day world; and yet their offspring were brought up in effect to believe that they dared not live lives different from those of their progenitors. They had to bow down before and reverence the tattered canonical books and histories of their ancestors, and endure all the misery of a mistaken calling until death finally released them from a mental bondage worse than slavery. Such were the relations existing between the fathers and sons of that ancient Chinese philosophy, and those between the teachers of the learned doctrines and their pupils were not one whit better. The followers of the Chwantze sect of Confucianists were forbidden to investigate any creed older than their own. Those who left one school of thought and creed for another more attractive received severe punishment for their pains. And this punishment, senseless and unmeaning as it may seem to the people of this generation, was deemed for weightier and much more disgraceful than to have been convicted in a court of justice. Nothing was more terrifying than the threat of dismissal from a philosophical school on account of some petty misconduct. And all this resulted from the idea that a pupil expelled from the house of his teacher, or a son disinherited by a father, could never again find a resting-place in all this wide, weary world.

The Competitive Exhibition of Paintings recently held in Ueno Park went far to prove that Japanese artists of the present day still confound the position of pupils and sons. Countless as the exhibits were, they were all nothing more than faint copies of the works of the master painters of the past. Each picture bore the same indelible stamp: this belonged to the Yenzan, that to the Tosa, School. The criterion of merit was not whether a picture faithfully portrayed nature, but whether it was or was not after the style of this or that school of art. It actually seemed as though a painter belonging to one particular school deemed it a disgrace to imitate that of another. The artists of to-day are not a bit better off than were the Chwantze sectarians in years gone by. Our delineative art has evidently been fostered under the doctrine that all pupils are sons, and *vice versa*. In this way, the crude arts and sciences of olden time were handed down to posterity in Japan and China. But the hereditary transmission of an art is certain to be fatal to its further development, and to lower its value. If it were true that no physician could be trusted unless his forefathers had for centuries been medical practitioners, he could do nothing but write prescriptions at best; for, however dexterous in surgical operations, the fact that his ancestors were not surgeons would debar him from all display of skill. And so with painters. If the styles of ancient masters are to be taken as the sole criterion of the meritorious productions of later generations, then would all painters have blindly to adhere to the schools of past ages. The vital reason of the stunted growth and slow development of Japanese and Chinese art lies in the undue appreciation of ancient works of art, and in the sweeping condemnation of all others not painfully reproduced in the same style. The spirit of independence is not only important in the administration of a nation, but is one of the most indispensable levers of the artistic and scientific world.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ARTICLE ON TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

We have already expressed our views on the question of treaty revision, but, as the subject is one of momentous importance, we find that there are several points upon which we must comment for the sake of our nation's interests. Treaty revision is, *prima facie*, a diplomatic matter, and it is thus not easy for us to thoroughly familiarize ourselves with it; and, even though we knew all

that is connected with the question, we should be unable to discuss it freely for political reasons. It is as if our feet were tired and wayworn and we were yet unable to pull off our shoes. While our arguments may fail to hasten revision, we can still frankly aver that the judicious modification of the treaties will decidedly promote our permanent well-being, while injudicious revision cannot fail to be the germ of interminable abuses. Whatever policy our countrymen may desire to adopt in connection with internal administration, they ought by all means to strive to effect the judicious and salutary revision of the treaties, unbiassed by any party-feeling. In order to bring our arguments on this subject to a conclusion, we will now briefly review the whole question as it stands.

What our nations demands with regard to its foreign treaties, is that Japan should stand on a footing of equality with foreign powers. Should the forthcoming revision of the treaties not enable us to attain this great ultimatum, *we must still strive to bring it about sooner or later.* Right and duty are ever inseparable, and if we regain our inherent rights, it is our duty to afford full protection to aliens. What the abuses of extraterritoriality are we have shown, yet, should we claim its entire abolition, foreigners will undoubtedly demand the privilege of residence in the interior. For the same reason, if we grant them this freedom, they must restore us the right of jurisdiction. Hence, *the question of right involves that of duty as well.* Aliens will claim the same degree of protection from our Government as they enjoy under their own governments, and will urge that it is the duty of the Cabinet to see this protection duly carried out. Shall our Government, then, establish an improved system of administration similar in nature to the administrations of foreign lands? We believe that the Cabinet is disposed to pursue a policy based on enlightened principles. More than twenty years have elapsed since the opening of the ports, but the intercourse we had with foreign nations from the period of Ansei to that of Kei-ō, only complicated the difficulties in our internal administration, without opening up the path of civilization before us. It is only since the days of the Restoration that our countrymen have entered heart and soul into the promotion of civilization, and have made such remarkable progress in modern enlightenment. As yet, however, everything is in its infancy, and we Japanese have not succeeded in using all the mighty levers of nineteenth century civilization. Nor can we pretend to have all the laws at present possessed by civilized lands. Some we do indeed possess, but others are of a very different nature. And so, when the time comes for our enjoying equal rights with aliens and we are required to protect their welfare as they do their own, we shall be completely puzzled as to the course to be pursued. As a rule, treaties are concluded between two or more nations for the furtherance of their mutual profits, and, as such, are not necessarily based on the actual strength of the several parties. Either in the conclusion of a new treaty or in the revision of an old one, *national interests are to be taken into consideration above all others, and the sundry negotiations that follow are invariably to be based on the idea of mutual profit.* Of course, arguments cannot fail to arise in connection with questions of advantages or disadvantages, and we must reasonably expect to encounter serious difficulties in endeavoring to reap some profit in revising the existing treaties.

The treaties which are now in operation were concluded in the days of our "barbarous age," when the internal condition of our country presented a most distressing aspect, so that they were based on a groundwork of prejudice and ignorance, and were thus far more beneficial to foreigners than to ourselves. That we should claim their modification is a matter of simple justice and equity, and *there is absolutely no valid reason for refusal.* If we are to grant foreigners two most profitable privileges in return for one only, the transaction cannot be looked upon otherwise than as a dire misfortune. *Although treaty revision may be so set about as to bring us temporary benefits, yet if the revision contains provisions which may entail future complications, the inevitable result will be the loss of all immediate advantages.* We naturally desire to reap considerable profit from the revision of the treaties, and we therefore most earnestly request our authorities to direct their particular attention to those permanent advantages which may result from the proposed modification.

What we demand, first of all, is that Japan should hold intercourse with other nations on equal terms. But should circumstances hinder us from protecting aliens as they would see themselves protected, we must endeavour to reclaim the right of tariff regulation, in order to swell our revenue. Should aliens demand something of us in return for the restoration of the right of tariff regulation,—something that would prove twice as profitable to

them as the right granted us—we should eventually have to sustain considerable loss. The question of mixed residence ought never to be brought forward until we are in entire possession of the rights of jurisdiction. On the whole, if the treaties are to establish the maintenance of foreign relations on a footing of equality, we must, sooner or later, force aliens to come under our jurisdiction, and share with our countrymen the same protection they enjoy. If so, the measures to be taken must accord with one of two conditions:—*either to protect our people as Europeans and Americans, or to protect Europeans and Americans as we do our own people.* Our policy as well as our social organization are peculiar to this country, and if we are to exercise jurisdiction over foreigners without improving our internal administration there is nothing more to be said. But if it be impossible to adopt such a course, it is absolutely necessary to introduce the best administrative systems of Europe and America into this country, thereby raising our people to the position held by the most enlightened nations. And if this is the case, whatever our countrymen do contrary to the principles of European and American civilization must be looked upon as impeding the revision of the treaties and injurious to the best interests of the Empire. As the Government desires to obtain advantages from the revision of the treaties, it must avowedly pursue a policy calculated to promote the civilization of this country, so that the Japanese may be enabled to acquire that consummation of their desires—intercourse with foreign nations on equal terms.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

The momentous necessity of revising the treaties, as well as the circumstances which demand the immediate completion of the work, are one and the same thing, whether considered from the standpoint of the Japanese or of the very foreigners who so persistently combat the undertaking. Treaty revision will be of indescribable advantage to both parties, and not one tittle of inconvenience will be caused to any one. Were aliens awake to their own best interests, they would never consent to put off revision for a day; nay, they would rather urge instant adjustment. What surprises us as totally in contradiction to the general idea of European cleverness, is that foreigners should be so short-sighted as to regard treaty revision in the light of a dreadful calamity, which they try to evade in the most ridiculous and impolitic manner. We, as Japanese, must stand on the side of our country, both as patriots and as men of honour. The great obstacle to the accomplishment of the duty we owe our country is those extraterritorial privileges which foreigners, domiciled in Japan, enjoy on the strength of the present treaties. So long as extraterritoriality remains in force, aliens cannot possibly be brought to observe the laws which are so essential to the maintenance of the peace and welfare of Japan. Europeans, though living on Japanese soil, refuse to obey this country's laws; and so the only monies they pay to the Government take the form of ground-rent, and, this paid, they are entirely free from any other pecuniary obligations. Think for a moment. Japan needs war-vessels, soldiers, railways, steamers, beside many other things, and all these are obtainable by hard money only. Taxes are imposed universally in order to increase the scanty funds in the Treasury, which are to be appropriated to national expenditures. The men-of-war which protect our littoral, as well as the railways and steamers which have given the initiative to our country's trade, were paid for in hard money, the result of the imposts. Yet foreigners who live in this country and make use of the railways and merchant fleets, will not accept the responsibility of paying their quota of the expenses incurred. They are not forced to conform to the Brewery or Tobacco Tax Regulations, nor, indeed, to any others of a similar nature. Under such a dispensation Japan can never hope to maintain her independence. We have often made this plaint to foreign powers, but they would never listen to our words. We have proposed to throw the country open simultaneously with the abolition of extraterritoriality and the uniform imposition of taxes, so that foreigners may freely reside, travel, and trade in the interior. But we positively cannot understand how it is that aliens should be so content with the present situation as to refuse to accept our liberal concessions. Were such tenets held exclusively by foreign merchants, men who do not look beyond the open ports, are always busy and have no time to devote to political and social questions, we should not be very greatly astonished; but our amazement is unbounded when we find that foreign missionaries, whose education is higher

than that of the middle class, who have more than ample time to devote to the solution of social problems, and whose calling forbids their harbouring a spirit of unjust partiality, are so little courageous in attempting to put an end to extraterritorial malpractices. Their timidity we can understand and excuse; but their ignorance of their own advantages is not free from the charge of downright stupidity. We refer especially to the resolutions passed at the recent conference of the missionaries in Osaka and Kiyoto. They begin by stating that the Japan of to-day is not the Japan of twenty years ago. Yet the memorial does not in any one part clearly state that extraterritoriality should be *entirely* abolished, and Japan treated as European States treat each other; while the tenor of the document seems to imply that such abolition would be premature. The memorial presented to H.E. the Hon. F. R. Plunkett by the missionaries in Tokiyo and Yokohama does decidedly state that the abolition of extraterritoriality is at present premature. They are quite willing to see the present treaties modified in part, in return for the advantages of free residence and travel in the interior, and, although if foreigners be allowed to dwell in any part of the capital the value of the missionaries' property in Tsukiji will fall off steadily, they are willing to sacrifice personal losses to public gain. In discussing the great extraterritorial question, the missionaries thus actually take the few thousand *yen* worth of property in Tsukiji into account. We admire the accuracy of their financial calculations, suited as it is to this age of cold arithmetic, but we do not admire their deduction that the abolition of extraterritoriality is premature. The Kiyoto Conference, attended, for the most part, by American missionaries, might have plainly stated the necessity of the abrogation of the present system in its entirety. To our unfeigned regret, the Tsukiji Conference, composed of English missionaries, gave utterance to sentiments in opposition to our views. If Japan is thrown open to foreign trade, aliens will reap the greatest profits,—and we should not be under the necessity of explaining this to the Missionary Body. If extraterritoriality be not done away with, Japan's continued existence as a nation is an impossibility,—and we should not be under the obligation of consulting missionaries on the management of our national affairs. Why, we would ask them, have they come to Japan? Was it not with the intention of propagating the doctrines of Christ and to rescue the Japanese from the supposed error of their ways? If it be their sincerest wish to convert every one to the Christian Religion, and to extend the power of their creed over all countries, why do they not eagerly grasp the opportunity to travel in every part of this Empire, to come into actual contact with the men and women of the most distant provinces, to teach them the doctrine of salvation, and to found a great Christian stronghold in the Orient? Japanese law is more than capable of protecting the lives and property of missionaries, and the conversion of the Japanese should more than amply compensate them for their efforts. It is a painful exhibition of thoughtlessness that, with such fair prospects just before them, they should follow in the footsteps of unlettered merchants, and, refusing to advocate the abolition of extraterritoriality, content themselves with a microscopic field of action in the heart of the foreign settlements. We earnestly hope, most reverend pastors, that you will hold another conference, strike out your former resolutions, persuade your Governments to consent to the abolition of extraterritoriality, and, in company with us, strive to promote the welfare of this country. This is the true duty of every Christian Missionary.

The new residence of Prince Ake-no-Miya will cover an area of 500 *tsubo*.

During the month of May, in Nihonbashi *ku*, Tokiyo, 610 persons were married, and 411 others married a second time. In Kiyobashi *ku* there were 499 married, and 449 re-married.

The tea growers at Iyo, Yehime Prefecture, have established a Tea Trading Company, besides the local, officially organized, Tea Association. The capital of the Company is put at 5,000 *yen* in 500 shares of 10 *yen*, and no member can retire from the Company without good cause. The prospectus states that 15 tea-firing houses are to be erected, and the best possible means taken to insure careful preparation of the leaves.

Some very laudable steps are being taken to improve the surroundings of the Hot Springs at Atami. Several officers of the Sanitary Bureau are already on the spot, and the preliminary measures are to be submitted to the approval of the Local Assembly. A large room is to be built near the main spring, the steam from which will be carried into the room by means of tubes. Invalids and consumptives can thus easily enjoy a vapour bath.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 15th.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK.

The prospectus of the new Oriental Bank, with a strong Board of Directors, will be issued formally at the commencement of July.

THE MAHDI.

The Times' special correspondent at Korosko states that the Mahdi, with a following of 35,000, is marching upon Dongola.

London, June 18th.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

It is reported that the English and French Governments have concluded an arrangement for the neutralization of the Suez Canal.

[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, 4th June.

Annam has accepted in principle the Treaty with France.

The Rebels have made several attacks upon Suakim, but in all cases the enemy has been defeated.

London, 6th June.

Osman Digna, with 7,000 of his followers, is preparing to attack Suakim.

London, 7th June.

The House of Commons has read a second time the Bill for the Conversion of Consols.

London, 9th June.

Berber has fallen. A portion of the garrison went over to the enemy and the remainder were killed.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 11th June.

THE CREW OF THE "NISERO."

Lord Granville has addressed a strong representation to the Dutch Government, insisting on their accepting the mediation of the English Government with a view to the rescue of the crew of the *Nisero* at present the captives of a native tribe in Sumatra.

THE DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS.

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replying to a question in the House of Commons, stated that representations have been made to the American Government on the subject of the dynamite outrage.

London, 13th June.

THE ASCOT GOLD CUP.

Simon.....	1
Tristan	2
Faugh-a-Ballagh	3

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

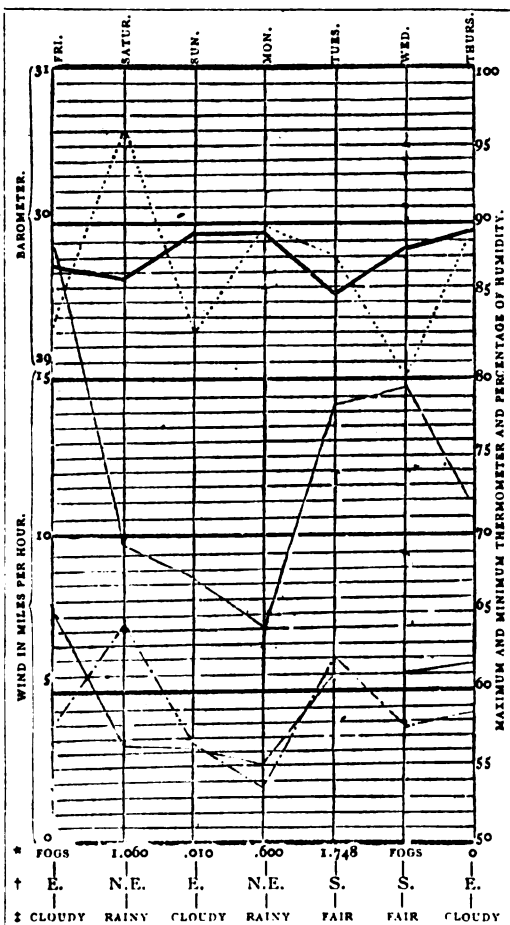
The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 3.38; First-class, yen 2.00; Third-class, yen 1.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
.....represents velocity of wind.
.....percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 18.7 miles per hour on Saturday, at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.028 inches on Sunday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.456 inches on Tuesday, at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 88.6 on Friday, and the lowest was 55.0 on Monday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 78.8 and 48.2 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 3.418 inches, against 0.863 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.	Sunday, June 22nd.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe	per M. B. Co. Thursday, June 26th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Monday, June 30th.
From America ... per P. M. Co.	Friday, July 4th.†

* City of Peking left Hongkong on June 16th. † City of New York left San Francisco on June 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong	per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 22nd.
For America	per P. M. Co. Wednesday, June 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per M. B. Co. Wednesday, June 25th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co. Sunday, June 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co. Friday, July 11th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

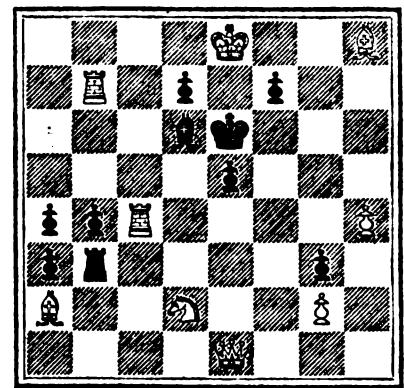
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church	: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church	: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church	: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo	: 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. CHARLES A. GILBERG.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 14th June, 1884, by Mr. H. J. C. ANDREWS.

White.	Black.
1.—Q. to Kt. 6.	1.—K. takes B.
2.—Kt. to Kt. 7.	2.—Anything.
3.—Q., mates.	if 1.—K. takes Kt.
2.—Q. to Q. Kt. sq.	2.—Anything.
3.—Q., mates.	

Correct answer received from "TESA."

It is rumoured that some alterations will be made in the Brewery Tax Regulations before long.

There are two routes on which the Nakasendo Railway can be constructed; one passing from Kiso to Gifu Prefecture, and the other from Matsumoto to Toyohashi, in Aichi Prefecture, by way of Iida and Nawa. The inhabitants of the districts lying along either route have frequently memorialized the Government to lay the line in their vicinity, and are deeply concerned in the final decision of the authorities.

Each nation excels in some peculiar military division; France in her infantry and cavalry, Germany in artillery and engineering, Japan in her infantry and engineers. The Government, it is said, intends giving particular attention to the artillery and cavalry of our army, in order that we shall be behindhand in nothing.—*Fiji Shimpô*.

Now that the Usui Pass in Nagano Prefecture has been successfully opened, the authorities have commenced surveying the new railway route between Suwagori, in the same prefecture, Nirezaki, Yamanashi Prefecture, and Matsumoto and Ituwogawa in Niigata Prefecture.

The *Kagoshima Shimbun* gives a graphic account of a second eruption at Asoyama. The volcano ceased smoking after the first eruption on the 21st of March last, but a low, grumbling sound was continually audible, even at a great distance. Early in this month, dark clouds were again seen hanging over the volcano and the neighbouring peaks, and on the 7th instant the crater reopened, sending quantities of ashes as far east as Kumamoto. On the following day, the wind veered around to the south-east, and Kikuchi and Yamakagori had to suffer from the shower of ashes and scoræ. The eruption was very violent on that day, and the throes of the volcano sounded like the discharge of gigantic cannons. On the 9th instant, the wind calmed down, and rain fell, and the volcano became quieter. But all the trees and plants for miles around are thickly encrusted with ashes.—*Fiji Shimpô*.

Large numbers of kites have, of late, been exported from Osaka. An order received by a kite-maker at Kitaku, Osaka, is so immense that it will take three years to turn out the requisite quantity of these aerial toys.—*Meiji Nippo*.

A horrible duel was fought, the other day, between one Iwama Seiji, a *shizoku*, of Kami Masukigori, Kumamoto Prefecture, and his brother Kampei, the duellists being 77 and 74 years of age. Seiji was found completely cut in two, while Kampei was shot through the head, and both were covered alike with other wounds. A third brother, aged 81, is said to have witnessed the affray from behind a screen—a rather improbable story.—*Choya Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 15th June,—Kobe 13th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 16th June,—San Francisco 27th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Kilgour, 16th June,—Yokkaichi 14th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 16th June,—Hongkong 7th June via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,284, Christensen, 16th June,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 18th June,—Yokkaichi 16th June, General.—Handasha.

Kaisow, British bark, 795, J. Gadd, 18th June,—Takao 4th June, 15,000 piculs Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 410, Taneda, 18th June,—Yokkaichi 16th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nicoline, German schooner, 331, Mahlmann, 18th June,—Cronstadt 17th October, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 18th June,—Kobe 16th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 19th June,—Shimidzu 18th June, General.—Seiriussha.

Metapedia, British steamer, 1,554, J. Purvis, 19th June,—Antwerp via Manila and Hongkong 12th June, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 19th June,—Toba 18th June, General.—Handasha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Sugimoto, 19th June,—Fukuda 18th June, General.—Fukudasha.

Rachel, British bark, 315, Affleck, 19th June,—Takao 26th May, Sugar.—Chinese.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 19th June,—Yokkaichi 17th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 19th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 70, Shiroka, 19th June,—Shimidzu 18th June, General.—Fukudasha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 20th June,—Hakodate 17th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 79, Mimura, 20th June,—Yayedzu 18th June, General.—Fukuzawa.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 20th June,—Yokkaichi 19th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 20th June,—Sagara 18th June, General.—Seiriussha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 20th June,—Shimidzu 19th June, General.—Seiriussha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 20th June,—Yokkaichi 18th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 345, Fukui, 20th June,—Oginohama 18th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 20th June,—Hakodate 18th and Oginohama 19th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,382, B. Blanc, 21st June,—Hongkong 15th June, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, J. Adair, 21st June,—Hakodate 20th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,201, S. Rickard, Jun., 21st June,—London 27th April and Hongkong 14th June, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 15th June,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 16th June,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Kilgour, 16th June,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 16th June,—Funakawa, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,440, Metcalfe, 17th June,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 17th June,—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,971, Steedman, 17th June,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 17th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,284, Christensen, 17th June,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 18th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Makihara, 18th June,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 410, Taneda, 18th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Mosser, British steamer, 1,323, H. Longley, 18th June,—New York via Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 925, Spiegelthal, 18th June,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Velocity, British bark, 490, R. Martin, 18th June,—Newchwang, General.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 19th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 19th June,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 19th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,383, L. White, 19th June,—New York via Shanghai and Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Dzukaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 20th June,—Atami, General.—Tokai Kaisen Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 20th June,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 345, Fukui, 20th June,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Graham in cabin; and 30 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gabriel, Messrs. Max Raspe, J. P. Mollison, and T. P. Ness in cabin; and 1 European in steerage. For Hongkong: Mrs. Cheng and party, Mrs. Cairns, Messrs. D. A. Trotter, J. M. Scudder, and W. V. Bryan in cabin; and 2 Europeans and 173 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—40 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Schinder, Mr. and Mrs. White, 3 children and 2 servants, Surgeon J. M. Seymour, Messrs. Benson, Springer, Willsmann, A. Ahrens, C. S. Hampson, A. Sims, W. Kelly, W. Roberts, J. Heighton, Barrett, R. Scott, F. W. Isaacson, T. Hamada, J. Hayashi, Siwojee, Achong, Chan Chong, Wah Sing, Ah Nam, Loe Hin Thin, Lon Low Him, Ah Yeun in cabin; and 27 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Hakodate:—Captain Davidson in cabin; and 110 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—63 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—49 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Robertson, Imoto, Serika, Watanabe, and Fujioka in cabin; and 88 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—20 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Toba:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—13 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—H.E. Sanjo, Mr. and Mrs. Morse and child, Mrs. Truscott, Miss Brown, Mrs. Kishida and child, Messrs. D. Robertson, W. R. Dunn, J. Esdale, H. W. Williams, Sakai, Y. Tanaka, Saiki, Hoshiyama, Tanaka, Watanabe,

and Tanabe in cabin; and 2 Europeans and 205 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Shimidzu:—9 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Hakodate:—78 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hirio Maru*, from Yayedzu:—19 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—67 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Sagara:—11 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—38 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—H.E. General Saigo in cabin; and 53 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Oginohama:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—6 Japanese in cabin; and 71 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Kuhn and servant, Messrs. Piquet, Koizumi, and Matsumoto in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Hakodate:—40 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Martin des Pallières, Victor de Bavier, Alexandre Voltard, K. Bando, T. Mukai, T. Kishi, and F. Asada in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. Cheng and party, Mrs. Cairns, Messrs. D. A. Trotter, J. M. Scudder, and W. B. Bryan in cabin; and 2 Europeans and 173 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Hakodate:—90 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, for Hakodate:—75 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Smith, N. Enya, S. Uwozono in cabin; and 70 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—H.E. Count Chas. Zaluski, Judge Ishii, Colonel Satake, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. Watanabe, Miss A. Jurado, Messrs. F. C. W. Pan, G. P. Ness, L. A. Anderson, L. P. Michelson, W. R. Barrett, L. E. Masfen, F. Carratu, Samura, Y. Takeda, J. Kirino, F. Hamada, and J. Hayashi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. and Mrs. Kikuchi in cabin; and 60 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, for Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. and Mrs. Kazama, Messrs. Z. Nishiuchi, S. Okuda, S. Numa, K. Noritake, M. Yamamoto, K. Imoto, and E. Hasegawa in cabin; and 88 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, 25 bales for France.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Sugar, 81,37 bales; Yarn, 1,537 packages; Sundries, 10,401; Total, 10,722.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$136,900.00.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—6,978 packages.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Metcalfe, reports leaving San Francisco on the 27th May, at noon with strong N.W. winds and high sea; till the 14th strong to moderate head winds and sea, when we experienced a strong gale and high sea from N.E. moderating morning of the 15th. Arrived at Yokohama on the 16th June, at daylight. Passage, 16 days and 23 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 16th June, at 6.15 p.m. with fresh N.E. breeze and thick of rain; down Kii Channel to Oo-sima strong south breeze and high sea; thence to Cape Sagami fresh westerly breeze and clear weather; and thence to port foggy weather and calm sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 18th June, at 9.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Hakodate on the 17th June, at 10.15 a.m. with E.S.E. gale accompanied by thick rain and high sea; at 1.15 p.m. blowing very hard, turned back and arrived at Hakodate at 3.30 p.m.; and left again on the following morning at 5 a.m. with strong E.S.E. wind, drizzling rain and misty weather to Oginohama, where arrived on the 19th, at 7 a.m. and left on the same day, at 11.45 a.m. with light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 20th June, at 1.30 p.m. Passed five Japanese men-of-war off Tateyama Bay.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Extreme dullness continues to be the chief characteristic of the whole Market. Prices are quite nominal, as holders seem satisfied to wait for business so long as Manchester continues on its present level, and dealers are indisposed to operate except at lower rates.

COTTON YARN.—Small sales have been reported in English Yarns, and a fair business in Bombay 16's.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Scarcely anything doing.

WOOLLENS.—Business has almost been restricted to small sales of Mousseline de Laine.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.25 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.50 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.00 to 25.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.32½
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13½ to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

SUGAR.

Formosa sorts have met a further decline, but little or no business has been transacted at the reduced rate quoted below. There are no changes in the price of other sorts, and stocks have been largely augmented by recent heavy arrivals, all of which have gone into godown.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.00 to 3.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was of the 13th instant: since which date a considerable business for the time of year has been done, both in old and new staple. Settlements for the week reach a total of 160 piculs, a small portion of which is new silk at prices some 15 per cent. under opening rates of last season. On this basis one large buyer has entered the Market rather freely operating in *Filatures*, and some decent parcels of old Silk have thus been disposed of as per details given below.

The crop-news from all districts continues good. The harvest is not yet finished, especially in Shinshu, but in Koshu all the *Cocoons* are nearly ready, and the Kofu merchants estimate that there will be a production of 3,500 to 3,800 native boxes (say 2,000 piculs) *Filatures*, as against 3,000 during the season just closed. There are no *Hanks* received from this province now, everything destined for Export being turned into "*Filatures*." In Joshu the re-reelers are at work, and doubtless we shall soon receive something from thence. In

Shinshu, the "*Suwa*" *Filateurs* are at work on *Koshu* cocoons pending the maturing of those in their own province. The Kofu merchants report that about 300 native bales of new *Cocoons* have found their way across the boundary for use in the *Suwa* *Filatures*.

Japanese dealers are apparently disposed to be current and meet the Market fairly: although they assert that they are losing slightly on every parcel new Silk hitherto sold. Meanwhile, the prices of Silk in the interior decline a little with each succeeding Market-day, and will doubtless come down to the paying point ere long. Here business has been done in *Maibashi Hanks* at \$460, or a drop of \$15 from the first price paid for the few bales mentioned in our last circular. A few new *Filatures* have been taken up at last price, viz., \$575.

The M.M. steamer *Volga*, which left this for Hongkong on the 15th instant, had on board the small quantity of 24 bales only, bringing the Export figures to date up to 29,546 bales, against 28,103 bales in 1883, and 21,476 bales to same date in 1882.

Hanks.—The business done includes a fair parcel old Silk reported at \$460, and some New *Takasaki*, at \$465, with *Maibashi* at \$460. There are a few bales New *Maibashi* left in Stock, larger arrivals are expected to-morrow; price up country reported as 36½ *momme*.

Filatures.—Apparently influenced by the mixed news as to the crop in Italy, some buyers have operated rather freely in old Silk, and about 120 piculs have changed hands on basis of *Nihonmatsu* \$640, *Tokosha* \$620, *Seimeisha* (off-shoot of the *Tokosha*) \$620, *Kaimeisha* \$585, *Hagiwara* \$580, with other sorts running down to \$500 for low "mixed" skeins. In New kinds some business done in *Koshu* at \$575, and more Silk expected from that quarter in time for shipment by the outgoing American mail.

Re-reels.—Nothing done beyond a few bales old Silk "Five Girl" chop at \$560. New *Re-reels* may be expected in the course of a few days, the *Maibashi* factories being well under weigh.

In other sorts nothing to note. We again leave the Quotation-list blank, pending the arrival of more New Silk and a regular course of business.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 20th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	17,241	14,272	11,083
America	9,666	9,416	6,833
England	2,639	4,415	3,560
Total	29,546	28,103	21,476

WASTE SILK.

Business in this article has again fallen off, and the transactions for the week do not exceed 45 piculs. The quality of the Stock on offer runs down every day, the so-called good Wastes being very poor in fibre at this stage end of the season.

Small quantities of New Wastes may be expected on the Market here early in July. Hand musters of *Foshu Noshi* and *Filature Kibiso* are in town, but are too small to give any accurate indication of what the season's produce will be like.

The M. M. steamer *Volga* on the 15th instant carried 28 bales for Europe, bringing the Export figures to date up to 23,829 piculs a marked reduction on those of the last two years which stand at 24,813 piculs, and 26,355 piculs respectively.

Noshi-ito.—A few bales *fil. Hagiwara* done at \$132½, beyond this nothing. It is not likely that we shall have much to record in this class until new goods commence to arrive.

Kibiso.—Bulk of settlements in this class ranging from *Tokosha* *filature* at \$118½, down to common *Hachoji* at \$17. Among the lots recorded we note *Foshu* at \$32 and \$19½, with some inferior *Filature* sorts at \$102½ and \$100.

Sundries.—The only transaction has been a sale of *Kusuito* at \$73. It is probable that many of the odds and ends included under this head will be returned into the interior for use in the native manufacture.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	80 to 85
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	40 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 180

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 20th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	21,628	21,519	22,117
Pierced Cocoons	2,201	3,294	4,238
	23,829	24,813	26,355

Exchange has kept fairly steady at last week's rates. We quote LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½ to 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.75; 6 m/s., 4.78. *Kinsatsu* after dipping below 105 have been fairly on a level of about 105 to 105½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock, 20th June, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	450		Pierced Cocoons	10
Filature & Re-reels	180		Noshi-ito	100
Kakeda	160		Kibiso	300
Sendai & Hamatsuki	100		Mawata	90
Taysam Kinds	10		Sundries	100
Total piculs	900		Total piculs	600

TEA.

The daily Settlements aggregate only 1,765 piculs, and the total Settlements for the interval are 10,550 piculs. All classes of Teas are represented in the above Settlements. Receipts are beginning to be light, as our Tea in Stock now only amounts to 4,500 piculs, against 11,500 piculs in 1883. It appears that the Tea brokers are determined to keep the Market stationary (in fact they have done so for the last four days), but if their object is to increase the prices, they will not succeed very long in face of such a wretched condition as American Market is in at present. The steamships *Mosser* and *Strathmore* sailed for New York on the 20th instant, the former calling at Kobe. These shipments will be given in our next Market Report. The Market for Teas grading above Good Medium is easy, whilst Teas classing below Good Medium are firmer. We make no alteration in our quotations, and they remain nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$12 & under
Good Common	13 to 14
Medium	15 to 17
Good Medium	18 to 20
Fine	22 to 24
Finest	25 to 28
Choice	30 to 33
Choicest	35 & up/ds.

} Very scarce and not freely offered.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained steady throughout the week, and a fair amount of business has been done. Closing quotations are firm as follows:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 9/10 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	90½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	89½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	90½

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

Monday, June 16th	106.½
Tuesday, June 17th	105.7½
Wednesday, June 18th	104.1½
Thursday, June 19th	105.1½
Friday, June 20th	105.1½
Saturday, June 21st	105.1½

E. P. & W. BALDWIN,

TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS.
Works:—Wilden, near Stourport; Swindon, near Dudley; Horsley Field, Wolverhampton.
London Office:—4, Corbet Court, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.
Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.
Sole Export Agent—BROOKER, DORE & Co.,
Corbet Court, London, E.C.

May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their virtue."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
May 1st, 1883.

J. & E. ATKINSON'S PERFUMERY,

celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained Nine Prize Medals, including London, Vienna, Philadelphia,

ONLY GOLD MEDAL—PARIS, 1878,
TWO SILVER MEDALS AND "FIRST ORDER OF MERIT,"
MELBOURNE, 1881.

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a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

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a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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20ins.

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ACCUMULATION OF PHLEGM.

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MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

July 25th, 1877. 22, Cold Harbour Lane, London.
Sir,—Your Lozenges are excellent, and their beneficial effect most reliable. I strongly recommend them in cases of Cough and Asthma. You are at liberty to state this as my opinion, formed from many years experience.

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Indian Medical Service.

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W. B. G.,—Apothecary, H.M.S.

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KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,
A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS.** It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. SOLD IN BOTTLES BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Proprietor, THOMAS KEATING, London.
Export Chemist and Druggist.

June 7th, 1884.

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No. 5B, BUND, YOKOHAMA.

THIS ESTABLISHMENT, recently opened as a **FIRST-CLASS HOTEL**, is pleasantly situated on the Bund facing the Bay, in the central part of the Settlement, close to the Consulates and Public Offices, and affords the very **BEST ACCOMMODATION** to Travellers.

The Cuisine is under the direction of an experienced Chef, and the Wines and Liquors are of the **BEST QUALITY** obtainable.

The Tariff, which is **STRICTLY MODERATE**, can be obtained on application to the Lessees,

HEARNE AND BEGUEX.

Yokohama, March 15th, 1884.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Gold
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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LONDON

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 26, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JUNE 28TH, 1884.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A GREAT archery meeting in the style of old Japan has been held at the Nobles' Club in Tokiyo.

THE total receipts of the Tsuruga-Sekigahara railway for April are said to have been 10,311 *yen*.

A NEW military hospital for *kakke* patients is to be constructed at Karuizawa, in Nagano Prefecture.

THE arrival of H.I.J.M.'s *Tsukuba Kan* at Valparaiso is announced as having taken place on the 13th instant.

THE number of cattle, pigs, and sheep slaughtered in Tokiyo during 1883, were 4,932, 1,329, and 361 respectively.

It is said that the Nagasaki Dockyard has been leased to the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company for a period of 25 years.

It has been decided that the projected railway between Osaka and Sakai shall be extended to Wakayama, in the province of Kii.

THE Kiyoto Banks have unanimously resolved to decrease the rate of interest allowed on deposits for periods of less than six months.

A DRAMA founded on the death of Sakura Sogoro, the hero of Japanese peasants, is about to be produced at the Ichimura Theatre, in Tokiyo.

THE Maple Club (*Koyokwan*) in Tokiyo has esta-

blished a branch at Yukao, which will be open for the reception of visitors from the 1st of August.

THE Union Steam Navigation Company's new steamer, the *Yamashiro Maru*, now en route for Japan from England, left Singapore on the 25th instant.

SOME merchants of Shiga Prefecture are endeavouring to form a company, with a capital of 200,000 *yen*, for the purpose of manufacturing linen goods.

THE Imperial Lighthouse Department's steamship *Meiji Maru* returned to Yokohama on the 21st instant, from a tour of inspection of the light-houses of Japan.

A MR. NISHIO and three other residents of Osaka are reported to have organized a Company of guides who will always be available for use by tourists.

THE traffic receipts on the Kobe-Otsu railway for the week ended 22nd inst. amounted to \$13,818.22, against \$16,401.70 for the corresponding period last year.

It is stated that a case of cholera occurred in the Tobe jail, Yokohama, on the 23rd instant, and that the convicts were immediately removed from the ward as a precautionary measure.

THE Local Sanitary Assembly of Kanagawa Prefecture has decided to issue no more licenses to practitioners of acupuncture, as the operation is considered of more than doubtful utility.

It is stated that the irregularity of the weather has somewhat interfered with the growth of the silk-worms in Fukushima Prefecture, but that the crop, on the whole, will be above the average.

A VERNACULAR journal states that the Very Rev. Bishop Nicholai is about to establish three dispensaries for the poor in Tokiyo, and that he has engaged the services of an American physician for the purpose.

A WEATHER Signal Station is to be constructed on the Western Hatoba in Yokohama. The Mitsu Bishi and the Union Steam Navigation Companies are said to have contributed 2,000 *yen* each towards the expenses.

It is announced that a new road between Yamaguchi and Hagi has been nearly completed. The construction of this road presented so many difficulties that attempts made in former times were invariably abandoned.

A LARGE audience assembled at Ibumura, Asakusa, Tokiyo, on the 21st instant, to hear some lectures delivered by Japanese Christians, and considerable excitement was displayed, but the proceedings terminated without serious interruption.

THE long drought of last year is said to have been followed by considerable distress among the agricultural classes in the district of Kawara, province of Settsu. A wealthy merchant of the

locality, Mr. Okuno, has been selling large quantities of rice at exceedingly low rates to assist the people.

It is announced that His Excellency General Saigo, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, will pay a visit to the Hokkaido next month, in company with His Excellency General Kuroda, Cabinet Adviser and formerly Chief of the Colonization Bureau.

THE authorities have under consideration a scheme for the better control of the jinrikisha coolies throughout the Empire. These men are, for the most part, taken from the lowest classes, and frequent complaints of their misbehaviour have been made of late.

As an example of the effect of the Medical Stamp Regulations published last year, which subject all patent drugs and medicines to a tax of ten per cent. of their selling price, it is stated that the business of 6,119 druggists in Tomiya, Yetchiu province, has diminished from an annual aggregate of a million *yen* to about four hundred thousand.

THE sequel of the recent riots at Kiyoto on the occasion of lectures by Missionaries and Japanese Christians, is that the ringleaders of the anti-Christian demonstration—a fishmonger and two weavers—have been punished in accordance with the police regulations. It appears that the disturbance was not motivated by fanaticism, but owed its origin to the mischievous tendencies of a few thoughtless persons.

FLAGS were flown at half-mast on Monday in consequence of the receipt of a telegram by the Minister for the Netherlands announcing the death of William Alexander Charles Henry Frederick, Prince of Orange, and heir to the throne. The deceased Prince was the second son of the present King and the Princess Sophia Frederica Matilda, daughter of William I., King of Wurtemberg, and was born on August 25th, 1851.

THE official opening of the Tokiyo-Takasaki railway was performed by His Majesty the Emperor in person on the 25th instant. His Majesty, attended by the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and a party of about two hundred Japanese and foreign guests, travelled over the line in both directions, and the ceremony concluded with a sumptuous banquet, to which some eight hundred persons were invited, at Uyeno, in the evening.

THE British Consular Trade Report for 1883 for Hiogo and Osaka has been published. The bulk of the import and export trade of the two ports shows an increase of \$122,994 as compared with the preceding year. The increase was entirely in imports, which amounted to \$8,329,692, as against \$7,917,793 for 1882; while exports, on the contrary, were only \$6,473,757, against \$6,762,663 for 1882. Taking the returns of deliveries into account, however, the total bulk of the trade actually carried on was twenty per cent. less than in 1882.

NOTES.

THE *Tetsudo-gwaisha* has been most unfortunate in the matter of its opening days. We have already described how its directors incurred a fruitless outlay of several thousands of *yen* in connection with preparations for two opening ceremonies which had to be postponed on account of His Majesty the Emperor's indisposition. Wednesday was the third attempt, and though it was attended by the success of most third attempts, inasmuch as the ceremony did actually come off, the weather threw a damper over the whole affair. The termini at Ueno and Takasaki were very tastefully decorated—the decorations, by the way, on the previous occasion cost 800 *yen*, and their materials were sold, after the second postponement, for the two-hundred-and-twentieth part of that sum—but it was not a day to set off decorations, and everybody seemed disposed to get through the affair as quickly as possible. The train left Ueno at 8 a.m., carrying about 300 persons, and after a journey of four hours, arrived at Takasaki, where a collation was served and the usual ceremonies performed. This involved a delay of three hours, so that the return journey was not commenced till a little after 3 o'clock nor concluded before 7 p.m. In addition to the party which proceeded by the train, some five hundred persons were invited to a banquet at Ueno in the evening, and various dances and other performances were provided for their entertainment. But if the weather during the day was unpropitious, that during the evening and night was worse. The rain came down in a steady pour, and though the Japanese guests did not allow their spirits to be damped by this contretemps, we cannot but regret that the sumptuous and hospitable preparations made by the directors did not meet with a happier fate.

WE do not remember to have ever detected the *Bukka Shimpō* in the perpetration of a joke. Yet we are disposed to think that our grave contemporary is poking fun when he attributes to certain merchants of Tokiyo the project of holding a bazaar and devoting the proceeds to charitable purposes. Their idea, the *Bukka Shimpō* puts it, is to do six strokes of business for themselves and half-a-dozen for the "charitable purposes," since the bazaar is to be stocked with goods which have grown rusty on the merchants' hands. The saleswomen, we are told, are to be singing girls and actors—not actresses, as a thoughtless editor might have written, forgetting that female rôles are always played by males in Japan. The pay of the saleswomen is to be defrayed by the sale of tickets of admission, and as these observant merchants have concluded that the price of the goods at the Rokumeikwan Fair had nothing to do with the charitable disposition of the purchasers, they discern, in imagination, a rosy vista of happy speculations. It is a pretty scheme, but one cannot be very sanguine of its success. Charity covers a multitude of sins, but it will not cover the sordid elements of such a project. Besides Japanese dancing girls have such a noted penchant for actors that a combination of the two would probably be fatal to the efficiency of both for bazaar purposes. If the thing is to be tried, we recommend the addition of wrestlers as salesmen.

THERE is a story told of a matter-of-fact citizen of the United States who complained that some

constables had arrested him, although he was doing nothing whatever but pursuing his regular business. It turned out, however, that his regular business was burglary. This pleasant product of imagination is outdone by the sober realities of the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express*, whose editor actually saw a Japanese policeman walk up to a coolie, tie the man's hands behind his back, and march him off to jail, though the unfortunate victim of official tyranny was doing nothing worse than innocently twisting a straw rope! We have heard of swindlers being arrested when they were lying in bed or quietly eating their dinners, but we never heard it suggested that indulging in sleep or satisfying the appetite was the cause of their seizure. It was reserved for a Nagasaki journalist to discover that because a coolie happened to be twisting a straw rope when he was arrested, twisting straw must necessarily be the limit of his crime. Conceive the notion of submitting Nagasaki journalists to the jurisdiction of tribunals before which a man may be haled for twisting straw! And "what is infinitely worse for the policeman" who performed this fell deed, the place of the arrest was a vacant plot of land rented by a foreigner, and therefore partaking, in prospect, of the castellated qualities attaching to a true Briton's home. Yet in spite of these fiendish outrages, this tyranny and trespass, it is unblushingly proposed to give the Japanese some jurisdiction over foreigners. The notion is outrageous. What the Nagasaki journalist and his tremulous fellow-thinkers want is, not constables and criminal courts, but a little more pap and birch.

PRINCE JEROME BONAPARTE issued a proclamation to the Bonapartist Party just before the election of the deputies on the fourth of last month, in which he forbade his adherents to vote for Monarchists or Republicans, but ordered them to give all their suffrages to Radical candidates. This proclamation caused the greatest confusion in Paris and elsewhere; especially as it is interpreted by the Bonapartists to mean that the Prince is trying to win the public over to his side, in anticipation of the "coming crisis." Exactly what it may portend, no man can say; but that the Prince has powerful and numerous supporters is undeniable. The recent actions of his party have been of a conciliatory nature, and it is very probable that they are trying to rally their forces for another Napoleonic *coup d'état*.

DESPITE the conflicting statements which have appeared in the German press during the last twelve months, an alliance between Russia and Germany appears to be highly probable. No less a person than the late Prime Minister Gortschakoff was interested in bringing the interests of the two empires into intimate relation, although his outspoken policy seemed to be diametrically opposed to such an arrangement. The *Schlesische Zeitung* has recently published some correspondence which took place prior to the ratification of the alliance between Germany and Austria. It appears that Minister Von Giers, in going through the papers of the late Premier, happened to find a series of letters which had passed between Bismarck and Gortschakoff, relating to the necessity of consolidating the friendship of Germany and Russia. When this correspondence was shown to the Czar he waxed very wrath at what he was pleased to term the "deceptive policy" of Gortschakoff, and im-

mediately despatched Von Giers to Varzin in order to communicate with Bismarck. The correspondence has now been made public, and an alliance between Russia and Germany appears to be the only natural consequence. Without dwelling on the subject of Gortschakoff's duplicity, it was undoubtedly one of the most important political intrigues of our times; for, while outwardly doing all to strengthen their respective frontiers and standing in instant readiness for a declaration of war on either side, the two great diplomatic steersmen were guiding their ships of state in one and the same direction, and were ready to treat the enemy of the one as the common foe of both. What with Austria, Germany, and Italy already trebly allied, the entrance of Russia into this notable compact will signalize the dawning of a new dispensation. Spain has already evidenced her desire to become a party to the new alliance, and only France still holds aloof.

THE legislation which took place in 1883 on the subject of trade-marks involved some material changes in procedure and administration, as well as the repeal of the rules which were previously in force. Since then, the new rules regulating applications for the registration of trade-marks have been issued, and came into operation on January 1st, 1884; the general procedure being, as far as possible, similar to that laid down in making applications for patents. The Trade-Marks Regulations recently published by Notifications Nos. 13 and 19 of the Privy Council offer an interesting parallel to the British Regulations of 1884; for, while the tenor of both enactments is virtually the same, the British Regulations have the advantage of being an improvement on the older form of 1875, while the Japanese Regulations are the first of the kind ever published in this country. For the purpose of trade-marks registration, goods are, in the regulations of either country, classified according to a schedule attached to the rules; but, in the event of any doubt arising as to what class any particular description of goods belong to, the doubt, in this country, will be determined by the Agricultural and Commercial Department. The latter part of Article XI. reads:

In the case of articles the classification of which is not determined by applicants for registration, the decision will be made by the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

In Great Britain, on the contrary, the classification of the articles in question will be determined by the Comptroller of Patents, Designs, and Trade-Marks, who, by the Act of last year, is appointed as the chief officer of the Patent Office. No special stipulation is made in the Japanese Regulations as to who shall have the right to apply for and hold registered trade-marks: all alike come under the common heading of "Persons who are desirous of obtaining a right to the exclusive use of trade-marks;" in the British Act, however, it is expressly stated, that "firms and companies are equally entitled to hold trade-marks, and the necessary steps may, in all cases, be taken by duly authorized agents." With regard to the registration of trade-marks which have already been in use for a time, the Regulations of both countries are similar, with the exception that the British Act does not directly state that the application for registration must be made within a certain period before the expiration of the registered term. The matter may be epitomized as follows:—"When an applicant desires to register what is known as an old mark, *i.e.*, one

in use before August 13, 1875 (this, being the date of the previous Act), his application must contain a statement of the time during which, and of the person by whom, it has been so used in respect of the goods mentioned in the application." Again, "Respecting the time of the registration, it is provided that so soon as possible after the expiration of two months from the advertisement of the application, the Comptroller shall, if he is satisfied that the applicant is entitled to registration on payment of the prescribed fee, enter the applicant's name, address, and description in the Register of Trade-Marks, as the registered proprietor of the trade-mark in respect of the particular goods or classes of goods described in his application." The parallel articles in the Japanese Regulations run as follows:—

Art. III.—Applications for the registration of trade-marks will be retained by the authorities for two months from the date of their receipt, after which time they will receive sanction should no conflicting applications have been received in the interim.

Art. X.—When persons who have obtained registration desire to continue the exclusive use of trade-marks after the expiration of the registered term, they must apply for fresh registration three months before the expiration of such term.

Another interesting point is, that only the Cutlers' Company at Sheffield is required to send in duplicate applications for the registration of trade-marks, one of which is to be sent to the Comptroller within seven days of its receipt. The Japanese Regulations, on the other hand, require the forwarding of two copies of the application "whenever application is made to continue the use of trade-marks or to obtain a fresh certificate of registration." Finally, in the event of conflicting claims as to ownership, the Comptroller may refuse to register any one until the respective rights have been determined according to its being determined as a special case or otherwise; and, if by special case, it may be submitted to the parties for the purpose of being agreed to, but if they differ it may be settled by the Comptroller. These provisions are the equivalent of Art. III. and the Supplement to the Regulations under Notification 19. The British Regulations also prescribe the size and form of the documents to be used in making applications, and state that all applications will be published in an official paper published under the Board of Trade.

We had occasion the other day, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, to publish a rumour with regard to the sale of certain shares of the Specie Bank by the Government. A resident in Yokohama sent us, thereupon, the following letter, which we publish for its own sake:—"Being a shareholder of the Specie Bank, I was not a little interested in a paragraph which recently appeared in your columns. I have made inquiries with regard to the rumoured sale of shares, but the results I have obtained are slightly at variance with your information. The total amount of the shares subscribed for by the Government was originally 700,000 *yen*, and those lately sold amounted to 500,000 *yen*. The remaining 200,000 *yen* are either in the hands of the authorities or of private individuals. The shares recently sold by the Government were quoted at 105 *yen*, not 111 *yen*, as the *Fiji* stated. Speculators at this port believe that the Bank will throw these shares again on the market, but this is scarcely credible in face of the fact that the present market is too weak to buy up the shares, and such an act would certainly tend to lower the quotation. Another rumour states that the Bank will destroy the whole 500,000 *yen* worth of shares, decreasing

its capital by that sum, in order to prevent any further depreciation. As a holder of shares, I can only praise any and all measures calculated to increase their value."

On the subject of treaty revision, the *Choya Shimbun* makes a somewhat startling revelation, but, as usual, the Tokiyo paper refers its information to many-tongued rumour. It says:—"The revision of the treaties, so long and so ardently desired by the people of our country, has been put off till the present time on account of the many difficult questions that cropped up during the preliminary negotiations. Our authorities, however, have now arrived at the conclusion that the desired end in regard to treaty revision can only be brought about by the united efforts of the Government and the governed, and with this view consider that it would be a wise policy to open the National Assembly in 1886 instead of 1890, and thus comply with the expressed desire of the Japanese people, at the same time that a check would be placed upon the insolent proceedings of aliens. We do not vouch for the accuracy of this report, but it is evident that treaty revision, as the people of this country understand the term, can never be brought about without having recourse to some such method as is here indicated."

The following tables of robberies, petty larcenies, &c., are cut from the recent Statistical Returns of the Home Department:—

YEAR.	ROBBERIES.	PETTY LARCENIES.	PRICE OF RICE.	NUMBER OF POLICE.	RATIO BETWEEN NUMBER OF POLICE AND OFFENCES.
			Yen.		
1875.....	3,361	129,627	5.77	13,606	9.774
1876.....	3,067	150,486	4.90	18,238	8.419
1877.....	4,382	173,529	5.11	24,446	7.229
1878.....	4,893	197,273	6.12	21,426	9.435
1879.....	6,014	223,620	7.16	21,616	10.623
1880.....	6,765	242,418	10.58	20,810	11.947
1881.....	7,374	228,811	9.85	21,437	11.015
1882.....	9,744	212,674	8.37	22,930	9.699

From the above tables it would appear that, when the price of rice was high, the number of thefts increased accordingly. That the number of offences gradually increased during 1881 and 1882, despite the fall in the price of rice, can only be accounted for by a decided difference between the temptations to commit crime. The abnormally large number of the police employed in 1880 was ascribable to the south-western rebellion.—*Choya Shimbun*.

MR. HENRY GEORGE appears to be quite satisfied with the result of his trip to England. He says it was "hard, interesting, and most successful." The hardship seems to have consisted chiefly in the fact that everybody was ashamed of him. Even the proprietor of a circus was so shocked by the revolutionary doctrines preached by the Prophet of San Francisco that he refused to let his circus for another performance of the same nature. In Portree, again, the men who invited Mr. George to speak, came to him under cover of darkness and told him that none of them dared to ask for a hall where a meeting might be held. A Free Church Minister was the *deus ex machina* on that occasion. He lent a school-house, and there the propagandist of spoliation had an audience that "almost took the roof off with their cheers and laughter." Yet not one of these charmed listeners ventured to come forward and shake hands with the lecturer afterwards, "for fear of being marked for landlord boycotting." So, again, in Inverness, the gentleman who had been chiefly instrumental in getting Mr. George to speak there and who had

offered to guarantee all the expenses, "sat on a front bench, but did not dare once to applaud or bid the speaker good-bye, for the reason that he was a business man and could easily have been ruined by the landowning interest." In London when Mr. George first arrived, he easily procured permission to lecture in St. James's Hall, but when his friends desired to find some central place for a farewell meeting, they discovered that every door in the huge metropolis was closed to them. Halls, theatres, churches, everything resembling a public building, proved inaccessible, and the meeting had to be abandoned altogether. Of course Mr. George explained all this in his own way. He found a crofter in the Highlands whose scale of bugbears commenced with the Almighty, in the positive degree, and thence ascended, through landlords in the comparative, to factors in the superlative. This child of nature supplied the Colorado economist with ideas. It was plain that all England was under the same reign of landlord terror. Thenceforth Mr. George revelled in the difficulties he had to encounter, regarding opposition as a sign of the vitality of his cause, and it cannot be said that he was wholly mistaken, since the fact that men build fences with broken glass on the top is assuredly a proof of their faith in the vitality of thieves. Yet it would not be strictly correct to say that Mr. George met with no encouragement in the United Kingdom. The Land Restoration League in Scotland was an association after his own heart. The Scotch "having long had a high standard of general education," and being, above all, a religious people, firmly persuaded that Scotland was made by the Creator for all its inhabitants, not for a favored few, took hold of the spoliation theory "splendidly." The promoters of the Land Restoration League are remarkably canny persons. Instead of touting for adherents, they advise all moderate men to keep out of their ranks, and as human nature happens to have a good deal of that swinish element which prompts men to take the paths they are counselled to avoid, the League grows in numbers. Its manifesto, recently issued, declares that, as a matter of justice, the land should not only be restored to the people, but the landlords should be obliged to compensate those they have so long disinherited. The Restorers, however, are magnanimous. They express their willingness to let by-gones be by-gones on condition that the land be immediately given back to its "rightful owners." Among these persons Mr. George found a hearty welcome, but it is decidedly to the credit of Britishers generally that so very few of them felt anything but shame at the idea of participating, directly or indirectly, in a scheme of universal larceny.

If France's foreign policy is properly represented by her soberest writers, she is not likely to lack pretexts for pursuing it in northern Africa. It appears pretty certain that she has become involved in a trouble with Morocco, and rumour hints that her mood does not imply an amicable settlement of the difficulty. The first news of this affair reached Paris on the 5th of May, and the *Temps* of the following day took some pains to deny that any rupture of friendly relations had occurred. Subsequent advices, however, went to confirm the original rumour, and the following account was published on May 13th:—"The cause of the rupture arose from a cruel murder. The secretary to the Governor of Wazan was bastinadoed at the instigation of the son of the

Shereef of Wazan, representing his father as spiritual chief in Morocco, and who enjoys French protection, for having declared the Shereef to be an infidel. The victim died a few days after the infliction of the punishment. The officers sent by the French Minister to Wazan to investigate the circumstances declare that the secretary's death was caused by poison administered by the Governor of Wazan and not by the bastinado. The French Minister then demanded the dismissal of the Governor of Wazan, which demand has not yet been complied with." If France is really bent upon following in Africa the example set by Russia in Central Asia—that is to say, the example of constant progress southward—the alleged crime of the Governor of Wazan may prove as convenient a stepping stone as anything else.

THE telegram recently received, to the effect that Admiral Miot had announced his intention of blockading the whole of Madagascar, was probably an exaggeration. More detailed accounts go to show that the demand made by the French upon the Hovas is simply the recognition of a French protectorate over the island as far as the sixteenth degree of South latitude, and however vigorous the steps Admiral Miot might deem it necessary to take in support of this claim, it is scarcely likely that he would resort to a measure involving a prospect of serious complications with other powers. So far as the claim itself is concerned, the plea of the Hovas, it will be remembered, is that the French title is wholly invalid, being based on a treaty concluded with a native tribe which, at the time, was in open revolt against the Central Government. Valid as this rejoinder sounds it will probably avail little. Admiral Miot is to be reinforced by 1,500 troops from Tonquin, and if the resistance of the Hovas is sufficiently obstinate to require any costly effort on France's part, the business will end as the similar trouble, in Tonquin ended; namely, by a very large extension of the limits of the proposed French protectorate.

A FEW days ago, the people residing in the neighbourhood of Asakusa, Tokiyo, were astonished by the spectacle of a funeral at which the mourners were of the female sex only. There was nothing mean or scamped about the procession or its paraphernalia. On the contrary, the bier was of the whitest pine and the pall of the snowiest sarcenet, while the *jinrikishas* in which the mourners rode bore heraldic devices of a highly aristocratic nature. Sightseers who were curious enough to follow the procession, concluded that some poor little bairn was being carried to its last resting place, for the coffin was of the tinnest description—so small, indeed, that one could scarcely conceive it to be the tenement of anything human. Accordingly, when priests came to meet the bier and chanted the solemn litany of Amida, mothers who watched the obsequies, hoped that the good deity Jizo had carried the little one tenderly over the rough places on the road to the shades, and dropped a sympathetic tear as they remembered that measles or mumps might at any moment change their own rôle from unconcerned observation to sad participation in a similar ceremony. But what could be the meaning of the female mourners? Had anybody ever seen anything of that sort before? Could it be one of the new fashions that had come in the train of the *bummei kaikwa*

which was the boast of this wonderful era of Meiji? These, and a variety of similar queries and conjectures made themselves heard among the marvelling multitude before the truth leaked out, and before the idlers went home amid a chorus of *oyas!* and *naru hodos!*, telling one another that the tenant of the milk-white shell was not a baby at all, but only the favourite cat of the favourite mistress of a very indulgent nobleman. If anybody supposes that these obsequies were without precedent, let him take a journey to the huge cemetery which lies at the foot of the pagoda beyond Uyeno, and he will see there, by the road side, a comely monument, persiding over a well-tended grave, environed by carefully nurtured shrubs, and distinguished by a device which, to those not familiar with oriental ideography, will explain the lengthy epitaph—the device of a cat sleeping. *Requiescat in pace.*

A SUIT has recently been brought by Machida Sagaku, the former incumbent of a parish at Machida-mura, Tone-gori, Kodzuke, against one Nishiyama and 33 other inhabitants of the same village. It is said that, after a preliminary examination, the Prosecutor of the Tokiyo *Koso Saibansho* (Court of Appeal) issued a warrant of arrest against Nishiyama and the 33 others. According to the written statement of the appellant, he was, at one time, a wealthy priest, but incurred the bitter hatred of Nishiyama and others by espousing the cause of the Royalists at the time of the Restoration. He was afterwards imprisoned on suspicion of arson, but released in December, 1870, at the time of the Imperial amnesty. During the period of his imprisonment, Nishiyama and several others exacted 250 *yen* from his family under pretence of an official order. No sooner was the appellant released in 1870 than his enemies brought a charge of insanity against him, obtained a writ of *de lunatico inquirendo*, and confined him anew in a small cell, giving their wretched victim but the scantiest supply of food. He remained in this cell for fourteen years, until the beginning of 1884, when his relations finally reported the matter to the police, and had him liberated. The lock of the cell door was found completely encrusted with rust and useless; and his liberators had to break down the walls before they could free him from his horrible captivity.

THERE was launched on Tuesday, April 29th, from the Low Walker Shipbuilding Yard of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co., limited, an iron screw-steamer, named the *Sagami Maru* being the last of three vessels ordered for the same owners—the Union Steamship Company of Japan, of which Admiral Ito, of the Japanese Navy, is President. The vessel in question is 270 feet long, 36 feet 6 inches beam, and 24 feet depth of hold. She is classed 100A1. at Lloyd's, will be fitted up as a first-class cargo steamer with a limited amount of accommodation for first-class passengers, and will embrace all of the most recent appliances for efficient and economical working. Her decks are of teak, and generally speaking the vessel will be fitted out in a superior manner. The launch was entirely successful, the vessel receiving her name from Mrs. C. Mitchel, and amongst others present were Captain A. R. Brown, under whose superintendence the ship has been built; Mr. Watanabe of the firm of Messrs. Mitsui & Co., the Company's agents in

London, Captain J. M. James, formerly of the Japanese Navy, &c. Immediately after the launch the *Sagami Maru* was taken to the Wallsend Slipway and Engineering Company to be fitted with compound engines capable of indicating 1,000 horse-power of the most recent type, with two steel boilers working at 90 lbs. pressure.

THE fall of ashes which took place at Koishikawa, Tokiyo, on the 18th instant, though not in itself an uncommon phenomenon, acquires considerable interest from the fact that it was preceded by a violent eruption of Asama-yama. The distance from that volcano to Tokiyo, as the crow flies, is about 95 miles (English), and it is reported to have discharged large quantities of scorix and ashes on the 7th, 8th and 9th instant, after which it became quiescent. If the phenomenon at Koishikawa and that at Asama-yama stand to one another in the nature of effect and cause, it becomes necessary to suppose that these ashes remained suspended in the upper regions of the atmosphere for nine or ten days, drifting westward the while at the rate of about 10 miles per diem. The chief difficulty about this hypothesis is, that the prevailing winds in the lower strata of the atmosphere between the 9th and 19th instant were easterly and south-easterly, throughout the districts concerned, whereas a westerly wind would have been required to bring the ashes from Asama-yama to Tokiyo. It is, nevertheless, difficult to disassociate the activity of the volcano from the visitation to which the inhabitants of Koishikawa were subjected.

THE Government of the United States has been having quite a lively passage of arms with the Ministers of His Sublime Majesty the Sultan of Turkey. The prime cause of the difficulty is Kerosene. America gives herself so much trouble about this export that one is tempted to speculate what would be the consequences if all the Great Powers were influenced by equally paternal instincts on behalf of their various articles of commerce. The grievance with regard to the Kerosene is that the Sultan is supposed to have sold the exclusive right of oil storage to one of his subjects, granting him, at the same time, a firman by which foreigners are not permitted to put up their own storage houses, however fireproof they may be willing to make them. The consequence is that American importers must store in this Turkish monopolist's godowns whether they like it or no, and the Turk is not slow to take advantage of the position. This is the American story. The Turkish version, as given by Tewfik Pacha, is slightly different:—"I cannot believe that there is anything but a newspaper sensation in that. It is a question of finance, not politics. I think you will find a Standard oil monopoly back of it. There was a time when petroleum shippers stored petroleum in bulk wherever they chose. The result was numerous fires and explosions. Stamboul and other cities were endangered. The government permitted Turkish companies to erect safety warehouses, built of stone, and enacted that petroleum should be stored in them. These facilities cost money. A man must get his money back every fifteen years, with expenses and enough for repairs, or fail in business. Now your Standard or other oil companies objected to the increased price of storage and hence complained to your Minister. The principle is the same here. I have to pay \$90 per month for my rooms. I think it is too high.

Suppose I should complain to the American Government that I was overcharged and demand a settlement of the question as a diplomatic one, I would be doing exactly what your oil companies have done. Your government would rightly tell me to seek apartments elsewhere, would it not? That is the case in Turkey. The oil companies should find a market elsewhere if they cannot consent to take up with municipal regulations as they find them. I think the question will be settled, however, by competition. Russia has lately developed great oil regions. She is nearer our markets and can supply them so much more cheaply that she will soon run out the American oil firms." Both stories are plausible enough, but the Americans have such implicit faith in their own version that, it is said, they propose to "square" the Sultan by buying back the firman, and then putting up the price of storage to such a figure for outsiders, that Russian oil will be no longer able to compete. While these squabbles and projects were in full swing the American Mediterranean Squadron arrived at Tenedos, and its commander, Rear-Admiral Baldwin, telegraphed to General Wallace, United States Representative at Constantinople, to say that he proposed to pass the Dardanelles, a project which the newsmongers at once construed into an armed menace *in re* Kerosene, while the officials at Constantinople were thrown into a terrible flutter, as the United States not having been a party to the Treaty of Paris, the irades close the Dardanelles to the Stars and Stripes. Admiral Baldwin made his way through, all the same, and the strains of his band so delighted the Sublime ears that he only escaped a decoration by accepting a snuff-box set with brilliants, while the bandmaster and his assistants were presented with diamond studs, and the musicians with sundry pieces of jewelry. Meanwhile there has cropped up another question which threatens to be more troublesome than the Kerosene. It is one of the endless dilemmas connected with extraterritorial jurisdiction. Senator Pendleton's bill, now before Congress, for establishing Consular Courts in various countries and defining their jurisdiction, claims that American Consuls in the Turkish Empire shall have jurisdiction over all cases to which American citizens are parties. The Porte, however, will not recognise any such claim. It denies that the treaty of 1830 confers this right on the United States officials, and declares that no country possesses it within Turkish territory. The American version of the treaty provides that citizens of the United States shall not be arrested and imprisoned by local authorities, but shall be tried by their own Minister or Consul. The Porte, on the other hand, affirms that the treaty was mistranslated, and that a special Commissioner appointed by America reported the fact long ago. At all events, the jurisdiction question has been under dispute for fifty years. In a case at Smyrna which arose under the treaty, if was found impossible to reconcile the conflicts of jurisdiction, and the alleged criminal was placed in jail, from which he escaped during the night, both parties conniving at it as the only way out of the entanglement. Turkey insists that foreigners committing offences against Ottoman subjects must be confined in Ottoman jails and tried in Ottoman Courts, and her Ministers assert, with some show of reason, that the dispute cannot be settled by the simple proceeding of America giving her Consular officials exclusive jurisdiction over

citizens of the United States who offend against Turkish subjects or laws. "Other nations claim Consular jurisdiction in Turkey," the Ottoman Minister at Washington says, "only when both parties to a dispute are their own subjects, while America wishes to extend it also to cases in which one party is an Ottoman subject."

DOUBTLESS a great deal of capital will be made out of the St. Leonard's case by persons whose logical pastime it is to demonstrate that because there are, occasionally, black sheep among English peers, the whole nobility is a tainted flock. But if Lord St. Leonards has been a disgrace to his order, it is well to remember that the circumstances of his life have been altogether exceptional. To say that any very large allowance of blue blood runs in his veins would be a slight exaggeration. His great-grandfather was a hairdresser, whose shop in Burlington-street is still open, though of course the name over the door is no longer Sugden. The barber's son rose from being an errand-boy in a conveyancer's office to the position of Lord Chancellor, and died intestate as Lord St. Leonards. Boyle Farm, a beautiful estate lying on the banks of the Thames, represented the whole of the family property, and when, in the sequel of a strange law-suit, it passed into the hands of the present Lord St. Leonards' uncle, the unfortunate nobleman found himself possessed of just forty pounds per annum to support his title. He could not work; to beg he was ashamed. So he took to billiards and pigeon-shooting, until finally, by the kind assistance of his friends, he married a young lady with a dot of £100,000. This was in 1876, and in February, 1883, Sir Cresswell Cresswell was called upon to separate the ill matched couple. The peer was proved to have been guilty of adultery. He had been bad enough before this, but he became worse afterwards, and it is said that there was not a public-house or a hotel in London which did not shut its doors to him. Reduced to great straits, he fell in with a Mr. Crawford, of Twickenham, a gentleman who had made a large fortune in Australia and California, and who, being an exceedingly kind-hearted, hospitable person, invited the bankrupt peer to stay in his house. It was here that Lord St. Leonards committed the criminal assault of which he has just been found guilty at Clerkenwell, and persons familiar with the outline of his life will not be surprised that a reference to his "honorable name" excited derision rather than sympathy in Court.

THE gradually prevailing notion that a citizen of the United States may be his own avenger whenever a woman has been wronged, was the cause of a terrible tragedy in the court-room of Redwood City, on the 10th of May. The victim was a young man named Harry Casey. He was arraigned on a charge of assaulting a Miss Sweeny at a picnic. The story told by the complainant, a girl of fifteen, was full of improbabilities. She said that she met Casey for the first time at the picnic, and that after dancing once with him, they walked a little distance from the dancing platform. There, within sight and call of the other picnickers, Casey, she declared, threw her down and assaulted her, she making no outcry the while, "lest he might have a revolver and shoot her." Even when she rejoined her mother, she did not say anything of what had occurred, but, on the contrary, alleged that she

had been walking with a different person altogether. For the defence, testimony was offered that the accused was not near the spot at the time when the assault was alleged to have taken place, and that he had not escorted Miss Sweeny further than the dancing platform. These facts had just been sworn to, when the girl's father, who was sitting behind the accused, drew a pistol from his pocket, and placing it within a few inches of Casey's head, fired three times, the second ball passing through Casey's body from back to stomach. The wounded man expired two hours afterwards, in the Court-room, whence it was found impossible to remove him. Just before death, he declared himself wholly guiltless of the charge. The Judge also stated that it had been his intention to dismiss the case, so firmly convinced was he of the defendant's innocence. Yet we make no doubt that the shooter, Sweeny, in his turn, will find a jury ready to acquit him on that wonderful plea of "emotional insanity."

THE statistics of the production and exportation of iron throughout Europe and America during the past few years, show, more clearly than anything else, the immense effect produced by the railway speculations of the United States. The following table of comparative figures has recently been published:—

	1869.	1872.	1879.	1882.
Great Britain.....	3,445,757	6,741,929	6,009,434	8,493,287
United States ...	1,916,641	2,854,558	3,070,875	5,178,121
Germany	1,180,579	1,457,835	1,988,676	3,170,957
France	1,018,889	1,217,838	1,344,759	2,033,102
Belgium	534,319	655,065	448,371	717,000

The extraordinary activity of American railway construction reached its maximum in 1882, and has, since then, declined considerably; so much so indeed, that a crisis is expected in the iron market, production having far outstripped demand. In Germany, especially, immense quantities of steel have been manufactured by the processes of Bessemer, Gilchrist, and others, while, on the other hand, the demand for steel seems to have been quite satisfied, and, at the same time, the construction of iron ships has received a sensible check.

How far the treaty, concluded but not yet ratified, between England and Portugal with regard to the Congo, will interfere with the doings of the International Association, it is not easy to determine exactly, but that there will be some friction if the treaty comes into force seems inevitable. At present, however, the Association confines itself to the Upper Congo, while the treaty deals only with the Lower Congo, both banks of which it gives to Portugal. We described, in a recent issue, the great dissatisfaction which the treaty had caused in England. Since then, a letter from Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce has been published. The letter defends the treaty on the grounds that the motives which induced Lord Palmerston and Lord Clarendon to withhold any recognition of Portugal's claims of sovereignty no longer exist, since the slave trade has ceased on the West Coast; and points out that Her Majesty's Government have taken care to secure to British merchants all the trade facilities they now enjoy. The Chamber, however, is not convinced by these arguments. It replied that the export of slaves had practically ceased, and free trade between the natives and the merchants of England been carried on for many years, before Lord Palmerston and Lord Clarendon declared "that the interests of com-

merce rendered it imperative upon Her Majesty's Government to maintain the right of free and unrestricted intercourse with these Congo tribes," who are the sovereigns of the countries, who, until this year, have always been faithful to their engagements, and under direct relations with whom "trade has extended, prospered, and been entirely free from serious disputes." It must be confessed that traces of consistency are not very discernible in a foreign policy which, in the cause of freedom, allows Egypt to be driven out of the Soudan by the Arabs, and at the same time hands over to Portugal the hitherto independent tribes on the Congo. Of course the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society has cried out loudly against the treaty, accusing Portugal roundly, "on unquestionable evidence," of still fostering a traffic in slaves wherever she can make it profitable. More serious still is the fact that both France and Germany are reported to have protested. The *Daily Telegraph*, of May 7th, says that France has declared the treaty impossible, and the *North German Gazette* says that Prince Bismarck has sent a formal protest to London and Liverpool against its ratification. This means that if England ratifies the document, British ships and British merchants will have to trade under the French or German flag, unless they wish to be so handicapped that profitable commerce on the West Coast would become hopeless.

It is generally possible to discount at a glance the errors committed by the vernacular press when it undertakes to instruct its readers about the affairs of foreigners, which are doubtless quite as difficult of access to Japanese as Japanese affairs are to us. A Tokiyo Journal, however, recently published a rumour so comical that it tempted us to make special enquires. The story was, that of the two Italian officers employed by the Japanese Government to superintend the manufacture of bronze ordnance at the Osaka Arsenal, one was so taken aback by the unlooked-for development of Japanese scientific methods, that he concluded his services were superfluous and resigned his appointment. As may be anticipated, the result of our enquires is that one of the Italian officers was, indeed, obliged to resign his appointment, but from a wholly different cause. His health unfortunately broke down, and his medical advisers pronounced an immediate return to Italy unavoidable. We understand that his successor is already *en route*, and while recording our sympathy with the invalid, we beg to express our admiration of the very ingenious and entertaining form which the legend assumed in its passage through the hands of Japanese reporters.

THERE is a good deal of mystification about Russia's proceedings in Central Asia. Nothing is quite certain except that she has made great advances. It is plainly intended that the public shall not know more than Russia deems expedient for we read, under date at St. Petersburg, May 18th, that "a rigorous censorship of despatches concerning the Russian policy in Central Asia and Merv had been ordered." A few days previous to this, it was announced that Russia and Persia were "engaged in determining the new frontier in consequence of the recent acquisition of Merv by Russia," and rumour said that one result of this arrangement would be the cession of Sarakhs to the latter Power. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* con-

tradicted this rumour on May 11th, but on May 19th, the following telegram reached London, in connection with the arrival of the Governor of the Caucasus, Prince Dondoukoff Korsakoff, in the Merv district:—"Russia is making rapid strides in Asia, and nations are being conquered in a day. The departure of Prince Dondoukoff for Merv gave occasion for an important leading article in the official journal of the Caucasus, the *Kavkas*, on the object of the Governor-General's journey. The Prince left Tiflis for Baku with the wholly peaceful intent of organizing the administration of the newly annexed district and instituting measures for transforming it into a Russian province. It is carefully stated, however, that 'this time the object of the Prince's journey is quite of a peaceful character,' as though the possibility of journeys being yet taken for other than entirely peaceful objects were strongly impressed upon the mind of the writer.' The next piece of information is important, as showing that Sarakhs becomes Russian, according to a convention already made with Persia, defining the line of demarcation between the Attok and Khorassan; and Prince Dondoukoff will doubtless be present at its evacuation by the Persians—an event which the *Kavkas* intimates is the main condition of this second arrangement with the Shah. Sarakhs will then be made the capital of the new Tejend district adjoining that of Merv. Prince Dondoukoff Korsakoff will furthermore take measures for improving the communications between Askabad and Merv on the one side, and between Merv and Bokhara and the province of Turkestan on the other. He will also consider the necessity of uniting Askabad with Samarcand by telegraph through Merv, Tchardjui, and Bokhara, thus bringing Turkestan, Merv, and Askabad into shorter and more direct communication than over the roundabout Orenburg route. Engineers have been sent from the Caucasus to Teheran to obtain permission to unite Baku with Resht by a new railway running for 350 miles along the shore of the Caspian." It is not easy to see where these advances are to stop, or why they should stop anywhere short of India.

Quem deus vult perdere, &c. We have before this found occasion to doubt the wisdom of certain proceedings on the part of our French friends in the far East. But of all the insane programmes ever put forth by a would-be colonising Power the following strikes us as the most idiotic yet evolved from the inner consciousness of even a Gallic Anglophobe. According to the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, it is as follows:—"As soon as the authority of France shall be firmly established there, a complete military organisation and administration, independent of Saigon, will be introduced. No foreigner will be allowed to settle in Tonkin, or to purchase land there, without the previous authorisation of the local government, which authorisation will only be granted in case the applicant shall be content to take up French naturalisation. All other than French goods, and particularly those of German origin, will have to pay heavy import duty. By this and other means French colonisation will be encouraged." Now, speaking from more than a passing acquaintance with French colonial policy in the East, we must candidly confess that no more suicidal idea ever emanated even from the brains of an 1848 "colonel." At the

seventeen open ports of China the whole commerce and industry of France, aided, be it noted, by a most careful reservation of "concessions" at most of them, is represented by some five firms, who deal in watches and clarets, and, as regards business, do not even count as a factor in the Eastern trade. The fact is that commerce (out of France) is not the French *métier*; but we little thought that, with the experience of the treaty ports to guide him, the most rabid of anti-foreign French Ministers could have been guilty of so silly a proposition. The French are good military colonists, and nothing more. Such an idea as that described above merely means an enormous addition to the call upon French finances to support a profitless colony.—*Whitehall Review*.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* is very severe upon the bazaar recently held at the *Rokumei-kwan* by the Ladies' Benevolent Society of Tokiyo. It says that the ladies behaved badly, and that, on the whole, the affair was neither refined, elegant, nor admirable. If the truth must be confessed, we were prepared for criticism of this nature. It comes with all the better grace, too, from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, inasmuch as that journal was, at first, enthusiastic in its applause of the project. It had nothing but good words for the kind-heartedness which prompted "fair dames of high degree" to stand at stalls and sell goods to the unwashed multitude, all for the sake of the sick children and women of the metropolis. Now, however, it declares that the ladies forgot their good manners and conducted themselves unbecomingly! Of course one wonders at once whether the editor of the Tokiyo Tattler had the misfortune to carry more money to the Bazaar than he could conveniently afford to squander upon knick-knacks. If so, he probably penned his indictment of the ladies' manners under the influence of sentiments similar to those of the unhappy Scotchman whose saxepe had gone bang in half an hour. Everybody is not gifted with the resignation of that noble-hearted merchant of Nakadori, who, having concealed himself in the crowd and thus passed all the stalls without changing the ten *sen* note he had magnanimously carried with him as a charitable donation, observed, when he was obliged at last to disburse the whole sum for a glass of iced water:—"Well, to be served by the daughter of a Privy Councillor is some excuse even for such extravagance." But whatever private reason the *Yomiuri Shimbun* may have for its censures, we are by no means sure that they ought not to be endorsed. At any rate, we do most sincerely wish that the ladies of Japan, if they borrow the theory of bazaars from the West, would adorn its practice with as many Japanese fashions as possible. It is high treason, perhaps, to criticise such matters at all, but we have a very sincere admiration for the gentle grace and modest unobtrusiveness which distinguish the fair sex in this part of the world, and we cannot be pleased to see these charming qualities exchanged for the styles and methods which Western Ladies have thought fit to adopt at charity bazaars. Throughout the opening day of the Tokiyo Fair everything was faultless. The articles were all legibly marked, and their fair sellers disposed of them in a way that made everybody wish he had a fortune to squander. But on the second day, and above all on the third day, the whole thing was European, and how much it lost by the change we should be afraid to estimate. The impres-

sion which many foreigners carried away on the first day was, that a bazaar in Japan was a far more civilized affair than a bazaar in Europe or America, but, we regret to say, that impression did not survive a second visit. Yet, unless we are misinformed, the proceeds of the first day's sale compared favorably with those of the succeeding days. The fact is, that to be warmly, if not vehemently, solicited inspires in most men a desire to escape the necessity of purchasing, and we strongly recommend the ladies of Japan to leave these methods to those who have made the error of initiating them. The thing is not artistic, and nothing inartistic is becoming in Japan.

DR. SCHWEINFURTH, in an article in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, on the future of the Soudan, makes the following rather startling proposition:—The inhabitants of the valley should be displaced by Chinamen. These inhabitants of the Nile valley are not strictly speaking agricultural at all, and whenever they have the chance they leave their country, preferring the wretched life of shepherds on the borderland of the desert. Others go into service in large cities, or engage in small trades, and especially in the slave trade. In this respect they resemble the Polish Jews, money to them being represented by slaves; they regard the tillage of the soil as degrading; and if they were not rich enough to do it by means of bought slaves, they would neglect it altogether. Thus the entire Soudan, comprising the most distant provinces of the Upper Nile, swarms with these petty traders, who are a downright plague to the country. Thousands of others find the idleness which is so dear to them in the profession of monk or priest. These are the people from whom the Mahdi has chiefly recruited his followers. They are the pest of the country, and a new religion or a new set of immigrants would deprive them of their *raison d'être*. This lazy, corrupt, and stupid population would disappear before the Chinese and the negroes, like the mist before the sun. There would be neither poor nor rich, for China would inexorably level them all.

THE trial, at Leipsic, of M.M. Krazewski and Hentsch, charged with conspiring to furnish secret information on German military matters to the Governments of France, Austria, and Russia, seems to have created considerable excitement. The trial was held in secret, but enough transpired to show that the channel through which the accused were supposed to have conducted their treasonable designs was a Polish Society, said to have existed in Paris from 1864 to 1878, with the object of effecting, if possible, the restoration of Poland's independence. From 1866 to 1878 the chief business of the Society was to collect military reports from all parts of Europe, and several of its members are said to have been employed by the French Government, and especially by Gambetta, to organize an office for the purpose of obtaining news of this nature from Germany, Austria, and Russia. The Society had to reckon with Bismarck, however, who took the trouble to write with his own hand, and forward to the Criminal Court at Leipsic, a statement of the association's organization and objects. In this document it was asserted that, after the arrest of Krazewski, General Thibaudin, lately French Minister of War, ordered a search of the financier Erlanger's house in Paris on a false pretext, the real motive of the

search being that Erlanger was suspected of being a German agent. This story had been public property before the trial, and General Thibaudin would have answered it in the columns of the Parisian press, but was not permitted to do so by General Campeon, the present Minister of War. The reading of Prince Bismarck's memorandum is said to have caused much excitement, and the *Journal de Paris* roundly accused the Prince of falsehood. M. Krazewski, who is a man far advanced in years and possessed of considerable property, denied the charge against him, and declared his belief that certain military essays which he furnished to his friend Zaluski in Paris, and which were intended for publication in the *Paris Journal*, were the documents upon which are founded the charges against him. His friends, also, claimed that the accusation was preposterous, as he was too old to take an active personal interest in such matters, and said that the denunciation received by the German Embassy at Vienna had been actuated by malice and was a private method of revenge taken by a spy who had been defeated in an attempt to blackmail him. There could be no doubt, however, that Krazewski was a bitter enemy of Germany: his writings showed that plainly enough. A number of compromising documents, said to have been found in his handsome residence at Dresden, were used as evidence against him, and among the most important witnesses for the prosecution was a Polish journalist named Adler, who, at the time of Krazewski's arrest, gave the German Ambassador at Vienna papers bearing strongly on the case. With regard to the second prisoner, Hentsch, there appears to have been very little doubt, as letters of his were produced in which he distinctly offered to betray military secrets and fixed the sums he was to receive for the disclosures. He was sentenced to nine years' penal servitude, and Krazewski to three years and six months' imprisonment in the fortress.

AN old British army pensioner relates this story of General "Chinese" Gordon:—On the first day on which fire was opened at Sebastopol from the twenty-one gun battery, the sand-bags forming one of the embrasures caught fire from the flash of a too-closely mounted gun. A corporal and a sapper of the engineers were told off to repair the damage. The corporal ordered the sapper to mount the embrasure, and proposed to hand up the fresh bags to him. They were under heavy fire at the time, and the sapper, with some want of discipline, certainly, demurred to this arrangement, and suggested that the corporal should get up, and that he (the sapper) would go on with the handing-up business. There was a bit of a wrangle over it. Gordon, who was passing, inquired into the matter, and quietly telling the corporal, "Never order a man to do what you are afraid to do yourself," got up on the pile of bags himself and said, "Come up here, both of you," and then ordered the men who were working the gun to hand the bags up. The storm of bullets swept over Gordon and the two men, but his charmed life seemed to protect the trio. He finished his work, and came down as coolly as he had mounted, but the lesson was never forgotten, and there's a fine ring about the words, "Never order a man to do a thing you are afraid to do yourself."

PULPIT independence is a fine thing in its way. A remarkable example of it was recently given by the Rev. J. J. Delo, pastor of the Lutheran

Church at Centre Brunswick in New York. The pastor had had some serious difficulties with his flock and had finally been warned by the Church Council to resign. At first he declined to comply with this suggestion, but when the Council stopped paying him any salary, he decided to go in search of a more sympathetic flock. He preached his farewell sermon on the last Sunday in April, and concluded it with this sentence:—"I have nothing to fear from such as you, and I will be preaching the Gospel when a majority of you are in hell." He is to be tarred and feathered.

THE *North Borneo Herald*, referring to the death of the late Sultan of Sulu, says he has been succeeded on the throne by his young half brother under the style of Paduka Maha Sri Mulama Sultan Mahomed Rajah di Rajah. He is an intelligent lad of some fourteen years of age, and it appears that his mother, Pangeran Dayang Dayang Inche Jamel, and Datu Puyoh, are at present associated with the young prince in the administration of the Government. The lady, his mother, is well known to Europeans for her intelligent and liberal views. The *Herald* hears with regret, however, that a rival claimant to the throne has arisen, in the person of Datu Aliudin, and that he has considerably the largest following of fighting men. Datu Aliudin is of royal blood on his father's side, and he is connected with the present reigning family. His mother, however, was a concubine, a woman of the people, and this, by the custom of Sulu debars him from any right to succeed to the throne. The Spanish are said to be assisting Datu Aliudin with arms and ammunition, although outwardly favouring the cause of the boy Sultan. At Maibun, the Sultan's capital, rude earthworks and other defences are being constructed, and fighting appears to be imminent. Many Chinese traders have left the place with their goods, some fourteen or fifteen of them having taken refuge in Sandakan. The German corvette *Leipzig* recently called in at Maibun and Captain Herbig visited the young Sultan's mother, and received on board a visit from the Sultan himself. The lad was saluted with twenty-one guns as a Royal Prince, but the captain explained that this did not involve any recognition of him as Sultan.

THE sources whence *Public Opinion* gleans its interesting *mélange* are many, but it strikes us that a little more care might well be taken with regard to its literary extracts. In a notice of Mr. Rose's new work, "Three Sheiks: an Oriental Narration," the following remarkable criticism rounds a somewhat eulogistic paragraph:—"The bombastic language of the book is conspicuous by its absence, and in its place a simple style is adopted which rings with true sympathetic grace." This must have driven the author nearly frantic with joy.

A STRANGE thing has been seen in London, says a home paper. The novelty referred to is a jinricksha. To the bulk of newspaper readers the name may not convey a very lucid idea of what is meant, so it may be explained that a jinricksha is a sort of Japanese hansom, the great peculiarity of it being that the jarvey is his own horse, and himself draws the vehicle at a brisk trot. The Japanese are a very ingenious people, and quick to adapt themselves to Western notions. Consequently, though the individual who drew the jinricksha which has aroused so lively an

interest was dressed in "native costume," it differed materially in detail from the style of thing affected by the coolies who perform similar work in Yokohama. That is to say, there was more of it. A good deal of mystery attaches to the turn-out, which created some sensation when it made its appearance in the heart of London.

THE great scientist, M. Louis Pasteur, seems to have discovered what the medical profession has hitherto looked on as undiscoverable—a cure for hydrophobia. The cure is not less remarkable than the fact. It is inoculation, the principle being to modify the virus just as vaccination modifies small-pox. The details of this interesting discovery are given by the *Figaro* in its account of an interview with M. Pasteur, who said:—

Cauterization of the wound immediately after the bite, as is well known, has been more or less effective, but from to-day anybody bitten by a mad dog has only to present himself at the laboratory of the Ecole Normale and by inoculation I will make him completely insusceptible to the effects of hydrophobia, even if bitten subsequently by any number of mad dogs. I have been devoting the last four years to this subject. I found out, in the first place, that the *virus rabique* loses its intensity by transmission to certain animals and increases its intensity by transmission to other animals. With the rabbit, for instance, the *virus rabique* increases; with the monkey it decreases. My method was as follows:—I took the virus direct from the brain of a dog that had died from acute hydrophobia. With this virus I inoculated a monkey. The monkey died. Then with the virus—already weakened in intensity—taken from this monkey I inoculated a second monkey. Then with the virus taken from the second monkey I inoculated a third monkey, and so on until I obtained a virus so weak as to be almost harmless. Then with this almost harmless virus I inoculated a rabbit, the virus being at once increased in intensity. Then with the virus from the first rabbit I inoculated a second rabbit, and there was another increase in the intensity of the virus. Then with the virus of the second rabbit I inoculated a third rabbit, then a fourth, until the virus had regained its maximum intensity. Thus I obtained virus of different degrees of power. I then took a dog and inoculated him, first with the weakest virus from the rabbit, then with the virus from the second rabbit and finally with the rabbit virus of maximum intensity. After a few days more I inoculated the dog with virus taken directly from the brain of a dog that had just died of acute madness. The dog upon which I had experimented proved completely insusceptible to hydrophobia. The experiment was frequently repeated, always with the same successful result. But my discovery does not end here. I took two dogs and inoculated them both with virus taken directly from a dog that had just died of acute hydrophobia. I let one of my two dogs thus inoculated alone, and he went mad and died of acute hydrophobia. I subjected the second dog to my treatment, giving him the three rabbit inoculations, beginning with the weakest and ending with the strongest. This second dog was completely cured, or rather became completely insusceptible to hydrophobia." M. Pasteur then went to a kennel and caressed a dog that had undergone this latter operation. "Voyez!" said M. Pasteur, "comme il est bien gentil. Whoever gets bitten by a mad dog has only to submit to my three little inoculations and he need not have the slightest fear of hydrophobia." M. Pasteur, whose researches in the germ theory are known to, and keenly watched by, scientific men, and followed with interest by the public throughout the world, has now attained his object in the study of hydrophobia, and will read a most important paper before the Academy of Sciences shortly. M. Pasteur possesses quite a collection of mad dogs, destined for experimental purposes. The unfortunate animals are kept in a building annexed to M. Pasteur's laboratory at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, in the Rue d'Ulm, forming part of the old buildings of the Collège Rollin. At present there are thirty-six dogs, nearly one hundred rabbits, several monkeys and guinea pigs, all in a more or less rabid state. The illustrious savant is bringing to a close his thorough inquiry into hydrophobia, and the results will crown the series of his great discoveries on hospital diseases and animal vaccination. He has now succeeded in inoculating animals with hydrophobia in different degrees, and by the application of the method so successful in blood poisoning or carbon diseases in cattle—namely, by the inoculation of virus attenuated in intensity—has now discovered that dogs and all animals generally may be rendered proof against the dread disease by true vaccination. Some of the dogs on which he is experimenting, inoculated three or four times during the last three years, are still alive and well, and henceforth proof against hydrophobia. The dogs used by M. Pasteur are provided from the Paris pound, or *fourrière* in the Rue de Poissy, and cost him two francs a head. After a certain lapse of time all dogs at the *fourrière* not claimed or sold are slaughtered. The animals handed over to M. Pasteur

are divided by him into two categories—the first, called "witnesses," are doomed to death within a given time—that is, the period of the incubation of the rabid virus with which they are totally inoculated; the second are merely subjected to rabic vaccination. The comparison between the effects of natural virus and the same in an attenuated form is thus easily established. Some of the dogs succumb and others escape the disease, according to whether they were or were not vaccinated. All the animals are kept within specially constructed iron cages, the disposition of which allow of the dogs being attended to and watched without risk of being bitten.

THE correspondent of the *Daily News*, who is said to be Mr. J. J. O'Kelly, M.P., in a letter dated at Dongola, April 2nd, gives the following interesting account of the Mahdi and his followers:—"The movement led by Mohammed Ahmed, the Mahdi, is a curious admixture of religious, political, and social fanaticism. It is at once a war against the Turk, infidel, and that common enemy of disinherited humanity—the man of property. Under the new dispensation there are to be no poor and no rich. Every one is to have a little and no one too much. The central idea of the movement may be described with sufficient accuracy as an effort to redistribute surplus property. The new formula would then run—all surplus property is robbery; and with this amendment the new champion of Islam might shake hands with the French and German socialists as a man after their own hearts, only somewhat more thorough. Mohammed Ahmed is in person tall and powerfully built, but somewhat inclined to corpulency. His complexion is between brown and red—what the Arabs call *aïder*—that is, green. The expression of his countenance is agreeable, and when in repose his face is lighted up by a constant placid smile. If the statements of his enemies may be trusted, this outer aspect of benevolence furnishes but a deceptive key to his character. Against those who refuse to recognize the divine nature of the mission he can be severe to cruelty. He is credited with Jeffreys' trick of weeping over the fate of those victims whom he orders to execution, so as to create the impression that he punishes dissent and disobedience with personal regret, at the command of Allah. In barren discussion as to the nature or authority of his mission he loses no time. If any man be bold enough to challenge its divine origin or express disbelief, he is permitted to choose between submission, open acknowledgment, and decapitation. This method of reasoning has the advantage that it is brief and effective. Few men are bold enough to sacrifice their heads for their opinions, and the result is a general acquiescence in the divine authority of Mohammed Ahmed's mission. On the other hand, he protects and encourages those who voluntarily accept him as the true Madhi—the man sent by Allah to reform mankind. Beyond question Mohammed Ahmed is a man of considerable intelligence and extraordinary force of character. No ordinary man could have raised himself from a humble position and made himself master over the restive and jealous Arab tribes as Mohammed Ahmed has succeeded in doing. It has been customary to represent him as the instrument or tool of other men, but if he ever occupied that position he has ceased to do so. To-day Mohammed Ahmed is the absolute master of the life and property of every man from Obeid to Fashoda. He boasts some education, as it is understood in the East—that is, he reads and writes, and is well versed in the Koran and the commentators. He speaks both the Barabari and Arabic languages. Some Catholic priests who have met him personally state that he is by

no means a vulgar impostor, but, on the contrary, impressed them as a man thoroughly convinced of the divine nature of his mission and wholly devoted to carrying out the religious reforms which he claims he has been sent to effect. The more intelligent part of the population do not put any faith in his divine mission; but among the mass of the people, who are sunk in almost absolute ignorance, Mohammed Ahmed is undoubtedly regarded as a prophet sent by Allah, whom it is sinful to resist. 'Had the Mahdi declared himself a king,' said an intelligent merchant the other day, 'no one would have followed him; but because he comes as a prophet the people fear to disobey him, lest they should expose themselves to the divine vengeance.'

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL's doings occupy an important place among our telegraphic advices by this mail. The facts connected with his temporary withdrawal from the Conservative Union appear to be somewhat different from what we had supposed. It is now stated that when he was appointed chairman of that Association, he slighted and ignored the Central Conservative Committee over which Lord Salisbury presided, claiming that the Council of the Union had control of the entire Conservative party, and that it had in fact become a caucus. In pursuance of this view, he proceeded to appoint an executive committee, consisting of himself, Sir Henry Drummond Wolff and Mr. Gorst. The Association, however, adopted a resolution that the Council and the Central Committee should work in harmony, and Lord Randolph, regarding this as a vote of censure on himself, resigned the chairmanship of the Association. Rumours were speedily spread that he had left the Conservative ranks, but these he emphatically denied in a letter to the *Standard*. The *Times*, commenting on the event said:—"The real question at issue between Lord Randolph Churchill and the Conservative Leaders is whether the internal organization of the party shall be established upon a proper representative basis as Lord Randolph Churchill advocates or shall remain upon a secret and irresponsible basis. On this broad and unmistakable issue there can be no doubt but that Lord Randolph is right." A Conference of Conservative representatives was subsequently held, and its leading members waited on Lord Randolph, the Earl of Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote, to urge upon them an amicable settlement of the trouble. The result was a private meeting of the Conservative members, when Lord Randolph made a powerful speech, advocating unity, and the general impression after the meeting was that he had gained a substantial victory. In fact there can be little doubt that Lord Randolph is now one of the most popular men in the Parliament. He has everything in his favour, above all, sympathy for the people, whereas Lord Salisbury is credited with a profound disdain for the masses. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says of him that "he has the mind of an Oxford Don and the manners of a family physician." Lord Randolph, however, has to endure a good many gibes from the organs of his own party. Thus the *Standard* tried to make out that his resignation of the Conservative Union's chairmanship was necessitated by an "irritating letter" he had written to Lord Salisbury; but when the irritating letter was published, it turned out to be nothing more than a plea for the open establishment of a Tory caucus. "The caucus," said Lord Randolph,

"may be, perhaps, a name of evil sound and omen in the ears of aristocratic and privileged classes, but it is undeniably the only form of political organization which can collect, guide, and control for common objects large masses of electors, and there is nothing in this particular form of political combination which is in the least repugnant to the working classes in this country." Of course this letter occasioned a terrible outcry on the part of the Conservative journals, but Lord Randolph virtually gained his point, and was unanimously re-elected chairman of the Union. He made another sensation in the House of Commons when the extension of the Franchise Bill to Ireland was discussed in Committee. Mr. Broderick (Conservative) moved to exclude Ireland, but Lord Randolph, amid loud Liberal cheers, opposed the amendment, saying that "although he objected to the bill strongly on account of its provisions, he thought the position taken by the Government was statesmanlike. He had no fear of the result of enfranchising the Irish agricultural laborers, and expressed the hope that the Conservatives would not alienate the good opinion of the Irish by supporting Broderick's amendment." This led to a violent attack by Lord George Hamilton, who told Lord Randolph that if that was "a statement of the democratic Toryism of the future, he (Lord George) declined to follow under such leadership." The incident seems to have caused considerable excitement, and inasmuch as Sir Stafford Northcote and many of his followers quitted the House before the division, leaving Lord Randolph to vote with the Government, it can hardly be said that the split in the Conservative camp is healed yet.

THE Wharton School of Finance and Economy, the first annual report of which has just been made to the University of Pennsylvania, offers certainly a rare opportunity to students of political economy. The American press speak in very high terms of this establishment, which boasts a faculty of distinguished men of letters, among others Professor McMaster, Professor Robert Ellis Thompson (whose works on Political Economy are known the world over), and Professors A. S. Bolles. As an illustration of the practical character of the teaching of Wharton School may be mentioned a series of essays written by members of the class studying subjects connected with governmental administration. The subjects treated in these essays include Civil Service in England and America, History of Federal Taxation, Science of Statistics, Postal Telegraph, County Government, Finance, &c. Original investigation preceded preparation of the essays, and this policy of cultivating a habit of self-reliance permeates all the departments. "We read without surprise," says the *Philadelphia Press*, "that, of the senior class of Wharton School, one is a college graduate of ten years' standing, and another a graduate of the University of Tokio, Japan."

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes the following correspondence from Korea:—Kim Phyoŋg-kuk, President of the T'sung-li Yamên, has sent in his resignation, but it has not been accepted. Zen Ko-sin, who played an important part in the negotiations between Korea and Japan, has been appointed Police Inspector-General for Inchhôn Fu. He is one of the few honest men among Korean officials, and his appointment is very generally looked upon as being that of the right

man in the right place. Owing to the failure of the crops in the interior, burglaries and highway robberies are on the increase. Paupers swarm at the port of Fusan; some 200 beggars in the last stage of misery are living in the vicinity of the Settlement.

A CRICKET MATCH played yesterday between Yokohama and Tokiyo was one of those extraordinary affairs in which chance seems to take possession of the field and do what she pleases with the noble game. On paper Tokiyo had an excellent team. True, it included two men who had never played cricket in their lives before, and whose whole knowledge of the pastime is said to have been acquired by the perusal of handbooks in the train *en route* for the ground. But the remaining nine were all good men and true, every one of whom might have got into double figures with the most ordinary luck. Luck, however, was dead against them from the start to the finish. Their first innings was a fiasco. Its total did not reach twenty. And yet among the batsmen was one gentleman whose record in the only three innings previously played by him this season had been three "not outs" with an average of over fifty runs per innings. Yesterday he was bowled at four, by a ball which beat him by its very simplicity—an accident which all old cricketers will comprehend. The story of the entire innings was similar; a chapter of misfortunes throughout. In their second essay, indeed, the Tokiyo players came out differently; over forty runs for three wickets. But it was then too late to relieve the past, and nothing remained but to reflect that things *might* have been otherwise had the tide of ill-luck turned sooner. We can sympathise heartily with the Tokiyo men, more especially as they showed great pluck in playing at all. The best cricketers cannot dispense altogether with practice, and, as it happens, Tokiyo lacks something essential to practice; namely, a cricket ground. The team had never played together before. Its units met as a team for the first time at the pavilion yesterday; went to the wickets without, in most cases, having seen a bat or a ball for months, and very naturally failed to put runs together. We believe that with equal advantages in the matter of practice, there would not be much to choose between Tokiyo and Yokohama under existing circumstances.

THE *Figaro* has made a new departure in advertising. Recognizing that the men of this nineteenth century are too busy to search the columns of a paper for anything not immediately accessible, the aristocratic French organ now divides its *petites annonces* into twenty categories beginning with "amusements" and ending with "situations wanted." Among these *petites annonces* illustrated advertisements are not admitted—except in the case of a house for sale or to let, when an extra payment of one franc secures the insertion of a diagram. The *Figaro*, however, meets the views of persons desiring to illustrate by publishing an "*Encartage*," with excellently executed pictorial advertisements, for each of which the modest charge is 2,000 francs, when the extra sheet is delivered with the 30,000 copies sent to the journal's regular subscribers, and 4,000 francs when delivered with the *Figaro's* full publication of 80,000. The public is supposed by experts to have come to the conclusion that high-priced advertising mediums

are the cheapest in the end, and in obedience to this discovery the *Figaro's* charge for ordinary advertisements is \$1.20 per line, which means about \$7 per inch. If pecuniary success be any evidence of right judgment, the *Figaro* has undoubtedly judged right, for it is one of the most profitable journalistic enterprises in Paris, and there can be little doubt that its new method of advertising for its clients will prove a most excellent advertisement for itself also.

OUR countrymen, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, very generally neglect that important sanitary rule, that sufficient care cannot be taken with regard to the quality, as well as the quantity, of the food they eat. It has been the experience of our Navy that many seamen on our war-vessels, though apparently strong and in a normal state of health while in Japanese waters, fall sick and die after two or three months' sojourn in Korean and other foreign ports. Foreign navies can tell the same story. This phenomenon has been fully discussed by our naval medical men, among whom Mr. Takagi, Surgeon-General, has ascribed the high rate of mortality among Japanese seamen to indulgence in improper diet. The daily rations of every seaman have since been altered to 80 *me* of beef, 5 *shaku* of milk, 4 *go* 5 *shaku* of rice, and 40 *me* of vegetables. Two months' trial amply demonstrated the merits of the new dietary system, for it was found that the men had increased 100 *me* in weight on the average, while their general health had much improved.

IN consequence of the despatch received from Mr. Sakurada Chikayoshi, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires for Holland, relative to the death of the Prince of Orange on the 21st instant, H.E. Ito, Minister of the Imperial Household, sent the following telegram to Mr. Sakurada on the 24th instant:—His Imperial Majesty has felt deep sorrow on hearing the news of the sad bereavement of H.M. the King of Holland, and desires the expression of his sympathy to be conveyed to the Minister of the Royal Household.—*Kwampo*.

WE have received the First Section of a Library Edition of "Stormonth's English Dictionary." The work will soon be completed in this very convenient form, and will be thus brought within reach of many who have hitherto refrained from supplying themselves with a copy of the original editions. It is unnecessary for us to say anything of the merits of a book to which the best critics have awarded a high place among English classics, and with which most of our readers are doubtless already familiar. Messrs. Kelly & Co., we observe, are agents for the new edition in Yokohama.

BARNARD, who, it will be remembered, was lately sentenced to two years' imprisonment at Kobe for stabbing the steward of the American ship *El Capitan* during a quarrel in self-defense, which resulted in the death of the latter, arrived on Thursday by the *Takasago Maru* in charge of Captain Taylor, and was conveyed to the U.S. jail where he is to serve his term of imprisonment.

THE *Kwampo* reports that a telegram has been received from the Japanese Legation in St. Petersburg stating that a son was born to the Czarovitch on the 11th instant.

THE CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HIYOGO AND OSAKA.

MR. CONSULAR TROUP'S excellent Report of the trade at Hiyogo and Osaka for 1883, sets forth general results which, as might have been expected, tally, in the main, with those for Yokohama. Commerce has suffered at the Southern ports as well as at the northern, and in both cases from the same cause—currency appreciation. Mr. TROUP recognises this very plainly. He points out that, whereas the specie value of the paper *yen* in the Spring of 1883 was only 70 cents, it had risen to 90 cents by the fall of the year, and remained fairly steady at the latter figure. This appreciation of 20 per cent. is understood, he says, to have been brought about by a process of currency contraction, which consisted in the withdrawal of a portion of the Government's fiat notes by exchanging them for interest-bearing bonds. "There is no doubt," he adds, "that this is a step in the right direction; but in the meantime the change causes considerable depression in the agricultural and trading interests." Having regard to the importance to mercantile men of a thorough acquaintance with the nature of the medium of exchange in which they are required to deal, we have always counted it most unfortunate that enquiry and reflection are so often replaced by hypothesis and prejudice on the part of local journalists who undertake to discuss Japanese financial problems. A year and a half ago, when there existed no longer any room for reasonable doubt that the process of contraction had fairly commenced, and when its consequences ought to have been quite discernible within certain limits, the local press persistently refused to acknowledge the reality of the operation, and helped to accentuate the evil by warning the public against reposing any faith in the Government's efforts, or in the permanence of their already apparent results. We spared no pains at the time to counteract this mischievous tendency, but we were never sanguine of much success. To awaken distrust is always a thousand times easier than to inspire confidence. The Government's policy in the past had not been of a nature to prepare men for the steady, and theoretically sound, though practically over-drastring, course it has pursued during the past three years, and we can only regret now that the determined efforts of Japanese financiers in the right direction were hampered rather than assisted by those from whom more intelligent and sympathetic action might fairly have been expected.

With regard to the details of the trade itself, it will be observed that the conditions of 1882 were reversed in 1883. For whereas in the former year the tendency was towards an increase in the bulk of exports and a decrease in the bulk of im-

ports, the opposite was the case in 1883. The variation, however, is very trifling; the decrease in exports being only 4.3 per cent., the increase in imports 5.2 per cent., and the increase in the whole trade 0.83 per cent. Taken by themselves, these figures would indicate, at the worst, a stationary state of affairs, or even a slight improvement. But Mr. TROUP justly points out that the actual condition of commerce for the year under review, at least so far as imports were concerned, must be measured, not by the quantity of goods which came into foreign godowns, but by the quantity delivered from them. Under this aspect, the figures he furnishes show that the import trade generally was seventeen per cent. less favourable than the trade of the preceding year; and, since the bulk of the export trade fell off 4.3 per cent., it may be safely stated that the business done by foreigners in Hiyogo and Osaka, during 1883, was fully 20 per cent. less than the business done in 1882. This is a very serious result, and, at the same time, it accords better with the general feeling of depression which prevailed throughout the year, than the conclusions recorded in the Report for Kanagawa.

The fact, noticed by Mr. TROUP, that sales made to the Japanese are no longer in large quantities and on contract, but in small quantities and for cash, is probably attributable, in the main, to currency fluctuations, which render anything like accuracy of forecast impossible. The result is recorded, we observe, with satisfaction, as indicating a safer and more healthy method of commerce. It is difficult to endorse this verdict completely. Doubtless the foreign importer would make fewer losses if his transactions were conducted as Mr. TROUP describes, but, on the other hand, such a state of affairs is plainly suggestive of a general timidity and a cramped condition of enterprise on the part of Japanese dealers.

A very interesting point to which attention is drawn by Mr. TROUP, is the difference in the average prices of the teas exported in 1882 and 1883. In the former year, the average was \$24.82 per picul; in the latter \$20.96, being a decrease of more than 15 per cent. This change is referred to a tendency on the American market in favour of lower priced teas, but such an explanation leaves a great deal to be desired. It is much easier to believe, and statistics support the idea, that excessive supply is at the root of the fall in American prices, than to attribute that fall to the deterioration of a taste which was originally created by the superiority of the Japanese product. Doubtless as prices declined in the United States, exporters at this end were obliged, in self-defence, to have recourse to lower grades, so as, if possible, to keep within the narrow, and constantly narrowing, margin offered by American rates. The effect of this must plainly have worked in the direction of accentuating the mischief, since the way

to stimulate a languid demand is certainly not to supply an article of inferior quality. When the trade in Japanese teas first began, the average quality of the exports was much higher than it has been of late years, while, at the same time, the quantity shipped has recently exceeded any reasonable estimate of the demand. If these facts be admitted, it will follow that the American market has been influenced from this end, and consequently that from this end also must the remedy emanate. That remedy is to be found, we believe, in improved processes of preparation and production, and the newly formed Japanese Tea Associations are a step in the right direction. We are surprised that, having regard to the extent and importance of these Associations, the indications of their growth, discernible plainly enough in 1883, did not receive fuller notice in either the Trade Report for Kanagawa or that under review.

The increased export of wheat from Hiyogo is worthy of special remark. In 1882, this article figured for only 5,076 *yen* in the returns, and in that total barley also was included. In 1883, however, the export of wheat alone reached 182,353 *yen*; and if we include Osaka, from which place none was sent at all in 1882, we obtain a total increase of 193,331 *yen* for the two ports. There can be little doubt that in her wheat fields Japan possesses an important source of wealth, which, to become available, needs only improved means of communication.

AN INCIDENT OF THE WALL STREET CRASH.

THE opening incident of the recent great crash in Wall Street is especially interesting, on account of its connection with the GRANT family. The story itself is a wonderful example of the business methods which still prevail among men of sense and reputed shrewdness in the United States. The firm of GRANT and WARD was organized in July, 1880. Mr. FERDINAND WARD was the moving spirit. A young man of little over thirty, he seems to have combined a wonderful capacity for reckless speculation with an almost equal ability to inspire confidence. His original transactions on his own account were so successful, and his prospects seemed so brilliant, that when he proposed a partnership to Mr. U. S. GRANT, junior, the latter twice put the offer aside on the ground of the great difference he supposed to exist between his own business qualities and those of his would-be partner. People who have implicit faith in the prescience of genius will doubtless conclude that all this was a part of the programme WARD had mapped out, and that accident had little to do with a combination so admirably adapted to its purpose. However this may have been, WARD certainly took ample advantage of the situation, for he

induced his too-modest associate to sign articles of agreement providing that he, WARD, should draw all the checks, and manage the whole business, without question or interference. The business was nominally stock-broking, and, up to the collapse of the firm, everybody, WARD himself excepted, confidently believed, that, under the management of the brilliant young financier, fortune was showering her best gifts on the undertaking. A few months after the firm was established, General GRANT entered it as a special partner, contributing a very considerable sum to the capital, and, what was much more important, contributing the prestige of a name which every citizen of the United States was ready to trust. But the General, like his son, did not attempt to master the details of the business. His military experience had doubtless taught him the error of a divided command and the mischief of inexpert meddling. It evidently never occurred to him for a moment to doubt his son's sagacity. In fact, the only bright feature in this unfortunate affair is the mutual confidence and affection of the GRANT family. From the General downwards, each put everything he possessed into the firm, and no one drew anything out. The General put in \$100,000 of his own, and \$150,000 which he borrowed from Mr. VANDERBILT for the purpose. Mr. U. S. GRANT, junior, put in all his own money, his wife's fortune of \$400,000 and a further sum of \$500,000 borrowed from his father-in-law. Colonel FRED. GRANT contributed everything he could command, together with sundry amounts borrowed from his friends, and Mr. JESSE GRANT brought all his worldly belongings to the abyss the day before the crash. Moreover, these four were so firmly persuaded of the wisdom of leaving every dollar to fructify in so paying a concern, that they did not even draw their supposed profits or the interest on their bonds. As for WARD, he seems to have been a species of MONTAGUE TIGG MONTAGUE. Employing General GRANT's name as a decoy, he persuaded about a score of well-known people to deposit money with the firm, on the strength of mysterious hints of big profits to be realized through Government contracts, in which the General was represented as having an indirect interest. Of course the General knew nothing of this. On the contrary, his way of thinking was so decided that he took the trouble, two years ago, to warn WARD, that if the firm had any dealings with the United States Government, he, GRANT, should at once withdraw his name, and insist upon his son's withdrawal also, as the notion of an ex-President profiting by official contracts did not consist with his ideas of honour. It is much to be regretted that the General's precautions rested there, and that he failed to recognise the full scope of the severe obligations devolving on the owner of such a name as his. That,

however, was an error of judgment. It will not mar the feeling of sympathy which, as the *London Times* (May 13th) truly says, "will extend far beyond the immediate circle of General GRANT's friends and even beyond his own countrymen." With the exception of this one warning, WARD was left virtually uncontrolled. Mr. U. S. GRANT, junior, taking a somewhat romantic view of the implicit trust imposed by the above-mentioned articles of agreement, lived in a fool's paradise. His principles about Government contracts were not less severe than those of his father, but WARD satisfied his scruples by assuring him that the firm had no direct interest in such contracts, since it merely advanced money to men who had secured them. WARD also professed to have contracts with private corporations, as railways, and explained that his manner of proceeding was to give the firm's cheques to the railway officials to carry on the work, receiving in return a warrant from the company for the amount with a handsome profit. Once Mr. GRANT was inquisitive enough to ask for further details, but WARD told him that he ought to be satisfied with his profits, and that if there was any loss on the contracts, he, WARD, stood ready to guarantee for the firm. Thus Mr. GRANT never learned, until he was ruined, that the contracts were as fictitious as the profits. This was not the only purpose to which the pretended contracts were applied. It was WARD's habit to make notes for the ostensible purpose of carrying on the contract business, and to use the money obtained on the notes in whatever way he thought fit. How he used it, nobody seems to know clearly yet. Another favourite device was to re-hypothecate collaterals lodged with the firm as security for monies it had advanced; while to receive deposits under promise of a fixed profit by an appointed time was an every-day occurrence. Of course these operations could not have been carried on so long without the connivance of a bank. The Marine National Bank was the assistant. Its president, Mr. FISH, was either a dupe or an accomplice of WARD'S—probably the former, for though FISH is an experienced financier, sixty-five years of age, he is generally accredited with certain traits of character which consort better with indiscretion than with guile. Assuming that he, too, was a victim of misplaced confidence, the service of the bank he controlled must be regarded as an accidental but unfortunate link in the chain of WARD'S evil opportunities. For while FISH was the president of the Marine Bank, one of his sons was cashier; another son acted as the President's secretary; a brother was paying teller; a son-in-law, note teller; a daughter, the note-teller's secretary; and a nephew, check clerk. By this family concern the checks of GRANT and WARD were certified without limit, so that everything went on swimmingly until May 6th; when suddenly,

at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, the Marine Bank closed its doors. The immediate cause of the closure was an order from the President, who, as it subsequently transpired, found that GRANT and WARD'S checks upon the Bank—amounting in one day (5th May) to \$750,000—had left the latter a defaulter at the Clearing House to the extent of more than half a million dollars, and that WARD'S promise to deposit collateral securities for the over-draft had not been fulfilled. The bubble being thus burst, disclosures followed quickly, representing in substance what we have related above. WARD'S last escapade, the day before the crash, had been to sign ten checks, amounting in the aggregate to \$215,000, on the First National Bank, where he had a private account of \$2,000. These checks were passed through the Clearing House on May 5th, and were paid without reference to the Bank, as the latter, unfortunately for itself, happened to have a large balance to its credit at the Clearing House. WARD owned real estate in New York to the value of more than a million, but this he assigned, on the very eve of the crash, to a Mr. WARNER, his creditor to the extent of some two hundred thousand dollars. The assignment was at first supposed to have been wholly fraudulent, but subsequent investigations somewhat modified this verdict. The GRANTS gave up everything that was left to them, the General instantly making over the deeds of his property to Mr. VANDERBILT, from whom, as stated above, he had borrowed \$150,000. VANDERBILT, however, returned the deeds with a most sympathetic letter, but it is nevertheless probable that the General will forfeit everything he possesses. He will not, however, suffer an irreparable loss, as a bill has been introduced into the Senate proposing to place him on the retired list of the army, with the rank and full pay of General, and it is expected that this measure will be speedily carried. An impression is growing that a defence of insanity will be set upon WARD'S behalf, and we cannot but hope that it will be successfully established.

THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS" AND THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

THE unfortunate trouble between the *North China Daily News* and an officer of the United States Navy has been made the subject of much bitter comment. We call the incident unfortunate, not merely because it does little credit to either of those principally concerned, but because it has exposed the *Daily News* to attacks which the general character of that journal in no respect warrants. The limit of our Shanghai contemporary's error, in the first place, was that he reproduced, without comment or verification, a paragraph from the *Foo-*

chow Herald, reflecting injuriously, and, as it now appears, falsely, on the conduct of the officers of an American man-of-war. Everybody knows that it is the custom with newspapers in China and Japan to fill up a good deal of their space by extracting items from the columns of the outport press. The authority for such extracts is always given, and though it cannot be said that this wholly removes, it certainly largely mitigates, the responsibility of the republishing journal. When, however, the extracts contain matter of a personal nature, and, above all, when they are calculated to injure personal reputations, their indiscriminate reproduction can scarcely be regarded as less culpable than their original publication. Our readers are in a position to judge for themselves how far this principle is recognised in the East. They can very easily see what measure of discretion is exercised, or how much the necessity of filling its columns weighs with a republishing journal against the injustice of helping to bruit abroad *ex-parte* statements. It is not so long since a cruel and wholly baseless charge of callousness and impiety, ventilated by an out-port journal against certain missionaries, was reprinted by a Yokohama newspaper without reflection or query; nor is it so long since attacks made by another out-port journal upon one of Her Majesty's Consuls—a gentleman of learning and high reputation—were recklessly reproduced and taken as a text for further abuse by another Yokohama newspaper, without regard for the obvious fact that since the editor of the out-port journal was himself defendant in the case under review, his version could not, with any semblance of justice, be received as conclusive. We mention these instances merely for the purpose of showing that the fault committed by the *North China Daily News*, though grave enough in the abstract, finds so many precedents in the history of Eastern journalism, that it might fairly have escaped censure at the hands of fellow-sinners. But it appears to us, distant readers of the Shanghai journals, that the attitude assumed by two of them towards their contemporary, is influenced less by sentiments of generosity or fairness than by a consuming desire to find fault. The *North China Daily News* can never be right, it would seem, in the eyes of these critics; and it has, moreover, a habit, above all others galling to eager detractors, the habit of totally ignoring abuse. The silence of contempt is terribly cutting. Men who habitually employ such a buckler must expect to be assailed with double violence when they expose themselves to just attack. This has been the case with our Shanghai contemporary. Having reprinted—doubtless inadvertently, for the selection of extracts cannot always be carefully supervised—an injurious paragraph from the *Foochow Herald*, the Shanghai editor found himself, one day, confronted by an angry naval officer, who

demanding the insertion of an apology, and enforced his demand by the aid of a cane, whether simply flourished or actually applied we cannot say. Of course the editor could not consent to submit his columns to this species of dictation, and equally, of course, he took measures to obtain redress. But they were unfortunate measures. His obvious remedy lay in a court of law: he addressed himself, however, to the naval authorities. Now, it is obvious that in matters of this sort, the latter's interference, though it might be proper under certain circumstances, cannot reasonably or legally be invoked at Shanghai. As a general rule, offences committed by members of the Army or Navy against civilians are not justiciable by military authority, except in places where there is no competent court of civil judicature. The Shanghai editor's obvious remedy was an appeal to the United States Consular Court. He could not possibly expect to receive from the naval authorities any satisfaction other than a polite reminder that the question was entirely personal between himself and his assailant. This was exactly what he did receive. But it seems to have given him great and unjustifiable umbrage. For, under the caption "Condonation of Ruffianism by an American Admiral," he quickly published the correspondence between himself and the commander of the man-of-war in question, accompanying it by a statement that the Admiral and the Captain of the vessel had "combined to shield the perpetrator of the outrage and to ignore his offence," and that the U.S. Navy had not much reason to be concerned about newspaper comments so long as it had men like the editor's assailant in its ranks, and "Admirals and Captains who encouraged them in the commission of lawlessness and outrage." Much excuse will be found for these unjust and ill-advised utterances in the indignation under which a man naturally labours who has been subjected to a personal assault, and it may be taken for granted that the Admiral and the Captain will rely on the discretion of the public to recognise the entire groundlessness of such charges. But the matter has been taken up and commented upon in somewhat warm terms by a local contemporary, who goes so far as to say, that "the officers of the *Enterprise* are quite as much in the wrong as the editor of the *North China Daily News*," and that, "if they do not repudiate the violence of Mr. BOOK, they must be content to accept the stigma of being guilty of conduct unbecoming to officers and gentlemen." Apologizing for the use of a rude expression, we must be permitted to say that all this seems to us very great nonsense. The officers of the *Enterprise* are not called upon to take any action whatsoever in the matter, even supposing that there existed for them any practicable method of "repudiation." As we have observed already, the case between the

editor of the *North China Daily News* and his assailant must be judged by a civil court, and pending its possible submission to such a tribunal, any expression of opinion on the part of the naval authorities would be as indiscreet as it is unnecessary. One would really imagine that no sooner is a complaint formulated by a civilian against a naval officer, than it becomes the duty of the latter's comrades to unite in supporting the accusation. As for the officer who made use of his cane so early in the discussion, it will certainly be admitted that he behaved with most foolish and unbecoming roughness. He would have done very much better had he addressed himself quietly to the editor, and, pointing out the errors contained in the extract, desired the insertion of a correction. But men do not always choose the best route open to them, and there are circumstances under which their mistakes are pardonable. The libel in question being directed against several unnamed officers of the *Enterprise*, a legal remedy was impossible; while the terms of the libel were of such a nature that direct contradiction seemed out of the question. An appeal to the publisher was, therefore, the only resource, and in the United States appeals based upon similar considerations are seldom of a pacific nature. The truculent officer simply forgot that he was not at school. His indignation at the insult put upon his cloth betrayed him into a stupid demonstration; but to say that his conduct "at once puts him outside of the pale of gentlemen" is a little hyperbolic. The *North China Daily News* seems to think that a British naval officer could not possibly be guilty of such a proceeding. If he were more familiar with the history of the service he might be of a different opinion. Neither side has much to boast of in the business, and the sooner it is consigned to oblivion the better. In our eyes, its most regrettable features are, that unwarrantable charges should have been made in Shanghai and repeated in Yokohama against the officers of the *Enterprise*, and that the *North China Daily News*, of all journals in the East, should have allowed itself to be betrayed into utterances savouring so little of its wonted courtesy and discretion.

MONEY MARKET.

IT does not often happen that an English Budget contains matter of special interest for Japan. The financial statement recently made by Mr. CHILDERS to the House of Commons is, however, an exception to the rule. Few persons imagined that a year so little favourable to commercial prosperity in general would see the English Three per Cents. converted into Two and Three-quarters or Two and a Half per Cents. Nevertheless, the conversion would long ago have been possible but for a series of abnormal events—beginning with the Crimean war and ending with that between Russia and Turkey—which disturbed

Europe between 1853 and 1878, and prevented the English Consols from establishing themselves, for any length of time, above par. Add to this the immense development of railway construction during that period, the transformation of the mercantile marine, the extension of foreign commerce, and the growth of the Colonies, all of which helped to raise the rate of interest, and it will be seen that there were many and sufficient influences combining to defer the operation which the Chancellor of the Exchequer now finally contemplates. Only within the past three years have the Three per Cents. risen above par, and Mr. CHILDERS is evidently resolved to observe the traditions of English finance by seizing the opportunity with the least possible delay.

Following Mr. CHILDERS' calculations accurately, the significance of his anticipation is this—that Great Britain can now borrow money at 2.7 per cent. In point of credit she stands at the head of all nations. At the same time, it is easy to show that a fall in the rate of interest has everywhere been taking place of late years. To cite a few examples—the American Four per Cents., which were quoted at 118 to 120 in 1881, now stand at 128; the Italian Five per Cents. were at 89 in 1881 and are now at 94 to 95; the Austrian Four per Cents. have risen from 80 and 81 to nearly 84 in the same period; the Russian Five per Cents., despite the exceptional troubles through which that country has passed, now stand at 97 against 95 in 1881; and similar results are to be recorded of Spain, Portugal, and Sweden. Exceptions to the rule are Belgium, France, and Turkey; especially the last, whose stock has depreciated thirty per cent. Classifying the countries of the world in the order of their finances, we arrive at the following results:—

COUNTRIES OF THE FIRST CLASS.
(Where the rate of interest on public securities varies between 2.7 and 4 per cent.)

	RATE OF INTEREST ON PUBLIC SECURITIES.
England	2.7 per cent.
United States of America	3.1 per cent.
Prussia	3.6 per cent.
Belgium	3.6 per cent.
Holland	3.75 per cent.
France	3.85 per cent.
Sweden	4 per cent.

To this category also belong Geneva, several German States, British India, Australia, and Canada, in none of which countries the rate exceeds 4 per cent.

COUNTRIES OF THE SECOND CLASS.
(Where the rate of interest on public securities varies between 4½ and 5½ per cent.)

	RATE OF INTEREST ON PUBLIC SECURITIES.
Italy	4.7 per cent.
Austria	4.8 per cent.
Hungary	5.25 per cent.
Russia	5.50 per cent.

To this category also belong the richest States of South America, and many of the English Colonies (as the Cape, Jamaica, Mauritius, New Zealand, &c.)

COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD CLASS.
(Which pay their interest regularly, but owing to their unsettled condition or undeveloped resources have to borrow at high rates.)

	RATE OF INTEREST ON PUBLIC SECURITIES.
Spain	6.5 per cent.
Greece	6.75 per cent.
Japan	7.5 per cent.
China	8.5 per cent.

To this category also belong the Argentine Republic, Egypt, &c.

COUNTRIES OF THE FOURTH CLASS.
(Where the national finances are entirely unsound.)
Peru, Mexico, Venezuela, Turkey, &c.

The point to be noted by Japanese financiers in all this is the state of the English money market. In Great Britain men are ready to invest millions at 2.7 per cent. interest. They gladly pay 107 to 108 for Japanese 7 per cent. stock; but Japan, all the while, is selling the same stock to her own people for 91 or 92. In other words, while she could borrow in London at 6.5 per cent., she is borrowing at home at 7.6 per cent. If the condition of her finances were properly understood in England, and the splendid prospects that lie before her railways explained, there can be no doubt that she could float a 7 per cent. loan at par. This means that she would have saved nine hundred thousand dollars on the ten millions she recently raised for purposes of railway construction. She could probably do even better, but taking the least favorable view of the case, the advantages to be reaped by a recourse to the capitalists of England would be very large, as a matter of mere arithmetic, while the stimulus which commerce and industry would receive by an introduction of foreign capital at this juncture, and above all, by a rapid extension of the railway system, is incalculable. Some very strange counsels have been given to Japan on this point. An authenticated story is told of a gentleman well known in Eastern banking, who, when *en route* for Tokiyo with a scheme that was to render the resumption of specie payments a speedy possibility, called on a still better known colonial magnate, and was received by the latter with a prefatory caution, that if his scheme involved any borrowing of money abroad, there was no occasion to discuss it; that one feature sufficed to condemn it. This colonial magnate had unfortunately found himself, some time previously, in a position to put a great many extravagant ideas into the heads of Japanese statesmen, and it need scarcely be observed that his antipathy to foreign money received willing endorsement at the hands of men whose friendship to Japan was heightened by a touch of enmity towards the country where alone money could be borrowed. In spite of all this interested and disinterested counsel, we believe that Japan is rapidly recovering from her unworthy and wholly erroneous apprehension that the result of pecuniary obligations incurred abroad might resemble the mishaps of Turkey or Egypt. From a political point of view, such an apprehension has no foundation, and from a financial point of view, it amounts to this—that Japan is turning her back on the one path to wealth and consideration lest by following it she should become poor and dependent. Of a different nature, and much more worthy of the steady resolution she has brought to bear upon the problem of currency redemp-

tion, is her desire to avoid all recourse to foreign aid until she has set her affairs in thorough order at home. An appeal to the European money market while *kinsatsu* were at 30 or 40 per cent. discount, could only have been successful at a very heavy cost. She is apparently determined to persevere in this route until the redemption of her currency is finally accomplished, and we sincerely trust that her hope will soon be realized. Apart from the incalculable benefits a return to specie payments will confer on commerce, that result is most earnestly to be desired for the sake of the confidence it will give Japan in her ability to command the means of rapidly developing her resources.

THE INSUFFICIENCIES OF BUDDHISM AS A RELIGION.¹

A Lecture delivered in the Meiji Kwaido, Tokiyo, by the Rev. M. L. GORDON, M.D.

Believing, as we do, that Christianity is the religion revealed to man by his Creator, and that it is, as from its source we should expect it to be, a religion at once impartial and all-sufficient, "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," irrespective of race, language, country, or condition, we make its proclamation to the people of Japan our highest duty as it is our greatest privilege.

As we preach these glad tidings month after month and year after year, many there are who hear gladly, and whose purer, happier, and more useful lives attest the reality of their faith. There are others, however, who often say to the Christian preacher, "we already have a religion in Japan, and hence are under no necessity of accepting this religion of Jesus Christ which comes to us from foreign lands." Those who speak in this way are, as a rule, Buddhists, and their meaning is that Buddhism is a religion sufficiently good for the Japanese people; hence it is that I would ask your time and attention for an hour this afternoon, while I briefly speak of the insufficiencies of Buddhism as a religion.

But while I shall speak of the insufficiencies of Buddhism, I hope not to lower myself in your estimation by indulging in a slanderous abuse of that religion.

Its founder, Shaka,² was doubtless an honest and earnest seeker after deliverance from the miseries of this evil world, and I am by no means ready to say that the religion which he taught has been fruitless of good to mankind. It has without doubt borne good fruit; but being simply the product of the wisdom of an ancient Indian sage, it exhibits many insufficiencies and has also both positively and negatively been the cause of much evil.

In speaking of the imperfections and positively evil results of this religion, I hope if possible to avoid giving offence to any Buddhists who may be present, and to examine the subject with such an impartial mind that even they may go with me to the very conclusion. I may fail in the execution of this, but I beg you to believe that this is my purpose.

Buddhism is indeed a widely spread religion. According to one scholar³ its adherents number

¹ Any one who may take the trouble to compare this with the lecture as spoken or printed in Japanese, will find that while the two are the same "for substance of doctrine" they do not correspond exactly in minute details. One is not a close translation of the other. The consciousness of the fact that the audiences would be different, led naturally and almost irresistibly to corresponding changes in the form of the thought presented.

References to works in English to which the writer is indebted are made in the footnotes; these do not however sufficiently express his great indebtedness (here gladly acknowledged), to the Rev. Drs. Eitel and Edkins for the result of their studies in the field of Chinese Buddhism, and also for personal favours received at their hands. In his essays in the study of Japanese Buddhism he has been especially aided by Mr. T. Adachi, formerly a priest of the Jodo sect, to whose ability, faithfulness, and patience he gratefully bears witness.

² This is the Japanese form of Sakya, and as it is by far the most common name used by the Japanese to designate the founder of Buddhism, I shall use it throughout this paper.

³ Cf. Buddhism by T. W. Rhys Davids, page 5.

500,000,000. Of these 30,000,000 belong to Ceylon, Burmah, and other Southern countries; and 470,000,000 are classed as Northern Buddhists, and belong to Thibet, China, Corea, Japan, &c.

These numbers are doubtless too large. In proof of this it may be noticed that the number of Chinese Buddhists is given as 414,000,000; but the latest investigations make it highly probable that the whole population of China is not more than 300,000,000 souls. Furthermore, as is well known, the mass of the Chinese people are Confucianists and Tauists as well as Buddhists; and three-fourths of the people in the Northern provinces are said to be *exclusively* Mohammedans. (Dr. Edkins, Religion in China pp. 57-58.)**

Again, all the Japanese are rated as Buddhists, although, as is well known, there are many here who not only are not Buddhists, but are violent haters of that religion. Still, however much this estimate needs to be diminished, Buddhism is nevertheless spread over an immense territory and is the principal religion of a vast multitude of people. What is this wide-spread religion? As we take up the study of it, we find it divided into two great schools, *Hinayana* and *Mahayana*,—the Little Vehicle and the Great Vehicle. The sūtras of both are known in Japan, but no single sect makes the *Hinayana* prominent in its teaching; all are in fact founded on the *Mahayana* sūtras. The same seems to be true in China, Corea, and other Northern countries; but Southern Buddhism is all of the *Hinayana* school, and the great figures in the *Mahayana* school, Amitābha (Amida), Avalōkitēśvara (Kuanon) Vairocana (Dai Nichi), &c., &c., are entirely unknown. Even though we confine ourselves to the books of the Little Vehicle we find that school as taught in Japan quite different from that of Ceylon; and both may be considerably different from the original teaching of Shaka.

We need then in the first place to discriminate, if possible, between Buddhism as Shaka taught it, and that which prevails in Japan at the present day.

But this is a task of no little difficulty. Shaka was born in the country of Māgadha, and used the Māgadhi language, but not a single sūtra has come down to us in that language. His teaching was not written down in his day. In the opinion of the most competent scholars for several centuries after his death his teachings were handed down orally, and it was only after the lapse of more than 300 years, that they were reduced to writing. This cannot be put earlier than 88 B.C.* In this connection reference may be made to one great discrepancy between the Buddhists of the South and those of the North. According to Japanese Buddhists, Shaka died on the 15th of the 2nd month of the 53rd year of the Chinese Emperor Mu, of the Chow dynasty; that is, as reckoned in Japan, B.C. 944, or 2828 years ago. In China the date most commonly given is B.C. 1027.† The accepted date in Ceylon is B.C. 543, or 2427 years ago. But Western scholars, largely from the study of the Edicts of Asoka (Aiku Ō) (of which more will be said hereafter), declare that Shaka's death cannot have been earlier than about 477° B.C. We thus see that there is on the part of the Northern Buddhists, an error of at least, four or five hundred years respecting the time of Shaka's

death. There are various explanations of the way in which this error arose, the most probable being that of Koeppen, which is as follows:—

Before his death Shaka prophesied that in 1,000 years after that event his religion would enter China. Now Buddhism entered China about A.D. 64, and so in order to conform this event to the prophecy of Shaka, his death was placed more than nine hundred years before the Christian era. We are not sure that Koeppen's is the true explanation, but it is clear that while the Singhalese date is only sixty or seventy years wrong, the Northern Buddhists have an error of about five hundred years. We may infer also that in matters of doctrine the Southern Buddhists are much nearer the true teaching of the founder, an inference which will strengthen as we go on.

The Japanese Buddhists say that Ananda (Anan) and Kashiapa (Kashō), disciples of Shaka, collected the Sūtras of the Little Vehicle; and that those of the Great Vehicle were in like manner collected by Anan and Monjushiri in Tetsuisen. Those of the Little Vehicle may in part have been handed down orally by these two disciples; but, as we have already seen, none of these sūtras were written for three centuries after Shaka's death, and hence long after the death of Ananda. As to that part of the story which relates to the Great Vehicle, it is enough to say here that Tetsuisen is a mountain which has no real existence, and we shall see further on that this school arose in a different time, place, and with a people of a different language; and that its object is radically different from that of the Little Vehicle.

The Chinese translations from the Tripitaka were made from Sanskrit. But this was never more than a learned language in the country where Shaka was born and lived; the language of the people being a corruption of the Sanskrit, a dialect closely related to the Pali. The edicts which were issued about 250 B.C. by Asoka (Aiku-ō), the powerful and celebrated King of Magadha, go to prove this. Asoka, as already remarked, was a devout Buddhist, and issued to his subjects edicts concerning that religion, many of which were inscribed in stone and remain to this day. These edicts are not in Sanskrit, but in Pali, one of the dialects referred to. A study of these edicts shows, further, that at that time there were many who, instead of Shaka's teaching, promulgated their own opinions and other heretical ideas, in consequence of which Asoka called a council of one thousand priests and after a conference of nine months the sūtras containing the genuine teaching of Shaka were fixed upon, and a list of these is found in one of the edicts.

The year following the Great Council, Mahinda, a son of Asoka, taking with him priests and nuns, went to Ceylon, bearing in their memories the sūtras fixed upon in the Council. There they taught Buddhism, which ere long became the religion of the state. These sūtras, afterward written down in Pali, remain to this day in the original language, and Ceylon being an island, and so having comparatively little intercourse with other lands, and Buddhism having never been persecuted there, but always being under the approval and patronage of the government, if we would seek the nearest approach to Shaka's original teaching we must undoubtedly go to Ceylon.‡ Scholars tell us that these Pali sūtras are all of the *Hinayana* school; that the *Mahayana* sūtras are not only not referred to at all in Asoka's inscription, but are also unknown in Ceylon and other Southern Countries even to the present day. Hence we are led to infer that they had a later origin; of which more will be said further on.

What do these old Pali sūtras say of Shaka? Of course, being ignorant of Pali, I have no opinion of my own to offer on the subject. But, as is well known, there are many European scholars who spend their lives in the study of these subjects, so that Buddhist priests from Japan go to them to learn the ancient languages of

their religion. Of Pali scholars and students of Buddhism, Dr. H. Oldenberg, of Berlin University, and T. W. Rhys Davids, of London, stand in the very front rank, and I shall follow them, largely, in what I shall say of Early Buddhism.§

Five or six hundred years before the Christian Era, there lived south-west of the Himalaya mountains an Aryan tribe, called Sakyas, whose Capital was Kapilavastu. They were rich and proud, and often at war with neighbouring tribes. Among them was a wealthy land-holder named Suddhodana Gotama, whose wife Maya gave birth to a son who was called Siddhārtha. The mother, however, died soon after the birth of the child who was therefore reared by his aunt Mahāhajāpati, another wife of Suddhodana.

Early in life Siddhārtha also was married, and one child, a son, Rahula, was born to him. At the age of 29, owing doubtless to the views of the world which prevailed at that time as a place of sorrow and suffering only, he became an ascetic, and of his life up to this time the brief outline just given is practically all the reliable knowledge we have.

In the Buddhist books of Japan, Shaka is said to have been the son of a King, and to have been born in the Lumbini garden amid many most miraculous signs. Heavenly dragons, it is said, brought warm water for his bath, and a lotus flower, springing suddenly from the ground, received him on its bosom—such stories are undoubtedly of far later origin. Japanese Buddhists seem to be of the same opinion; for the new edition of *Shakafu*,§ the standard biography of Shaka, is greatly abridged from the previous edition. That Shaka's stature was sixteen feet, that riding in his chariot from the North, East, West, and South gates of Kapilavastu he saw first an old man, then a sick man, a corpse, and finally a begging ascetic, and so was led to take up the ascetic life, are also stories not found in the Pali Sūtras and so cannot be accepted as genuine; the real truth here being, in all probability, that his meditations on old age, disease, and death, led to his abandonment of the world. The account of Shaka's temptation must be put in the same category.

If we trace back the history of Buddhism to its origin, we find it closely connected with Brahmanism. In very ancient times, Aryan tribes, coming from the north into the Ganges valley, drove out the ancient inhabitants and took their possessions for their own. Here under new surroundings, by contact with the original inhabitants and the influence of a tropical climate, these people ceased to be young and strong, and became more and more a prey to morbid impressions of the sorrow and suffering of the world—impressions which seem indissolubly linked with the Indian character—with no idea of the freedom of the human will, with all the interests of the present world absorbed in and hidden by the contemplation of the world to come, they became "wholly strangers to the highest interests and ideals which are the basis of all healthy national life." Without patriotism, with no thought of the improvement of country or people, they become mere contemplative philosophers, spending days and years in the practice of various rites and austerities, looking upon the ascetic, though a beggar, as far above Kings in dignity and honor.

These Brahman ascetics believed in metempsychosis. The Buddhist *Yemma* is *Yama*, the Brahmanic God of death, *Bishamon* "was originally Kuvēra, the Brahmanic God of Wealth;" and *Taishaku-ten* is Indra, the God of rain. Among these ascetics were many enlightened, i.e. many Buddha, and, as is well known, Buddhist monasticism was a direct result of Brahmanic asceticism.

When Shaka left his home he became one of these ascetics, and for seven years he practiced

* Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion, as illustrated by some points in the History of Indian Buddhism, by T. W. R. Davids (Hibbert Lectures, 1881), G. P. Putnam's Son, New York.

† Buddhism, by T. W. R. Davids, Pott, Young & Co. New York.

‡ Buddha, His Life, His Doctrine, His Order. By Dr. Hermann Oldenberg. Translated from the German by W. Hoer, M.A., Williams and Norgate, London. Sacred Books of the East. Edited by Max Muller, Oxford, Clarendon Press.

§ This is an abridgement of the Sūtra translated by Beal, under the name of "The Romantic Legend."

** The Rev. Dr. Happer, in the *Chinese Recorder* for December, 1883, has an interesting discussion of the question as to the number of Buddhists in the world. He shows very clearly that the large numbers given to the followers of Shaka have been reached by an entirely different method from that pursued in taking the census of Christians. Following the latter method, he estimates the number of Buddhists in China as 20,000,000; in the world (in round numbers), 75,000,000. I cannot but believe that these numbers are too small to represent the influence of Shaka in the world. However, two things cannot be too well borne in mind; (1) that Buddhism is nowhere the *exclusive* religion of a people; and (2) that the monks alone, not the lay adherents, are members of the Church. On (1) compare Rhys Davids: Buddhism page 7. One (2) Cf. Oldenberg, Buddha pp. 162 and 381 ff. As in the Buddhism of ancient India, so in that of modern Japan, no lack of belief, no laxity of morals, nothing except disrespect to the priesthood could lead to the discipline of a lay-brother. "A formal excommunication of unbelieving, unworthy, or scandalously-living lay brothers there was not, and as a result of circumstances, there could not be."

* Cf. Sacred Books of the East, vol. XIII., p. XXXV.

† Edkins' Chinese Buddhism, page 12.

‡ Prof. Max Muller, Origin of Religion p. 130, note. Cf. also the article of Kasawara Kenjiu in the Buddhist Magazine, *Kyōgaku Ronshū*, December, 1883.

§ The Text, as it lies before us, stands so well against all proofs, whether we compare its different parts one with another, or with the little that is yet known of its Northern counterpart, that we are justified in regarding these Pali books as, in fact, the authentic mirror of the old Māgadhi text as fixed in the central schools of the most ancient Buddhist Church. Sac. Books of the East, Vol. XIII, p. XXVI.

their austere rites without attaining that peace and rest of mind which he was seeking. At the end of seven years he abandoned all their austerities and began teaching the *Four Sacred Truths*, which he himself had discovered, and by which he attained wisdom (*i.e.* became a Buddha) under the Tree of Knowledge.

These truths treat of—

1. Suffering.
2. The Origin of Suffering (which is in the desires).
3. The Extinction of Suffering (Nirvāna).
4. The path to the Extinction of Suffering.

This path, "the holy eight-fold path"—is Right Belief, Right Aspiration, Right Speech, Right Conduct, Right Means of Livelihood, Right Endeavour, Right Memory, Right Meditation. By this path one may enter Nirvāna.

Concerning the meaning of Nirvāna, opinions are so many and various that to even speak of them all would require no little time, while the corresponding profit could not be great. I shall briefly refer to it latter on, and so forbear its discussion. For the present I ask your attention, however, to several points in connection with this early Buddhism:—

1. Shaka's teaching looked to self-culture alone. He became a Buddha with no help from others, and he in turn, although he teaches the way of salvation to others, neither offers to help them himself nor tells them of any outside help to be had either from gods, Buddhas, or anything else. Shaka looked with contempt upon the gods believed in by the people of his age, and declared the Arhat, the good man, to be superior to them. His system is and was meant to be atheistic.

At a certain time he said to one of his disciples, "I am now frail, Ananda, I am an old man who has finished his pilgrimage; eighty years old am I. Be to yourselves, Ananda, your own light, your own refuge; seek no other refuge. Let the truth be your light and your refuge, seek no other refuge * * * * * whosoever now, Ananda, or after my departure, shall be his own light, his own refuge, and shall seek no other refuge, whosoever shall take the truth as his own light and his refuge and shall seek no other refuge, such will henceforth be my true disciples."¹⁰

2. According to Shaka man has no immortal soul. "A seeing, a hearing, a conceiving, above all a suffering, takes place; but an existence which may be regarded as the seer, the hearer, the sufferer, is not recognized in Buddhism."¹¹ As in the case where the parts of a chariot, pole, axle, wheels, body, &c., come together the word "chariot" is used; so where there is the union of corporeal form, sensations, perceptions, conformations, and consciousness, the word person is used; but here subject, in the strict sense of the word, there is none.

3. But if no soul, then, it is needless to say, no personal, individual, existence in the future. The good or bad deeds in one life are followed by gain or loss in a future life, but as already said there is no continuation of personal individual life in any intelligible sense. The flame of one lamp may serve to light a flame in another, but the flames are nevertheless two different things.

But how is it after entering Nirvāna? That Nirvāna is practical annihilation corresponds very well with Buddhist teaching. "Do those who enter Nirvāna really cease to exist?" is a question which Shaka's disciples pressed upon him. But he evaded it. Of this Dr. Oldenberg says, "through the shirking of the question as to the existence or non-existence of the Ego, is heard the answer, to which the premises of Buddhism tended; the Ego is not, or what is equivalent; the Nirvāna is annihilation:"¹² at the most Shaka gave no positive encouragement to any hope for the future.

If we turn now to the consideration of the Great Vehicle we learn that, although there are some points not yet clear, the verdict of the best

scholarship¹³ is that its founder was Nagarjuna (Raju Sanzo), and that it did not arise in Magadha, the birthplace of Shaka, but far away in North-west India. There Brahmanism was much more prevalent than in Magadha, and Sanskrit was the language of the common people. Hence the sūtras of the Little Vehicle were translated into Sanskrit, and to these were added many newly-made books of the Mahāyāna school.

In earlier Buddhism attention was chiefly directed to the attainment of Nirvāna. Furthermore, it was taught that after the end of the present religious system (variously estimated at from 4,000 years upwards), the world would become so wicked that all knowledge of the law would be lost, and a new Buddha, Maitreya, must necessarily come into the world to make a new proclamation of the law. Hence it was that three or four centuries after the death of Shaka, Buddhist believers came to think far less of securing one's own personal deliverance from the evils of the world by entering Nirvāna, and much more of the duties of a bodhisattwa, by which merit might be acquired sufficient for the salvation of multitudes of others.

At first there was no thought of overthrowing the earlier teaching, but the new doctrine being in its essence diametrically opposed to the old, the result was that the sūtras of the Little Vehicle, though valued as history, speedily fell into disuse as religious teaching; and the Mahāyāna Sūtras only were made the basis of religious instruction. In order to secure for these newly-made sūtras the belief of the people that they were the teaching of Shaka, the typical beginning of the old sūtras, "thus by me it has been heard," was prefixed. In order also to encourage the people in the practice of the duties of a bodhisattwa, many fictitious bodhisattwas were imagined and declared to have been Shaka's hearers when the New Sūtras were taught. And giving free rein to the imagination, the number of these fictitious beings was from time to time increased, so that in the end, the age of a sūtra could be determined by the number of bodhisattwas said to have been present. To give an example, the names of Avalokitesvāra and Manjushiri are not in the Lalita Vistara (Jindo Yukikiyo), but are in the Sūtra of the Lotus of the Wonderful Law (Miyo-ho-rengekiyo); hence it is concluded that the former is the earlier of the two, a conclusion established also on independent grounds.

As already remarked, in the Mahāyāna Sūtras there is an evident recognition of the unsatisfying nature of the Hinayāna Sūtras, which therefore was followed by an attempt to make good their deficiencies by the doctrine of salvation through the power of imaginary Buddhas and bodhisattwas.

If we study the condition of mankind the world over, we find that everywhere there are such evidences of weakness and sin that men instinctively lift their hearts for help to some being or beings above them, wiser, stronger, better than they, calling them gods, spirits, Buddhas, or referring to them by some other name. So undoubtedly true is this, that man may very properly be called a praying animal, a religious animal. As man is possessed of these ineradicable instincts, later followers of Shaka in India, Ceylon, and other southern countries, disobeying their master's teaching, either worshipped him as a god or worshipped, various other gods and demons. In the North, giving full play to their imagination, they sought to satisfy this instinct by the worship of such fictitious beings as Amitābha, Akshobhya, and many others.¹⁴ In the northern countries also the

worship of demons, the worship of stars, the worship of the innumerable gods of Japan and elsewhere, was associated with the worship of Buddhas. By this means Buddhism became rapidly powerful, but it was also the clearest evidence of its inherent inability to satisfy man's nature. The remark may be made here once for all concerning these Mahāyāna sūtras, that while they in many respects more nearly meet the instincts of mankind than does the earlier teaching, they are, as has been shown, destitute of the authority of Shaka's name, and are rendered utterly worthless as a religion, because even in the minds of many priests the beings whose aid is invoked are destitute of all outward actual existence.

In the same way man's instinctive belief that he is a *soul*, asserts itself even when he is beguiled into declaring the opposite to be true. Hence the Northern Buddhists not only recognize a soul in man, but teach that matter is the production of mind. A distinguished Buddhist priest once said to me, "according to the Hinayāna school, matter was the eternal: according to the Mahāyāna school, matter is regarded as a reflection of mind." Even in Northern Buddhism the Christian idea of the soul as an endless personal identity is not reached; but the ordinary teaching of the priests of Japan is far more in accord with the instincts of mankind in this respect than was early Buddhism.

It is just the same with respect to the doctrine of the future. Nirvāna is unsatisfying. It has never been popular among the Northern Buddhists.¹⁵ These—the mass of the people—look for a real and conscious existence in the world to come—in Sukhavatī (Goku-Raku), and other heavens where the highest gratification of the senses is pictured.

We thus see very plainly an attempt on the part of the Mahāyāna school to make up the insufficiencies of the Hinayāna school; but if we carefully study the sūtras of the former school and the condition of its various sects we shall see that, having cut loose from established fact, and given full play to the imagination, they not only disagree with Shaka's early teaching as we have seen, but so thoroughly do the various sects disagree among themselves that there results a confusion in doctrine and worship, so great that no intelligent man can find in the Buddhism of Japan or China anything which meets the wants of his religious nature.

To these disagreements, and manifest absurdities let us turn our thoughts for a few moments. To understand them we need no knowledge of Sanskrit or Pali, or of the ancient history of China or India; we have only to use our eyes and ears in the study of the Buddhism which we see around us every day.

Take for example the *Ten Dai* sect. It divides the Tripitaka into four portions. It was not Shaka's object to teach any of these except the fourth, the Sūtra of the Lotus of the Wonderful Law. The first-three were taught because the people were not ready for the fourth; they do not contain Shaka's true mind, and so have only a temporary value. The one book of permanent value is the Sūtra of the Lotus of the Wonderful Law—the Saddharma Pundarika Sūtra.

This sect being founded on the doctrine of self-culture, it is not necessary to pray to Buddhas, bodhisattwas, gods, or other beings; but *as men naturally have praying hearts it allows them to pray to whomsoever they please*—a very accommodating religion indeed—and hence there are temples of this sect dedicated to the worship of Amida, Shaka, and other Buddhas and bodhisattwas.

The *Shingon* sect bases its teaching not upon the Hinayāna Sūtras nor the Sūtra of the Wonderful Law so highly prized by the Ten Dai sect. According to this sect, the one Sūtra of importance is the Sūtra which teaches the worship of Vairochana, one of the Dhyani Buddhas. But they worship Akshobya (another Dhyani Buddha)

¹⁰ Of Encyclopedia Britanica, articles "Buddhism" and "Lamaism."

¹¹ The writer is not unaware that the above view is radically different from that taken by Mr. Arthur Lillie in his "Buddha and early Buddhism." Mr. Lillie's book is perhaps its best refutation, but it may be noticed further that he contradicts almost every scholar of note; and that, to the student of Japanese Buddhism, the utter untrustworthiness of his book is settled by the following two sentences: "under the title Niyorai, a loftier and more abstract divinity still (than Amitābha) is known to the Japanese. It must be remembered that Japan derived its Buddhism from Ceylon"—p. 17. It is true that Mr. Lillie apparently makes Mr. Pfouder his authority—a very hazardous thing for any author to do—for these astounding statements, and we may perhaps excuse the ignorance which takes Niyorai (Tathāgata), an epithet of every Buddha, and makes a lofty "divinity" out of it; but the geographical relations of the countries ought to have kept him from the last statement unless enforced by the clearest proof. It is hardly necessary to say that if there is one event in Japanese history clearly established, it is that its Buddhism came from Corea and China.

¹⁵ The common people in Southern countries also, have never accepted it. Cf. the writers article in the "Chrysanthemum," April, 1883.

¹⁰ Buddha, Oldenberg, p. 198.

¹¹ Buddha, Oldenberg, p. 253.

¹² Buddha p. 273.

also, and many other gods and Buddhas. This sect in its doctrine belongs to those which teach the duty of self-culture, but its followers are encouraged to acquire merit by repeating magical formulas, and many superstitious practices are indulged in.

If we turn now to the *Jōdō* sect, we find that its "Sacred Books" are not the *Hinayāna Sūtras* nor the *Sūtra of the Lotus of the Wonderful Law*, nor the *Vāirōchana Sūtra*, held in such high esteem by the sect just spoken of. The teaching of this sect is based on the so-called *Jōdō sambu kiyo*. (The *Sūtras* concerning the Pure Land) and the *Ōjo Jōdo Ron* (*Aparimitāyus sūtra sāstra*) by *Vasubandha* (*Tenjin Bosatsu*). All other books of the *Tripitaka* are held in comparatively low esteem. In early Buddhism, knowledge was exalted; the attainment of buddhaship meaning enlightenment. The *Jōdō* sect, on the contrary, teaches salvation for the ignorant by trusting to the help of *Amida Buddha*, or his servants *Avalōkitesvara* (*Kuwanon*) or *Mahāsthama* (*Seishi*). In theory these alone are to be worshiped; in practice priests and people unite in worshipping other Buddhas, bodhisattvas, and innumerable gods.

Let us pass now to the *Shin* sect. This is in fact a branch from the *Jōdō* sect and uses the same "Sacred Books." It teaches, however, that the only object of worship is *Amitābha*, and its practice in this respect more nearly conforms to its teaching than that of most other sects.

In the *Jōdō* sect they are taught to pray to *Amitābha* all life long. In the *Shin* sect, however, they say that this is not true "Salvation by the Power of Another;" but that even once calling upon the name of *Amitābha*, is sufficient for salvation, all further repetition of the formula *Namu Amida Butsu* being thanksgiving for salvation already received.

Of all the sects of Buddhists in Japan, this is farthest from the original teaching of *Shaka*. It puts a low estimate on moral conduct, and it is said that more persons from this sect are in prison than from any other sect. In their *O Fumi*, which ranks next to the "Sacred Books" just mentioned, it is said: "The object before the believer of this sect is not to cleanse a bad heart or to check wayward thoughts. A man may buy, sell, or engage in other business, but his only object is with a single heart to trust in *Amitābha* for his help to be born into the Western Paradise. The calling upon the name of *Amitābha* has no other object than this."

In this connection, the words of Prof. Max Muller, of Oxford University, may be quoted. I give them in a somewhat abbreviated form. Referring to the Buddhist priests who have gone to Oxford to study Sanskrit and Pali, he speaks of the *Mahāyāna sūtras*, and especially of this doctrine of *Amitābha*, as follows: This sounds to us very different from the original teaching of Buddha. And so it is. Nevertheless, it is the most widely read *sūtra* in Japan. "Repeat the name of *Amitābha* as often as you can, and you will go straight to *Suakhavati* and be happy forever." Buddha taught that as a man soweth so shall he reap, and that by a stock of good works accumulated on earth the way is opened to higher knowledge and higher bliss. This *sūtra* says no. Not by good works done on earth, but by a mere repetition of the name of *Amitābha* is an entrance gained to the land of bliss. It may be that in a lower stage of civilization even such teaching has produced some kind of good. But Japan is surely ripe for better things. Is it not high time that the millions of Japan who profess faith in Buddha, should be taught that this doctrine of *Amitābha*, and all the *Mahāyāna* doctrine, is a secondary form of Buddhism, a corruption of the pure doctrine of *Shaka*, and that if they mean to be Buddhists they should return to the words of Buddha as they are preserved to us in the old *sūtras*? But these latter are evidently far less considered in Japan than the silly and mischievous stories of *Amitābha* and his paradise. Buddha, I feel convinced, never knew even the names of *Amitābha*, *Avālokitesvara*, or *Suakhavati*.¹

I have already referred to the wide separation between the teaching of this sect and that of early Buddhism. One or two other points may be mentioned. And first, they put little stress upon the "Law of Karma." Again, they eat flesh and marry; things strictly forbidden in early Buddhism, where the disciple left home, family, and friends, as did *Shaka*, and became an ascetic. This is not done by the *Shin* priests. They live under their own roof, eat flesh, drink saké, and have their wives and concubines. What would be *Shaka's* thoughts at the sight of all this? What would he say of the conduct of the head of one branch of this sect who, as every one knows, has in addition to his wife at least a half a score of concubines? What a view of morality, what an estimate of woman is implied in the fact, also well-known, that several were given to be concubines of the Head of the Sect as a religious act (and so accepted) by Buddhist believers? Shall we not exclaim with Professor Muller, "surely Japan is ripe for better things" than this "silly and mischievous doctrine of *Amitābha*?"

Time would fail me to enumerate the many insufficiencies and inconsistencies of Buddhism, but one or two others may be referred to.

The *Zen* sect speaks slightly of other sects which make *Sūtras* the basis of their teaching; and boasts of its own exclusive reliance on inward illumination. And yet, as an actual fact, many priests of this sect do read the "Sūtra of the Lotus of the Good Law," and other books."

But what shall we say of the *Nichi Ren* sect? This, although calling itself a Buddhist sect, is always saying hard things of other sects. The *Jōdō*, *Shin*, and *Zen* believers are destined for punishment in some of the various hells, while other sects are pronounced the destroyers and robbers of their country. They worship the stars, especially the North star; *Katō Kiyomasa*, the persecutor of Christianity in the 16th century, and many and various gods. They offer forked *daikon* to *Daikokuten*, and pomegranates to *Kishibojin*, *Hārītī*, the sometime destroyer of many children; exorcise foxes from persons possessed thereby, and practice many other similar absurdities.

This cursory examination of the various sects of Japanese Buddhists shows us that they are opposed to each other as regards the *sūtras* which form their "Sacred Books," as to the beings they worship, and also as to the means and method of securing salvation. What is the meaning of all this? Is it not clearly this, that none of these various forms of Buddhism satisfies the needs of man's weak and sinful heart? This great fact of failure to satisfy man's needs is the explanation, and the only rational explanation, of the constant changes made in Buddhist teaching as the centuries have gone by and as it has encountered different races and civilizations. This alone sufficiently accounts for the multiplying of Buddhas and bodhisattvas in the teaching of all the Northern countries, and the mixing with Buddhist rites the worship of demons in Ceylon; "nats" in Burmah; the extravagances of the *Tantra* school in Thibet; Taoist worship in China, and the worship of all the Shinto gods in Japan. If a physician has a medicine which always cures a certain disease he does not spend his days in search of some other medicine to treat that disease. For him to do so would be to confess the insufficient power of the medicine which he possesses. This is the interpretation which we must place upon that confusion in which the constant changes made in the teaching of Buddhists have resulted.

But here I am sure to be met with the question, Are there not sects in the Christian Church? Yes, there are, but the fact needs to be clearly apprehended that the existence of sects among Christians is a very different thing from the sects of Buddhism.

For example: I look upon this Bible as God's revealed will, and aim to make it the guide of my life. Around me are those of different nationalities and denominations, but not one of them has a different Bible. If we go to those branches of the Christian body farthest separated from the Christian represented here, the Roman

and Greek Churches, and ask them if the Bible is not God's Revelation to man, his guide in the discharge of the duties of the present world and in the preparation for the world to come, they will most assuredly answer in the affirmative, acknowledging it to be their rule of faith and practice also.

But is there no difference? Yes, there is a difference. Those two Churches accept the New Testament exactly as we have it without addition or change; they also accept the Old Testament as we have it, but add thereto a few unimportant books. Yet these few small books contain no new doctrine. They have no other God than Him we worship; no other Saviour; no different way of salvation. It is true that we look upon some of these Christians as in error on some points of more or less importance, such as the worship of Mary, the saints, &c., &c., but even they would put Mary and other saints far below God. And it is not because they have a few books which we do not recognize as a part of the Sacred Canon that they thus err—but because of a wrong interpretation and explanation of this Bible which all Christians accept in common with them.

Among the Christians of all nations there are none who deny that this is God's revelation; there are none who do not worship Jehovah as the only true God; there are none who refuse to trust in Jesus Christ as the only "name under heaven given among men where by we must be saved;" or who deny the necessity of seeking the cleansing of the Holy Spirit of God. Hence, it is that I boldly declare that the existence of sects in the Christian Church is something totally different from the confusion and opposition in the teaching and practice of Buddhists. Here some one meets us with the assertion that the differences between the Little and Great Vehicles have their parallel in the differences between the Old and New Testaments. As Christian believers who receive the Old Testament do not pronounce the new false because it differs from the Old; so it is said the *Sūtras* of the Great Vehicle are not necessarily false because they differ from early Buddhism.

This has a semblance of truth, but a little thought will show the great difference.

Note that history tells us nothing of Buddhism before *Shaka* came into the world. There was Brahmanism, and from this *Shaka* borrowed largely; but Brahmanism did not prophesy of the coming of *Shaka*. Before him there was not a single Buddhist book.

The Old Testament books, however, were all produced long before Christ's time. Some five hundred, some a thousand, years and more before the Christian Era. In them are the prophecies of the Savior's coming; in them also is clearly foretold a New Covenant higher and better than the old. Even Ernest Renan says that the Christian religion began more than 700 years before Christ. Buddhism has nothing like this. Neither Vehicle antedates *Shaka*.

Notice also that the worship of the Creator—the one only true God—is taught in both the New and in the Old. There is no new or different object of worship. The New brings a fuller revelation of the character and attributes of the God of the Old Testament, and a different mode of worship and service follows. It is the change from the seed to the plant.

If we study the old Pali *Sūtras* we find nothing of *Amitābha* or *Avālokitesvara*, nothing which can by any stretching of the imagination be called the seeds of their worship. How can a doctrine, which says "Be your own light, your own help, seek no other help," contain the germs of the teaching that the only important thing is to rely wholly upon the help of *Amida*?

And as already observed, these spurious *sūtras* all come bearing *Shaka's* name and claiming his authority—of the falsity of which there is the clearest evidence.

Putting aside now for the present the distinction between early and later Buddhism, and speaking of that religion in general, we note:

1.—That Buddhism does not recognize a Creator of the universe. Men have always asked

¹ Chips from a German Workshop, vol. 5, p. 234 ff.

and always will ask how this universe came into existence; but to this question Buddhism gives no answer. Had this world a beginning or not? is a question which one of Shaka's disciples once asked him, but he replied that that is something which men do not know. The question was pressed, and Shaka at length said, "O disciples, think not such thoughts as the world thinks; the world is everlasting, or the world is not everlasting; the world is finite or the world is not finite. If ye think, O disciples, thus think ye; this is suffering; this is the origin of suffering; this is the extinction of suffering; this is the path to the extinction of suffering."¹⁷

Who can be satisfied with such a reply? or who can be satisfied with the teaching of Northern Buddhists that the world and all therein came into existence because, and by means, of the thoughts and feelings of various sentient beings?

The verdict of the wisest men in ancient times, as in the present, is that there must be an intelligent creator of the universe; but it is plain that in just the proportion that this fact is established by proof, so is atheistic Buddhism overthrown.

2. As Buddhism does not recognize a Benevolent Creator it is pessimistic, and, in accordance with the "Four Sacred Truths,"—looks upon the world as one of suffering only—a world to flee from.

Suffering is indeed a marked characteristic of the world we live in; but the dark cloud is not without its silver lining. The wonderful order and harmony of the heavenly bodies; the beauty of mountain and valley; and the wonderful provision made for the wants of man, are but a few of the blessings given us by the good God above us. And so any view of the world which sees nothing but sorrow and suffering, nothing to be grateful for, is shallow and mischievous. The object of the true Buddhist being to flee the world and enter Nirvāna, he has nothing to do with social reform and progress. "Let the State and society remain what they are; the Buddhist priest has renounced the world and has no part in its cares and occupations."¹⁸ "Buddhism has succeeded in taming barbarians, and still shows itself admirably calculated to assist in maintaining order and discipline; but has it ever supported a people in their endeavours after progress, in their recuperative efforts when smitten by disaster, in their struggle against despotism? No such instances are known."¹⁹

Call the roll of Buddhist countries. Are they civilized? Do they have even the physical appliances of civilization, railroads, steamships, telegraphs, &c., &c.? Are their Governments liberal and their people free? Are their schools and colleges famed for their excellence, and is education widely disseminated among all classes? Are the text-books used in yonder Imperial University, on Chemistry, Astronomy, Politics, and Psychology brought from Buddhist countries? When Japanese priests wish to study Sanskrit or Pali do they go to China, or Thibet, or Ceylon? do they not go to a Christian land, to a school founded by disciples of Christ? Has any other than Christian soil ever produced an inductive science?

The people of ancient India, as is well known, were divided into four castes, and so strictly were the distinctions observed as to make them one of the greatest banes of the national life.

It has often been asserted that Shaka assailed and overthrew caste in India.²⁰ This, however, is a great mistake.²¹ It is true that persons of any caste could become monks, and when once in the order caste distinctions were no longer known. This was most excellent. But scholars tell us that there were ascetics in India before Shaka's day who admitted members without distinction as to sex or social position. It is also true that the Buddhas who from time to time come into the world are all to be born of one of the two higher castes. If further proof were needed, it would be found in the fact that caste

prevails to this day in India and in Buddhist Ceylon.

We may notice also the great prominence given to kindness in the teaching of Shaka; kindness to both men and animals, and this can not be too highly praised. But if we look for hospitals, asylums for the unfortunate and distressed, we shall be greatly disappointed, for such institutions there are practically none.

3. As Buddhists do not believe in an overruling God, they have no adequate conception of sin. Suffering is much more dwelt upon than sin. This is exactly the opposite of Christianity, which makes sin the evil of all evils. On the advent of the son of God it was said by an Angel from God, "thou shalt call his name Jesus for he shall save his people," not from suffering punishment but "from their sins."

Those who have the deepest sense of sin are those who regard it as committed against a personal, loving, and holy God. Buddhism has no fifty-first Psalm.

Again, those who have disobeyed the Creator's will and broken his laws cannot have full peace of mind until assured of his forgiveness. This God's revealed religion alone can give.

It is true that Buddhism teaches that sin is followed by suffering; but it also teaches that this suffering destroys sin. There is therefore no need of forgiveness. If suffering wipes out sin, then sin is not such a terrible thing after all. I may go on in sin if suffering—that of myself or some one who inherits my "Karma"—is sure to wipe it out, with no fear of meeting a righteous God.

I do not wish to speak evil of the Buddhist priesthood. But I only repeat what I hear on every side when I say that their reputation is far from good. You know more of this than I can. I therefore ask you if Buddhist priests are often selected as patterns of purity and nobility of character. Do parents as they take their children by the hand and seek to encourage them in virtuous living say to them, Be like the priests! Physicians have told me, and the records of hospitals in Japan are said to state, that the lives of the priests are tainted with immoralities.²² Is not one reason of this to be found in the fact that they do not recognize an all-seeing, righteous God who judges all men?

Let me speak of one thing more. Those who teach of salvation by the "power of another" refer principally if not exclusively to being born into the western Paradise. As the extract made from the *O Fumi*, cited a while ago, declares, the object of this sect "is not to cleanse a bad heart or to quiet wayward thoughts." This "Power of Another," is it a real, actually existing power outside of ourselves? or is it something wholly subjective? If you press this question upon an intelligent priest he will, although teaching to the laity that the Western Paradise and Amitābha are actual and real existences, admit that they have no existence outside of the human heart.²³

Can we rest our faith on such a power? Trusting in Amitābha or Avālokitesvara for salvation, may be more agreeable to our weak nature than the stern moral self-culture taught in early Buddhism; but if these beings have no real objective existence, can such a trust save us from sin, its guilt, or its punishment? If we seek salvation by the "power of another," the prime question is, has that power a real existence? If there is just ground for doubt in this respect, the most difficult self-culture is far more reasonable.

One of the greatest defects of Buddhism is its teaching with reference to woman. According to this religion, women are greater sinners than men; they hardly know the difference between truth and falsehood, and so are the greatest snares to mankind.

"Unfathomably deep, like a fish's course in water, is the character of women, robbers with many artifices, with whom truth is hard to find, to whom a lie is like the truth and the truth like a lie." "Master" Buddha is asked by Ananda, "how shall we behave before women?" "You

should shun their gaze, Ananda."²⁴ "But if we do see them, Master, what then are we to do?" "Not speak to them, Ananda." "But if we do speak to them, Master, what then?" "Then you must watch over yourselves, Ananda."²⁵

Furthermore, Shaka is said to have feared greatly the effect of the admission of women to his order, and it was only with grave misgiving that he yielded to the pressure of his foster mother, to receive women as his disciples. As Dr. Oldenberg says with unconscious pathos: "Buddhism has not had a Mary of Bethany. * * * throughout women are treated as a tolerated, and reluctantly tolerated, element in the Buddhist church."

If we study the "Rules for the Order of Nuns," we shall see their greatly inferior position, their complete subjection to the priests. These rules inculcate almost nothing else. "A nun of a hundred years experience must bow reverentially before every monk, even though he be ordained only on this day." "Under no circumstances is a nun to revile or scold a monk." "From this day forth is the path of speech against the monks closed against the nuns; yet is not the path of speech against the nuns closed against the monks."²⁶

We notice, further, that only men can enter Nirvāna, or become buddhas. In the *O-Fumi* of the Shin sect women are spoken of as filled with doubts: as ignorant and sinful, and so as cast off by all the buddhas; Amitābha alone looks mercifully upon them. We have in this a very clear instance of the way in which the attempt was made in the later teaching to supply the deficiencies of early Buddhism; but even the merciful Amitābha can take women to his paradise only by first changing them to men.

But aside from the question of entering Nirvāna or being born into the Western paradise, the position assigned woman in this world is truly a degrading one. In the Buddhism of ancient India, as well as in the teaching of all the sects in Japan, woman is said to be a sinner with "five impediments" and "three obediences." I will not take your time to speak of the impediments; the obediences are as follows: "In childhood let her be subjected to the will of her father; in adult life to the will of her husband; to her son's will when her husband has died; a woman is not permitted to enjoy independence."²⁷ In this connection there is in the ancient books a story worth repeating. Shaka went one day, in his begging tour, to the house of a wealthy merchant Anāthapindaka (Shudatsu). Hearing loud conversation and wrangling, he asks the reason, and is told that the daughter-in-law will not listen to her husband or parents-in-law. Shaka calls her to him and tells her that there are seven kinds of wives which a man may have. "What are they?" asks the wife. Shaka explains, "one resembles a murderess, another a robber, another a mistress, another a mother, a sister, a friend, and the seventh, resembles, a servant, always submissive to her husband's will and bearing without a murmur all he says and does." "These, Sujata," are the seven kinds of wives which a man may have. Which of the seven art thou? "From this day forward sire, replies the wife, may the Exalted One esteem me as one who is to her husband a wife who resembles a servant."²⁸

This story may or may not be true; but it serves well to illustrate the position in which Buddhism places woman. And it indicates furthermore her actual condition to-day in countries where Buddhism has full sway. Her education is immensely behind that of her brothers; indeed, there is often an avowed purpose to keep her in ignorance that she may be more obedient, that she may be more nearly and truly the servant, the slave, of men. Her father, her husband, or her brother, may command her to spend weary years in a brothel for his pecuniary gain; to the sinner with "three obediences",

¹⁷ Buddha, Dr. Oldenberg, 252.

¹⁸ Cf. Buddha, p. 153.

¹⁹ Kuonen, National Religions and Universal Religions, p. 299.

²⁰ e.g. of Lillie's Early Buddhism, preface.

²¹ Oldenberg, Buddha, page 153 ff.

²² The Report of the Okayama Hospital for the year ending June, 1882, shows that the proportion of priests affected with immoral diseases was slightly greater than that of all other classes.

²³ Cf. Dr. Edkins' Chinese Buddhism pp. 232 and 236.

²⁴ The large deep hats worn by the begging priests are to assist them in obeying this command.

²⁵ Oldenberg, Buddha p. 165, ditto 166.

²⁶ Oldenberg, Buddha, p. 378.

²⁷ Oldenberg, Buddha p. 377.

²⁸ Oldenberg, Buddha p. 188, note.

there is left only the choice between obedience and death: the latter choice is by no means rarely taken in Japan. Gentlemen, in the New Japan which is just rising above the horizon, do you propose to follow a religion which makes your mothers, wives, sisters, and daughters, the worst of sinners, and condemns them to lives of ignorance and subjection? Surely you have no such purpose. I take the presence of Japanese girls in the common schools of Japan to-day as an evidence of this. I accept the vigorous public addresses, and articles in the Japanese newspapers and magazines upon female education, as pointing to the same conclusion. I take yonder "Normal School for Young Ladies," under the special patronage of Her Imperial Majesty the Empress of Japan, as proof sufficient, and more than sufficient, that your plans and purposes for the civilization of New Japan include the education and elevation of women.

Look then, Gentlemen, at those nations where the position of woman is most exalted, at the most civilized nations of the earth! Are they not founded on Christianity? And is it not true that just in proportion as a pure Christianity is believed and practiced in those nations, their grade of civilization is high? In these countries even, there are many people who do not heartily accept Christianity, so that in the acts of these Governments, and in the daily life of the people, there are many wrong and shameful things; yet if we compare them, even in their present condition, with the non-Christian civilizations, is there not an immense difference? If we may believe the reports that reach us, Mr. Itagaki and H.E. Mr. Ito both were strongly impressed with this fact on their recent trip to Europe.

If therefore you desire to advance your country in civilization, ought you not to seek for it that religion which is so clearly the foundation of the civilization of the most enlightened nations? If so, then examine the claim of Christianity. Examine Christianity itself. To do so it is not necessary, as you might suppose, to read a large library of books. An understanding of this Bible, this one volume, is sufficient. Nay, take up a single gospel, put its spirit into your heart and life, and you are in possession of the very essence of the religion of Jesus.

It is true, as already mentioned, that there are various Christian sects. But as all draw their life from this gospel, these differences are of minor importance. If in what I may say or in what any of these Japanese or foreign teachers of Christianity may teach, there is anything contrary to the gospel, all will unite in urging you to believe the gospel and not our words or the creeds of our denominations. If you go to the teachers of the Roman or Greek Churches they will reply in the same strain, "Put the gospel far above our words."

This being so, I do not ask you to join any special branch of the Christian Church; what I do urge upon you is that you take this Bible as your guide in life, the foundation of your Civilization. Whoever thus takes this book as the guide of his life and in humble dependence upon God for wisdom and strength, obeys the precept of Jesus Christ "Thou shall love thy neighbour as thyself," is a true Christian without regard to his ecclesiastical relations.

Christianity differs from Buddhism in that it brings satisfaction and peace to the heart. Its believers worship no other gods. In all countries where it has spread, its followers abandon their old worship and worship God, the Creator, alone.

Buddhism, not satisfying man's wants, we find that in Ceylon, Burmah, Thibet, China, and Japan, in addition to the rites of their own religion, Buddhists worship gods, demons, and various other beings. When Shinran Shōnin was about to establish the new *Shin* sect he went to the temple of Sanno on Hiyeizan, and not only implored the aid of the gods, but also made a covenant with them. What clearer proof could be given that Buddhism is insufficient to satisfy the cravings of the human heart, for guidance, strength, and peace?

On the other hand, when Christianity entered

Europe, the Greeks, Romans, and the rude inhabitants of the North, had many and various gods, but, now the worship of such gods is unknown. In America, in Africa, and in the Pacific Islands, it has been just the same. The people who have accepted Christianity find it a sufficient religion and give up their false gods, bearing witness that the Gospel of Christ is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew, and also to the Gentile" of whatever language or race.

Gentlemen, may I ask, How is it with you? Will you not now accept this religion? Or do you still look upon the religion of your fathers as superior to Christianity? If so I have a proposition to make to you:—Choose some Buddhist book, one of the Sukhavati Sūtras (Sambi Kiyo), the Vairōchana Sūtra (Dai Nichi Kiyo), or the *O Fumi* of the Shin sect, I care not what. We Christians will choose from the Bible a book of equal length. Let these two be bound together in one volume and sent out among the people of Japan, who can thus easily compare them and decide which is the better, which promises most for the country. If you will consent to such a course, I gladly promise to furnish half the money needed for the experiment.

According to Buddhism, as the present age (Shōzōmatsz no sanji) passes by, the people will grow worse and worse until there is complete ignorance of the Buddhist Law. In other words, Buddhism itself prophesies its own decay and death.

With Christianity, exactly the opposite is true. When Jesus Christ had but a few unlearned disciples he called them together and commanded them to "make disciples of all the nations," and an angel from heaven declared that "of his Kingdom there shall be no end." Viewed in the light of the eighteen centuries that have passed away since that time, its final triumph is certain.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

AMERICAN INFLUENCE ON JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

That grand epoch-marking event of the period of Kayei, the opening of this Empire of Japan, was brought about solely by the efforts of the United States of America. With the advent of an American fleet into the calm waters of the Bay of Yedo, our countrymen were suddenly awakened from the sleep of centuries. Since then, Japan has had constant intercourse with foreign countries, and now "progress" is all she thinks of. Up to the time of Kayei* our countrymen were entirely ignorant of the outer world; so that the advent of Commodore Perry's fleet struck terror to their minds, for they knew not what to make of those great marine castles. The word "America" had then the force of what is understood by "Western Nations" at the present day. All the improvements and successes of Occidental civilization were ascribed to the United States; and even the peasantry thought America ahead of all other countries. Advanced as our present knowledge of the western world now is, in our countrymen's conception of the world at large there are no longer any traces of American supremacy. Even quite recently American silks and satins were spoken of as being imported from Europe; and our forefathers certainly did once apply the epithet "American" to every foreign import.

But since those days our intercourse with Western lands has gradually become more and more intimate. Sciences, arts, commercial systems, indeed almost every modern improvement, have been adopted from the Occident. That Japan will still continue this course in future and finally attain the summit of true civilization is the one aspiration of every patriotic heart. Strange to say, however, there are persons who seem to have an unaccountable fear of anything like rapid progress. They stop as if dazed, and look longingly back to the past, evidently distressed by some temporary and local abuses amidst the grand advance of civilization. There may, indeed, exist certain inconveniences in connection with the progress of Japan, but these are more than outweighed by our great

successes. We are not prepared to answer every charge that may be brought against the radical changes effected in the national constitution during the past three or four decades. And yet it is of the first importance that our countrymen should direct their full attention to the great possibilities of the future, and bear the burden of the present in patient silence. We sincerely sympathize with the old *daimiyo* and *samurai*, who were, at one blow, deprived of their onetime power and revenues by the establishment of prefectures. The law prohibiting the carrying of swords left the warrior *samurai* mourning over their empty scabbards. Since the days of the Restoration many old temples and antique archives have been destroyed, while the resorts of the gentry have undergone cruel changes. The alteration in the rate of the land-tax, though seemingly a splendid achievement, has entailed great sufferings upon the inhabitants of certain localities. Our modern laws are without a flaw so far as the protection of the lives and properties of the Japanese are concerned; and yet, when viewed from behind the scenes, some people persist in thinking that they encourage heinous offences. All these supposititious abuses may be extremely trying to certain classes of people in one or two localities: but the advance of civilization is rather a national than an individual affair. Anything which impedes its onward course must be swept wholesale away, despite the murmurs of the few who may suffer therefrom.

By a peculiar veering round of the social weather-vane, certain sections of our community have now begun to call the progress of New Japan rash and superficial. All objectionable results brought about by the supposed forcible subversion of the former dispensation are laid by them at the door of America. Nothing could be more irrational. They both misinterpret the result and ignore the real facts. For the sake of America's prestige, we shall endeavour to prove how unfounded is this imputation. America was the principal lever in introducing civilization into Japan. It is due to her sole influence that Japan has been led to know the world and to enjoy the benefits of modern science. Were these false views held by men of little or no culture, we might find it excusable; but we cannot understand how men of high social standing and ripe judgment can entertain such puerile ideas.

Perhaps the Republican doctrines of the United States have taken strong hold on the minds of those pessimists, who, out of sheer amazement at the marvellous rapidity of our civilization, ascribe many of the supposed nuisances to America. It is true that America is a Republic, but that is not all; for, in common with other nations, she steadfastly devotes her attention to the further development of science, art, commerce, and the manufacturing industries. The term "Republic" may convey to some the sense of "unrestrained license," but in America, at all events, there exist the most stringent and effective laws. Our intercourse with that country does not invariably lead to the importation of Republican vagaries. The adoption of American improvements for the benefit of Japanese civilization should in no wise prove a stumbling-block to any one. Those members of our community are utterly at fault in imputing elements of Republicanism to every foreign matter, whether social or individual, visible or invisible. We have nothing but pity for the shallowness of their views; and we cannot believe that there is anything else weighty enough to give dissatisfaction to certain conservative factions in society. Think for a moment how the prevalence of such ideas, the hatred of Americanism—to borrow their own words—would bear upon the friendly intercourse between Japan and the United States.

It cannot be too greatly emphasized that America was chiefly instrumental in the opening of Japan. Ever since those days our intercourse with that great country has gone on without interruption, and, of late, approaches a still closer intimacy. In recent years, however, the social tide has flowed in an opposite direction, and some speakers have given vent to unjustifiable complaints against America, urging that Germany should be our model. While this may tend to cause some unpleasant feeling in the United States, it must be remembered that all such ideas result but from the transient infatuation of certain classes. The originators of these unfounded complaints are biassed by existant abuses which are of short duration and of no great importance at worst. The true sentiments of the Japanese are now as ever on the side of civilization and intellectual enlightenment. Those who can read the signs of the times make no discrimination between one country and another. We should esteem Germany, we should love America, and all other nations should be our honoured friends. America has been in intimate relationship with us for three decades, and no dispute or cold feeling has ever come between her and Japan,—truly, an ideal

* 1847-1854.

friendship! Though separated the one from the other by a broad ocean, there is every facility of inter-communication. The Americans speak that universal language, English, and their prosperous industry, their wonderful achievements in art and science, their rapid means of communication, their national prosperity rising above the horizon of civilization like the morning sun, finally their land itself, peopled by the most enterprising and vigorous offshoots of the Old World, endear them to us ever more and more. There is no Japanese who entertains a feeling of hatred towards America, and, if there were, he would be treated as insane, and his opinions worth nothing more than the ravings of delirium. Ask any one thoroughly acquainted with the social institutions of the country, well informed of the movements of the younger members of the American community, and his opinion will more than uphold what we say. But as the United States have a Republican form of government, our pessimists argue that Young America is likely to go to extremes and indulge in hasty and hot-tempered discussion, so that the Japanese students at present in that country are sure to be affected by the violent tenets of their fellow-students. Not so, say we. The students of America are practical and deliberate; they do not commit deeds of violence, nor do they indulge in objectionable opinions. It is the experience of every keen observer that American students are singularly mild and quiet in comparison with those of Germany or France. The idea that, because the Government is Republican, the youths of the country are full of a spirit of rebellions independence, is the very opposite of the real state of affairs in the United States. In our opinion, there is no country in the world in which commerce, industry, science and the other departments of human skill and erudition keep equal pace with America; no other country whose development is so little affected by political disorders. In commercial circles money getting and money making form the sole subject of discussion, and politics do not enter into this region. In scientific circles philosophical investigation is the one all-absorbing topic, a topic from which no political dissensions can cause them to swerve. These most excellent characteristics of the American people mark them out as different from all other nations. And so, however intimate our future relations may be, we can anticipate no possible injury to ourselves, but have rather a prospect of decided advantage. We send this message to the American people, that Japan is not pausing in her progress towards civilization; that the intellectual men of Japan know how necessary it is to cultivate friendship with the United States; and, finally, that whatever they may now and then hear to the contrary is not worthy of their attention. Let the upright men of the United States not misinterpret the real feelings of the Japanese towards the Great Republic.

THE DIVISIONAL AND DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

A retrospect of past events shows that the cities and prefectures were divided into *Gun* and *Ku* (Urban and Rural Divisions) in the 11th year of Meiji (1878), at the time when the *Fu* (City) and *Ken* (Prefectural) Assemblies were organized, and that on the 22nd of July of the same year, a special Notification was issued by the Government requiring the organization of the *Ku* (Urban Division), *Cho* (Ward), and *Son* (Rural District) Assemblies. The fourth article of this Notification runs as follows:—"In each of the three cities and other towns, the *Ku*, *Cho*, or *Son* Assembly must be held in accordance with the nature of the locality, for the purpose of determining the amount of public expenses outside of the local taxes.

These expenses may be determined in conformity with the customary methods of calculation, such as *Chika-wari**, *Kosu-wari*, *Koma-wari*, *Maguchi-wari*, and *Buai-kin*.

NOTE:—When the regulations for the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies are definitely established, a detailed report must be forwarded to the Home Minister for approval.

Since the publication of this Notification, *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies have sprung up in many localities. There is now no district in which such Assemblies are not organized. Subsequently, however, the general principles of these urban rural assemblies were established simultaneously with the revision

of the Regulations for the *Fu* and *Ken* Assemblies. The organization of the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies was thus legally determined from the outset. The object of establishing these principles was explained as a desire to facilitate the formation of special regulations for the guidance of rural assemblies. If the formation of these regulations were exclusively entrusted to a Governor or Prefect, all the towns and villages in a city or prefecture would be compelled to observe the same rules, and, in localities where the popular customs and usages are of different natures, serious inconveniences might ensue. The enforcement of this ordinance would then virtually become impossible. Acting upon this idea, only the fundamental regulations were published, leaving the form and style of the by-laws to the pleasure of the local inhabitants. This is the reason why the fundamental rules in question were spoken of as the "principles of the Urban and Rural Assemblies." The *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies were allowed to draft and decide upon their own rules, while a copy of these rules was given to each Governor or Prefect by whom they had to be sanctioned. But as these rules were often framed by inexperienced assemblies, the results were far from being satisfactory. Some of the rules, or rather by-laws, were so unsatisfactory, that the municipal authorities often conducted their affairs in a most defective manner; others were too intricate, and their enforcement was a matter of considerable difficulty. On the whole, if they have not actually impeded the proper management of local affairs, they have certainly retarded the freedom of the people. We are, also, forced to suppose that, at the outset of the establishment of these regulations, the local Governors and Prefects had not sufficient time to examine into them closely and make the necessary corrections. And thus it came that considerable inconveniences were experienced, quite unexpectedly, immediately after the opening of the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies. And although these inconveniences have chiefly arisen from the defective nature of the by-laws, the modification of which could only be effected by the Assemblies themselves, yet they had to be borne patiently by the people, who were unable to adopt the necessary corrective measures. Still, we are not disposed to blame the Urban and Rural Assemblies for having drafted imperfect rules at the outset, inasmuch as the fault was not that of the Assemblies alone, forced, as they were, to undertake a difficult task without previous experience. The abuses that have resulted from the inexperience of the Assemblies must be ascribed in part to the Governors and Prefects. The Government itself, in granting the right of framing by-laws to the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son*, did not, at the time, possess sufficient experience. Such accidents are sure to occur wherever a progressive policy is pursued, and the only way in which they can be avoided is by revising the rules as frequently and thoroughly as possible. It is in accordance with these principles that the Regulations for the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies have undergone their present revision, and this revision had become absolutely indispensable for the sake of society at large.

It is one of the most important points of our local administration that all municipal taxes and expenses are determined by the *Fu* and *Ken* Assemblies in the case of cities and prefectures, and by the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies in the case of an Urban or Rural Division or District. If we compare the former Assemblies with the latter, we find a remarkable difference in point of size and importance, and yet both alike serve as efficient machines in enforcing municipal administration. In some cases, the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies appear to have a more intimate connection with the well-being of the local inhabitants than have the *Fu*, and *Ken* Assemblies. Although but a few years have elapsed since the organization of these bodies, many of our countrymen have made remarkably rapid progress in the development of their political ideas, and the sentiments of the public seem to have undergone a complete change. The municipal assemblies have greatly contributed to the increase of popular rights and liberties, as well as to the promotion of the public welfare and happiness; but as, at the same time, the defects in their organization have become painfully apparent, our Government has reconstructed the organization of the *Fu* and *Ken* Assemblies. This has been done in order to promote the usefulness of the municipal conventions on the one hand, and to suppress the source of abuses, on the other. Thus, the City and Prefectural Assemblies have gradually been brought to perfection, and there was no reason why our Government should leave the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies to their own resources. Active measures have latterly been taken in order to introduce reforms into the organization of the Urban and Rural Assemblies, so as to augment their efficiency in the maintenance of municipal administration. Unless the wheels run smoothly, the

proper adjustment of local affairs can hardly be expected. And it is, therefore, absolutely indispensable for our statesmen to have a thorough insight into the workings of these Assemblies.

The principal reforms introduced into the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies are as follows:—First, that the Governor or Prefect shall exercise the right of opening the Assembly as well as of determining its duties by the establishment of by-laws; secondly, that the right of convoking the members of the Assembly and of presenting subjects for debate shall be vested in an Urban or Rural Magistrate or Headman (*Kocho*); thirdly, that the Urban or Rural Magistrate or Headman in question shall act as President of the Assembly. The revised organization of the *Ku*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies seems to have been modelled on the system of the *Fu* and *Ken* Assemblies. At all events, the new arrangements will not fail to alter the actual condition of municipal administration and to facilitate the adjustment of public affairs.

TREATY REVISION.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Treaty revision is an important question which concerns every citizen of Japan. For the modification of the treaties once effected, it will not be easy to change them ever again, and so our national prestige and welfare depend upon the nature of the revision.

The advantages or disadvantages that may result from the modification of the treaties will not be of so little import as those which must arise from any alteration in the internal administration of this country. Now that the question of treaty revision has been brought before the public, our thinking men and our literati are engaged in discussing it very thoroughly, in order to arrive at conclusions beneficial to our nation. But it seems that there is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory result. Although our system of government has undergone great changes since the Restoration, and although many of the less enlightened customs of former days have been abolished, yet are the Japanese people not yet allowed to take a part in the administration of the country. It often happens, therefore, that we fail to obtain any information concerning even the most ordinary transactions of the Government, transactions which should not be kept secret—their nature not being likely to produce any ill effect if made known to the public. England and France are separated from us by broad seas and oceans. Yet the condition of their Governments is made known to us from time to time with wonderful fidelity and accuracy. We can ascertain by telegrams and correspondence what policy has been adopted by the English Government in Egypt; what propositions were advanced by those statesmen who are disposed to resist any interference with Egyptian affairs; what expense was incurred by the French in sending their expedition to Annam; what demands were advanced by them from the Chinese; and how the proposals made by Mr. So and So on this or that day were discussed by Parliament. The telegrams announcing these particulars reach us within a few days, while correspondence, which is generally more accurate than telegraphic despatches, reaches us about two months after it has been written. There is, thus, no serious difficulty in ascertaining the policy of western powers, although our country lies in the Far East. It is however, not so easy for us to have an insight into our own affairs. We are utterly ignorant of the policy adopted by our Cabinet in connection with internal administration; we know not what opinions are entertained by our authorities with regard to our foreign relations; whether it was true that the Chinese Government had objected to our proposals for the settlement of the late Riu Kiu affair, or how the difficulties with China in respect to that contested territory were adjusted; we cannot tell what policy the Government intends to pursue in Korea, nor what may be the true course of our administration and the real views of our statesmen on any subject. In some cases, the proceedings of the Government have transpired, and we have been able to form some definite idea of its policy; but our position is as though we were only able to catch the confused sound of voices in a neighbouring house, from which we are separated by thick walls. And yet the Government does not desire to keep all matters secret, so as to prevent us from obtaining any trustworthy information. But it does seem as though the Oriental system of administration, which differs so greatly from the democratic policy pursued by the various European states, forbids all inquiry into the inner workings of the Government. That H.I.M. the Mikado has announced his resolution to convene a national elective assembly in the 23rd year of Meiji

* *Chika-wari* is the method of calculating the local expenses in proportion to the value of land, while *Kosu-wari* and *Koma-wari* take the number of houses into consideration. *Maguchi-wari* depends upon measuring the length of a house along the highway, while *Buai-kin* determines the percentage of the incomes of the land-owners.

(1890) may have arisen from his desire to abolish this great evil for all time. Even the ordinary proceedings of our Government are involved in mystery, and this is more particularly the case with regard to diplomatic affairs.

Ever since the creed, "it is necessary to keep all diplomatic matters secret," became the common belief of our statesmen, even those proceedings which should not have been kept private have ceased to be made known to the public. Whether this may be due to extreme prudence on the part of our officials, or to the inability of distinguishing between privacy and publicity, we do not know. When we comment upon the political affairs of the Government, it is very much as though we endeavoured to form an idea of the real form of an object by observing the shadow it casts. The public is deeply interested in the question of treaty revision, but suffers great inconvenience from being unable to ascertain the real facts in the case. It is extremely difficult for us to discuss this all-absorbing topic with patience. What is most strange is that, while we fail to obtain a precise idea of the diplomatic policy of our Government, we often glean important hints from our foreign intelligence. We live in the same capital in which our Emperor resides; and as we lead a journalistic life, it may reasonably be supposed that we enjoy special facilities in acquiring a knowledge of our Governmental proceedings. In most cases, however, we are utterly unable to obtain such knowledge, and what information we have, too often comes from foreigners who live many thousand miles away from us. In regard to treaty revision, too, we have heard only that the foreign representatives in the capital have assembled in the Foreign Department for the purpose of discussing the question. But we have failed to learn the nature of the decisions made by this assembly, whereas the newspapers in England and America have actually published comments on the speeches delivered by officials in those countries with regard to the proposals of our Government. In this clumsy style have we, for the first time, become familiar with the purport of treaty revision. That we have learned the intentions of our Government by virtue of intelligence received from a far-distant country, while our people at large have failed to gain any insight into the diplomacy of their own land, is a fact which shows only too well how great is the difference between the systems of administration in this and other lands. Quite recently, Mr. Charles Eby, an English missionary, published a pamphlet commenting upon the question of treaty revision. This pamphlet contains the gist of all the proposals submitted by our Government to the several foreign representatives. Many of these proposals are quite new to us, and we will translate them into Japanese in order to furnish the public with materials for discussion. The proposals referred to are as follows:—

1. At first, neither a complete removal of extraterritoriality, nor a complete opening of the country to every right for foreigners. This in the interest of both foreigner and native.

2. That for a definite period, say for five, eight, or ten years, as fixed by treaty with the powers, the jurisdiction of Japanese courts over foreigners shall extend only to misdemeanours and delicts, leaving "crimes" as at present.

During that time the country shall be open to foreigners for travel and trade, but not for permanent residence, nor for the holding of property, excepting in such places as now have settlements, which settlements would be so enlarged as to take in the whole of City or Prefecture, in which such settlement exists, for permanent residence and for the holding of property, but such property should be held under Japanese property law.

3. That even in misdemeanours and delicts, in all cases where foreigners come under Japanese jurisdiction, there shall be foreign judges and magistrates appointed, foreign lawyers allowed, so that the real decision shall still be in hands of foreign judges.

4. Where commercial codes, civil codes, marriage laws, &c., do not yet exist in Japan or are not yet remodelled according to Western principles, the principles of foreign laws shall be applied and administered by the foreign judges before mentioned; thus leaving the foreigner in as good a position as at present, and if this applies to the plaintiff also, in a better condition.

5. That when the Japanese codes shall be completed on Western principles, and the modes of procedure shall have become assimilated to those of the West and normal in their working, the jurisdiction of the Courts of Japan shall extend to all cases; the assistance of foreign judges still being retained if the Powers think necessary, for a further period, with the prospect of, perhaps, not engaging new ones, but of allowing those already appointed to serve out a lifetime, in the hope that native judges will then be fit to have full control of the judiciary.

6. That police laws, rights of religions, &c., being matters of detail, shall as rapidly as possible be assimilated to the usages of Western law, but where not these are still to be under his own national usage.

7. Foreigners shall have special rights of appeal, and of course always, as in all lands, the protection of their own Consuls and Ministers in case of hardship.

These are said to be the original proposals advanced by our Government; and, with regard to the custom's tariff, the average rate of duty is to be fixed at ten per cent. It is said that the propositions regarding the right of jurisdiction over aliens were

opposed by most of the foreign representatives, especially by the English Minister.

What position our Government has since taken we know not; whether it has still insisted upon its original proposals for modification or whether alterations have been made in former propositions on account of the opposition of foreigners. We are told, nevertheless, that the Government will shortly re-open negotiations for revision. What may be the results of these negotiations, we most earnestly wish to know. We cannot but regret that we were unable to find out what steps were taken at the outset of the revision of the treaties; now, in especial, that we have obtained precise information from a foreign pen.

THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE TOKYO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

As had been announced, the opening ceremony of the *Tetsudo-gwaisha* came off the day before yesterday. Leaving the Palace at 6.30 a.m., H.I.M. the Mikado and suite, which was composed of Their Excellencies Tokudaiji, Ito, Sasaki, and several officers of the Imperial Household, arrived at Ueno at half-past seven. Upon the arrival of the Imperial Party the military bands played the Japanese National Anthem. Their Imperial Highnesses Arisugawa, Fushimi, Komatsu, Yamashino, and Kitashira-kawa, Their Excellencies Sanjo, Oki, Yamada, Fukuoka, Matsugata, Saigo, Kawamura, and the Ministers for England, America, China, France and Germany, were already on the ground.

Shortly afterwards there was a display of fireworks, and at eight o'clock, a train consisting of 13 carriages left for Takasaki. The Imperial Party occupied the centre of the train, in the adjoining car was a posse of policemen, while all the other carriages were occupied by the shareholders of the Company and the invited guests.

Upon returning to Ueno, His Majesty the EMPEROR, delivered the following speech:—Through the efforts of the Nippon Railway Company, the completion of the Tokiyo-Takasaki line has now become an accomplished fact, and the ceremony of opening that railway is hereby performed. That the Capital and the localities to which the line will be a means of communication will largely benefit by the undertaking there can be no question, and it gives me much pleasure to be informed that the people are already extensively availing themselves of the facilities afforded by the Tokiyo-Takasaki Railway.

His Excellency SASAKI, Minister of Public Works, then said:—The construction of the Tokiyo-Takasaki Railway was completed in April last, but this day has been appointed for the opening ceremony, and as His Imperial Majesty the Mikado has graciously honoured the occasion with his august presence, I venture to express my humble congratulations on the event. The Company was formed in 1881, and as it was expected that great benefits would accrue through the formation of a line of railway connecting Tokiyo and Awomori, the present work is a most laudable undertaking. The Tokiyo-Takasaki line was commenced in June, 1882, and was consequently completed in something under two years, showing great industry on the part of those who undertook its construction. There can be no question that increased facilities for transport, whether marine or overland, tending as they do to the better distribution of commodities, will have the effect of stimulating production and increasing business, thus adding to the prosperity and happiness of all classes of the community. Taking this view, I say that the ceremony of to-day is a most important one, as indicating the social and commercial advance of our country, and I, Takayuki, venture to congratulate the nation on another important achievement, and to express my hope that a great future lies before the Company.

It is rumoured that both the Military and Naval officers stationed in Korea are to be granted certain sums as table-money.

In Fukushima Prefecture, the silk-worms of earlier growth have suffered greatly from the irregularity of the weather. Spinning is progressing favourably at Kaibegori, although it began ten days later than last year. The new crop will be above the average.

A new military hospital for *kakke* patients is to be built at Karuizawa, Nagano Prefecture, now that a new road has been constructed through the Usui Range. The number of patients at the Tokiyo Military Hospital number two hundred.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

REVIEW.

La Guerre porchaine entre la France et l'Allemagne. Par HENRI BOLAND. Paris, 1884.

IN the style of the "German Conquest of Great Britain in 1875," one of those numerous would-be prophetic compilations which appeared shortly after the close of the Franco-Prussian War, M. Henri Boland, a pessimist of the purest water, has taken it upon himself to predict a second war between the two erst hostile nations, which war is to be most sanguinary and, of course, terminate in favour of the French Republic. The German magazines have, equally of course, taken the matter up; but, be it said to their credit, less heatedly than one might, on the whole, have reasonably expected. The *Deutsche Rundschau*, to whose review of M. Boland's effusion we are chiefly indebted, criticizes the work in a dignified and trenchant manner, and the other journals on the right side of the Rhine are not slow to follow suit. Despite the fact that ten years of peace have reigned in the German Empire, M. Boland writes (p. 61): "L'empire allemand est fondé sur la guerre, il ne peut subsister qu'à la condition de guerroyer; tous ses actes politiques sont des agressions et des provocations à l'adresse de ses voisins." This is very evidently the result of that acute stroke of diplomacy, the presentation of the Uhlan Colonelcy to King Alphonso; but M. Boland explains the matter in a different way. He says:—"Germany is eager to find a pretext to declare war with France because the Empire is unable to stand the pressure of inaction, and is on the verge of a ruinous bankruptcy; because, too, Germany is in a state of the most wretched misery, for emigration is increasing with unheard-of rapidity, there is a revolutionary spirit distinctly sensible in many provinces, the strongest opposition in the Reichstag, and a want of unanimity throughout the Empire." France, he continues, should be prepared for immediate action, for there is the German *Hannibal ad portas* (p. 111). Germany will, he declares, be answerable for the next war as she was for the one of 1870-71; for the declaration on her part will be due to her bitter hatred of France, which latter country has shown, during the past ten years, marvellous dignity and self-control (p. 110). M. Boland relates how Gambetta once sent him on a secret mission into Germany, but he must either have learnt nothing of the country he visited—he is obviously unacquainted with the language—or else actually prefers to tell untruths. He writes (p. 20):—"L'école en Allemagne a une odeur de caserne, les élèves y sont traités en recrues et maintenus dans les règles inflexibles du devoir par des punitions sévères, qui soulevaient en France la réprobation générale." With regard to the war of 1870-71, M. Boland makes the remarkable statement that Germany sent her allies into battle before bringing out her own troops, "leur réservant le premier choc, les offrant, pour ainsi dire, en hécatombe à l'ennemi, pendant que les troupes prussiennes formaient l'arrière-garde et, sans être exposées au même degré que les autres, recueillaient tous les fruits de la victoire" (pp. 66-67). On page 67 he contends that all the Germans outside of the sacred limits of Prussia are very hardly treated, and a most discontented race. "Pour comble d'ironie, le chancelier de l'Empire (poor Bismarck!) a divisé lui-même les sujets de l'Allemagne impériale en Allemands de première classe (les Prussiens) et en Allemands de deuxième classe." Finally, on page 71, he falls into an error which betrays the full extent of his arrogant suppositions:—"Au surplus, en supposant qu'il prit au sérieux le principe de l'unité allemande, M. de Bismarck devrait s'empresse de restituer au Danemark le *Holstein*, dont la population est danoise!" M. Boland has very evidently inherited a scanty modicum of the world-renowned good manners of his country; his idea is palpably apparent: to bind the French people closer together he uses Germany as the boggy wherewith to frighten them, and, to make his boggy all the more terrible, clothes it with the most awe-inspiring garments he can find in his mental wardrobe. If France of the present can lend a willing ear to ravens of so gloomy a persuasion, one can only say, *vult decipi*; but the more rational politicians of the French nation will surely not let themselves be deceived by such evil counsels. Contrary to what M. Boland has written, the German press is far from expressing any feelings of ill-will towards its peppery neighbour; indeed, a spirit of tolerance and good-fellowship pervades all it writes; but it cannot be denied that the Triple Alliance, and the outspoken friendship of Russia for Germany, weigh somewhat over-heavily on the minds of French writers, and their complaints are not without some reason at bottom.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

It is said that an iron factory is to be erected at Kawaguchi, in connection with the construction of the Nakasendo Railway. The original plan was to erect the factory at Shimbashi, but this was given up on account of the distance.

Twenty-five officers of *Sonin* rank attached to the Finance Department, and fifteen officers of the same rank in the Home Department, are now learning the equestrian art under the guidance of Mr. Kusakari. This is done in consequence of the proposed use of ponies by all officials of high rank.—*Fiyu Shimibun*.

Upon the arrival of H.I.M. the Mikado at Takasaki on Wednesday last, the towns-people presented His Majesty with a number of large eels and cat-fish (*namadzu*).

A Court of Compromise is to be established in the Prefecture of Okinawa (*Riukiu*). The *Kenrei* and his Secretaries have hitherto occupied the Bench. In future, the education of the inhabitants is to be conducted in the same manner as on the main island, and several Government schools will shortly be opened.—*Hochi Shimibun*.

The Imperial Body Guards, as well as the Garrison stationed in Tokiyo, are to receive instruction in swimming from the beginning of next month.

The stations along the proposed Osaka-Sakai Railway will be as follows:—Namba, Imamiya, Tengajaya, Sumiyoshi, Yamatogawa, and Adzumbashi.

The fishermen living along the coast of Musashi, Sagami, Kadzusa, and Shimosa, used to hold frequent conferences with regard to their peculiar avocations. This practice, which was discontinued at the time of the Restoration, will be recommenced this year.

There are 6,119 druggists in Tomiya, in the province of Yechiu, and their annual sales amount to more than one million *yen*. Since the publication of the Medical Stamp Regulations their business has fallen off by two-thirds of what it formerly was, and they can now hardly make a living.

The editor of the *Japan Herald*, in his issue of the 25th instant, wrote that the United States were pursuing a different policy in Turkey and Japan. With regard to the views of the American Ministers in Tokiyo and Constantinople, he remarked that their policy savoured of contradiction. We, however, see nothing remarkable in the fact that the policy pursued in each country is different, for surely our nation and Turkey can never be spoken of in the same breath.—*Choya Shimibun*.

The Naval Ordinance Bureau is about to order 25 Armstrong guns from Germany. (?)

The thirty-eight graduates of the Law School attached to the Judicial Department entered that institution in the month of September, 1876. They received most careful instruction in every branch of legal science. Civil Law in especial, which is one of the chief departments of French jurisprudence, was, in itself, a study of four years. All honour is due to the French jurist who taught them so industriously and conscientiously.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

On the 24th instant, the third new silk market opened at Mayebashi, but it was very poorly attended, owing to the inclement weather. Some 100 bales were sold at 36.8 *momme* to 37 *momme*. The market proved firmer than in Yokohama.

In Kodzuke (Joshiu), there are several silk factories, silk being the chief produce of the province. Those at Tomioka and Shinmachi are under Government control, while the others are private establishments. Since 1881, that year of total failure in the silk trade, the number of private factories has considerably fallen off, and those of the present, with few exceptions, are heavily in debt. The favourable prospects of the silk crop in Italy, France, and China, may prove an unpleasant stumbling-block to similar private institutions.—*Bukka Shimpō*.

It is rumoured than an Assistant Judge or Recorder—we do not know which—of a certain Court of First Instance, met with a well-deserved rebuff at the hands of a foreigner the other day. It seems that the foreigner had a case in court, and that the speculative judge applied to him for a bribe. We shall report the matter more fully so soon as we have ascertained all the facts. At all events, such a piece of sheer impudence will not only bring the perpetrator into serious difficulties, but reflect upon our honour as a nation. The rascal cannot be too heavily punished.—*Rikken Seito Shimibun*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 21st.

THE REFORM BILL.

In the House of Commons the Reform Bill has passed through Committee.

ANNEXATION OF CAMBODIA.

The annexation of Cambodia by France has been completed. The King has been pensioned.

London, June 22nd.

THE CONVERSION OF CONSOLS BILL.

In the House of Commons, the Bill for the Conversion of Consols has been read a third time and passed.

London, June 24th.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

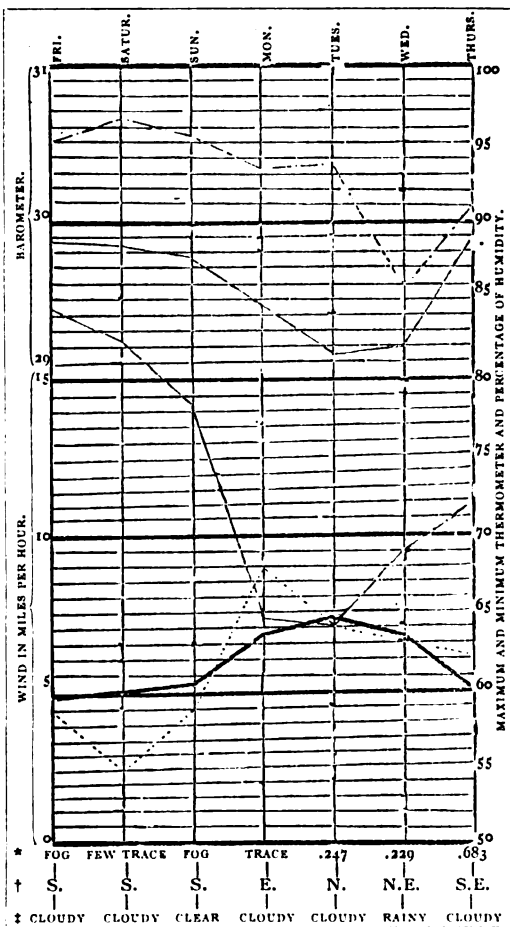
England and France have come to an agreement on the Egyptian question, and it is decided that the British evacuation shall take place in 1888.

It is agreed that the Treasury of the Public Debt (Egypt) shall be under the Presidency of an Englishman.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JUNE 20TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.

Percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 20.5 miles per hour on Saturday, at 2 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.078 inches on Friday at 10 p.m., and the lowest was 29.539 inches on Sunday, at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 86.0 on Sunday, and the lowest was 61.0 on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 86.3 and 63.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 1.160 inches, against 2.081 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.

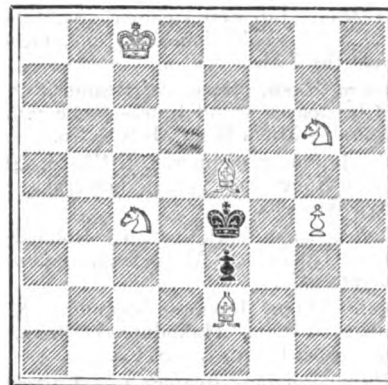
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.

English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

CHESS.

From a collection of Chess Problems by J. B. of BRIDPORT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of the 21st June, 1884, By Mr. CHARLES A. GILBERG.

White.

- 1.—Q. to K. 2.
- 2.—R. to Q. B. 6.
- 3.—Q. Mates.

Black.

- 1.—K. to Q. 4.
- 2.—Anything.

- if 1.—R. to K. 6.
- 2.—R. to K. B. 4., *dis. ch.* 2.—P. or R. covers.
- 3.—Q. to Q. B. 4., *mates.* if 2.—P. to B. 3.
- 2.—Q. to K. Kt. 4., *ch.* 2.—Anything.
- 3.—Q. to K. Kt. 8, *mates.* if 1.—B. to Q. B. 2.
- 2.—R. to Q. Kt. 6, *ch.* 2.—Anything.
- 3.—Q. Mates.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, June 29th.*
 From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, July 3rd.
 From America, per P. M. Co. Friday, July 4th.†
 From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, July 8th.

* Teheran (with English mail) left Nagasaki on June 25th.
 † City of New York left San Francisco on June 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Sunday, June 29th.
 For Hakodate, per M. B. Co. Thursday, July 3rd.
 For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Saturday, July 5th.
 For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, July 6th.
 For America, per O. & O. Co. Friday, July 11th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shimbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-TAKASAKI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6.20 and 11.35 a.m. and 4.50 p.m., and TAKASAKI at 6 and 11.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), *yen* 3.38; First-class, *yen* 2.00; Third-class, *yen* 1.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 2.30, and 4.30 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 6.40 and 9.45 a.m., and 12m. and 1.45 and 4.15 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129 Berry, 22nd June.—Hongkong 16th June, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Naniwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 185, Shimidzu, 22nd June.—Yokkaichi 20th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 22nd June.—Kobe 20th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, J. J. Efford, 748, 23rd June.—Kobe 21st June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nüderhof, German bark, 197, C. Rubarth, 23rd June.—Takao 28th May, Sugar 4,400.—J. C. Collyer & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Kilgour, 23rd June.—Hakodate 21st June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 654, Carrew, 23rd June.—Hakodate 21st June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 24th June.—Hakodate 21st and Ogino-hama 23rd June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Makihara, 24th June.—Kobe 22nd June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 24th June.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Orient, German bark, 461, W. G. Roder, 24th June.—Takao 13th June, 11,700 piculs Sugar.—Flint Kilby & Co.

Sakaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 79, Nakayama, 24th June.—Yokkaichi 22nd June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 24th June.—Yokkaichi 23rd June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 25th June.—Yokkaichi 23rd June, General.—Handasha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 25th June.—Kobe 23rd June, General.—Seiriusha.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Shiroka, 25th June.—Sagara 23rd June, General.—Fukudasha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 25th June.—Toba 24th June, General.—Handasha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 26th June.—Yokkaichi 24th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 26th June.—Nagasaki 22nd June, Coals.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 26th June.—Kobe 24th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakasato, 26th June.—Yokkaichi 25th June, General.—Seiriusha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,009, Captain Allen, 26th June.—Hakodate 24th June, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Dzukaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Nonaka, 27th June.—Atami 26th June, General.—Yamamoto Kwaisha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 27th June.—Shimidzu 26th June, General.—Seiriusha.

Stosch (20), German corvette, Captain Von Nostitz, 27th June.—Kobe 24th June.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 27th June.—Yokkaichi 26th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,470, C. Nye, 27th June.—Hakodate 25th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 596, Thomas, 27th June.—Kobe 26th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 410, Taneda, 28th June.—Kobe 26th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Adair, 28th June.—Hakodate 26th June, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 864, Frahm, 28th June.—Hakodate 26th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, Young, 21st June.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Agnes Muir, British bark, 896, James Lowe, 22nd June.—Swatow, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Thibet, British steamer, 1,671, W. D. Mudie, 22nd June.—Hongkong via Kobe, and Nagasaki Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 324, Arai, 23rd June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Kilgour, 23rd June.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 24th June.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Christensen, 24th June.—Hakodate via Ogino-hama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 25th June.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Chateaubriand, British bark, 411, J. Edwards, 25th June.—Guam, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 25th June.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 25th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 25th June.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Shiroka, 25th June.—Shimidzu, General.—Fukudasha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 26th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 26th June.—Toba, General.—Handasha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Inouye, 26th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Makihara, 26th June.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Sakaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 157, Nakayama, 26th June.—Shimidzu, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Koweyiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Omura, 27th June.—Kawasaki, General.—Koweyikisha.

Metapedia, British steamer, 1,554, J. Purvis, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsumoto, 27th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 590, Thomas, 27th June.—Otaru, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Naniwa Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—H.E. Yamagata Aritomo, Mr. and Mrs. A. Evers, child and nurse, Messrs. K. Nakayama, T. Hoshi, and N. Chosan in cabin; and 128 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Charles de Merawed, Aug. Petel, Francis R. Gouthern, and B. C. Mosby in cabin. For San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. D. Rassalp and 2 children, Miss Kilmote, Mr. and Mrs. Choy Fung, 2 children and servant, Madame Dufresnil Messrs. C. Jantzen, F. Caramanzama, Captain Geo. R. Lefavour, and Mr. Quan Sun Fue in cabin; and 843 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Iversen, Mrs. Leyenberger, Messrs. Hiraoka, H. E. Charlesworth, and Louis Wertheimer in cabin; and 1 European, 1 Chinese, and 113 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Messrs. W. Paterson, M. C. Nickels, and N. A. Popoff in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakaye Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—33 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—49 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Kobe:—23 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsukai Maru*, from Sagara:—17 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—39 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Hill, Master Sagel, Captain Taylor,

Messrs. Sagel, Smith, Barnard, Dallas, and 9 Japanese in cabin; and 138 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidzuoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—36 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Dzukaye Maru*, from Atami:—21 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, from Shimidzu:—21 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—66 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Hakodate:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Kobe:—35 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—63 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Hakodate:—35 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, from Hakodate:—58 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Ishikawa, Messrs. G. Tanaka, Dallas, and Lesler in cabin; and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Colonel and Mr. Hobson, 3 children and 2 servants, Mr. and Messrs. Chun Khim and infant, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Oyaye and servant, Lieutenant Brownlow, R.N., Mr. J. H. Gubbins and servant, Messrs. W. Barr, F. S. Lévy, R. L. Grahame, W. de Russett, H. W. William, E. Osborne, Osaki, and Puang Sung in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 24 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—Mr. S. Saito in cabin; and 80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, for Hakodate via Ogino-hama:—Messrs. M. Fujioka and K. Kurata in cabin; and 80 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco and Europe:—Mr. and Mrs. John Swire and servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Hitch, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mitchell, and the Misses Mitchell, Rev. and Mrs. D. Rassalp and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Choy Fung, 2 children and servant, Madame Dufresnil, Miss Kilmote, Major-General P. H. Cunliffe, Captain Geo. R. Lefavour, Dr. W. G. Dickson, Mr. C. B. H. Harter and servant, Sir John Sinclair, Mr. J. H. Hanney and servant, Messrs. Leopold Paulhan, A. Blumenthal, Hajitagero, A. A. Meyer, Dyson Moore, A. E. Kent, J. H. Richardson, J. J. Hardy, A. B. Black, J. Wallace, A. Primaven, T. S. Anderson, F. Carlisle, Chas. A. Taylor, A. H. Dawborn, J. E. MacComas, C. Jantzen, F. Caramanzama, and Quan Sun Fue in cabin; and 1 European and 15 Japanese in European steerage; and 9 Japanese and 810 Chinese in native steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Ogasawara, Mr. Hosokawa and son, Mrs. Tajima, Colonel Imano, Messrs. J. J. Fraser, C. Hervey, H. W. Hagart, J. Calder, W. H. Devine, G. Sale, D. Robertson, K. Abbe, Yanosuke Iwasaki, A. Katayanagi, S. Murata, T. Hara, N. Murakami, G. Takata, M. Shimohara, M. Ito, Uyematsu, K. Iwasaki, M. Fujioka, G. Futatsubashi, and M. Suyenobe in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Thibet*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 30 bales; for England 4 bales; total 34 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	180	323	397	900
Shanghai	312	1,216	811	2,339
Hiogo	186	1,148	5,499	6,833
Yokohama	—	1,526	6,173	7,699
Total	678	4,213	12,880	17,771

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	117	—	117
Shanghai	—	38	—	38
Yokohama	—	35	—	35
Total	—	190	—	190

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$4,000.00; yen 75,782.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Berry, reports leaving Hongkong on the 16th June, at 3 p.m. with good weather and light S.E. monsoon throughout the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Extreme dullness has now changed into almost stagnation so far as the general tone of the Market is concerned. Sales have been almost nil and clearances wretchedly small.

COTTON YARN.—An occasional lot of 25 bales passes into dealers' hands, but buyers and sellers seem to be equally indifferent about business at the rates current, and total sales are a mere bagatelle, whilst prices are more or less nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Small sales of 9lb. Grey Shirtings have been made at lower prices. T. Cloths at previous rates, but the demand has been trifling to a degree. Turkey Reds and Velvets have been very quiet and quotations weaker.

WOOLLENS.—Mousseline de Laine have been taken to the extent of few thousand pieces, and Italian Cloths to the extent of a few hundred only. Other articles are dull and difficult of sale.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$25.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 28.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 30.25
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.00 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	31.00 to 32.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 34.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	35.50 to 37.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	32.50 to 35.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 27.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.00 to 25.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 23.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.95 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 7.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13½ to 0.15½
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.27½ to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

There have been no sales whatever during the week; and quotations are purely nominal at the undernoted figures. The Stock is fully 590,000 cases, and business is apparently suspended for the time being. Doubtless the renewed financial panicky feeling in New York, will have its effect on the price of Oil there.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.67½
Comet	1.65
Stella	1.62½

SUGAR.

With large arrivals and more on the way, the Market has been exceedingly dull, nothing being done except in a retail way. We do not alter the quotations, but they are purely nominal.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.00 to 3.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was dated 21st instant: during the interval a small business has been passing, and Settlements for the week are about 85 piculs. The business done has been chiefly in small sample lots of New Hanks, sundry buyers appearing anxious to have a few representative bales on the way. Some little has also been done in *Filatures*, both old and new, at about former prices. There is not

very much New Silk yet in the Market, but arrivals in quantity are expected in a few days.

At last there is definite news of the European crop, telegraphic advices give the information that (including Asia Minor) there will be an average crop. This being ascertained, we should now settle down to business here, at a low and safe range of prices. The only obstacle would seem to be the generally dull and unsatisfactory news received from consuming markets. In Europe prices are naturally kept down by the large crop there and elsewhere: while in New York the renewed financial trouble seems to have a depressing effect on all commerce.

Japanese dealers are still disposed to keep moving at current rates: the interior Markets decline slowly, the prices at *Maibashi* on the 24th being quoted 37 to 38 *momme*, according to quality. Still, the native brokers assert that Yokohama quotations do not give a covering price; although we imagine that the margin on the wrong side must be very small, even with the present rates for currency.

The P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, which left this for Hongkong, via ports, on the 22nd instant, carried 34 bales, of which 30 bales were entered for Marseille and 4 bales as going to London. Of these 34 bales, about half were New Hanks, the remainder being Old *Filatures* of fine size. The P. M. S.S. *City of Peking*, which sailed for San Francisco on the morning of the 25th, had on board 117 bales for the American Markets; and of these, 10 bales were direct shipments, the balance being a mixture of New and Old *Filatures*. Export to date is now 29,697 bales, against 28,477 bales last year, and 21,776 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—No more business to report in Old staple; but several small parcels of New Hanks have been settled at a trifle under last week's quotations. Among the transactions, we notice *Omama* at \$160, *Maibashi* at \$145, and \$143, with two or three lots *Hachoji* at from \$430 to \$425. Some New *Tukasaki* reported at \$455, and a fair quantity *Foshiu Hanks* are now on offer.

Filatures.—There has been something done both in Old and New. At present nothing but *Koshu* sorts have come in, with one parcel "Suwa" reeling from *Koshu* cocoons. Among the shipments by the *City of Peking* were New *Kosansha* at \$577½, with Old at \$562½, New *Gomeisha* \$575, and New *Yajima* at \$582½. Since the mail went, there has not been much done, the few purchases made including New *Hagiwara* \$580, Old *Nattori* \$565, and Old *Hikone* reported at \$580.

Re-reels.—No arrivals beyond three boxes "Tor-toise" chop, which were settled for the American mail at \$570. A larger parcel, same chop, is expected down in a few days.

In other sorts no transactions. Our quotations this week are for New Silk, the old staple now on the Market will doubtless be gradually absorbed for internal use.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	\$460
Hanks—No. 3	440
Hanks—No. 3½	430
Filatures—Extra	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	\$585
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	\$575
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	\$570
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables, Raw Silk, to 26th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALERS.	BALERS.	BALERS.
France and Italy	17,271	14,318	11,107
America	9,783	9,589	7,022
England	2,643	4,570	3,647
Total	29,697	28,477	21,776

WASTE SILK.

Business in this department is practically over for the season. Settlements for the week under review are not more than 12 piculs, and we withdraw all quotations pending the arrival of new staple. The Stock on hand of old fibre remains about the same as to quantity, and will, it is hoped, soon be absorbed for use in the native spinning-mills. Some of these are doing good work with machinery imported from Europe, and turn out a very respectable quality of native-made spun cloth called *tsumugi*.

From present indications it would seem that the

new crop will be abundant and of good quality. Next month should see some business: no idea of price can yet be foreshadowed, but the Market for *Noshi* should certainly open considerably under last year's quotations.

The P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, on the 22nd inst., carried 17 bales Waste and 1 bale *Pierced Cocoons* all for the Continent, thus bringing the Export figures up to 23,881 piculs, against 24,913 piculs last year, and 26,355 piculs at same date two years ago.

The business done was but one lot inferior *Filature Noshi* at \$105, and a parcel Medium *Neri* at \$11. In other sorts nothing to remark.

Export Table, Waste Silk, to 26th June, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	21,670	21,619	22,117
Pierced Cocoons	2,202	3,294	4,238
	23,881	24,913	26,355

Exchange has continued along upon an even keel, the tone of the Market being firm. LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 90½; 60 d/s., 91; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.76; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.79. *Kinsatsu* have maintained their course at about 105 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock (Old and New), 26th June, 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	450	Pierced Cocoons	—
Filature & Re-reels	200	Noshi-ito	110
Kakeda	150	Kibiso	300
Sendai & Hamatsuki	90	Mawata	100
Taysam Kinds	10	Sundries	90
Total piculs	900	Total piculs	600

TEA.

The closing week shows a considerable decrease in the settlements, from that commented on in our last Market Review, the Settlements since the 20th instant amounting to the small figure of 6,700 piculs, as compared with 10,170 piculs at the corresponding date in 1883. All Teas grading from Common to Fine have suffered a decline of one dollar per picul on our previous quotations, whilst the higher grades remain stationary and cannot be quoted any lower. Receipts from the producing districts during the interval do not differ very materially from the week previous. The latest telegrams from New York are not very encouraging to Tea exporters, in fact it makes them feel a little too warm to operate at such low prices as are now ruling on the other side. The various grades of Teas settled during the week are as follows:—Common, 725 piculs; Good Common, 1,080 piculs; Medium, 1,395 piculs; Good Medium, 2,370 piculs; Fine, 700 piculs; Finest, 325 piculs; Choice, 75 piculs; and Choicest, 30 piculs; making a total of 6,700 piculs. Since our last report we have the following Tea shipments to chronicle viz:—583,371 lbs. for New York, and 386,730 lbs. for Canada, per steamship *Mosser* (sailed June 19th) 287,015 lbs. for New York, and 72,909 lbs. for Canada, per steamship *Strathmore* (sailed June 20th), 82,539 lbs. for New York, 184,831 lbs. for Chicago, 13,915 lbs. for Buffalo, 39,419 lbs. for Saint Paul, 360 lbs. for Saint Louis, 150,234 lbs. for California, and 150,951 lbs. for Canada, making in all by the steamship *City of Peking*, 622,249 lbs. The Market closes steady as under.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$11 & under
Good Common	12 to 13
Medium	14 to 15
Good Medium	17 to 19
Fine	21 to 23
Finest	25 to 28
Choice	30 to 33
Choicest	35 & up/ds.

} Very scarce and not freely offered.

EXCHANGE.

Since the departure of the American mail only a small business has been transacted, and rates remain steady at the following quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4.68
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4.78½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/10 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/10 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	80½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	80½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	80½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	80½

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

Monday, June 23rd	105½
Tuesday, June 24th	105½
Wednesday, June 25th	105½
Thursday, June 26th	104½
Friday, June 27th	104½
Saturday, June 28th	104½

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South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.
Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.
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May 1st, 1883.

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PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their virtue."

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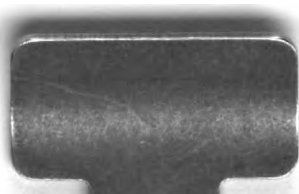
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